

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

3 October 2025

Alison Collins
Department of Water Resources
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ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, YOLO BYPASS SALMONID HABITAT RESTORATION AND FISH PASSAGE PROJECT (WDID#5A57CR00195A2), YOLO COUNTY

This Order responds to the 18 July 2024 request for an amendment of the Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Project (Project) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WDID#5A57CR00195A2). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 7 October 2020. The requested amendment is hereby approved. The original Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification.

AMENDMENT:

The Department of Water Resources is requesting a design change and time extension through 15 October 2031. A time extension was authorized by the United States Army Corps of Engineers on 15 November 2022. The Department of Water Resources has provided documentation from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (SPK-2017-00905) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Streambed Alteration Agreement# 1600-2020-0183-R2) authorizing in-water construction activities to continue until 15 October 2031.

Permanent impacts at Agricultural Road Crossing No. 1 (ARC 1) and Tule Channel have been decreased through design changes. The change reduces impacts to the wooded riparian habitat along the banks of the pond areas while utilizing the existing landscape by raising the elevation of the channel through the wooded area and replacing it with a smaller meandering channel that connects all of the ponds in the area.

Temporary impacts for the Project have been increased due to the widening of the westside construction limit to accommodate easier access during construction to realign the operations and maintenance road. The under-channel siphon and bridge in the original design are being removed, further reducing permanent impacts. Removing the

vehicle bridge at ARC 1 improves fish passage within Tule Canal by reducing in-water structures that fish must navigate around.

Additionally, the Project design has been updated to result in the ecological restoration and enhancement of 12.76 acres of stream channel habitat and 63 acres of wetland habitat. An O&M road and its associated access ramps into the Tule Channel along the western side of the wooded area has been redesigned to minimize impacts on mature trees within wooded riparian habitats. A gate-style water control structure will be installed at a cross channel that runs perpendicular to the channel.

The Certification is amended to include the design changes notated above. Temporary and permanent impacts are amended as shown below:

Table 1: Original Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	6.5		
Wetland	35.61		

Table 2: Original Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	5.32		
Wetland	14.82		

Table 3: Updated Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	8.55		
Wetland	35.51		
Riparian Zone			

Table 4: Updated Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	4.2	1,440	5,790
Wetland	14.76	19,845	
Riparian Zone			

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

An application fee of \$2,985.00 was received on 25 July 2024. Total fees of \$169,099.00 for the original Certification were received on 6 July 2020. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3383(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), as was calculated as category A - Fill & Excavation Discharges (fee code 84) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

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PUBLIC NOTICE:

The Central Valley Water Board provided public notice of the application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 from 15 November 2024 to 26 December 2024. The Central Valley Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification for the Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Project (WDID#5A57CR00195A2). All other conditions and provisions of the original Water Quality Certification and any previously approved amendments remain in full force and effect, except as modified based on the conditions of this Order. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the original Water Quality Certification, previously approved amendments, or of this Order may result in suspension or revocation of the Water Quality Certification.

Original Signed by Anne Walters for:

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments: Figure 1: Location Map (Updated Map)

cc: [Via email only]

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Figure 1: Location Map

