

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR
CLEAN WATER ACT 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**

A request for a water quality certification (certification) under section 401 of the Clean Water Act for the following project was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application for certification at least twenty-one (21) days before taking certification action on the application. The notice period may be shortened in an emergency.

Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to Annabelle Long:

By email:

Annabelle.Long@waterboards.ca.gov

or

By mail:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights – Water Quality Certification Program
Attn: Annabelle Long
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED:	September 24, 2025
PROJECT:	Ralston Afterbay Inlet and Outlet Repair Project
APPLICANT:	Placer County Water Agency
APPLICANT CONTACT:	Heather Trejo
COUNTY:	Placer County
PUBLIC NOTICE:	October 24, 2025

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) is requesting certification for the Ralston Afterbay Inlet and Outlet Repair Project (Project). The Project is located in Placer County in Ralston Afterbay, on the Middle Fork American River. Ralston Afterbay is part of the Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] Project No. 2079). The 2022 Mosquito Fire caused sediment accumulation around the Ralston Afterbay Dam and the Ralston–Oxbow Tunnel Intake, affecting their safe operation and water delivery to the Oxbow Powerhouse. This sediment impacts the Ralston Afterbay Dam's low-level outlet slide gate, which is crucial for the safe and efficient operation required by PCWA's FERC license. To allow for the safe and reliable operation of Ralston Afterbay, PCWA proposes: 1) dredging approximately 27,800 cubic yards of sediment in front of the Ralston Afterbay Dam; 2) dredging approximately 12,000 cubic yards from in front of the Ralston-Oxbow Tunnel Intake structure; and 3) replacement of the damaged trash rack in front of the Ralston Afterbay Dam low-level outlet. Work is planned for summer and fall of 2026.