



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

16 December 2022

John Hannon
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
801 I Street, Suite 140
Sacramento, CA 95814

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY: STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD AMENDED ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS FILE NO. SB12006GN FOR U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER ANADROMOUS SALMONID RESTORATION PROGRAM: PHASE 1 ROCKWADS PROJECT, SHASTA COUNTY, WDID NO. 5A45CR00625

On 21 November 2022, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Applicant) filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) requesting coverage under the 27 March 2013 State Water Resources Control Board Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects File No. SB12006GN (General Certification Order) for the Upper Sacramento River Anadromous Salmonid Restoration Program: Phase 1 Rockwads Project (Project). After review of the NOI 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 the General Certification Order.

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 is enclosed. The General Certification Order may also be accessed on the [State Water Resources Control Board's Clean Water Act Section 401 – Certification and Wetlands Program Web Page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders_wb.shtml) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders_wb.shtml).

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project, as described, is modified.

I. Public Notice

The Central Valley Water Board provided public notice of the application from 23 November 2022 to 16 December 2022. The Central Valley Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

II. Project Description

The purpose of the project is to provide deep-water rearing habitat for juvenile, Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Central Valley fall- / late fall-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and Central Valley steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) through the installation of 20 rockwad structures in the river. The structures will consist of woody material (root wads and tree canopies of orchard trees and native trees as available) firmly anchored (bolted) to angular boulders weighing approximately six tons each to ballast the structures. The fine woody material is intended to provide cover for juvenile salmonids to shelter from velocity and larger predators. The boulder is sized to anchor the structure and not move during flows up to the 1 percent annual exceedance flow of 79,000 cubic feet per second (cfs).

The structures will be placed upstream and downstream of the South Bonnyview Road Bridge in locations with a minimum of 5.5 feet of freeboard of water depth above the top of the structures during drought conditions (approximately 3,000 cfs) within the project site. The freeboard is intended to reduce the potential for recreational hazards during summer flow conditions and reduce the likelihood of debris capture during high flow conditions.

The project staging area(s) will use the ACID pumping station property on the east bank of the river, downstream of the bridge and/or the City of Redding South Bonnyview Boat Launch, on the west bank of the river, downstream of the bridge. Implementation of the project is anticipated to occur in the winter of 2023 (planned start date of 1 February 2023) using a crane on a barge to place the structures underwater onto the riverbed. The work is expected to take approximately two weeks to complete. Measures will be followed to avoid any impacts to salmonids or other native fish in the locations where the structures will be placed.

The project also includes post-installation monitoring of the physical longevity of the structures as well as of juvenile salmonids and their associated predators adjacent to the installed structures. Monitoring methods are currently being developed but will likely involve using sonar cameras and high-definition color underwater video cameras.

III. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1. Permanent impacts are categorized as those resulting in a physical loss in area and also those degrading ecological condition.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts¹

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Perennial Stream	0.02	16	16

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

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Perennial Stream	0.02	43	300

IV. Project Schedule

The Project is estimated to occur from 1 February 2023 to 28 February 2023.

V. Project Location

County: Shasta County

Nearest City: Redding

Section 18, Township 31 North, Range 04 West, MDB&M.

Latitude: 40.539368° and Longitude: -122.357754°

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 15333, Small Habitat Restoration Projects, which consists of projects not to exceed five acres to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

¹ Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include area of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state. Temporary impacts, by definition, are restored to pre-project conditions and therefore do not include a physical loss of area or degradation of ecological condition.

VII. Fees Received

Federal applicants applying for a 401 certification for a dredge or fill project subject to section 404 of the Clean Water Act are not charged fees as identified in Section 3833(b)(3)(A) and Section 2200(a)(3) of the California Code of Regulations.

VIII. Findings of Applicability

This letter serves as formal notice that Order No. SB12006GN is applicable to this salmonid habitat restoration project. Your waste discharge identification (WDID) number is 5A45CR00625.

IX. Reporting

A Notice of Completion (NOC) shall be submitted by the applicant no later than 30 days after the work has been completed. The NOC shall demonstrate that the work has been carried out in accordance with the description provided in the applicant's Notice of Intent.

Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of Order No. SB12006GN may expose U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to enforcement action pursuant to the Clean Water Act and California Water Code.

If you require further assistance, please contact me by phone at (530) 224-4784 or by email at Jerred.Ferguson@waterboards.ca.gov. You may also contact Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist of the Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit, by phone at (530) 224-2437 or by email at Lynn.Coster@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Clint Snyder
(for) Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

12/16/2022
Date

Attachment A: Project Map(s)
Attachment B: Receiving Waters, Impacts, and Mitigation Information
Attachment C: CEQA Findings of Facts

Enclosure: Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects File No. SB12006GN (Applicant Only)

cc email: U.S. EPA, Region 9, San Francisco
Water Quality Certification Program, SWRCB, Sacramento
Hillary Regnart, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding
Jeff Souza, Tehama Environmental Solutions, Inc., Red Bluff,

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Attachment A – Project Maps

Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map

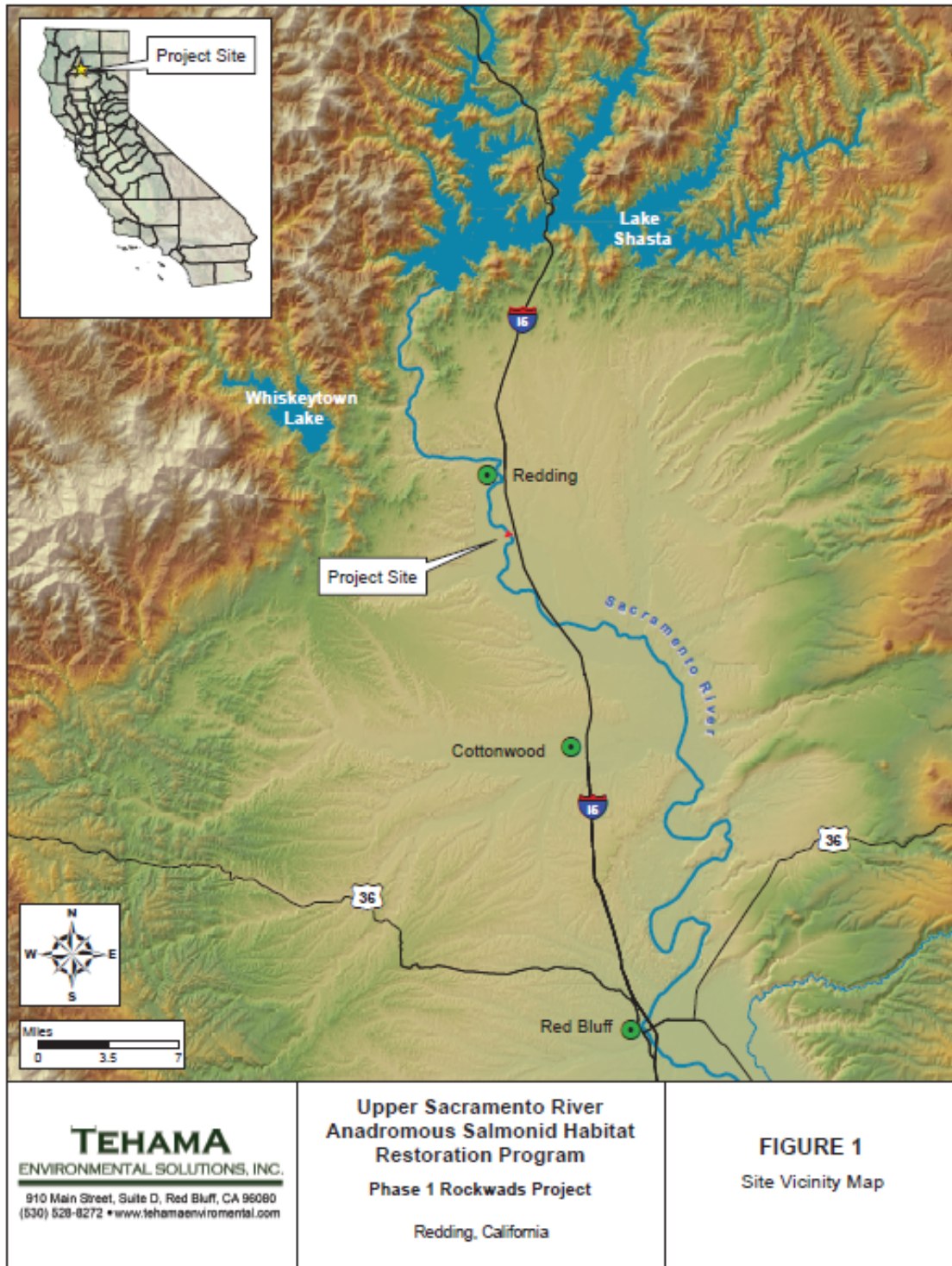


Figure 2. Project Location Map

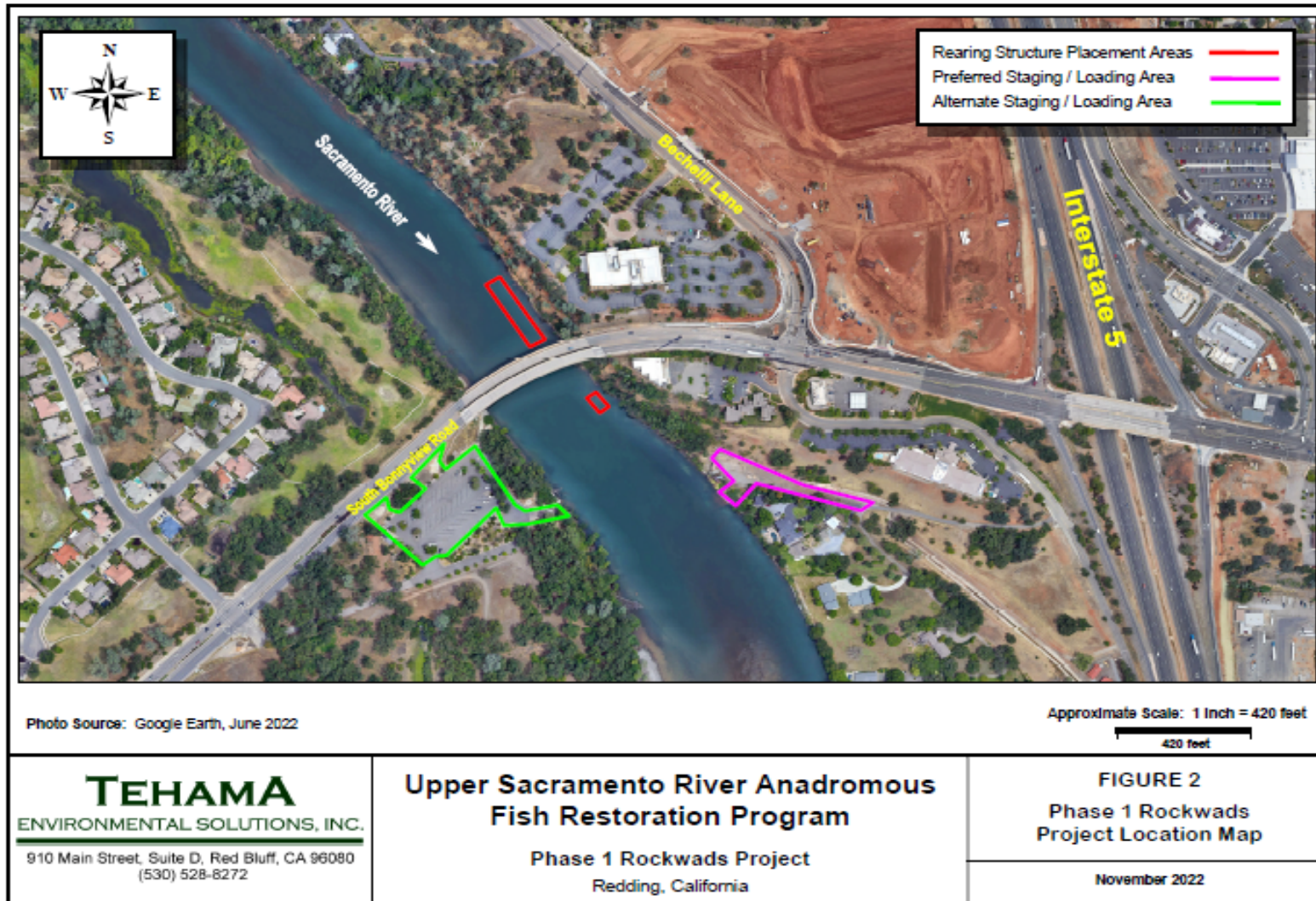
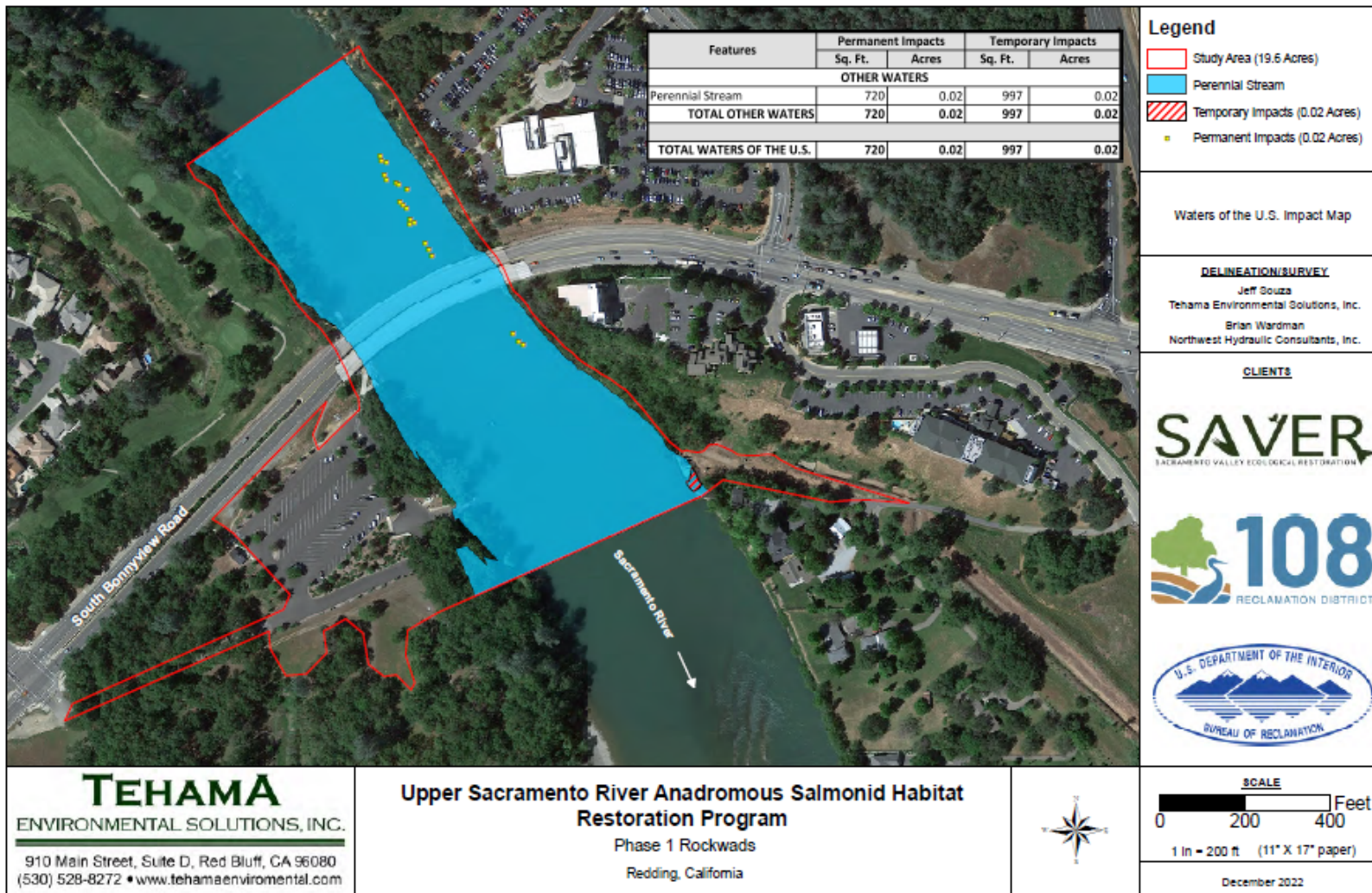


Figure 3. Project Impacts Map



NOTE: DELINEATION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED PRELIMINARY UNTIL VERIFIED BY THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PHOTO SOURCE: Google Earth, 4/15/2015

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Attachment B – Receiving Waters, Impacts and Mitigation Information

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

Table 1: Receiving Water Information

Non-Federal Waters	Impact Site ID	Waterbody Name	Impacted Aquatic Resources Type	Water Board Hydrologic Units	Receiving Waters	Receiving Waters Beneficial Uses	303d Listing Pollutant	California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) ID
No	Upper Sacramento River Anadromous Salmonid Restoration Program: Phase 1 Rockwads	Sacramento River	Stream	508.10	Sacramento River (Shasta Dam to Colusa Basin Drain)	MUN, AGR, IND, POW, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, COLD, MIGR, SPWN, WILD, NAV	Toxicity	Not Applicable

Individual Direct Impact Locations

The following table shows individual impacts.

Table 2: Individual Temporary Fill/Excavation Impact Information

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Upper Sacramento River Anadromous Salmonid Restoration Program: Phase 1 Rockwads	40.539368°	-122.357754°	No	0.02	16	16

Table 3: Individual Permanent Fill/Excavation Impact Information

Upper Sacramento River Anadromous Salmonid Restoration Program: Phase 1 Rockwads	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Upper Sacramento River Anadromous Salmonid Restoration Program: Phase 1 Rockwads	40.539368°	-122.357754°	No	0.02	43	300

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Attachment C – CEQA Findings of Fact

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 15333, Small Habitat Restoration Projects, which consists of projects not to exceed five acres to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

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.)