



---

## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

17 April 2025

Kaylie Humbert  
California Department of Transportation  
1657 Riverside Drive  
Redding, CA 96001

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY: STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION OF ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS' 2021 NATIONWIDE PERMITS (ORDER NO. WQ 2021-0048-DWQ), CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, POTATO PATCH (02-0K480) PROJECT (WDID NO. 5A52CR00245), TEHAMA COUNTY**

On 13 February 2025, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) (Applicant) filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) requesting coverage for the Potato Patch (02-0K480) Project under State Water Resources Control Board's Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification of Army Corps of Engineers' 2021 Nationwide Permits (Order No. WQ 2021-0048-DWQ). The applicable Nationwide Permit (NWP) is NWP 14, Linear Transportation Projects. After review of the NOI and supplemental materials submitted by the Applicant, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Potato Patch (02-0K480) Project (Project) qualifies for enrollment under this General Order.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under Water Quality Order WQ 2021-0048-DWQ. This Notice of Applicability (NOA) is being issued at the request of Caltrans (hereinafter Enrollee) under the General Order pursuant to Section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

A copy of the General Order is enclosed. You can also access the General Order on [State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders Web Page](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr_2021) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr\\_2021](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr_2021)).

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA and the General Order. The Project is described in the NOI Form requesting coverage and supplementary information (Application Package). If the Project is modified from that described in the Application Package, then coverage under the General Order is no longer valid.

---

NICHOLAS AVDIS, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## I. Public Notice

The Central Valley Water Board provided public notice of the application from 14 February 2025 to 7 March 2025. The Central Valley Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

## II. Project Description

Corrugated steel pipe culverts will be installed by cut and cover at three locations on State Route 32 to improve drainage and road safety. Four square feet of permanent impacts at each culvert inlet are anticipated from drainage improvements.

## III. Project Location

Address: State Route 32 at post miles (PM) 16.02, 16.15, and 20.00

County: Tehama

Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 055-020-011-000, 055-020-012-000, 055-060-001-000, 055-060-002-000

Location 1 (PM 16.02): Latitude: 40.199681° and Longitude: -121.515481°

Location 2 (PM 16.15): Latitude: 40.201312° and Longitude: -121.514258°

Location 3 (PM 20.00): Latitude: 40.233221° and Longitude: -121.466697°

Maps showing the Project location are found in Attachment A of this NOA.

## IV. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Water Board. Receiving waters and groundwater potentially impacted by this Project are protected in accordance with the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, Fifth Edition, February 2019 (Basin Plan). The plan for the region and other plans and policies may be accessed at the [State Water Resources Control Board's Plans and Policies Web page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/) ([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 NOA 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.

Project impact and receiving waters information can be found in Attachment B. Table 1 of Attachment B shows the receiving waters and beneficial uses of waters of the state impacted by the Project. Individual impact location and quantity are shown in Table 2 of Attachment B.

**V. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the United States**

The Project will permanently impact 0.00027 acre of Waters of the United States.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1. Permanent impacts are categorized as those resulting in a physical loss of area and those degrading ecological conditions. Impacts to waters of the state shall not exceed quantities shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts.**

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	0.00027	N/A	6

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

The Central Valley Water Board has determined that the Project is exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061. Specifically, the issuance of this Order and the activities described herein meet the exemption criteria under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

**VII. 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.

**VIII. Fees Received**

An application fee of \$4,212 was received on 4 April 2025. 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 E - Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

**IX. Compensatory Mitigation**

No compensatory mitigation was required for the permanent impacts due to the scope and nature of the impacts and waterbody affected. To the extent feasible, the Enrollee is required to restore and stabilize the area following disturbance.

**X. Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Contact:**

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

Original Signed by Clint E. Snyder, AEO  
For Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

4/17/2025  
Date

Enclosure: State Water Resources Control Board's Clean Water Act Section  
401 General Water Quality Certification of Army Corps of Engineers'  
2021 Nationwide Permits (Order No. WQ 2021-0048-DWQ)

Attachments: Attachment A - Project Maps  
Attachment B - Receiving Water, Impact, and Mitigation Information  
Attachment C - CEQA

cc via email: U.S. EPA, Region 9, San Francisco  
Water Quality Certification Program, SWRCB, Sacramento  
Matthew Hirkala, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District  
Richard Lis, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Redding  
Mikayla Louks, Caltrans, Redding  
Amanda Haas, Caltrans, North Region, Eureka

**(This page intentionally left blank)**



Figure 1. Impacts at Location 1 (PM 16.02) and Location 2 (PM 16.15)

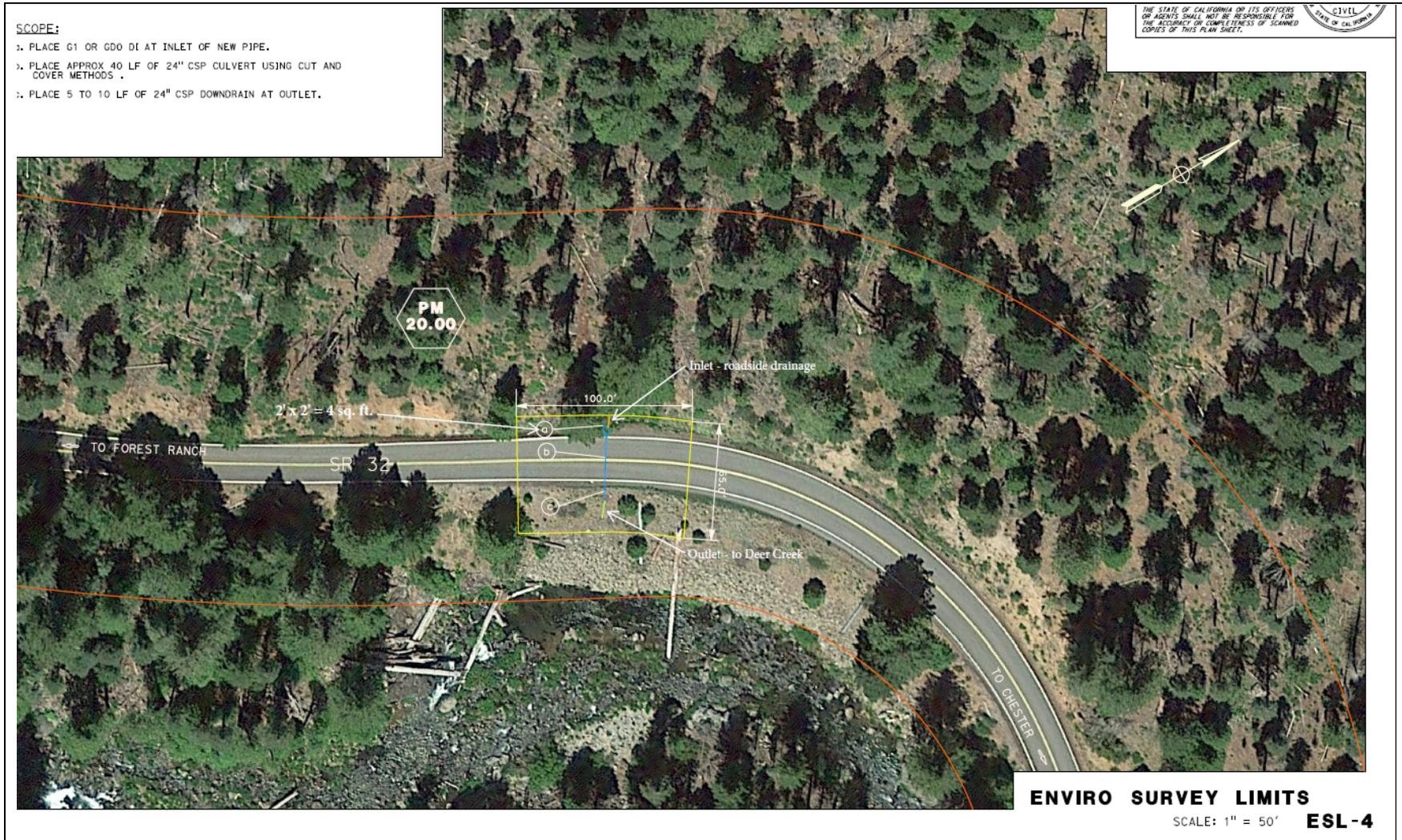


Figure 2. Impacts at Location 3 (PM 20.00)

**(This page intentionally left blank)**

**Receiving Waters, Impacts and Mitigation Information**

The following table shows the receiving waters associated with each impact site.

**Table 1: Receiving Waters Information**

Site ID	Waterbody Name	Impacted Aquatic Resource Type	Water Board Hydrologic Units	Receiving Waters	Receiving Waters Beneficial Uses	303d Listing Pollutant
Locations 1, 2 and 3	Deer Creek	Stream Channel	509.20	Deer Creek	MUN, AGR, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, COLD, MIGR, SPWN, WILD	N/A

**Individual Direct Impact Locations**

The following tables show individual impacts.

**Table 2: Individual Permanent Fill/Excavation Impact Information**

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Location 1	40.199681	-121.515481	No	0.00009	N/A	2
Location 2	40.201312	-121.514258	No	0.00009	N/A	2
Location 3	40.233221	-121.466697	No	0.00009	N/A	2

**(This page intentionally left blank)**

### **FINDINGS FOR CEQA EXEMPT PROJECT**

The Central Valley Water Board has determined that the Project is exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061.

Specifically, the issuance of this Order and the activities described herein meet the exemption criteria under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

Additionally, the Central Valley Water Board concludes that no California Code of Regulations, title 14, section exceptions to the CEQA exemption apply to the activities approved by this Order.

The Central Valley Water Board will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse within five (5) working days from the issuance of this Order. (California Code of Regulations., title 14, section 15062.)