Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

26 October 2026

Robert Gomez
Tubatulabals of Kern Valley
P.O. Box 833
Weldon, CA, 93283

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE UNDER ORDER SB12006GN, AMENDED ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS, KWOLOKAM MEADOW HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND RESTORATION PROJECT (WDID# 5C15CR00168), KERN COUNTY

On 1 October 2026, the Tubatulabals of Kern Valley submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll under and comply with State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) Order No. SB12006GN, Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff has reviewed your enrollment materials and finds the Kwolokam Meadow Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Project (Project) meets the requirements of, and is hereby enrolled under, Order No. SB12006GN. You may proceed with your Project in accordance with the Order.

A copy of Order SB12006GN (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/shrpcert032713.pdf) can be found on the State Water Board's General Orders webpage and is enclosed.

Please familiarize yourself with the requirements of Order No. SB12006GN. You are responsible for complying with all applicable Order requirements. Failure to comply with Order No. SB12006GN constitutes a violation of the California Water Code and the Clean Water Act and may result in enforcement action or termination of enrollment under the Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The 4.85-acre Project consists of restoring natural ecosystem processes and promoting tribal uses across the Kwolokam Meadow and associated riparian complex. Restoration will be achieved by improving hydrologic function via reconnection of the incised channel to the meadow floodplain. Implementation relies on low-tech process-based restoration (LTPBR) using biogenic instream structures such as beaver dam analogs

(BDAs) and post-assisted log structures (PALS). The structures will be constructed by hand crews with hand tools.

Project elements that affect aquatic resources consist of permanent in-channel disturbance associated with installation of biogenic structures. The structures are semi-permeable and intended to increase floodplain inundation frequency/duration, induce channel aggradation, disperse flow, and improve sediment sorting, thereby supporting recovery of wet-meadow and riparian functions. The Project will permanently impact 0.0168 acre of stream channel. The proposed activities from the Project will result in the restoration of 1.5 acres of wetland (meadow) habitat.

PROJECT LOCATION:
The Project is within Kwolokam Meadow in eastern Kern County. The approximate center of the Project area is located at latitude 35.7361090 degrees and longitude -118.3150154 degrees. See Appendix A.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:
The Project is expected to commence in July 2027 and finish in October 2029. A minimum of six (6) working days will be required to complete the proposed work.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:
$1,123.00 was received on 10 October 2026. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(4), and was calculated as category D - Ecological Restoration and Enhancement Projects (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

MITIGATION AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES:
You must implement the mitigation and minimization measures proposed in your Mitigation Plan.

NOTICE OF COMPLETION:
Upon completion of the Project, you shall submit a Notice of Completion (NOC) no later than 30 days after Project completion. The NOC shall demonstrate the Project was carried out in accordance with the Project description, include a map of the Project location with final boundaries of the restoration area, and include post-project photographs. More information on the NOC is listed in section B.6 of the Order.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Brandon Salazar by phone at (559) 445-6278 or by email at Brandon.Salazar@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Digitally Signed by Alexander S. Mushegan
for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Appendices: Appendix A – Project Map

Enclosure: Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects File # SB12006GN

cc: [Via email only]

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Appendix A – Project Map

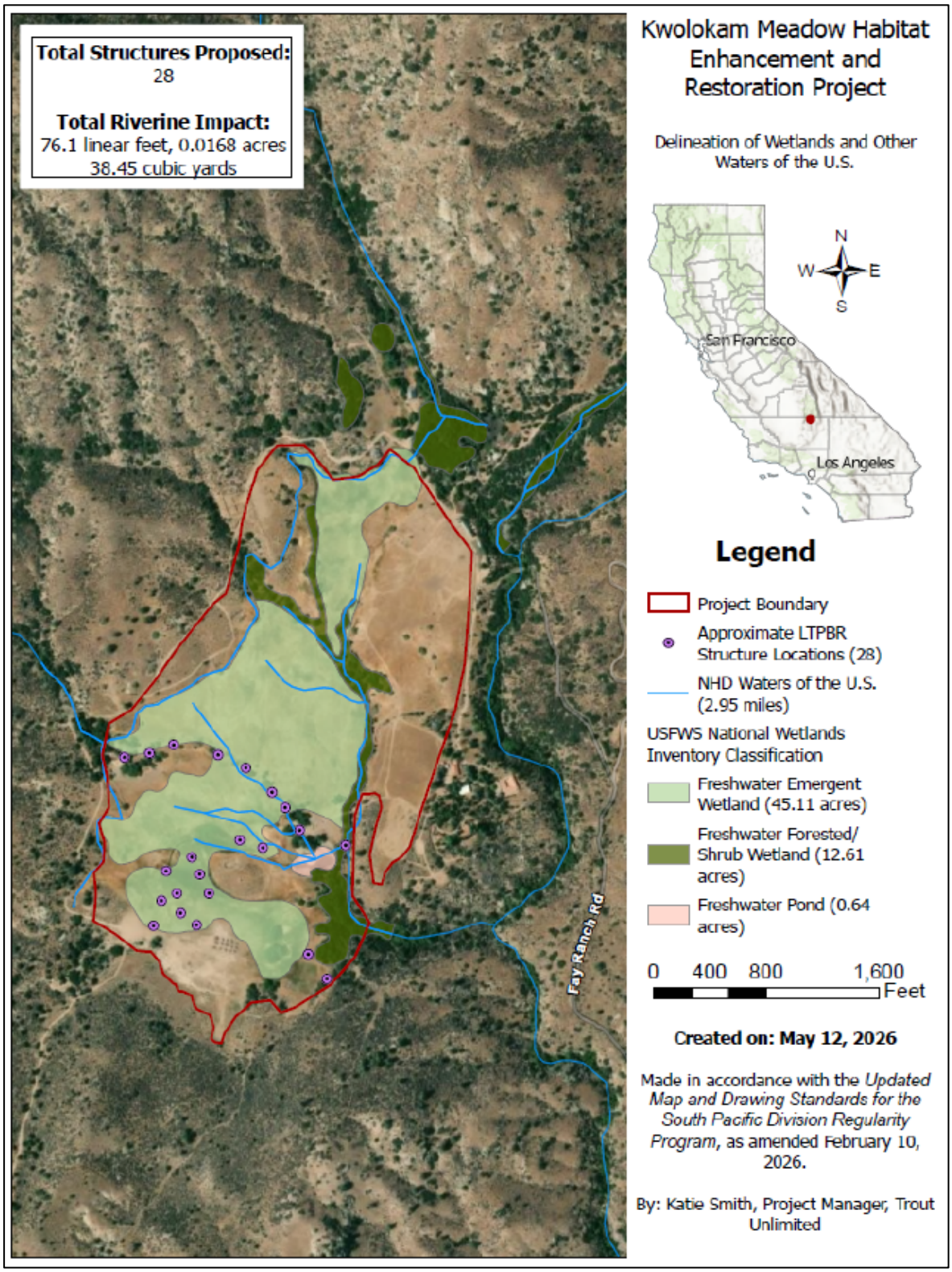


Figure 1: Project Overview and Impact Map