



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

4 September 2024

Ronald Cummings
California Department of Transportation
2015 East Shields Ave, Suite 200
Fresno, CA 93726
Ronald.cummings@dot.ca.gov

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, SAN JOAQUIN RIVER SHEET PILE PROJECT (EA 06-1A160), (WDID#5B20CR00138), MADERA COUNTY

On 2 August 2024, Caltrans (Applicant) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 12 October 2021 State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permits (Order No. WQ 2021-0048-DWQ) for the San Joaquin River Sheet Pile Project (EA 06-1A160) (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 less than 0.01 acre of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under United States Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit 3, Maintenance, 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) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage.

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 2 August 2024, and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The 0.01-acre Project consists of the partial removal of a leftover sheet pile in the San Joaquin River.

The Project activities include excavating the river bottom from around the pile to a depth of three to four feet using an excavator or backhoe operating from the riverbank. This hole is estimated to be 12.44 cubic yards.

The excavator will then grab onto the top of the pile. A dive team will prepare the sheet pile by cleaning the cutting area with an air-powered grinder. The divers will then cut the pile below river-bottom level using an underwater exothermic cutting system. The excavator will hold the pile in place and slowly pull it toward shore as the cutting progresses.

Once the piece of pile is removed and hauled away, the removed riverbed material and clean river rock will be placed back into the excavated hole to cover the remainder of the sheet pile. An excavator will be used to restore the streambed to its original contour.

The Project will temporarily impact 0.01 acre/20 linear feet of waters of the United States.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Project is in the San Joaquin River below the bridge on State Route 41. The approximate center of the Project area is at latitude 36.876377 Degrees North and longitude 119.792864 Degrees West.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

1 August 2024 through 30 September 2024.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

An application fee of \$2,985.00 was received on 20 August 2024.

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 for Low Impact Discharges (Fee Code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

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

Original Signed by Alexander S. Mushegan

For Patrick Pulupa

Executive Officer

Attachment: Figure 1

cc:

United States Environmental Protection Agency
R9CWA401@epa.gov

Christopher Link
United States Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento District Headquarters
christopher.m.link@usace.army.mil

CWA Section 401 WQC Program
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
Stateboard401@waterboards.ca.gov

Attachment
California Department of Transportation
San Joaquin River Sheet Pile Project



Figure 1: Sheet pile to be removed