



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ  
SECRETARY FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board**

December 14, 2017

Jessica Morrison  
Resource Conservation Partners  
2500 Channel Dr A-2  
Ventura, CA 93003

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
No. 7017 1450 0002 1558 7362

Dear Ms. Morrison:

RE: CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND ORDER FOR THE ARROYO SIMI HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT (4WQC40117126)

Enclosed please find a CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND ORDER, authorized by Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Executive Officer, Samuel Unger. This Order is issued to Resource Conservation Partners for Arroyo Simi Habitat Restoration and Enhancement (Project). Attachments A through C of the Enclosure are also part of the Order.

This Order is issued in response to an application submitted by Resource Conservation Partners for proposed Project discharges to waters of the state, to ensure that the water quality standards for all waters of the state impacted by the Project are met. You may proceed with your Project according to the terms and conditions of the enclosed Order.

If you require further assistance, please contact Valerie CarrilloZara by phone at (213) 576-6759 or by email at [Valerie.CarrilloZara@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Valerie.CarrilloZara@waterboards.ca.gov). You may also contact me, by phone at (213) 576-6785 or by email at [LB.Nye@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:LB.Nye@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



LB Nye,  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
Section 401 Certification and Wetlands Unit  
Los Angeles Water Quality Control Board

Enclosures (1): Order for Arroyo Simi Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, File No. 17-126

cc: [Via email only] (w/ enclosure):

Bill Orme  
CWA Section 401 WQC Program  
Division of Water Quality  
State Water Resources Control Board

Pamela Lindsey  
Ventura Watershed Protection District

Melissa Scianni  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

Brock Warmuth  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
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Gerardo Hidalgo  
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Regulatory Branch, Los Angeles District

Stephen Henry  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
2493 Portola Road, Suite B  
Ventura, CA 93003

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Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

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CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND ORDER

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**Effective Date:** December 14, 2017

**Program Type:** Restoration

Reg. Meas. ID:	416684
Place ID:	840773
WDID:	4WQC40117126
NWP:	27
USACOE#:	SPL-2012-00688-AJS
R4 File No	17-126

**Project Type:** Ecological Aquatic/Stream/Habitat Restoration

**Project:** Arroyo Simi Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Project  
(Project)

**Applicant:** Resource Conservation Partners  
**Applicant Contact:** Jessica Morrison  
2500 Channel Dr., Suite A-2  
Ventura, CA 93003  
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**Water Board Contact Person:**

If you have any questions, please call Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) Staff listed above or (213) 576-6600 and ask to speak with the Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Unit Program Manager.

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**I. Order**

This Clean Water Act (CWA) section 401 Water Quality Certification action and Order (Order) is issued at the request of Resource Conservation Partners (herein after Permittee) for the Project. This Order is for the purpose described in application submitted by the Permittee. The application was received on September 26, 2017. The application was deemed complete on October 6, 2017.

**II. Public Notice**

The Los Angeles Water Board provided public notice of the application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 from October 9, 2017 to the effective date of the Order. The Los Angeles Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

**III. Project Purpose**

The Arroyo Simi Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Project (ASHREP) is located within 93.69 acres of open space in the Calleguas Creek watershed in Simi Valley, California.

The purpose of the removal efforts are aimed at improving habitat quality and ecological value in the open space and riparian areas, reducing water loss, and decreasing the fire and flood danger associated with the establishment of non-native invasive plants. The focus of the project will be the removal of the non-native, invasive plants such as arundo (*Arundo donax*) and tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp.) and perform revegetation as needed.

**IV. Project Description**

The ASHREP Project focuses on restoring one large area of habitat by completing a series of smaller projects in the area over time. The amount of removal in the project area will be determined by the amount of funding obtained on a per project basis. The projects will be funded through Permittee volunteer efforts, grants, and mitigation fees. The Arroyo Simi Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Project will separate mitigation fee projects from grant-funded projects.

A CWA section 401 Water Quality Certification (File No. 12-076) was issued by the Los Angeles Water Board to Resource Conservation Partners on October 3, 2012, and expired on October 3, 2017. The Permittee provided several mitigation projects for developers in the Calleguas Creek watershed and conducted maintenance including trash and debris removal, weeding and native plant installation under Water Quality Certification 12-076.

The habitat restoration and enhancement project will utilize mechanical and manual removal methods as well as the application of aquatically approved herbicide to remove and control the target non-native invasive plant species within the project area. In addition to the two target species, maintenance activities will include removal of other non-native invasive plant species (as they are encountered), removal of trash and debris, and re-vegetation with native plants (as needed). Most tools and equipment used will be manual. Heavy equipment such as bobcats, tractors, boom crane, dump trucks, and chippers will be utilized as necessary to remove non-native plants, rip compacted soils, auger planting holes, move large rocks and woody debris, and remove trash/debris and legacy waste.

To minimize impacts to waters of the United States, all permit conditions and BMPs detailed in the project specific regulatory permits will be strictly followed. To minimize impacts to sensitive plants and wildlife in the area, all personnel will follow the avoidance and minimization measures. In addition, initial removal efforts will occur primarily between September 30th and March 1st to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds during the breeding season.

The Arroyo Simi Project area contains several riparian and upland habitat types throughout the 93.7 acres. A riparian corridor typical of coastal California watersheds runs lengthwise through the center of the restoration area and consists of riparian dependent woody vegetation such as willows (*Salix* spp.), cottonwoods (*Populus* spp.), and sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*). The creek maintains a perennial flow and some areas of the channel hold sufficient standing water to support growth of cattails (*Typha domingensis*) and sedges (*Schoenoplectus* spp.). Adjacent to these riparian areas is drier riparian terrace habitat and associated vegetation, including willows, mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), and herbaceous species. Upland transitional areas also occur within the project boundaries and consist of coastal sage scrub and grassland vegetation. Specific project work areas may occur in any or all of these habitats.

Non-native, invasive plants occur throughout the site. Mexican fan palms (*Washingtonia robusta*) and eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* sp.) are present along the banks of the creek channel. *Arundo* occurs within the creek channel (often on debris islands), in the riparian forest, and on the riparian terrace. Large peppertrees (*Schinus molle*) are present on the south side of the creek along the flood control structures. Other herbaceous weeds occur throughout the project area and reach their greatest extent in upland transitional areas. The BMPs (in Section XII, G) will be followed to reduce impacts to natural resources associated with removing nonnative, invasive plants, especially when working in flowing or standing water.

Areas where target non-native, invasive species are removed from the project site will be revegetated, primarily through passive means, to re-establish native riparian habitat and help prevent non-native, invasive species from recolonizing the area. This can occur through the germination of the existing native seed bank or when native plant propagules are washed into the site during high flow events. Active revegetation may be required in areas where plant establishment through passive means is low. In these areas, an appropriate seed mix or container plants should be installed to promote growth and facilitate recovery of the native plant community. If natural recruitment of riparian vegetation does not occur after the completion of the project, additional funding should be sought to actively replant native riparian vegetation at the site.

#### **Non-Native, Invasive Plant Species Removal Methods**

Weed removal will begin before planting occurs if revegetation success would be impacted by the presence of these weeds, and will continue throughout the life of the project. Removal efforts will begin in the upstream section of each project site, and continue downstream as target plant species are removed. Initial removal work will utilize manual methods such as the cut-and-paint method and selective mechanical brush grinding, followed by herbicide treatment. After initial removal of target species is complete, re-growth will be periodically treated with herbicide.

- **Manual Removal**

Manual methods, such as hand pulling or use of a weed wrench, will be used to remove small seedlings of perennial shrubs and trees, and large, widely scattered herbs. Weed wrenches remove both aboveground and belowground portions of some larger plants. In the case of shallow-rooted plants, hand removal may result in complete mortality and reduce the amount of re-treatments needed. The aboveground sections of large herbaceous weeds such as poison hemlock should be removed by hand cutting with weed whips or similar equipment. Manual removal may occur during any stage of the life cycle of many plants.

- **Mechanical Removal**

In areas of the project site where target non-native, invasive species have become established in dense monocultures, mechanical removal with a brush grinder will be employed to efficiently remove the targeted aboveground biomass. Brush grinding involves the use of a tractor or crawler with a mechanical grinding attachment to shred aboveground biomass into mulch. The resulting mulch will be four inches or less in size. Brush grinding is very effective in reducing the volume of aboveground biomass and creating a mulch layer that suppresses weeds. However, the rhizomes and roots of targeted vegetation are not affected by this method. Weeds often resprout from belowground rhizomes or roots that are left in place; therefore, resprouts will be treated with herbicide.

- **Herbicide Application**

Herbicide application will be used for non-native, invasive plants that are not easily removed by hand such as large trees, deep rooted plants, or for larger areas containing numerous seedlings. No herbicide shall be used on native vegetation.

Herbicides used for the project will be approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and DPR for use on the target species. Aquatic approved formulations, such as the glyphosate based Aquamaster™, will be used in locations where there is risk of the herbicide contacting water during application. A DPR and EPA approved non-ionic surfactant such as AgriDex® will be used with all herbicide applications. A non-toxic colorant will also be added to the spray mix to enable crews to see where herbicide has already been applied after the initial evaporation of the solution.

A certified herbicide applicator who holds a current DPR QAL or QAC with an aquatic classification will supervise all herbicide applications. In addition, a written recommendation of herbicide application methods will be obtained from a certified Pest Control Advisor (PCA). Herbicides will be applied under controlled circumstances following all label requirements and the PCA recommendation.

Herbicide application will not occur if a greater than 50 percent chance of rain is forecast within the next 24 hours, and spray applications will not occur when winds over 10 mph are observed.

- **Cut and Paint Method**

The cut-and-paint method, also known as the cut-and-daub method or the cut-stump method, will be used to remove the target species in areas where non-native, invasive plants are closely mixed with native species, or in areas where spray drift from foliar herbicide application is at risk of contacting water or desirable native vegetation. This method combines the removal of aboveground biomass with the application of herbicide to the

remaining cut stem surface. For this removal technique, work crews use gas-powered chainsaws, loppers, weed whips, or similar hand equipment to cut aboveground biomass. The main stem or trunk of the plant is cut as close to the ground as possible. All biomass will be removed from the site for disposal at a landfill.

The next phase of this method involves the use of a hand-held sponge painter or a hand pump sprayer to apply a full-strength herbicide solution to the stems of the cut plants. Since translocation ceases within minutes after cutting, herbicide will be applied immediately to the freshly cut stems or trunks for best efficacy.

- **Drill and Kill Method**

The method colloquially referred to as “drill and kill” involves drilling several holes into large woody plants and injecting an appropriate herbicide. This method is recommended if the dead tree will provide habitat value as a snag and is not a fire hazard. This method is used on large, woody species such as Mexican fan palms and eucalyptus. The treated plants remain in place and provide habitat for wildlife.

At a 4-inch spacing (number of holes determined by diameter of tree), ¼-inch diameter holes are drilled 1 to 3 inches into tree, through the bark of large woody plants and into the cambium layer of dicots and into the central vascular bundles of monocots. The holes are filled with an herbicide solution.

- **Foliar Spray**

Foliar spray will be used at the project site for the treatment of resprouts after the aboveground biomass of the targeted species has been cut or ground. This method involves the application of a diluted herbicide (concentrations in accordance with labels) to the stems and leaves of a targeted plant. The leaves and stems need to be adequately wetted with spray solution, and care must be taken to avoid spraying non-target vegetation. Work crews will use backpack sprayers, truck-mounted spray equipment, or spray equipment mounted on a rubber-tired all-terrain vehicle to apply herbicide to the target species.

Herbaceous plants treated with foliar spray will be left in place to decompose naturally unless they present an immediate flood or fire hazard. Large or woody plants will be left in place for three to six months after spraying in order to allow adequate time for full herbicide action. Once mortality is achieved, aboveground biomass will be removed using manual or mechanical methods.

## **Plant Disposal Methods**

- **Chipping**

Cut biomass will be chipped onsite to a size of four inches or less. This chipped biomass will be used for mulch or other beneficial purposes and only in areas where it will not affect sensitive species or native plant germination and growth. Chipping will not be used to dispose of rhizomes or any plant material that contains viable seed. For example, tamarisk branches bearing seed will not be chipped, as the small, wind dispersed seeds could be spread by the chipping equipment or if the mulch is redistributed.

- **Landfill Disposal**

When seed-bearing plants are removed for the project site, their biomass will be hauled offsite for disposal at a local landfill to avoid re-infestation of the site. Cut, seed-bearing

biomass may be stored in staging areas for a maximum of five days before transport to a landfill. This biomass will be placed on and covered by a plastic sheet or tarp during storage and transport to prevent the seeds from dispersing. Cut biomass that does not contain viable seed may be chipped prior to disposal to reduce the volume of material to be transported and the number of trips to be made to the landfill. In addition, chipped biomass may be hauled to a landfill if no beneficial use is identified.

## Plants

- **Plant Palettes**

Plant palettes were developed considering several factors such as site conditions, availability of plant material, and cost. Minor adjustments may be made in the field in consultation with an experienced native habitat contractor and/or restoration ecologist. In general, container plants and cuttings will be planted 10 feet-on-center, in locations based on habitat suitability.

- **Procurement of Plant Materials**

All plants installed for this project will be propagated from seeds or cuttings from the closest available site, and from on-site when possible. In some cases, plant species are difficult to propagate, or may not be available for collection during the project period. In addition, some propagules, such as seed produced in the spring, will not be available for collection prior to the planned planting date. Consequently, container plants may be purchased from a local native plant nursery if propagated from local source populations. The landscape contractor should consult with a restoration ecologist to determine acceptable source locations for all plant materials.

All plant materials will be sourced, ordered, and secured by the landscape contractor prior to initiation of site preparation, usually within 30 days of contract award. Copies of shipping lists for all purchased plant materials will be provided by the landscape contractor to the restoration ecologist. All plant materials will be inspected by the restoration ecologist prior to installation to ensure their conformance to the planting plan, and that they are free of weeds and pest insects. Horticultural varieties of native plants are not recommended for habitat restoration. Any substitutions will be approved by the restoration ecologist prior to installation. Prior to planting, pin flags will be used to mark all plant locations according to the planting plan or in consultation with the restoration ecologist.

- **Planting Schedule**

Container plants and cuttings will be installed during the fall, winter, and spring, depending on the needs of the individual plants. Most container plants and seed will be planted in the late fall (October-December). Upland plants become active as a result of winter rains, so installation will be timed to allow plants to benefit from winter precipitation. In some cases, riparian plants such as willow and mule fat, which tend to enter dormancy in the fall, are best planted in the winter or early spring. Supplemental broadcast seeding to fill in vegetative gaps and introduce a native understory will occur in the fall/winter. Seeding will be performed prior to initial fall rains. Weed eradication efforts will be conducted so they do not interfere with or harm revegetation efforts.

- **Soil Amendments**

In areas where active revegetation will occur, testing of soil type, organic content, and compaction will be conducted if native soils are not present or have been altered, especially

in compacted areas. These soil sample results will assist with plant selection, installation, and maintenance. Additional sampling may be recommended during the course of the project if adverse soil conditions are observed. Soil amendments are not expected be necessary for native habitat restoration and enhancement areas. However, soil amendments may be recommended upon review of soil test results.

- **Irrigation Systems**

Drip irrigation will be designed for areas where container plants are to be installed.

To encourage root growth and decrease the risk of plant disease, emitters will be placed at least four inches from the stems of installed plants. All tubing will be stabilized with pins or clips to prevent disturbance from foot traffic or wildlife activity. Riparian trees will have two or more emitters distributed around the planting basin, to encourage well-rounded root growth. Healthy root growth is also facilitated by utilization of an irrigation schedule that emphasizes infrequent, deep watering rather than frequent, short duration watering.

Temporary overhead irrigation will be planned for the grow-and-kill areas since water applied to unplanted areas will promote the growth of weeds, where they will then be treated with herbicide. Once the seed bank has been controlled, the irrigation will be removed and/or change to drip emitters where container plants will be installed.

Due to seasonal changes and the differing needs of various vegetation communities, irrigation schedules will be appropriately calibrated.

## **Maintenance**

Regular maintenance will be performed to facilitate project success, which includes weed and trash removal.

- **Weed and Debris Removal**

Throughout the first year of the project, hand pulling and herbicide application will be performed based on the needs of the site. It is anticipated that monthly maintenance will be required during the spring. During the fall and winter, maintenance may be less frequent. Repeated herbicide treatments may be required to achieve complete control of the target weed species. Resprouts will be treated with the cut and paint method or foliar application of herbicide using the same BMPs employed in the initial removal effort. Protective measures will be taken to facilitate that desirable plants are not harmed; in many cases, hand-pulling may be used in lieu of herbicides to reduce the chance of damage from spray drift. As the project progresses, weeding will become less frequent as native plants begin to successfully outcompete non-native species.

While debris present in the planting areas such as concrete, asphalt, construction waste, and trash should have been removed during site preparation activities, additional occurrences of such material should be removed as a component of ongoing maintenance.

- **Supplemental Watering During Maintenance**

Supplemental water will only be used if periods characterized by drought conditions occur. New plantings and seedlings are vulnerable to unusually dry conditions early in their establishment phase and supplemental watering will enhance survival. Watering can occur

by water truck, a time release gel watering system such as DRiWATER®, or through onsite irrigation if a utility connection is available.

- **Replacement Planting**

Plantings will be protected from adverse impacts such as pest insects, diseases, competing vegetation, and damage from livestock or wildlife and inspected regularly. If survival of container plants or cuttings is low, replanting should be performed. Supplemental water will be provided as needed for the first two years of the planting.

If plant survivorship is poor in certain areas and poor soil conditions are suspected, additional soil tests will be performed. Necessary remedial measures will be taken based on test results and in consultation with a restoration ecologist, and may include additions of fertilizers or amendments, or alterations in the plant palette of the problem area.

- **Areas of Low Germination**

In previously seeded areas where bare ground larger than 36 inches by 36 inches occurs, hand reseeding should be used to provide additional plant propagative material. If appropriate, the same seed mixture used during installation will be applied. However, if it is evident that environmental or soil conditions have inhibited germination, site-specific plant palette changes may be made.

- **Protection from Herbivores**

In some cases, herbivores such as rabbits and gophers may cause significant damage to native plantings. Plants will be monitored for damage, and if damage becomes severe, plants will be protected using fencing, wire cages, or other enclosures.

**V. Project Location**

<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
34.27861111	-118.80305556
34.28138889	-118.80694444
34.28166667	-118.81500000
34.28305556	-118.81805556
34.28444444	-118.81000000
34.28555556	-118.82611111

A map showing the Project location is found in Attachment B of this Order.

**VI. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information**

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Receiving waters and groundwater potentially impacted by this Project are protected in accordance with the applicable water quality control plan (Basin Plan) for the region and other plans and policies which may be accessed online at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans\\_policies/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/). The Basin Plan includes water quality standards, which consist of existing and potential beneficial uses of waters of the state, water quality objectives to protect those uses, and the state and federal antidegradation policies.

It is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. This Order promotes that policy by requiring discharges to meet maximum contaminant levels designed to protect human health and ensure that water is safe for domestic use.

Receiving Water: Arroyo Simi  
(Hydrologic Unit Code: 180701030101)

Designated Beneficial Uses: MUN\*, IND, GWR, FRSH, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD, RARE

\*Conditional beneficial use

**VII. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State**

The non-native, invasive plant removal methodology has been designed to minimize disturbance to the greatest extent possible. Potential temporary impacts include loss or injury to native plant species or special status species. Short term, direct impacts could result from the use of heavy equipment, hand held equipment, and vehicles in removal areas; installation of temporary access routes, ramps/roads, and staging areas; and misapplication of herbicides; or herbicide drift.

Waters could also potentially be impacted via the installation of temporary water crossing structures or access ramps to access certain areas within the project boundary. This type of impact is expected to be temporary and minimal, and the crossings will only be necessary for a limited number of future projects.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity									
Aquatic Resource Type	Temporary Impact <sup>1</sup>			Permanent Impact					
				Physical Loss of Area			Degradation of Ecological Condition Only		
	Acres	CY <sup>2</sup>	LF	Acres	CY	LF	Acres	CY	LF
Stream Channel			9560						
Wetland	57.8								

<sup>1</sup> Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.

<sup>2</sup> Cubic Yards (CY); Linear Feet (LF)

**VIII. Compensatory Mitigation**

No compensatory mitigation was required for permanent impacts because both the impacts are temporary in nature and this project is a restoration project.

**IX. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

On December 29, 2010, the Ventura County Resource Conservation District, as lead agency, certified an environmental impact report (EIR) (State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2009081061) for the Project. The Los Angeles Water Board is a responsible agency under CEQA (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069) and in making its determinations and findings, must presume that the Ventura County Resource Conservation District's certified environmental document comports with the requirements of CEQA and is valid. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21167.3.) The Los Angeles Water Board has reviewed and considered the environmental document and finds that the environmental document prepared by Ventura County Resource Conservation District addresses the Project's water resource impacts. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15096, subd. (f).)

**X. Petitions for Reconsideration**

Any person aggrieved by this action may petition the State Water Board to reconsider this Order in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3867. A petition for reconsideration must be submitted in writing and received within 30 calendar days of the issuance of this Order.

**XI. Fees Received**

An application fee of \$200 was received on October 23, 2017. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), and was calculated as category D - Ecological Restoration and Enhancement Projects (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

**XII. Conditions**

The Los Angeles Water Board has independently reviewed the record of the Project to analyze impacts to water quality and designated beneficial uses within the watershed of the Project. In accordance with this Order, the Permittee may proceed with the Project under the following terms and conditions:

**A. Authorization**

Impacts to waters of the state shall not exceed quantities shown in Table 1.

**B. Reporting and Notification Requirements**

The following section details the reporting and notification types and timing of submittals. Requirements for the content of these reporting and notification types are detailed in Attachment A, including specifications for photo and map documentation during the Project. Written reports and notifications must be submitted using the Reporting and Notification Cover Sheet located in Attachment C, which must be signed by the Permittee or an authorized representative.

**1. Project Reporting**

- a. **Annual Reporting:** The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year on the anniversary of Project effective date. Annual reporting shall continue until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued to the Permittee.

## 2. Project Status Notifications

- a. **Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter:** The Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter following completion of active Project construction activities, including any required restoration and permittee-responsible mitigation. This request shall be submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project construction activities. Upon acceptance of the request, Los Angeles Water Board staff shall issue a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter to the Permittee which will end the active discharge period and associated annual fees.
- b. **Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter:** The Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter when construction and/or any post-construction monitoring is complete,<sup>3</sup> and no further Project activities will occur. This request shall be submitted to Los Angeles Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project activities. Upon approval of the request, the Los Angeles Water Board staff shall issue a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee which will end the post discharge monitoring period and associated annual fees.

3. **Conditional Notifications and Reports:** The following notifications and reports are required as appropriate.

a. **Accidental Discharges of Hazardous Materials<sup>4</sup>**

Following an accidental discharge of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material, sewage, or an unknown material, the following applies (Wat. Code, § 13271):

- i. As soon as (A) Permittee has knowledge of the discharge or noncompliance, (B) notification is possible, and (C) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures then:
- first call – 911 (to notify local response agency)
  - then call – Office of Emergency Services (OES) State Warning Center at: (800) 852-7550 or (916) 845-8911
  - Lastly follow the required OES procedures as set forth in:  
[http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-Spill\\_Booklet\\_Feb2014\\_FINAL\\_BW\\_Acc.pdf](http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-Spill_Booklet_Feb2014_FINAL_BW_Acc.pdf)

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<sup>3</sup> Completion of post-construction monitoring shall be determined by Los Angeles Water Board staff and shall be contingent on successful attainment of restoration and mitigation performance criteria.

<sup>4</sup> "Hazardous material" means any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. "Hazardous materials" include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances, hazardous waste, and any material that a handler or the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing that it would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or harmful to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. (Health & Saf. Code, § 25501.)

- ii. Following notification to OES, the Permittee shall notify Los Angeles Water Board, as soon as practicable (ideally within 24 hours). Notification may be via telephone, e-mail, delivered written notice, or other verifiable means.
  - iii. Within five (5) working days of notification to the Los Angeles Water Board, the Permittee must submit an Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report.
- b. Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards:** The Permittee shall notify the Los Angeles Water Board of any event causing a violation of compliance with water quality standards. Notification may be via telephone, e-mail, delivered written notice, or other verifiable means.
- i. Examples of noncompliance events include: lack of storm water treatment following a rain event, discharges causing a visible plume in a water of the state, and water contact with uncured concrete.
  - ii. This notification must be followed within three (3) working days by submission of a Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report.
- c. In-Water Work**
- i. The Permittee shall notify the Los Angeles Water Board at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to initiating work in water or stream diversions. Notification may be via telephone, e-mail, or delivered written notice.
  - ii. Within seven (7) working days following completion of work in water or stream diversions, an In-Water Work/Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report must be submitted to Los Angeles Water Board staff.
- d. Modifications to Project**
- Project modifications may require an amendment of this Order. The Permittee shall give advance notice to Los Angeles Water Board staff if Project implementation as described in the application materials is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority by submitting a Modifications to Project Report. The Permittee shall inform Los Angeles Water Board staff of any Project modifications that will interfere with the Permittee's compliance with this Order.
- e. Transfer of Property Ownership:** This Order is not transferable in its entirety or in part to any person or organization except after notice to the Los Angeles Water Board in accordance with the following terms:
- i. The Permittee must notify the Los Angeles Water Board of any change in ownership or interest in ownership of the Project area by submitting a Transfer of Property Ownership Report. The Permittee and purchaser must sign and date the notification and provide such notification to the Los Angeles Water Board at least 10 days prior to the transfer of ownership. The purchaser must also submit a written request to the Los Angeles Water Board to be named as the permittee in a revised order.

- ii. Until such time as this Order has been modified to name the purchaser as the permittee, the Permittee shall continue to be responsible for all requirements set forth in this Order.

- f. **Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance:** If maintenance responsibility for post-construction BMPs is legally transferred, the Permittee must submit to the Los Angeles Water Board a copy of such documentation and must provide the transferee with a copy of a long-term BMP maintenance plan that complies with manufacturer or designer specifications. The Permittee must provide such notification to the Los Angeles Water Board with a Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report at least 10 days prior to the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.

### C. Water Quality Monitoring

1. **General:** If surface water is present, continuous visual surface water monitoring shall be conducted to detect accidental discharge of construction related pollutants (e.g. oil and grease, turbidity plume, or uncured concrete).
2. **Accidental Discharges/Noncompliance:** Upon occurrence of an accidental discharge of hazardous materials or a violation of compliance with a water quality standard, Los Angeles Water Board staff may require water quality monitoring based on the discharge constituents and/or related water quality objectives and beneficial uses.
3. **In-Water Work or Diversions:**

For projects involving planned work in water or stream diversions, a water quality monitoring plan shall be submitted to Los Angeles Water Board staff for acceptance at least 30 days in advance of any discharge to the affected water body. Water quality monitoring shall be conducted in accordance with the approved plan.

During planned work in water or stream diversions any discharge(s) to waters of the state shall conform to the following water quality standards:

- a. **Oil and Grease.** Waters shall not contain oils, greases, waxes or other materials in concentrations that result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, that cause nuisance, or that otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.
- b. **Dissolved Oxygen.** At a minimum, the mean annual dissolved oxygen concentration of all waters shall be greater than 7 mg/L, and no single determination shall be less than 5.0 mg/L, except when natural conditions cause lesser concentrations.
- c. **pH.** The pH of inland surface waters shall not be depressed below 6.5 or raised above 8.5 as a result of waste discharges. Ambient pH levels shall not be changed more than 0.5 units from natural conditions as a result of waste discharge.
- d. **Turbidity.** Downstream TSS shall be maintained at ambient levels. Where natural turbidity is between 0 and 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU), increases shall

not exceed 20%. Where natural turbidity is greater than 50 NTU, increases shall not exceed 10%.

Sampling shall be conducted in accordance with Table 2 sampling parameters.<sup>5</sup> Baseline sampling shall be conducted at a minimum of one location within the project boundary for each phase. All other sampling shall take place at a minimum of two locations. Results of the analyses shall be submitted to this Regional Board by the 15th day of each subsequent sampling month. A map or drawing indicating the locations of sampling points shall be included with each submittal.

Parameter	Unit of Measurement	Type of Sample	Minimum Frequency
Oil and Grease	N/A	Visual	Continuous
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Daily for the first week, weekly, thereafter
pH	Standard Units	Grab	Daily for the first week, weekly, thereafter
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Daily for the first week, weekly, thereafter
Temperature	°F (or as °C)	Grab	Daily for the first week, weekly, thereafter

**D. Standard**

1. This Order is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to Water Code section 13330, and California Code of Regulations, title 23, chapter 28, Article 6 commencing with sections 3867-3869, inclusive. Additionally, the Los Angeles Water Board reserves the right to suspend, cancel, or modify and reissue this Order, after providing notice to the Permittee, if the Los Angeles Water Board determines that: the Project fails to comply with any of the conditions of this Order; or, when necessary to implement any new or revised water quality standards and implementation plans adopted or approved pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq.) or federal Clean Water Act section 303 (33 U.S.C. § 1313). For purposes of Clean Water Act section 401(d), the condition constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with water quality standards and appropriate requirements of state law.
2. This Order is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license

<sup>5</sup> Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 136; where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the method shall be approved by Los Angeles Water Board staff. Grab samples shall be taken between the surface and mid-depth and not be collected at the same time each day to get a complete representation of variations in the receiving water. A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring shall be maintained onsite.

or an amendment to a FERC license, unless the pertinent certification application was filed pursuant to subsection 3855(b) of chapter 28, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, and that application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.

3. This Order is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required under title 23 of the California Code of Regulations and owed by the Permittee.
4. In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this Order, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process, or sanctions as provided for under state and federal law. For purposes of Clean Water Act, section 401(d), the applicability of any state law authorizing remedies, penalties, processes, or sanctions for the violation or threatened violation constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this Order.

#### **E. General Compliance**

1. Failure to comply with any condition of this Order shall constitute a violation of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the Clean Water Act. The Permittee and/or discharger may then be subject to administrative and/or civil liability pursuant to Water Code section 13385.
2. Permitted actions must not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standards, including impairment of designated beneficial uses for receiving waters as adopted in the Basin Plans by any applicable Los Angeles Water Board or any applicable State Water Board (collectively Water Boards) water quality control plan or policy. The source of any such discharge must be eliminated as soon as practicable.
3. In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this Order, the Los Angeles Water Board may require the holder of this Order to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the Water Boards deem appropriate, provide that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. The additional monitoring requirements ensure that permitted discharges and activities comport with any applicable effluent limitations, water quality standards, and/or other appropriate requirement of state law.
4. The Permittee must, at all times, fully comply with engineering plans, specifications, and technical reports submitted to support this Order; and all subsequent submittals required as part of this Order. The conditions within this Order and Attachments supersede conflicting provisions within Permittee submittals.
5. This Order and all of its conditions contained herein continue to have full force and effect regardless of the expiration or revocation of any federal license or permit issued for the Project. For purposes of Clean Water Act, section 401(d), this condition constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements of state law.
6. **Construction General Permit Requirement:** The Permittee shall maintain compliance with conditions described in, and required by, NPDES General Permit for Storm Water

Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002).

#### F. Administrative

1. Signatory requirements for all document submittals required by this Order are presented in Attachment A of this Order.
2. This Order does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a threatened, endangered or candidate species or any act, which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & G. Code, §§ 2050-2097) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531-1544). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this Order held by the Permittee, the Permittee must obtain authorization for the take prior to any construction or operation of the portion of the Project that may result in a take. The Permittee is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable endangered species act for the Project authorized under this Order.
3. The Permittee shall grant Los Angeles Water Board staff, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a Water Board representative), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, permission to:
  - a. Enter upon the Project or compensatory mitigation site(s) premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept.
  - b. Have access to and copy any records that are kept and are relevant to the Project or the requirements of this Order.
  - c. Inspect any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order.
  - d. Sample or monitor for the purposes of assuring Order compliance.
4. A copy of this Order shall be provided to any consultants, contractors, and subcontractors working on the Project. Copies of this Order shall remain at the Project site for the duration of this Order. The Permittee shall be responsible for work conducted by its consultants, contractors, and any subcontractors.
5. A copy of this Order must be available at the Project site(s) during construction for review by site personnel and agencies. All personnel performing work on the Project shall be familiar with the content of this Order and its posted location at the Project site.
6. Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement – The Permittee shall submit a signed copy of the Department of Fish and Wildlife's lake and streambed alteration agreement to the Los Angeles Water Board immediately upon execution and prior to any discharge to waters of the state.
7. This Certification shall expire **five (5) years** from date of this Certification. The Applicant shall submit a complete application at least 90 days prior to termination of this Certification if renewal is requested.

## G. Best Management Practices

1. The applicant will adhere to the BMPs as required by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. These include:

- Administrative measures
- Protections for plant and wildlife
- Least Bell's Vireo Restoration Re-treatment Guidelines
- Invasive species management
- Herbicide Use
- Water Precautions
- Vehicles and Equipment
- Noise Pollution
- Specific Equipment-Chippers
- Biomass

2. **Pre-construction Surveys**

Pre-construction surveys for threatened, endangered, and other sensitive plant and animal species will be conducted prior to initiating work for the project. Avoidance of impacts to these species will be implemented by measures appropriate for each species. Any vehicles and equipment onsite will be operated consistently with any usage guidelines and/ or travel corridor restrictions identified during worksite consultation.

3. **Personnel Education**

All project personnel will participate in an educational program to identify the target plant species, other non-native plant species, and native plant species that may be present on site prior to proposed activities. This training will be conducted by a qualified construction monitor and will include information on the biology and modes of dispersal of target and incidental invasive plant species in order to prevent spread of viable biomass during removal. Prior to proposed activities, a qualified construction monitor will conduct an educational program for all project personnel on how to avoid impacts to sensitive wildlife and plant species. This training will cover a description of all listed species (or species of concern) and their habitats that occur within the site boundaries, including the yellow warbler (*Dendroica petechia*), the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), and the arroyo chub (*Gila orcutti*). This training will also include a description of the applicable regulations, such as the Federal and California Endangered Species Act (FESA and CESA) regulations, the need to adhere to these regulations, penalties associated with violations, and measures being implemented to conserve the species within the project site.

All project implementation personnel will be briefed on environmental concerns by a qualified construction monitor, including the proper use of herbicides, appropriate work practices (including spill prevention and response measures), and other measures needed to minimize environmental impacts. Personnel will be informed of the locations of foot and vehicle accesspaths, sensitive areas, and areas that are closed to access.

#### 4. Good Site Management “Housekeeping”

- **Staging Areas**

Movement of personnel and equipment will be limited to designated work zones, staging areas, and access roads. The location for the staging area will be on the upper northern bank of the channel, immediately adjacent to the project site, on property or easements owned by the Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) and southern bank on property owned by Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District (RSRPD). Other properties where potential staging areas will be located are owned by the City of Simi Valley. Two properties at the northern end of the Project site, All Valley RV owned by Rich Owens and another property owned by Jerry Irons, are also potential access points. On the southern bank of the channel, there is access from RSRPD on Stargaze Road and Tierra Rejada Open Space. The selection of the staging areas will be based on available space, ease of access to the staging area, ease of access between the project site and the staging area, avoidance of disturbance to the operations of adjacent businesses, and avoidance of impacts to any sensitive species. Staging areas will be located on the upper terrace outside the active channel. Staging areas will be located in compacted and degraded areas, preferably near access points when site conditions allow.

- **Site Access**

Access to project sites within Arroyo Simi is available at multiple locations on the north side, including through the VCWPD gate located on the south side of West Easy Street, the VCWPD gate immediately west of North Madera Road, through the gate on the south side of the parking lot at 200 West Los Angeles Avenue, or through the Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant (SVWQCP) on West Los Angeles Avenue. Site access will be approved by VCWPD and SVWQCP. The south side may be accessed through RSRPD property from Stargaze Roas. Additional access points for future projects will be determined as necessary through the City of Simi Valley's property. Daily trips will be made to and from the staging area by personal vehicles, small trucks, trailers, chippers, tractors, dump trucks, and small boom cranes as needed. RCP may need to build temporary bridging to provide access over the creek and to remove vegetation overhanging or in water. Access points to the site will be located at pre-existing ramps/roads, in areas infested with non-native or invasive plant species, or in areas that are already degraded. Areas with compacted soil will be used preferentially over areas with loose soils. New access roads will be created through existing native and non-native vegetation. Native vegetation will be cut to ground level to allow re-growth.

- **Project Boundaries and Signs**

The project will have a combination of stakes and flagging to define the boundary. The stakes will be made visible so anyone working within the site will be able to identify the boundary limits. The stakes that are more inconspicuous will be accented by flagging to insure they are more visible. Along the boundaries of the project site, signs will be placed to inform the public that work will be taking place including the use of herbicides.

- **Litter Removal**

Litter and debris removal will be a major focus of the project due to the ongoing presence of homeless encampments, which have increased in size over the last few years. The project site has an abundant amount of debris and litter that occurs throughout the project

area. Trash, biowaste, and hazardous waste has been collected in large dumping areas, which may be in pits greater than 3 feet deep and several feet long and wide. In addition, litter is regularly flushed into the area from upstream sources during storm flows. The litter will be placed into trash bags and will be properly disposed. Ongoing coordination with RSRPD, VCWPD, and the City of Simi Valley will be conducted to address the issue of homeless encampments and their associated waste.

- **Debris Removal**

Large waste items, such as abandoned vehicles, household appliances, furniture, tents, mattresses, and construction debris are scattered throughout the active creek channel. During site preparation, all extraneous debris present in the removal and revegetation areas such as concrete, asphalt, construction waste, and trash will be removed. The Permittee will coordinate with the property owners and consult with regulatory agencies, as appropriate, before removing large debris that requires use of heavy machinery, or that will cause excessive site disturbance or release silt into the creek. The property owners will be notified of the location and type of heavy debris that could not be removed from the site.

- 5. **Storm Water**

The project shall comply with the local regulations associated with the Regional Board's Municipal Stormwater Permit issued to Ventura County and co-permittees under NPDES No. CAS004002 and Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R4-2010-0108. This includes the Stormwater Quality Urban Impact Mitigation Plan (SQUIMP) and all related implementing local ordinances and regulations for the control of stormwater pollution from new development and redevelopment. The project shall also comply with all requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity, Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ. All stormwater treatment systems shall be located outside of any water of the State and shall not be used as a wetland or riparian mitigation credit.

### **XIII. Water Quality Certification**

I hereby issue the Order for the Arroyo Simi Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, 4WQC40117126 certifying that as long as all of the conditions listed in this Order are met, any discharge from the referenced Project will comply with the applicable provisions of Clean Water Act sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards).

This discharge is also regulated pursuant to State Water Board Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ which authorizes this Order to serve as Waste Discharge Requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq.).

Except insofar as may be modified by any preceding conditions, all Order actions are contingent on: (a) the discharge being limited and all proposed mitigation being completed in strict compliance with the conditions of this Order and the attachments to this Order; and, (b) compliance with all applicable requirements of Statewide Water Quality Control Plans and Policies, the Regional Water Boards' Water Quality Control Plans and Policies.



Samuel Unger, PE  
Executive Officer  
Los Angeles Water Quality Control Board

12-14-17

Date

Attachment A  
Signatory Requirements

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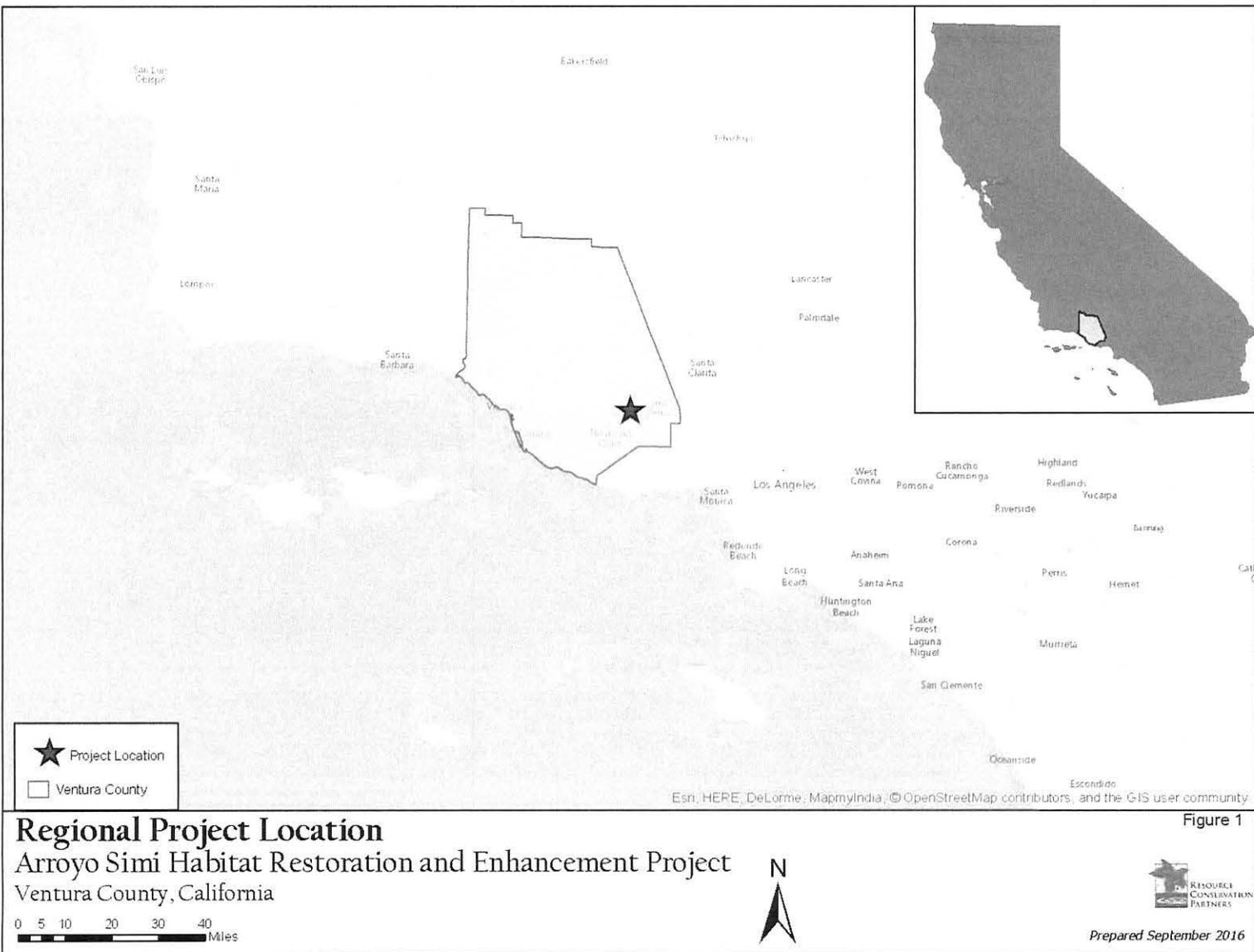
## SIGNATORY REQUIREMENTS

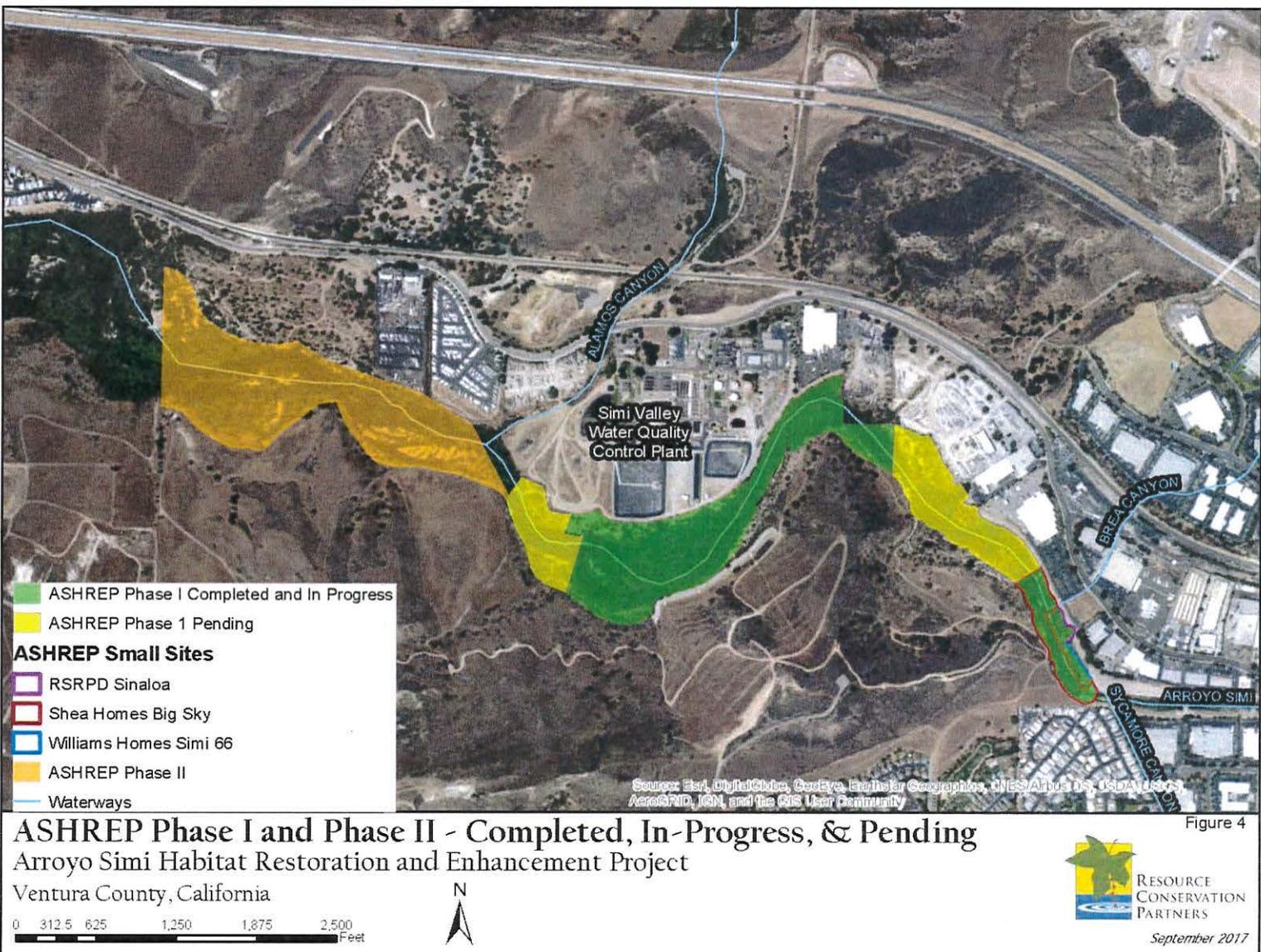
*All Documents Submitted In Compliance With This Order  
Shall Meet The Following Signatory Requirements:*

1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Los Angeles Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) must be signed and certified as follows:
  - a) For a corporation, by a responsible corporate officer of at least the level of vice-president.
  - b) For a partnership or sole proprietorship, by a general partner or proprietor, respectively.
  - c) For a municipality, or a state, federal, or other public agency, by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
2. A duly authorized representative of a person designated in items 1.a through 1.c above may sign documents if:
  - a) The authorization is made in writing by a person described in items 1.a through 1.c above.
  - b) The authorization specifies either an individual or position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated activity.
  - c) The written authorization is submitted to the State Water Board Staff Contact prior to submitting any documents listed in item 1 above.
3. Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:

“I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.”







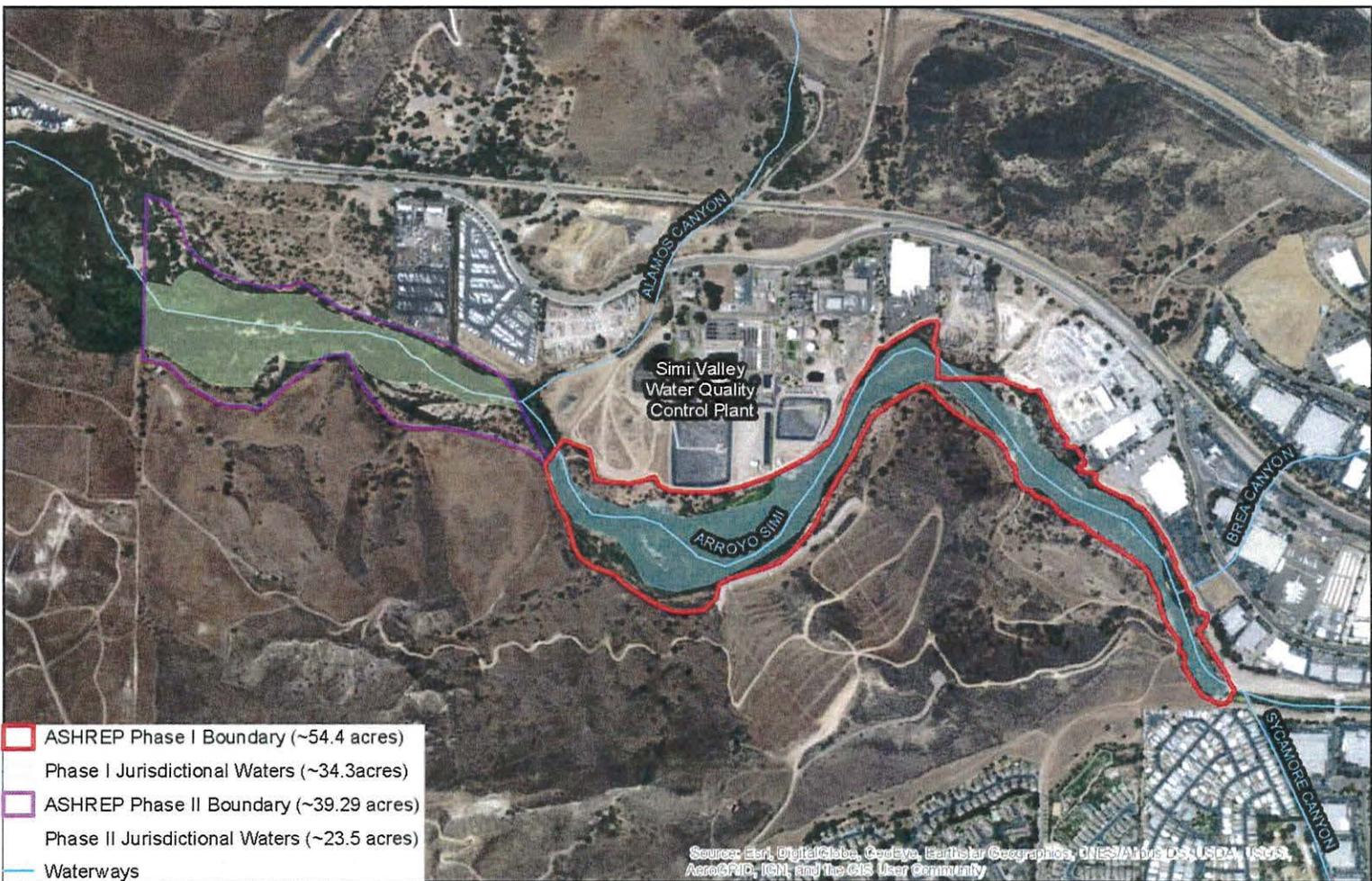


Figure 3

### ASHREP Phase I and II Jurisdictional Waters

#### Arroyo Simi Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Project

Ventura County, California

0 312.5 625 1,250 1,875 2,500 Feet



RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION  
PARTNERS

September 2017



### Copies of this Form

In order to identify your project, it is necessary to include a copy of the Project specific Cover Sheet below with your report: please retain for your records

### Report Submittal Instructions

1. Check the box on the Report and Notification Cover Sheet next to the report or notification you are submitting.
  - **Part A (Annual Report):** This report will be submitted annually from the anniversary of Project effective date until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued.
  - **Part B (Project Status Notifications):** Used to notify the Los Angeles Water Board of the status of the Project schedule that may affect Project billing.
  - **Part C (Conditional Notifications and Reports):** Required on a case by case basis for accidental discharges of hazardous materials, violation of compliance with water quality standards, notification of in-water work, or other reports.
2. Sign the Report and Notification Cover Sheet and attach all information requested for the Report Type.
3. **Electronic Report Submittal Instructions:**
  - Submit signed Report and Notification Cover Sheet and required information via email to: [Valerie.CarrilloZara@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Valerie.CarrilloZara@waterboards.ca.gov)
  - Include in the subject line of the email:  
Subject: ATTN: Valerie CarrilloZara ; File No: 17-126, Reg. Measure ID: 416684\_Report

### Definition of Reporting Terms

1. **Active Discharge Period:** The active discharge period begins with the effective date of this Order and ends on the date that the Permittee receives a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter or, if no post-construction monitoring is required, a Notice of Project Complete Letter. The Active Discharge Period includes all elements of the Project including site construction and restoration, and any Permittee responsible compensatory mitigation construction.
2. **Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter:** This request by the Permittee to the Los Angeles Water Board staff pertains to projects that have post construction monitoring requirements, e.g. if site restoration was required to be monitored for 5 years following construction. Los Angeles Water Board staff will review the request and send a Completion of Discharges Letter to the Permittee upon approval. This letter will initiate the post-discharge monitoring period and a change in fees from the annual active discharge fee to the annual post-discharge monitoring fee.
3. **Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter:** This request by the Permittee to the Los Angeles Water Board staff pertains to projects that either have completed post-construction monitoring and achieved performance standards or have no post-construction monitoring requirements, and no further Project activities are planned. Los Angeles Water Board staff will review the request and send a Project Complete

Letter to the Permittee upon approval. Termination of annual invoicing of fees will correspond with the date of this letter.

4. **Post-Discharge Monitoring Period:** The post-discharge monitoring period begins on the date of the Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter and ends on the date of the Notice of Project Complete Letter issued by the Los Angeles Water Board staff. The Post-Discharge Monitoring Period includes continued water quality monitoring or compensatory mitigation monitoring.
5. **Effective Date:** Date of Order issuance.

### Map/Photo Documentation Information

When submitting maps or photos, please use the following formats.

#### 1. **Map Format Information:**

Preferred map formats of at least 1:24000 (1" = 2000') detail (listed in order of preference):

- **GIS shapefiles:** The shapefiles must depict the boundaries of all project areas and extent of aquatic resources impacted. Each shape should be attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. Features and boundaries should be accurate to within 33 feet (10 meters). Identify datum/projection used and if possible, provide map with a North American Datum of 1983 (NAD38) in the California Teale Albers projection in feet.
- **Google KML files** saved from Google Maps: My Maps or Google Earth Pro. Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. Include URL(s) of maps. If this format is used include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted.
- **Other electronic format** (CAD or illustration format) that provides a context for location (inclusion of landmarks, known structures, geographic coordinates, or USGS DRG or DOQQ). Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. If this format is used include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted.
- Aquatic resource maps marked on paper **USGS 7.5 minute topographic maps** or **Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quads (DOQQ)** printouts. Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. If this format is used include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted.

2. **Photo-Documentation:** Include a unique identifier, date stamp, written description of photo details, and latitude/longitude (in decimal degrees) or map indicating location of photo. Successive photos should be taken from the same vantage point to compare pre/post construction conditions.

**REPORT AND NOTIFICATION COVER SHEET**

**Project:** Arroyo Simi Habitat Restoration and Enhancement

**Permittee:** Resource Conservation Partners

**Reg. Meas. ID:** 416684 **Place ID:** 840773

**File No: 17-126**

**Report Type Submitted**

**Part A – Project Reporting**

**Report Type**  **Annual Report**

**Part B - Project Status Notifications**

**Report Type**  **Commencement of Construction**

**Report Type**  **Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter**

**Report Type**  **Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter**

**Part C - Conditional Notifications and Reports**

**Report Type**  **Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report**

**Report Type**  **Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report**

**Report Type**  **In-Water Work/Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report**

**Report Type**  **Modifications to Project Report**

**Report Type**  **Transfer of Property Ownership Report**

**Report Type**  **Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report**

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

Print Name <sup>1</sup>

Affiliation and Job Title

Signature

Date

**<sup>1</sup>STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION (include if authorization has changed since application was submitted)**

I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to act in my behalf as my representative in the submittal of this report, and to furnish upon request, supplemental information in support of this submittal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Permittee's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*This Report and Notification Cover Sheet must be signed by the Permittee or a duly authorized representative and included with all written submittals.

**Part A – Project Reporting**

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Annual Report</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notify the Los Angeles Water Board staff of Project status during both the active discharge and post-discharge monitoring periods.
<b>When to Submit</b>	Annual reports shall be submitted each year on the anniversary of the Project effective date. Annual reports shall continue until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued to the Permittee.
<b>Report Contents</b>	<p>The contents of the annual report shall include the topics indicated below for each project period. Report contents are outlined in Annual Report Topics below.</p> <p><b><u>During the Active Discharge Period</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Topic 1: Construction Summary</b></li> <li>• <b>Topic 2: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status</b></li> <li>• <b>Topic 3: Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>During the Post-Discharge Monitoring Period</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Topic 2: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status</b></li> <li>• <b>Topic 3: Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status</b></li> </ul>
<b>Annual Report Topics (1-3)</b>	
<b>Annual Report Topic 1</b>	<b>Construction Summary</b>
<b>When to Submit</b>	With the annual report during the Active Discharge Period.
<b>Report Contents</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Project progress and schedule including initial ground disturbance, site clearing and grubbing, road construction, site construction, and the implementation status of construction storm water best management practices (BMPs). If construction has not started, provide estimated start date and reasons for delay.</li> <li>2. Map showing general Project progress.</li> <li>3. If applicable: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Summary of Conditional Notification and Report Types 6 and 7 (Part C below).</li> <li>b. Summary of Certification Deviations. See Certification Deviation Attachment for further information.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>Annual Report Topic 2</b>	<b>Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status</b>
<b>When to Submit</b>	With the annual report during both the Active Discharge Period and Post-Discharge Monitoring Period.

<b>Report Contents</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planned date of initiation and map showing locations of mitigation for temporary impacts to waters of the state and all upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.</li> <li>2. If mitigation for temporary impacts has already commenced, provide a map and information concerning attainment of performance standards contained in the restoration plan.</li> </ol>
<b>Annual Report Topic 3</b>	<b>Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status</b>
<b>When to Submit</b>	With the annual report during both the Active Discharge Period and Post-Discharge Monitoring Period.
<b>Report Contents</b>	<p><b>*If not applicable report N/A.</b></p> <p><b>Part A. Permittee Responsible</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planned date of initiation of compensatory mitigation site installation.</li> <li>2. If installation is in progress, a map of what has been completed to date.</li> <li>3. If the compensatory mitigation site has been installed, provide a final map and information concerning attainment of performance standards contained in the compensatory mitigation plan.</li> </ol> <p><b>Part B. Mitigation Bank or In-Lieu Fee</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Status or proof of purchase of credit types and quantities.</li> <li>2. Include the name of bank/ILF Program and contact information.</li> <li>3. If ILF, location of project and type if known.</li> </ol>

**Part B – Project Status Notifications**

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Commencement of Construction</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notify Los Angeles Water Board staff prior to the start of construction.
<b>When to Submit</b>	Must be received at least seven (7) days prior to start of initial ground disturbance activities.
<b>Report Contents</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Date of commencement of construction.</li> <li>2. Anticipated date when discharges to waters of the state will occur.</li> <li>3. Project schedule milestones including a schedule for onsite compensatory mitigation, if applicable.</li> </ol>

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notify Los Angeles Water Board staff that post-construction monitoring is required and that active Project construction, including any mitigation and permittee responsible compensatory mitigation, is complete.
<b>When to Submit</b>	Must be received by Los Angeles Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project construction activities.
<b>Report Contents</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Status of storm water Notice of Termination(s), if applicable.</li> <li>2. Status of post-construction storm water BMP installation.</li> <li>3. Pre- and post-photo documentation of all Project activity sites where the discharge of dredge and/or fill/excavation was authorized.</li> <li>4. Summary of Certification Deviation discharge quantities compared to initial authorized impacts to waters of the state, if applicable.</li> <li>5. An updated monitoring schedule for mitigation for temporary impacts to waters of the state and permittee responsible compensatory mitigation during the post-discharge monitoring period, if applicable.</li> </ol>

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notify Los Angeles Water Board staff that construction and/or any post-construction monitoring is complete, or is not required, and no further Project activity is planned.
<b>When to Submit</b>	Must be received by Los Angeles Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project activities.
<b>Report Contents</b>	<p><b>Part A: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the restoration plan have been met for Project site upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.</li> <li>2. A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the restoration plan have been met for restored areas of temporary impacts to waters of the state. Pre- and post-photo documentation of all restoration sites.</li> </ol>

**Part B: Permittee Responsible Compensatory Mitigation**

3. A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the compensatory mitigation plan have been met.
4. Status on the implementation of the long-term maintenance and management plan and funding of endowment.
5. Pre- and post-photo documentation of all compensatory mitigation sites.
6. Final maps of all compensatory mitigation areas (including buffers).

**Part C: Post-Construction Storm Water BMPs**

7. Date of storm water Notice of Termination(s), if applicable.
8. Report status and functionality of all post-construction BMPs.

**Part C – Conditional Notifications and Reports**

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notifies Los Angeles Water Board staff that an accidental discharge of hazardous material has occurred.
<b>When to Submit</b>	Within five (5) working days following the date of an accidental discharge. Continue reporting as required by Los Angeles Water Board staff.
<b>Report Contents</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The report shall include the OES Incident/Assessment Form, a full description and map of the accidental discharge incident (i.e. location, time and date, source, discharge constituent and quantity, aerial extent, and photo documentation). If applicable, the OES Written Follow-Up Report may be substituted.</li> <li>2. If applicable, any required sampling data, a full description of the sampling methods including frequency/dates and times of sampling, equipment, locations of sampling sites.</li> <li>3. Locations and construction specifications of any barriers, including silt curtains or diverting structures, and any associated trenching or anchoring.</li> </ol>

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notifies Los Angeles Water Board staff that a violation of compliance with water quality standards has occurred.
<b>When to Submit</b>	The Permittee shall report any event that causes a violation of water quality standards within three (3) working days of the noncompliance event notification to Los Angeles Water Board staff.
<b>Report Contents</b>	The report shall include: the cause; the location shown on a map; and the period of the noncompliance including exact dates and times. If the noncompliance has not been corrected, include: the anticipated time it is expected to continue; the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance; and any monitoring results if required by Los Angeles Water Board staff.

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>In-Water Work and Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notifies Los Angeles Water Board staff of the completion of in-water work.
<b>When to Submit</b>	Within three (3) working days following the completion of in-water work. Continue reporting in accordance with the approved water quality monitoring plan.
<b>Report Contents</b>	As required by the approved water quality monitoring plan.

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Modifications to Project Report</b>
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<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notifies Los Angeles Water Board staff if the Project, as described in the application materials, is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority.
<b>When to Submit</b>	If Project implementation as described in the application materials is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority.
<b>Report Contents</b>	A description and location of any alterations to Project implementation. Identification of any Project modifications that will interfere with the Permittee's compliance with the Order.

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Transfer of Property Ownership Report</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notifies Los Angeles Water Board staff of change in ownership of the Project or Permittee-responsible mitigation area.
<b>When to Submit</b>	At least 10 working days prior to the transfer of ownership.
<b>Report Contents</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A statement that the Permittee has provided the purchaser with a copy of this Order and that the purchaser understands and accepts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the Order's requirements and the obligation to implement them or be subject to administrative and/or civil liability for failure to do so; and</li> <li>b. responsibility for compliance with any long-term BMP<sup>2</sup> maintenance plan requirements in this Order.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. A statement that the Permittee has informed the purchaser to submit a written request to the Los Angeles Water Board to be named as the permittee in a revised order.</li> </ol>

<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report</b>
<b>Report Purpose</b>	Notifies Los Angeles Water Board staff of transfer of long-term BMP maintenance responsibility.
<b>When to Submit</b>	At least 10 working days prior to the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.
<b>Report Contents</b>	A copy of the legal document transferring maintenance responsibility of post-construction BMPs.

<sup>2</sup> Best Management Practices (BMPs) is a term used to describe a type of water pollution or environmental control.