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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

31 July 2024

Curtis Scott  
Federal Highway Administration  
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Lakewood, CO 80228  
[Curtis.scott@dot.gov](mailto:Curtis.scott@dot.gov)

### **NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION CENTRAL FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY DIVISION, ALDER CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (WDID#5A09CR00241), EL DORADO COUNTY**

On 13 June 2024, the Federal Highway Administration (Applicant) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 25 February 2022 State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification and Order of the United States Army Corps of Engineers 2022 Nationwide Permits (General Certification Order) for the Alder Creek Bridge Replacement Project (Project). After review of the notification and the supplemental material submitted by the Applicant, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under this General Certification Order. The proposed activity will take place within 0.021 acre/104 linear feet of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under United States Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit #14 (Linear Transportation Activities), subject to the conditions and the notification requirements described in the Nationwide Permit ("Special Conditions"). This Notice of Applicability is being issued under the General Certification Order pursuant to Section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

A copy of the [General Certification Order](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf)) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Order webpage and is enclosed.

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. The Project is described in the notification form requesting coverage under the General Certification Order, dated 13 June 2024, and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

MARK BRADFORD, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The 0.6-acre Alder Creek Bridge Replacement Project (Project) consists of the replacement of the previously removed burned bridge across Alder Creek and minor improvements to the approaches on both sides of the bridge. The Project is needed to replace the bridge and restore access across the creek.

Direct impacts to waters of the state are associated with riprap installation along the banks around the abutments to protect them from scour; which would extend about 8 feet into the creek. Concrete blocks previously placed in the stream channel for bank stabilization will be removed and replaced with riprap. Bridge abutments will be placed above stream channel habitat.

Temporary dewatering is expected around the riprap area to divert water away from the work area, if needed. A diversion device, such as sandbags would be placed along the creek around the work area and some temporary disturbance would occur. The device would be up to about 76 feet long, depending on flow conditions; the height would be adapted to estimated creek flow volume at the time it is needed. Pumps with a fish screen may be used to dewater the area if needed. The device would be in place for about 1-2 weeks while the riprap is being installed. Water flow and creek conditions would return to normal once the device is removed.

Construction would take place from each side of the creek, with no anticipated need for access across the creek at the bridge location. An existing low-water crossing is available on a nearby road to use for access to each side. Equipment would stay on the road and previously and newly disturbed areas on each side of the creek crossing. Staging would be along the road in previously disturbed areas, where able, or at an approved location in coordination with the Forest Service.

The Project will permanently impact 0.005 acre/48 linear feet and temporarily impact 0.016 acre/56 linear feet of waters of the United States.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

Project Address: El Dorado National Forest, El Dorado County

Latitude: 38.68907° and Longitude: -120.30324°

**PROJECT SCHEDULE:**

The Project schedule will begin May 2024 and continue through October 2024.

**APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:**

Federal dischargers involved in Dredge and Fill Operations only are not subject to permit fees as required by Section 3833(b)(3)(A) and Section 2200(a)(3) of the California Code of Regulations.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Olivia Ilsley at [Olivia.ilsley@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Olivia.ilsley@waterboards.ca.gov) or (916) 464-4673.

*Original Signed by Anne Walters for:*  
Patrick Pulupa  
Executive Officer

Enclosure: State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401  
General Water Quality Certification and Order of the United States Army  
Corps of Engineers 2022 Nationwide Permits

Attachments: Figures 1 and 2

cc: [Via email only]

United States Army Corps of Engineers  
Sacramento District Office  
Regulatory Division  
[SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil](mailto:SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil)

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
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CWA Section 401 WQC Program  
State Water Resources Control Board  
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Figure 1: Aquatic Resources



Figure 2: Project Plan

