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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

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### CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND ORDER

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**Effective Date:** 26 October 2020

**Expiration Date:** 26 October 2025

**Program Type:** Fill/Excavation

**Project Type:** Alternative energy (Wind)

**Project:** Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering (Project)

**Applicant:** Gonzaga Ridge Wind Farm LLC

**Applicant Contact:** Michael Rucker  
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**Water Board Contact Person:** If you have any questions, please call Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) Staff listed above or (559) 445-5116 and ask to speak with the Water Quality Certification Unit Supervisor.

Reg. Meas. ID:	438938
Place ID:	867718
WDID No.:	5B24CR00089
USACE No.:	NWP 14 Reporting

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**I. Order**

This Clean Water Act (CWA) section 401 Water Quality Certification action and Order (Order) is issued at the request of Gonzaga Ridge Wind Farm LLC (hereinafter Permittee) for the Project. This Order is for the purpose described in application and supplemental information submitted by the Permittee. The application was received on 27 May 2020. The application was deemed complete on 26 June 2020.

Central Valley Water Board staff requested additional information necessary to supplement the contents of the complete application and the Permittee responded to the request for supplemental information on the following dates:

Date of Request for Supplemental Information: **29 June 2020**  
Date all requested information was received: **26 August 2020**

**II. Public Notice**

The Central Valley Water Board provided public notice of the application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 from 3 July 2020 to 24 July 2020. The Central Valley Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

**III. Project Purpose**

The Project is a renewable wind energy generation development to be constructed and operated in Pacheco State Park in Merced County, California, by Gonzaga Ridge Wind Farm, LLC. The Project would replace the existing 16.5 megawatt (MW) wind energy facility that was constructed starting in 1988.

**IV. Project Description**

The Project will consist of up to 40 new wind turbines and associated infrastructure with a nameplate generating capacity of approximately 100 MW on an approximately 1,766-acre non-public portion of the Pacheco State Park site. The Project will also include a new above-ground 70kV transmission line extending approximately 16 miles from the turbine portion of the project to an existing Pacific Gas & Electric substation west of Los Banos that will utilize land owned by the Bureau of Reclamation.

**V. Project Location**

County: Merced

Nearest City: Los Banos

Sections 13, 14, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24,25, 26, 27, 28, Township 10 South, Range 07 East, MDB&M.

Latitude: 37.04431° and Longitude: -121.18492°

Maps showing the Project location are found in Attachment A of this Order.

## VI. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Water Board. Receiving waters and groundwater potentially impacted by this Project are protected in accordance with the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, Fifth Edition, May 2018 (Basin Plan). The plan for the region and other plans and policies may be accessed at the [State Water Resources Control Board's Plans and Policies Web page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/) ([http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans\\_policies/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/)). The Basin Plan includes water quality standards, which consist of existing and potential beneficial uses of waters of the state, water quality objectives to protect those uses, and the state and federal antidegradation policies.

It is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. This Order promotes that policy by requiring discharges to meet maximum contaminant levels designed to protect human health and ensure that water is safe for domestic use.

Project impact and receiving waters information can be found in Attachment B. Table 1 of Attachment B shows the receiving waters and beneficial uses of waters of the state impacted by the Project. Individual impact location and quantity is shown in Table 2 of Attachment B.

## VII. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State

Construction access, temporary access road construction, and culvert crossings will impact seasonal wetlands, seasonal wetland swales, and ephemeral drainages along the proposed transmission line corridor. Access road construction will also permanently impact a portion of San Luis Reservoir.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. 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 Impacts<sup>1</sup>**

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake	0.58	1,839	
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.004	5	
Vernal Pool			
Wetland	0.01	3	

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

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake	0.08	387	
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.01	14	340
Vernal Pool			
Wetland	0.16	163	

**VIII. Avoidance and Minimization**

The Project shall be implemented in accordance with the following, but not limited to, measures to avoid and/or minimize potential impacts to aquatic resources:

- Prior to the initiation of ground disturbance activities, the limits of disturbance shall be delineated with exclusion fence. Fence installation shall be directed by a qualified biologist familiar with aquatic resource delineations. No construction, staging, or other ground disturbance activities shall be permitted beyond the fencing. The contractor shall be responsible for maintaining the fence through the duration of construction to ensure functionality at all times. The fence shall remain in place until construction is complete and the disturbed area has been stabilized with erosion control measures.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

- Best management practices (BMPs) shall be implemented for all construction activities occurring in or adjacent to jurisdictional aquatic resources, including seasonal wetlands or swales or scrub-shrub wetlands, intermittent or ephemeral channels, Shallow Spring, and San Luis Reservoir. These measures may include, but are not limited to: (1) installation of silt fences, fiber rolls, and/or bales along limits of work/construction areas and from the edge of the water course; (2) covering of stockpiled spoils; (3) re-vegetation and physical stabilization of disturbed, graded, and staging areas; and (4) sediment control including fencing, dams, barriers, berms, traps, and associated basins.
- Sediment curtains, silt fences and/or coffer dams shall be utilized where construction activities could cause sediment to enter waterways. These measures shall be placed at the perimeter of the construction zone to prevent sediment disturbed during excavation/grading activities from being transported and deposited outside of the construction zone.
- Spoil disposal sites and other debris areas, such as stockpiles, shall be located and stabilized, and sediment control measures implemented, such that sediment is not conveyed into waterways.
- Gas, oil, or any other substances that could be hazardous to aquatic life or pollute habitat shall be prevented from contaminating the soil and/or entering aquatic resources (e.g., ponds, wetlands, and drainages) by storing these types of materials within a designated containment area. Vehicles and equipment shall have spill kits available, be checked daily for leaks, and shall be properly maintained to prevent contamination of soil or water from external grease and oil or from leaking hydraulic fluid, fuel, oil, and grease. Emergency spill kits shall be on site at all times.
- Equipment fluid leaks shall be prevented through regular equipment inspections.
- Equipment fueling or servicing shall not be conducted within waterways or within 50 feet of an aquatic resource, including ponds, wetlands, and drainages. Proper waste/trash management procedures shall be implemented at all times.
- The Project owners shall work with Bureau of Reclamation to update the weed control program for the Project decommissioning activities, which will entail spot spraying with approved herbicides along disturbed areas for noxious and invasive weed species. The frequency of the spraying shall be based on the season and the amount of water used for dust control, and may be adapted based on monitoring results.

**IX. Compensatory Mitigation**

The Permittee has agreed to provide compensatory mitigation for direct impacts, described in section VII for permanent impacts.

**X. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

On August 24, 2020, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, as lead agency, certified an environmental impact report (EIR) (State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2018101047) for the Project and filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) at the SCH on August 24, 2020. Pursuant to CEQA, the Central Valley Water Board has made Findings of Facts (Findings) which support the issuance of this Order and are included in Attachment C.

**XI. Petitions for Reconsideration**

Any person aggrieved by this action may petition the State Water Board to reconsider this Order in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3867. A petition for reconsideration must be submitted in writing and received within 30 calendar days of the issuance of this Order.

**XII. Fees Received**

An application fee of \$1,949.00 was received on 27 May 2020. 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 A - Fill & Excavation Discharges (fee code 84) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

An additional fee of \$12,643.00 based on total Project impacts was received on 26 August 2020.

**XIII. Conditions**

The Central Valley Water Board has independently reviewed the record of the Project to analyze impacts to water quality and designated beneficial uses within the watershed of the Project. In accordance with this Order, the Permittee may proceed with the Project under the following terms and conditions:

**A. Authorization**

Impacts to waters of the state shall not exceed quantities shown in Tables 1 and 2.

**B. Reporting and Notification Requirements**

The following section details the reporting and notification types and timing of submittals. Requirements for the content of these reporting and notification types are detailed in Attachment D, including specifications for photo and map documentation during the Project. Written reports and notifications must be submitted using the Reporting and Notification Cover Sheet located in

Attachment D, which must be signed by the Permittee or an authorized representative.

The Permittee must submit all notifications, submissions, materials, data, correspondence, and reports in a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF). Documents less than 50 MB must be emailed to:

[centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov)

In the subject line of the email, include the Central Valley Water Board Contact, Project name, and WDID No. Documents that are 50 MB or larger must be transferred to a disk and mailed to the Central Valley Water Board Contact.

## 1. Project Reporting

### a. Monthly Reporting – Not Applicable

- b. Annual Reporting:** The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year on the 1st day of the month one year after the effective date of the Order (e.g., if the effective date is 1 January 2020 then the annual report is due the following year on 1 February 2021). Annual reporting shall continue until the Central Valley Water Board issues a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee.

## 2. Project Status Notifications

- a. Commencement of Construction:** The Permittee shall submit a Commencement of Construction Report at least seven (7) days prior to start of initial ground disturbance activities and corresponding Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID#) issued under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002).
- b. Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter:** The Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter following completion of active Project construction activities, including any required restoration and permittee-responsible mitigation. This request shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project construction activities. Upon acceptance of the request, Central Valley Water Board staff shall issue a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter to the Permittee which will end the active discharge period.
- c. Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter:** The Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter when construction and/or any post-construction monitoring is complete, and no further Project activities will occur. Completion of post-construction monitoring shall be determined by Central Valley Water Board staff and shall be contingent on successful attainment of restoration and mitigation performance criteria. This request shall be submitted to Central Valley

Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project activities. Upon approval of the request, the Central Valley Water Board staff shall issue a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee which will end the post discharge monitoring period.

### 3. Conditional Notifications and Reports:

The following notifications and reports are required as appropriate.

#### a. Accidental Discharges of Hazardous Materials<sup>2</sup>

Following an accidental discharge of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material, sewage, or an unknown material, the following applies (Water Code, Section 13271):

- i. As soon as (A) Permittee has knowledge of the discharge or noncompliance, (B) notification is possible, and (C) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures then:
  - first call – 911 (to notify local response agency)
  - then call – Office of Emergency Services (OES) State Warning Center at:(800) 852-7550 or (916) 845-8911
  - Lastly, follow the required OES, procedures as set forth in the [Office of Emergency Services' Accidental Discharge Notification Web page](http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-Spill_Booklet_Feb2014_FINAL_BW_Acc.pdf) ([http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-Spill\\_Booklet\\_Feb2014\\_FINAL\\_BW\\_Acc.pdf](http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-Spill_Booklet_Feb2014_FINAL_BW_Acc.pdf))
- ii. Following notification to OES, the Permittee shall notify Central Valley Water Board, as soon as practicable (ideally within 24 hours). Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.
- iii. Within five (5) working days of notification to the Central Valley Water Board, the Permittee must submit an Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report.

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<sup>2</sup> "Hazardous material" means any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. "Hazardous materials" include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances, hazardous waste, and any material that a handler or the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing that it would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or harmful to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. (Health & Safety Code, Section 25501.)

**b. Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards:** The Permittee shall notify the Central Valley Water Board of any event causing a violation of compliance with water quality standards. Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.

i. This notification must be followed within three (3) working days by submission of a Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report.

**c. In-Water Work and Diversions:**

i. The Permittee shall notify the Central Valley Water Board at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to initiating work in water or stream diversions. Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.

ii. Within three (3) working days following completion of work in water or stream diversions, an In-Water Work/Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report must be submitted to Central Valley Water Board staff.

**d. Modifications to Project**

Project modifications may require an amendment of this Order. The Permittee shall give advance notice to Central Valley Water Board staff if Project implementation as described in the application materials is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority by submitting a Modifications to Project Report. The Permittee shall inform Central Valley Water Board staff of any Project modifications that will interfere with the Permittee's compliance with this Order. Notification may be made in accordance with conditions in the certification deviation section of this Order.

**e. Transfer of Property Ownership:**

This Order is not transferable in its entirety or in part to any person or organization except after notice to the Central Valley Water Board in accordance with the following terms:

i. The Permittee must notify the Central Valley Water Board of any change in ownership or interest in ownership of the Project area by submitting a Transfer of Property Ownership Report. The Permittee and purchaser must sign and date the notification and provide such notification to the Central Valley Water Board at least 10 days prior to the transfer of ownership. The purchaser must also submit a written request to the Central Valley Water Board to be named as the permittee in a revised order.

ii. Until such time as this Order has been modified to name the purchaser as the permittee, the Permittee shall continue to be responsible for all requirements set forth in this Order.

**f. Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance:**

If maintenance responsibility for post-construction BMPs is legally transferred, the Permittee must submit to the Central Valley Water Board a copy of such documentation and must provide the transferee with a copy of a long-term BMP maintenance plan that complies with manufacturer or designer specifications. The Permittee must provide such notification to the Central Valley Water Board with a Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report at least 10 days prior to the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.

**C. Water Quality Monitoring****1. General:**

If surface water is present, continuous visual surface water monitoring shall be conducted during active construction periods to detect accidental discharge of construction related pollutants (e.g., oil and grease, turbidity plume, or uncured concrete). Sampling is not required in a wetland where the entire wetland is being permanently filled, provided there is no outflow connecting the wetland to surface waters. The Permittee shall perform surface water sampling:

- a. when performing any in-water work;
- b. during the entire duration of temporary surface water diversions;
- c. in the event that the Project activities result in any materials reaching surface waters; or
- d. when any activities result in the creation of a visible plume in surface waters.

**2. Accidental Discharges/Noncompliance:**

Upon occurrence of an accidental discharge of hazardous materials or a violation of compliance with a water quality standard, Central Valley Water Board staff may require water quality monitoring based on the discharge constituents and/or related water quality objectives and beneficial uses.

**3. In-Water Work or Diversions:**

During planned in-water work or during the entire duration of temporary water diversions, any discharge(s) to waters of the state shall conform to the following water quality standards:

- a. Waters shall not contain oils, greases, waxes, or other materials in concentrations that cause nuisance, result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.

- b. Activities shall not cause pH to be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5 in surface water.
- c. Activities shall not cause turbidity increases in surface water to exceed:
  - i. where natural turbidity is less than 1 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTUs), controllable factors shall not cause downstream turbidity to exceed 2 NTU;
  - ii. where natural turbidity is between 1 and 5 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 1 NTU;
  - iii. where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 20 percent;
  - iv. where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 10 NTUs;
  - v. where natural turbidity is greater than 100 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 10 percent.

In determining compliance with the above limits, appropriate averaging periods may be applied provided that beneficial uses will be fully protected. Averaging periods may only be used with prior permission of the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer.

Sampling during in-water work or during the entire duration of temporary water diversions shall be conducted in accordance with Table 3 sampling parameters.<sup>3</sup> For flowing waters, the sampling requirements in Table 3 shall be conducted upstream out of the influence of the Project, and approximately 300 feet downstream of the work area. For the lake, the sampling in Table 3 shall be conducted in the lake outside the influence of the Project to obtain a representative sample and within the in-water work area, discharge area, or within the visible plume to characterize the discharge to the lake.

The sampling frequency may be modified for certain projects with written approval from Central Valley Water Board staff. An In-Water Work and Diversion Water Quality Monitoring Report, as described in Attachment D, shall be submitted within two weeks of initiation of in-water construction, and every two weeks thereafter. In reporting the data, the Permittee shall arrange

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<sup>3</sup> Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 136; where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the method shall be approved by Central Valley Water Board staff. Grab samples shall be taken between the surface and mid-depth and not be collected at the same time each day to get a complete representation of variations in the receiving water. A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring shall be maintained onsite.



the data in tabular form so that the sampling locations, date, constituents, and concentrations are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to illustrate clearly whether the Project complies with Order requirements. The report shall include surface water sampling results, visual observations, and identification of the turbidity increase in the receiving water applicable to the natural turbidity conditions specified in the turbidity criteria in XIII.C.3.

If no sampling is required, the Permittee shall submit a written statement stating, "No sampling was required" within two weeks on initiation of in-water construction, and every two weeks thereafter.

**Table 3: Sample Type and Frequency Requirements**

Parameter	Unit of Measurement	Type of Sample	Minimum Frequency
pH	Standard Units	Grab	Every 4 hours
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Every 4 hours
Visible construction related pollutants <sup>4</sup>	Observations	Visual Inspections	Continuous throughout the construction period

#### 4. Post-Construction:

Visually inspect the Project site during the rainy season for one year following completion of active Project construction activities to ensure excessive erosion, stream instability, or other water quality pollution is not occurring in or downstream of the Project site. If water quality pollution is occurring, contact the Central Valley Water Board staff member overseeing the Project within three (3) working days. The Central Valley Water Board may require the submission of a Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report. Additional permits may be required to carry out any necessary site remediation.

#### D. Standard

1. This Order is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to Water Code section 13330, and California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Chapter 28, article 6 commencing with sections 3867-3869, inclusive. Additionally, the Central Valley Water Board reserves the right to suspend, cancel, or modify and reissue this Order, after providing notice to the Permittee, if the Central Valley Water Board determines that: the Project fails to comply with any of the

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<sup>4</sup> Visible construction-related pollutants include oil, grease, foam, fuel, petroleum products, and construction-related, excavated, organic or earthen materials.

- conditions of this Order; or, when necessary to implement any new or revised water quality standards and implementation plans adopted or approved pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code, section 13000 et seq.) or federal Clean Water Act section 303 (33 U.S.C. section 1313). For purposes of Clean Water Act section 401(d), the condition constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with water quality standards and appropriate requirements of state law.
2. This Order is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license, unless the pertinent certification application was filed pursuant to subsection 3855(b) of chapter 28, Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, and that application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.
  3. This Order is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required under Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations and owed by the Permittee.
  4. In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this Order, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process, or sanctions as provided for under state and federal law. For purposes of Clean Water Act, section 401(d), the applicability of any state law authorizing remedies, penalties, processes, or sanctions for the violation or threatened violation constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this Order.

#### **E. General Compliance**

1. Failure to comply with any condition of this Order shall constitute a violation of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the Clean Water Act. The Permittee and/or discharger may then be subject to administrative and/or civil liability pursuant to Water Code section 13385.
2. Permitted actions must not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standards, including impairment of designated beneficial uses for receiving waters as adopted in the Basin Plans by any applicable Regional Water Board or any applicable State Water Board (collectively Water Boards) water quality control plan or policy. The source of any such discharge must be eliminated as soon as practicable.
3. In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this Order, the Central Valley Water Board may require the holder of this Order to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the Water Boards deem appropriate, provided that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to

be obtained from the reports. The additional monitoring requirements ensure that permitted discharges and activities comport with any applicable effluent limitations, water quality standards, and/or other appropriate requirement of state law.

4. The Permittee must, at all times, fully comply with engineering plans, specifications, and technical reports submitted to support this Order; and all subsequent submittals required as part of this Order. The conditions within this Order and Attachments supersede conflicting provisions within Permittee submittals.
5. This Order and all of its conditions contained herein continue to have full force and effect regardless of the expiration or revocation of any federal license or permit issued for the Project. For purposes of Clean Water Act, section 401(d), this condition constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements of state law.
6. **Construction General Permit Requirement:** The Permittee shall obtain coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002), as amended, for discharges to surface waters comprised of storm water associated with construction activity, including, but not limited to, demolition, clearing, grading, excavation, and other land disturbance activities of one or more acres, or where projects disturb less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs one or more acres.

#### F. Administrative

1. Signatory requirements for all document submittals required by this Order are presented in Attachment E of this Order.
2. This Order does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a threatened, endangered or candidate species or any act, which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & Wildlife Code, sections 2050-2097) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. sections 1531-1544). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this Order held by the Permittee, the Permittee must comply with the California Endangered Species Act and federal Endangers Species Act prior to any construction or operation of the portion of the Project that may result in a take. The Permittee is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable endangered species act for the Project authorized under this Order.
3. The Permittee shall grant Central Valley Water Board staff, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a Water Board

representative), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, permission to:

- a. Enter upon the Project or compensatory mitigation site(s) premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept.
  - b. Have access to and copy any records that are kept and are relevant to the Project or the requirements of this Order.
  - c. Inspect any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order.
  - d. Sample or monitor for the purposes of assuring Order compliance.
4. A copy of this Order shall be provided to any consultants, contractors, and subcontractors working on the Project. Copies of this Order shall remain at the Project site for the duration of this Order. The Permittee shall be responsible for work conducted by its consultants, contractors, and any subcontractors.
  5. A copy of this Order must be available at the Project site(s) during construction for review by site personnel and agencies. All personnel performing work on the Project shall be familiar with the content of this Order and its posted location at the Project site.
  6. **Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement:** The Permittee shall submit a signed copy of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement or other authorization letter to the Central Valley Water Board immediately upon receipt and prior to any discharge to waters of the state.

## G. Construction

### 1. Dewatering

- a. The Permittee shall develop and maintain on-site a Surface Water Diversion and/or Dewatering Plan(s). The Plan(s) must be developed prior to initiation of any water diversions. The Plan(s) shall include the proposed method and duration of diversion activities and include water quality monitoring conducted, as described in section XIII.C.3, during the entire duration of dewatering and diversion activities. The Plan(s) must be consistent with this Order and must be made available to the Central Valley Water Board staff upon request.
- b. For any temporary dam or other artificial obstruction being constructed, maintained, or placed in operation, sufficient water shall at all times be allowed to pass downstream, to maintain beneficial uses of waters of the

state below the dam. Construction, dewatering, and removal of temporary cofferdams shall not violate section XIII.C.3.

- c. The temporary dam or other artificial obstruction shall only be built from clean materials such as sandbags, gravel bags, water dams, or clean/washed gravel which will cause little or no siltation. Stream flow shall be temporarily diverted using gravity flow through temporary culverts/pipes or pumped around the work site with the use of hoses.
- d. If water is present, the area must be dewatered prior to start of work.
- e. This Order does not allow permanent water diversion of flow from the receiving water. This Order is invalid if any water is permanently diverted as a part of the project.
- f. The Permittee shall work with the Central Valley Water Board to obtain coverage under an NPDES permit for dewatering activities that result in discharges into surface water. The Permittee shall work with the Central Valley Water Board to obtain coverage under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for dewatering activities that result in discharges to land.

**2. Directional Drilling – NOT APPLICABLE**

**3. Dredging – NOT APPLICABLE**

**4. Fugitive Dust:**

Dust abatement activities can cause discharges of sediment to streams and uplands through application of water or other fluids. Dust abatement chemicals added to water can be hazardous to wildlife and, if allowed to enter streams, detrimental to water quality. Therefore, dust abatement activities shall be conducted so that sediment or dust abatement chemicals are not discharged into waters of the state. Dust abatement products or additives that are known to be detrimental to water quality or wildlife shall not be used, unless specific management needs are documented, and product-specific application plans are approved by Central Valley Water Board staff.

**5. Good Site Management “Housekeeping”**

- a. The Permittee shall develop and maintain onsite a project-specific Spill Prevention, Containment and Cleanup Plan outlining the practices to prevent, minimize, and/or clean up potential spills during construction of the Project. The Plan must detail the Project elements, construction equipment types and location, access and staging and construction sequence. The Plan must be made available to the Central Valley Water Board staff upon request.
- b. Refueling of equipment within the floodplain or within 300 feet of the waterway is prohibited. If critical equipment must be refueled within 300 feet of the waterway, spill prevention and countermeasures must be

implemented to avoid spills. Refueling areas shall be provided with secondary containment including drip pans and/or placement of absorbent material. No hazardous materials, pesticides, fuels, lubricants, oils, hydraulic fluids, or other construction-related potentially hazardous substances should be stored within a floodplain or within 300 feet of a waterway. The Permittee must perform frequent inspections of construction equipment prior to utilizing it near surface waters to ensure leaks from the equipment are not occurring and are not a threat to water quality.

- c. All waste materials resulting from the Project shall be removed from the site and disposed of properly.

## **6. Hazardous Materials**

- a. The discharge of petroleum products, any construction materials, hazardous materials, pesticides, fuels, lubricants, oils, hydraulic fluids, raw cement, concrete or the washing thereof, asphalt, paint, coating material, drilling fluids, or other substances potentially hazardous to fish and wildlife resulting from or disturbed by project-related activities is prohibited and shall be prevented from contaminating the soil and/or entering waters of the state. In the event of a prohibited discharge, the Permittee shall comply with notification requirements in sections XIII.B.3.a and XIII.B.3.b.
- b. No wet concrete shall be placed into wetland, stream channel, or lake habitat.
- c. Concrete must be completely cured before coming into contact with waters of the United States and waters of the state. Surface water that contacts wet concrete must be pumped out and disposed of at an appropriate off-site commercial facility, which is authorized to accept concrete wastes.

## **7. Invasive Species and Soil Borne Pathogens**

Prior to arrival at the project site and prior to leaving the project site, construction equipment that may contain invasive plants and/or seeds shall be cleaned to reduce the spread of noxious weeds.

## **8. Post-Construction Storm Water Management**

- a. The Permittee must minimize the short and long-term impacts on receiving water quality from the Project by implementing the following post-construction storm water management practices and as required by local agency permitting the Project, as appropriate:
  - i. Minimize the amount of impervious surface;
  - ii. Reduce peak runoff flows;

- iii. Provide treatment BMPs to reduce pollutants in runoff;
  - iv. Ensure existing waters of the state (e.g., wetlands, vernal pools, or creeks) are not used as pollutant source controls and/or treatment controls;
  - v. Preserve and where possible, create or restore areas that provide important water quality benefits, such as riparian corridors, wetlands, and buffer zones;
  - vi. Limit disturbances of natural water bodies and natural drainage systems caused by development (including development of roads, highways, and bridges);
  - vii. Use existing drainage master plans or studies to ensure incorporation of structural and non-structural BMPs to mitigate the projected pollutant load increases in surface water runoff;
  - viii. Identify and avoid development in areas that are particularly susceptible to erosion and sediment loss, or establish development guidance that protects areas from erosion/ sediment loss; and
  - ix. Control post-development peak storm water run-off discharge rates and velocities to prevent or reduce downstream erosion, and to protect stream habitat.
- b.** The Permittee shall ensure that all development within the Project provides verification of maintenance provisions for post-construction structural and treatment control BMPs as required by the local agency permitting the Project. Verification shall include one or more of the following, as applicable:
- i. The developer's signed statement accepting responsibility for maintenance until the maintenance responsibility is legally transferred to another party; or
  - ii. Written conditions in the sales or lease agreement that require the recipient to assume responsibility for maintenance; or
  - iii. Written text in Project conditions, covenants and restrictions for residential properties assigning maintenance responsibilities to a homeowner's association, or other appropriate group, for maintenance of structural and treatment control BMPs; or
  - iv. Any other legally enforceable agreement that assigns responsibility for storm water BMPs maintenance.

## **9. Roads**

- a.** The number of access routes, number and size of staging areas, and the total area of the activity must be limited to the minimum necessary to

achieve the project goal. Routes and work area boundaries must be clearly demarcated.

- b. Bridges, culverts, dip crossings, or other structures must be installed so that water and in-stream sediment flow is not impeded. Appropriate design criteria, practices and materials must be used in areas where access roads intersect waters of the state.
- c. Temporary materials placed in any water of the state must be removed as soon as construction is completed at that location, and all temporary roads must be removed or re-contoured and restored according to approved re-vegetation and restoration plans.
- d. Any structure, including but not limited to, culverts, pipes, piers, and coffer dams, placed within a stream where fish (as defined in California Fish and Game Code section 45) exist or may exist, must be designed, constructed, and maintained such that it does not constitute a barrier to upstream or downstream movement of aquatic life, or cause an avoidance reaction by fish due to impedance of their upstream or downstream movement. This includes, but is not limited to, maintaining the supply of water and maintaining flows at an appropriate depth, temperature, and velocity to facilitate upstream and downstream fish migration. If any structure results in a long-term reduction in fish movement, the discharger shall be responsible for restoration of conditions as necessary (as determined by the Water Board) to secure passage of fish across the structure.
- e. A method of containment must be used below any temporary bridge, trestle, boardwalk, and/or other stream crossing structure to prevent any debris or spills from falling into the waters of the state. Containment must be maintained and kept clean for the life of the temporary stream crossing structure.

## **10. Sediment Control**

- a. Except for activities permitted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, soil, silt, or other organic materials shall not be placed where such materials could pass into surface water or surface water drainage courses.
- b. Silt fencing, straw wattles, or other effective management practices must be used along the construction zone to minimize soil or sediment along the embankments from migrating into the waters of the state through the entire duration of the Project.
- c. The use of netting material (e.g., monofilament-based erosion blankets) that could trap aquatic dependent wildlife is prohibited within the Project area.



**11. Stabilization/Erosion Control**

- a. All areas disturbed by Project activities shall be protected from washout and erosion.
- b. Hydroseeding shall be performed with California native seed mix.

**12. Storm Water**

- a. During the construction phase, the Permittee must employ strategies to minimize erosion and the introduction of pollutants into storm water runoff. These strategies must include the following:
  - i. An effective combination of erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be implemented and adequately working prior to the rainy season and during all phases of construction.

**H. Site Specific – NOT APPLICABLE****I. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) – NOT APPLICABLE****J. Mitigation for Temporary Impacts**

1. The Permittee shall restore all areas of temporary impacts, including Project site upland areas, which could result in a discharge to waters of the state to pre-construction contours and conditions upon completion of construction activities.
2. The Central Valley Water Board may extend the monitoring period beyond requirements of the restoration plan upon a determination by Executive Officer that the performance standards have not been met or are not likely to be met within the monitoring period.
3. If restoration of temporary impacts to waters of the state is not completed within 90 days of the impacts, compensatory mitigation may be required to offset temporal loss of waters of the state.
4. Total required Project compensatory mitigation information for temporary impacts is summarized in Table 4. [Establishment (Est.), Re-establishment (Re-est.), Rehabilitation (Reh.), Enhancement (Enh.), Preservation (Pres.), Unknown].

**Table 4: Required Project Mitigation Quantity for Temporary Impacts by Method**

Aquatic Resource Type	Mitigation Type	Units	Est.	Re-est.	Reh.	Enh.	Pres.	Unknown
Lake	Permittee Responsible	Acres			0.57			
Stream Channel	Permittee Responsible	Acres			0.004			
Wetland	Permittee Responsible	Acres			0.01			

**K. Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts:**

Compensatory Mitigation is for permanent physical loss and permanent ecological degradation of a water of the state.

**1. Purchase of Mitigation Credits by Permittee for Compensatory Mitigation**

- a. A copy of the fully executed agreement for the purchase of mitigation credits shall be provided to the Central Valley Water Board prior to the initiation of impacts to waters of the state.
- b. The Permittee shall retain responsibility for providing the compensatory mitigation and long-term management until Central Valley Water Board staff has received documentation of the credit purchase and the transfer agreement between the Permittee and the seller of credits.

**2. Total Required Compensatory Mitigation**

- a. The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation at a minimum 2:1 ratio for the authorized impact to 0.08 acre of lake by purchasing 0.16 Aquatic Resource Credits in the San Joaquin River Aquatic Resource Watershed Service Area. Required credits shall be purchased from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)'s Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program or an Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District approved mitigation bank within the watershed service area of the project location.
- b. The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation at a minimum 1:1 ratio for the authorized impact to 0.01 acre of stream channel by purchasing 0.01 Aquatic Resource Credits in the San Joaquin River Aquatic Resource Watershed Service Area. Required credits shall be purchased from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)'s Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program or an Army Corps of

Engineers Sacramento District approved mitigation bank within the watershed service area of the project location.

- c. The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation at a minimum 2:1 ratio for the authorized impact to 0.16 acre of wetland by purchasing 0.32 Aquatic Resource Credits in the San Joaquin River Aquatic Resource Watershed Service Area. Required credits shall be purchased from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)'s Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program or an Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District approved mitigation bank within the watershed service area of the project location.
- d. Total required Project compensatory mitigation information for permanent physical loss of area is summarized in Table 5. [Establishment (Est.), Re-establishment (Re-est.), Rehabilitation (Reh.), Enhancement (Enh.), Preservation (Pres.), Unknown].

**Table 5: Total Required Project Compensatory Mitigation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area**

Aquatic Resource Type	Mitigation Type	Units	Est.	Re-est.	Reh.	Enh.	Pres.	Unknown
Lake	In-Lieu Fee Credits or Army Corp Approved Mitigation Bank	Acres						0.16
Stream Channel	In-Lieu Fee Credits or Army Corp Approved Mitigation Bank	Acres						0.01
Wetland	In-Lieu Fee Credits or Army Corp Approved Mitigation Bank	Acres						0.32

**L. Ecological Restoration and Enhancement – NOT APPLICABLE**

**M. Certification Deviation**

- 1. Minor modifications of Project locations or predicted impacts may be necessary as a result of unforeseen field conditions, necessary engineering re-design, construction concerns, or similar reasons. Some of these prospective Project modifications may have impacts on water quality. Some modifications of Project locations or predicted impacts may qualify as Certification Deviations as set forth in Attachment F. For purposes of this

Certification, a "Certification Deviation" is a Project locational or impact modification that does not require an immediate amendment of the Order, because the Central Valley Water Board has determined that any potential water quality impacts that may result from the change are sufficiently addressed by the Order conditions and the CEQA Findings. After the termination of construction, this Order will be formally amended to reflect all authorized Certification Deviations and any resulting adjustments to the amount of water resource impacts and required compensatory mitigation amounts.

2. A Project modification shall not be granted a Certification Deviation if it warrants or necessitates changes that are not addressed by the Order conditions or the CEQA environmental document such that the Project impacts are not addressed in the Project's environmental document or the conditions of this Order. In this case a supplemental environmental review and different Order will be require

**XIV. Water Quality Certification**

I hereby issue the Order for the Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project, WDID# 5B24CR00089, certifying that as long as all of the conditions listed in this Order are met, any discharge from the referenced Project will comply with the applicable provisions of Clean Water Act sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards).

This discharge is also regulated pursuant to State Water Board Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ which authorizes this Order to serve as Waste Discharge Requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code, section 13000 et seq.).

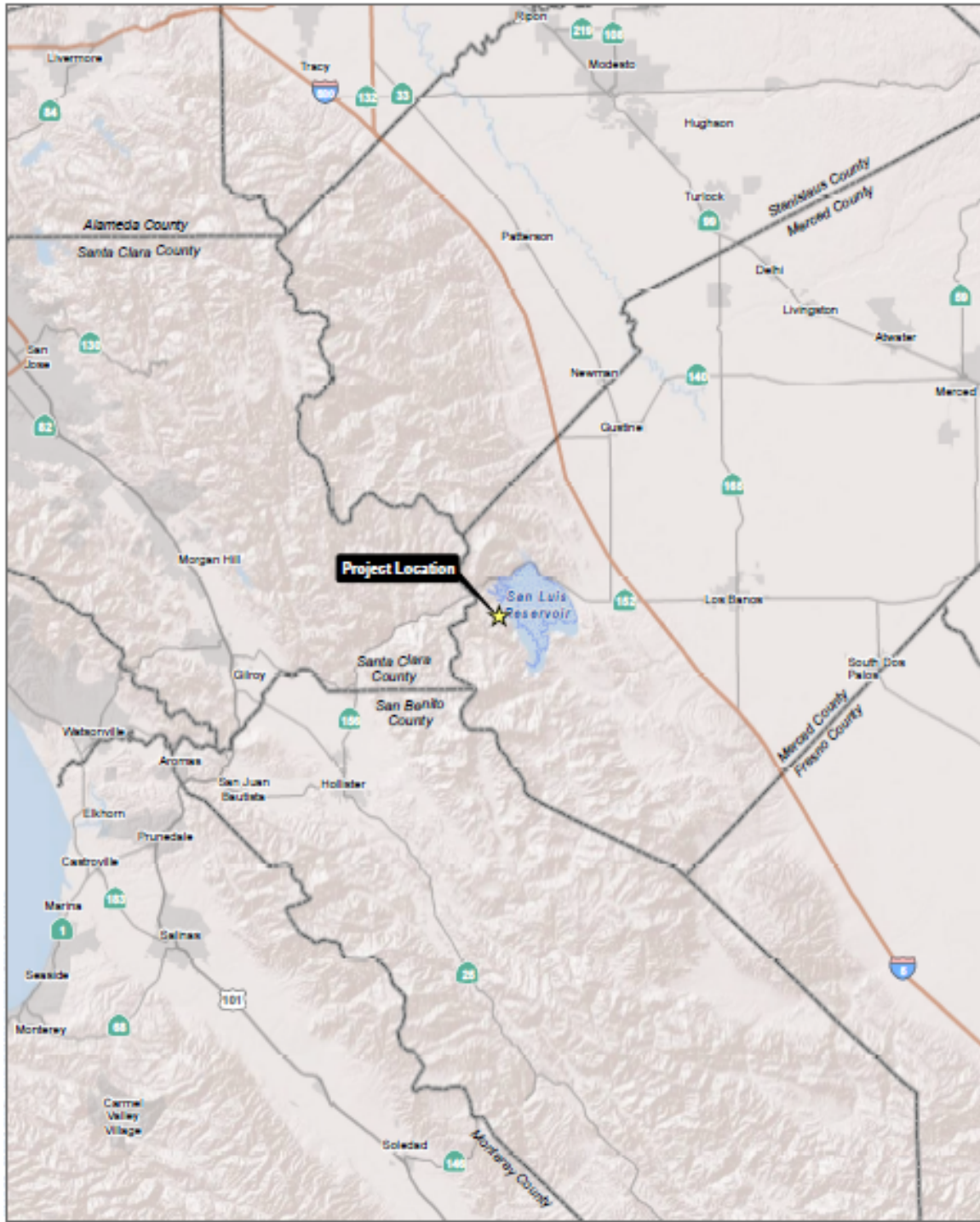
Except insofar as may be modified by any preceding conditions, all Order actions are contingent on: (a) the discharge being limited and all proposed mitigation being completed in strict compliance with the conditions of this Order and the attachments to this Order; and, (b) compliance with all applicable requirements of Statewide Water Quality Control Plans and Policies, and the Regional Water Boards' Water Quality Control Plans and Policies.

*Original Signed by Clay L. Rodgers for:*  
Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

10/26/2020  
Date

**Attachment A:** Project Map  
**Attachment B:** Receiving Waters, Impacts, and Mitigation Information  
**Attachment C:** CEQA Findings of Facts  
**Attachment D:** Report and Notification Requirements  
**Attachment E:** Signatory Requirements  
**Attachment F:** Certification Deviation Procedures

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SOURCE: ESRI 2019



FIGURE 1  
Vicinity

Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project





FIGURE 3-1  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

SOURCE: MAP 2016, SouthEnergy 2019  
**DUDEK**





FIGURE 3-2  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project



FIGURE 3-3  
Project Impacts to Delisted Aquatic Resources

SOURCE: MAP 2016, Solar Energy 2020  
**DUDEK**



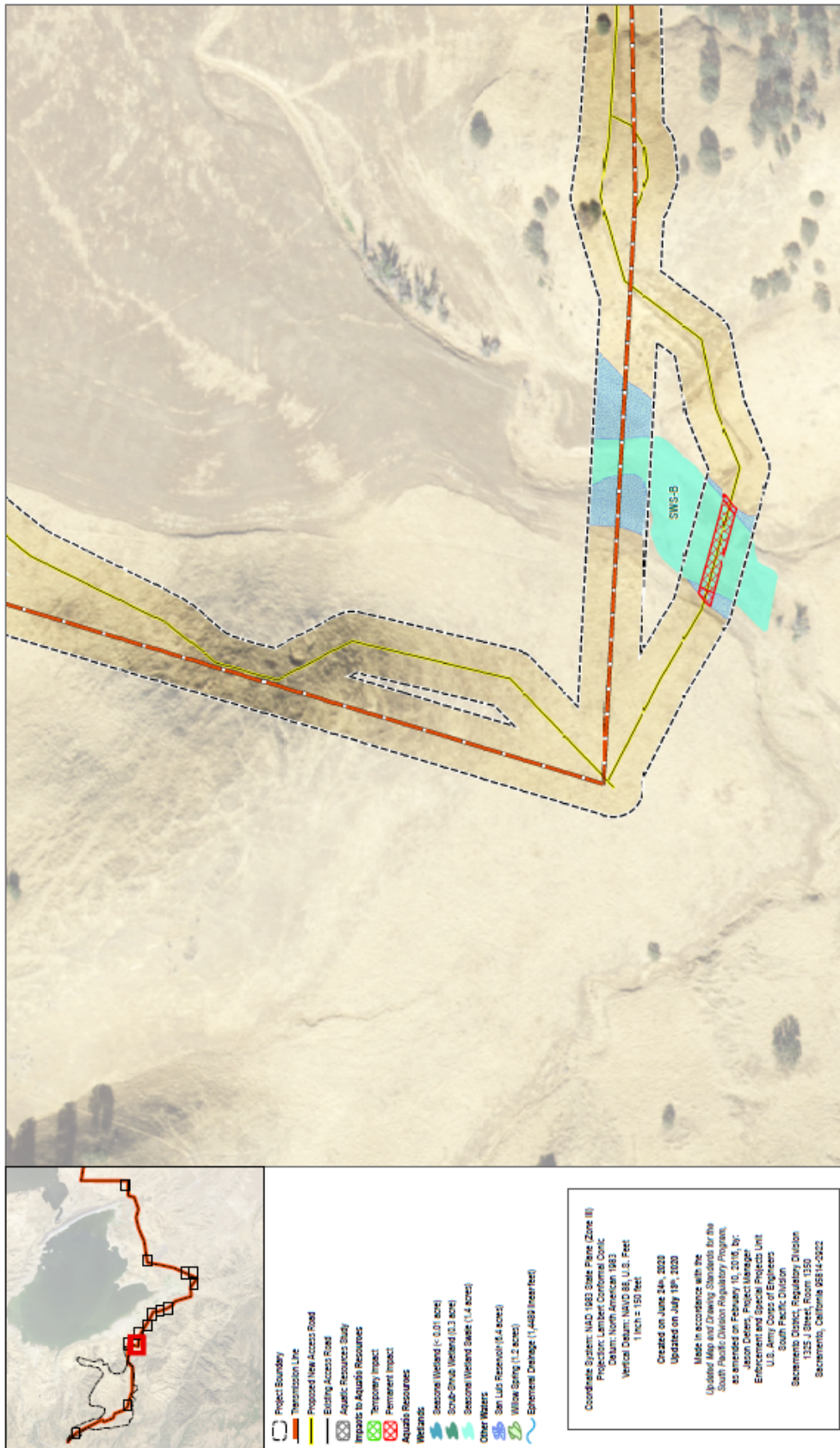


FIGURE 34  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

SOURCE: MAP 2016, South Energy 2020  
**DUDEK**

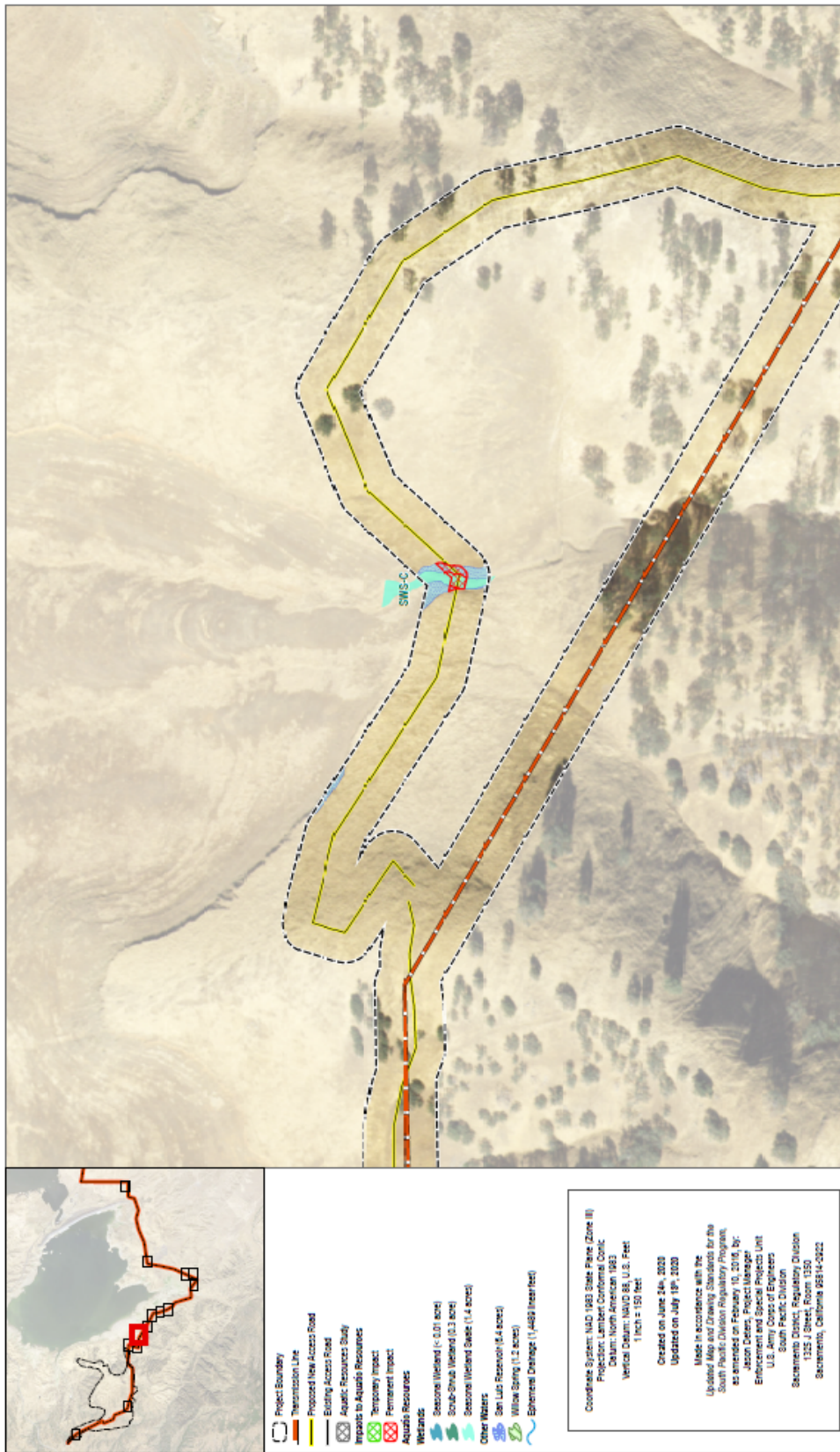
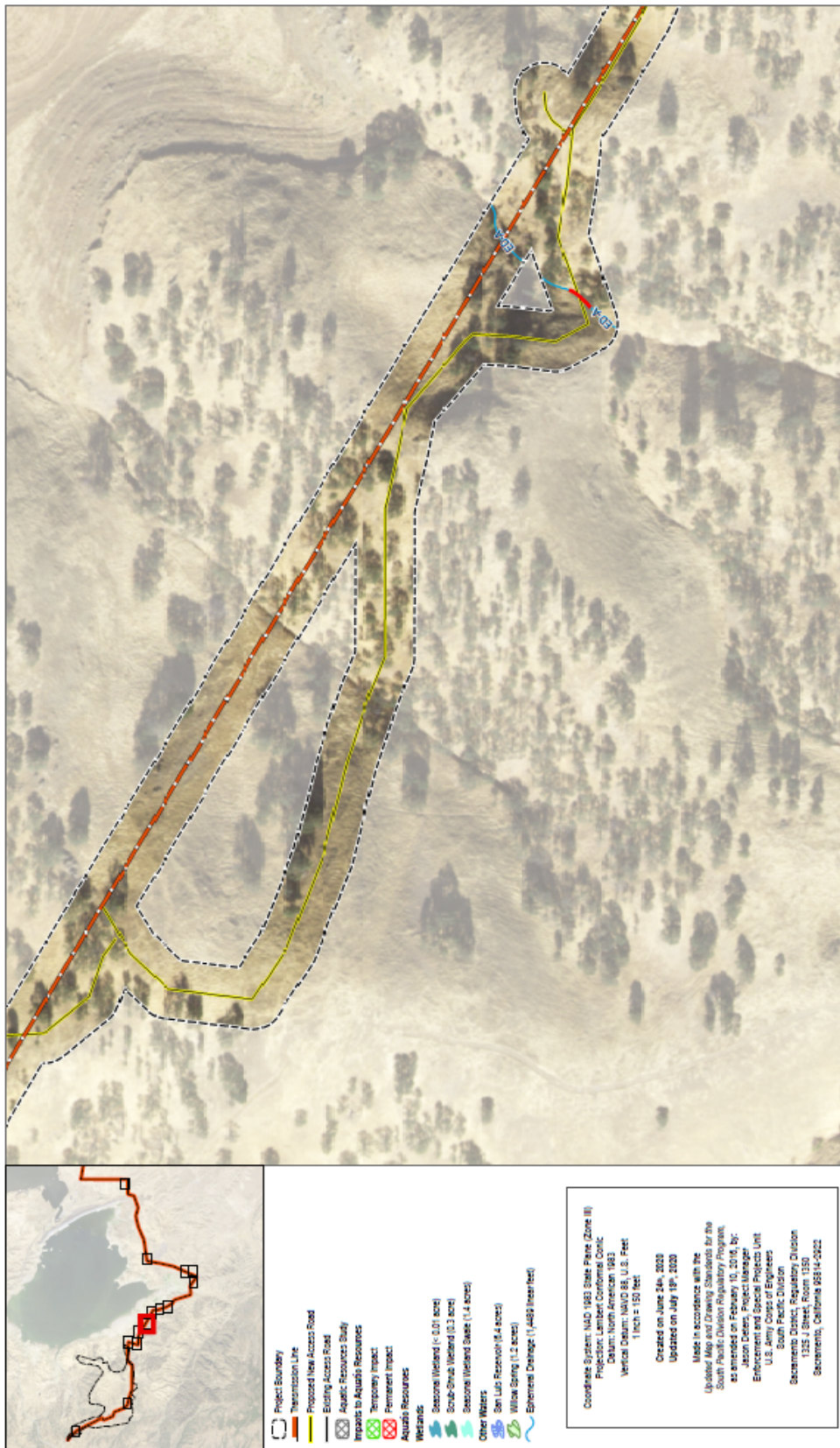


FIGURE 3-5  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

SOURCE: MAP 2016, SouthPac 2020  
**DUDEK** 0 75 150 feet



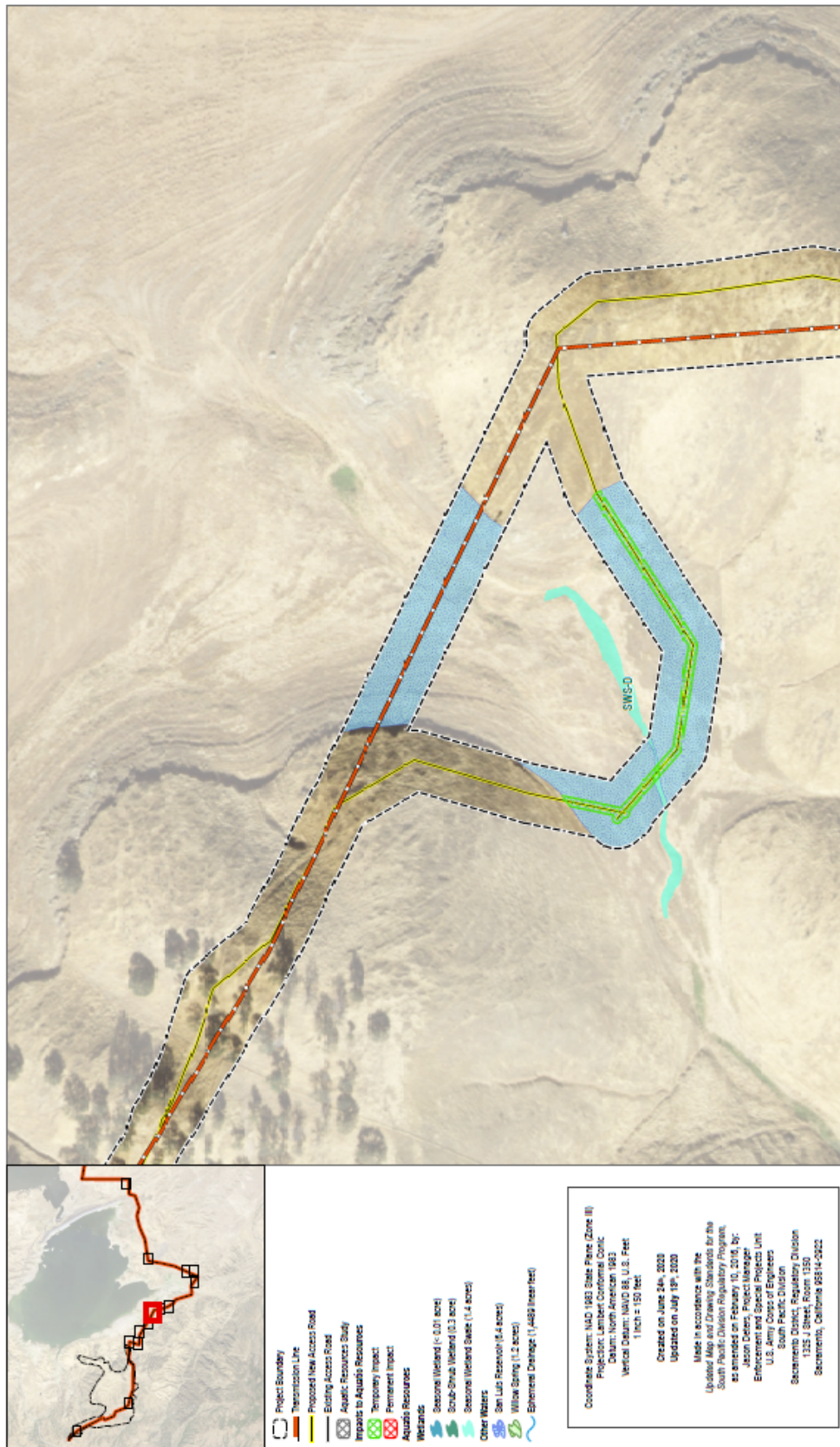


**FIGURE 3-6**  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

SOURCE: MAP 2016, South Energy 2010

**DUDEK**

0 50 100 Feet



**FIGURE 3-7**  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project



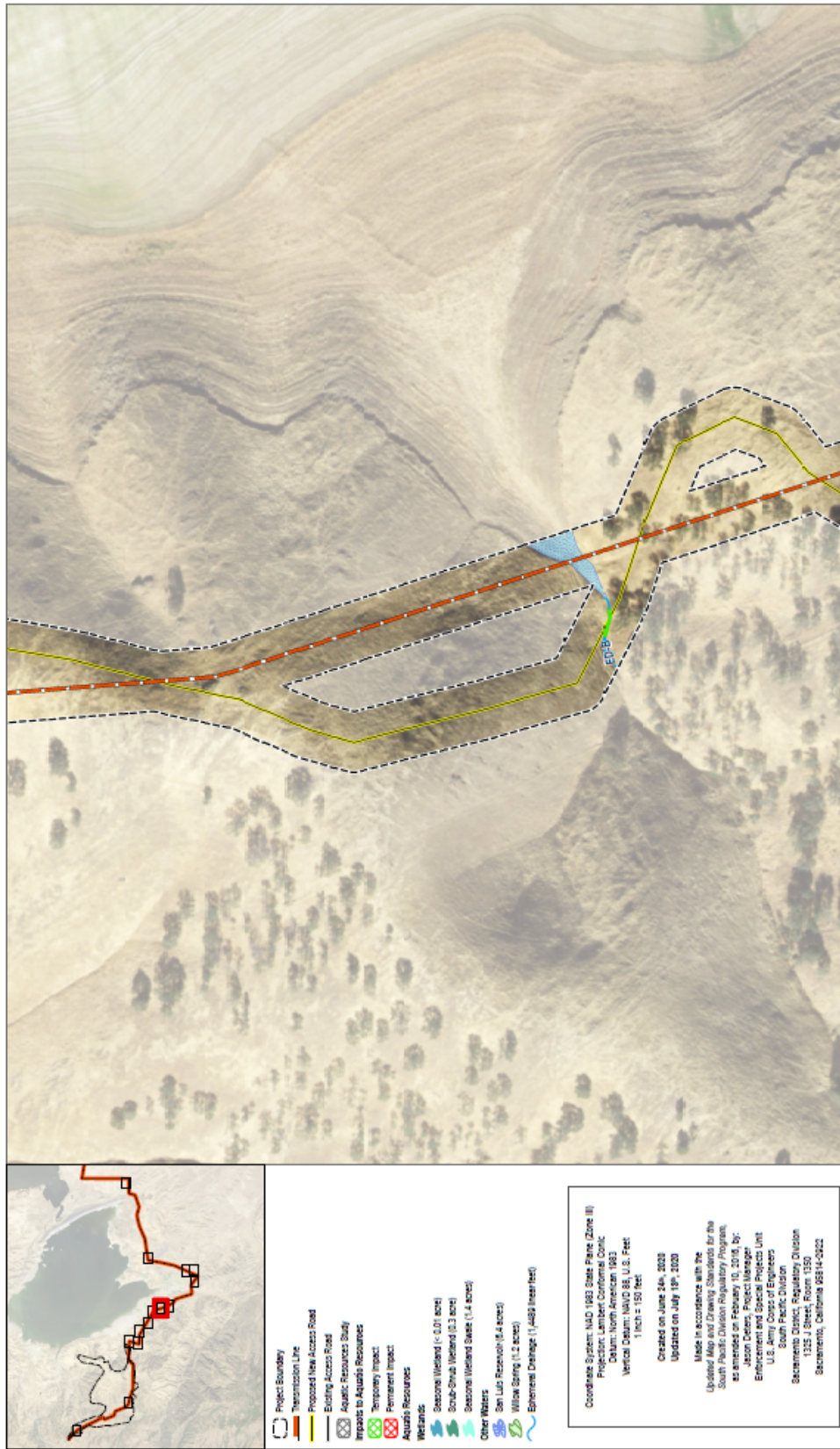
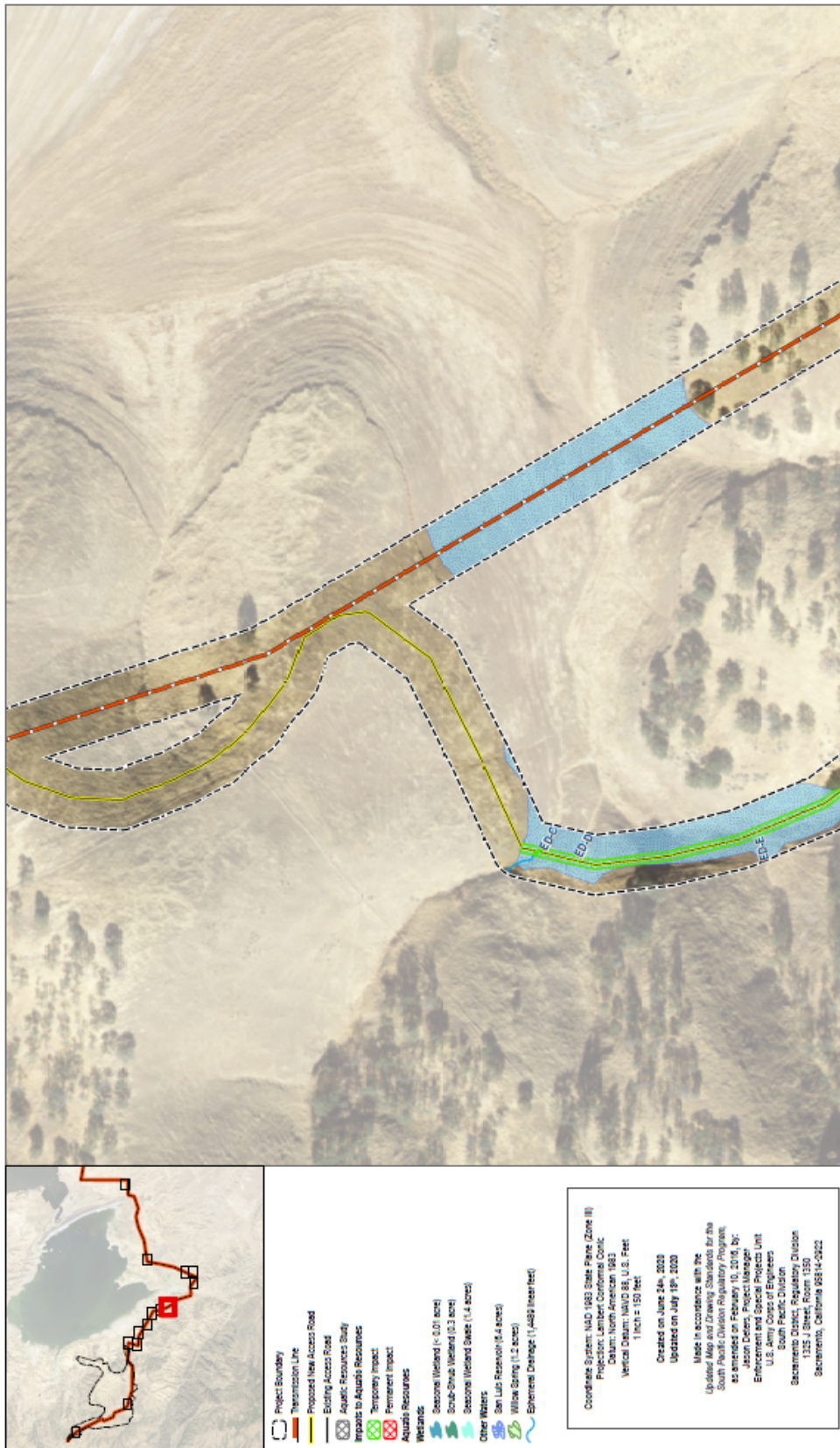


FIGURE 3-8  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

SOURCE: MAP 2116, SouthEnergy 2020

**DUDEK**

0 75 150 feet



**FIGURE 3-9**  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

SOURCE: MAP 2016, South Energy 2020  
**DUDEK**





**FIGURE 3-10**  
Project Impacts to Detritated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

SOURCE: MAP 2016, SouthEnergy 2020





FIGURE 3-11  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project



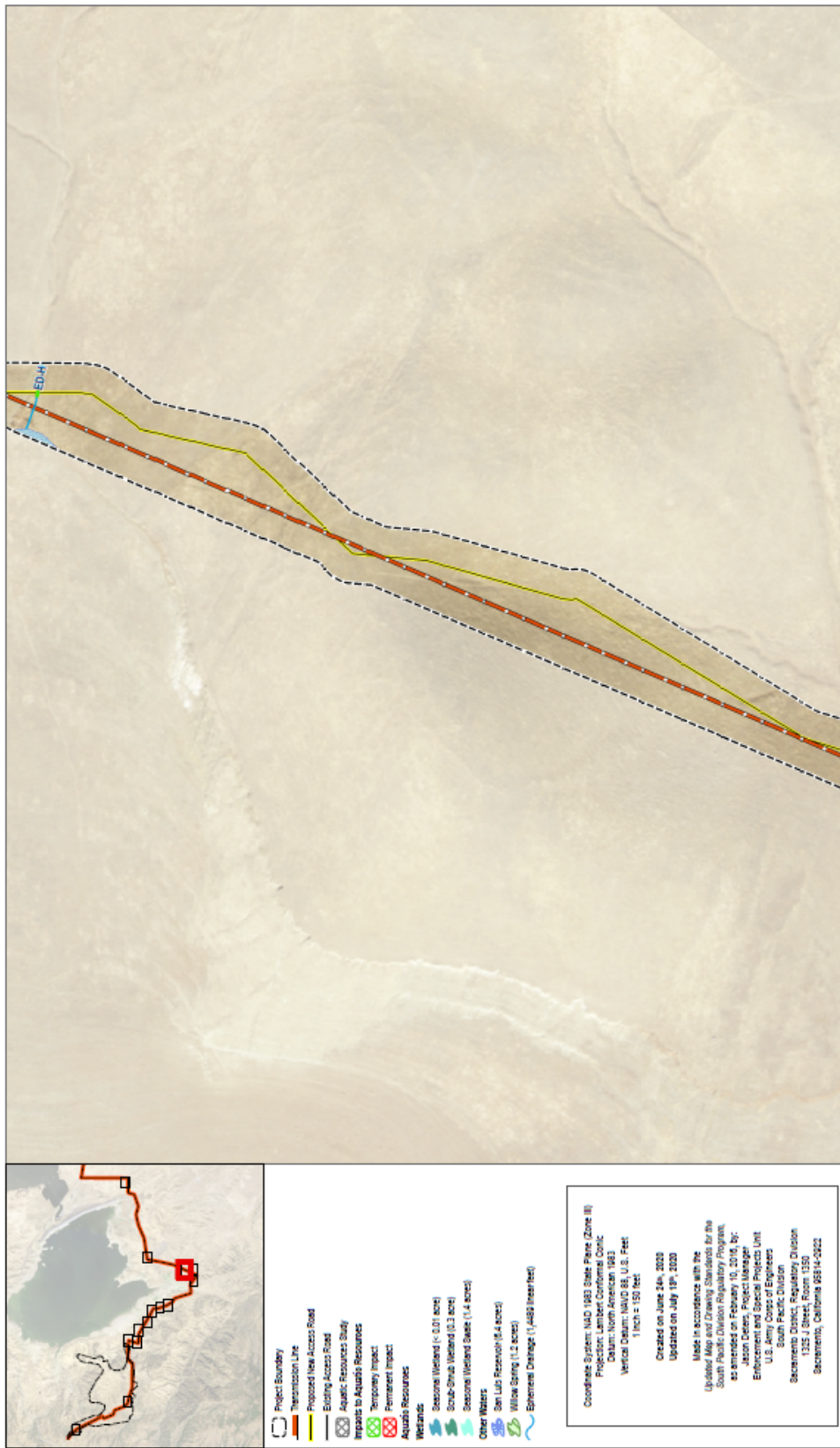


FIGURE 3-12  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

DUDEK  
 SOURCE: MAP 2016, DUCM Energy 2020

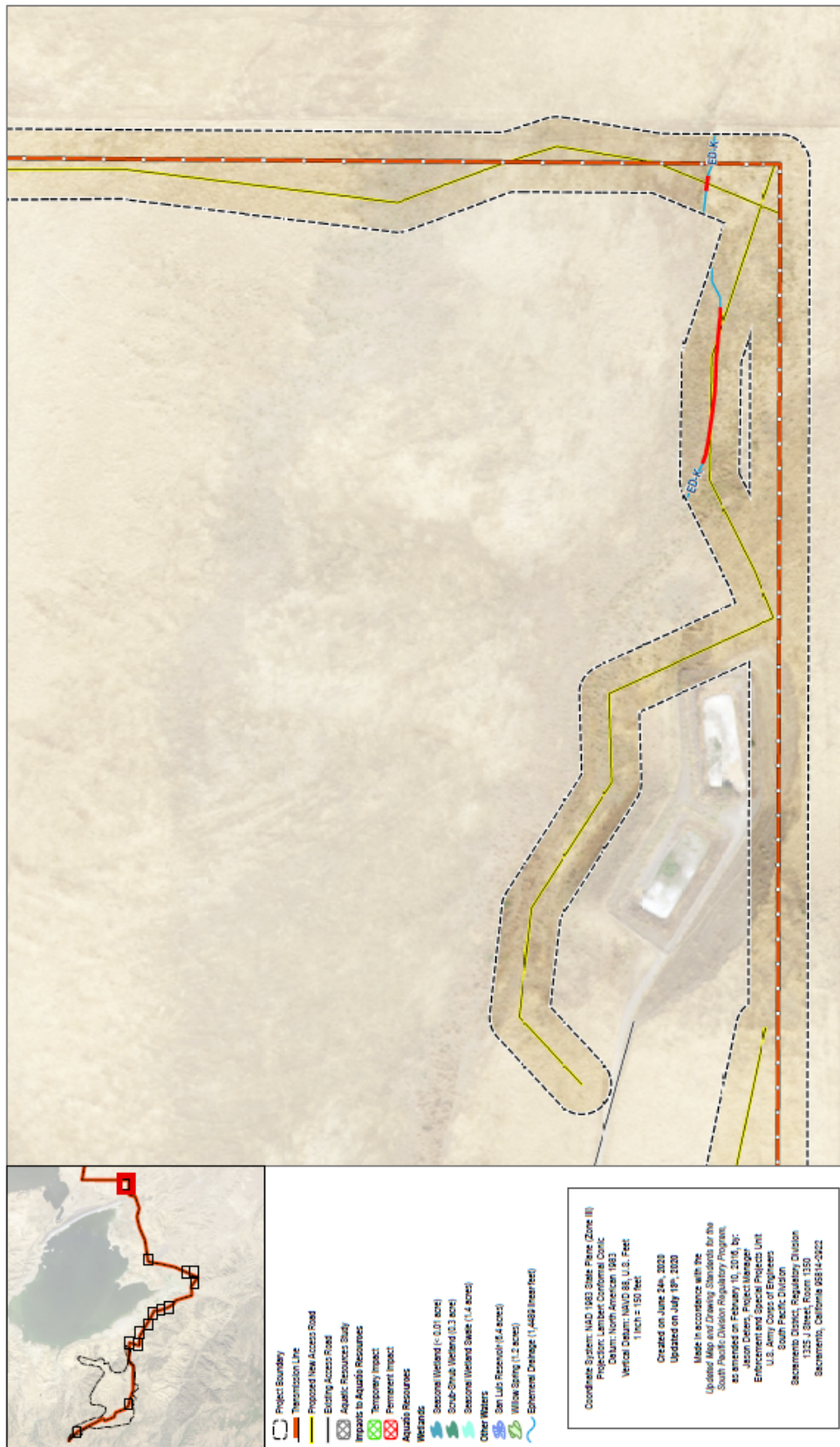


FIGURE 3-14  
Project Impacts to Delineated Aquatic Resources  
Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project

SOURCE: MAP 2016, South Energy 2020  
**DUDEK**  
 0 20 40 Feet

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**Receiving Waters, Impacts and Mitigation Information**

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

**Table 1: Receiving Water(s) Information**

Impact Site ID(s)	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
San Luis Reservoir	San Luis Reservoir	Lake	542.32	San Luis Reservoir	MUN, AGR, IND, POW, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD	N/A	N/A
ED-A, ED-B, ED-C, ED-F, ED-H, ED-K	Unnamed Ephemeral Streams	Stream	542.31	San Luis Reservoir	MUN, AGR, IND, POW, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD	N/A	N/A
SW-1, SWS-1, SWS-A, SWS-B, SWS-C, SWS-D	Unnamed Wetlands	Wetland	542.31	San Luis Reservoir	MUN, AGR, IND, POW, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD	N/A	N/A

**Individual Direct Impact Locations**

The following tables show individual impacts.

**Table 2: Individual Temporary Fill/Excavation Impact Information**

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation ?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
San Luis Reservoir	37.005874°	-121.108879°	No	0.57	1,839	
ED-A	37.026211°	-121.136239°	No	0.0014		
ED-B	37.019326°	-121.12996°	No	0.0009	3.51	
ED-C	37.015699°	-121.129668°	No	0.0003	0.36	
ED-F	37.005548°	-121.108831°	No	0.0003	0.27	
ED-H	37.010305°	-121.106278°	No	0.0003	0.85	
ED-K	37.036037°	-121.05308°	No	0.0009		
SWS-D	37.023310°	-121.132175°	No	0.004	2.52	

**Table 3: Individual Permanent Fill/Excavation Impact Information**

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation ?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
San Luis Reservoir	37.005874°	-121.108879°	No	0.08	387.20	
ED-A	37.026211°	-121.136239°	No	0.001	3.57	48.17

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation ?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
ED-K	37.036037°	-121.05308°	No	0.01	10.82	292.01
SW-1	37.035132°	-121.186728°	No	0.006	7.74	
SWS-1	37.060001°	-121.203629°	No	0.064	51.63	
SWS-A	37.033852°	-121.149776°	No	0.004	6.45	
SWS-B	37.029878°	-121.150021°	No	0.08	64.53	
SWS-C	37.030126°	-121.143523°	No	0.01	32.27	



**Compensatory Mitigation Information**

The following table(s) show individual compensatory mitigation information and locations. Mitigation bank requirements are subject to approval from the Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District

**In-Lieu Fee or Mitigation Bank Compensatory Mitigation Information**

**Table 4: Mitigation Bank**

Mitigation Bank Name:	TBD
Website:	TBD
Mitigation Bank Contact Name:	TBD
Phone:	TBD
Email:	TBD
Mitigation Location - County:	TBD
Latitude:	TBD
Longitude:	TBD

**Table 5: In-Lieu Fee Program**

In-Lieu Fee Program Name:	Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program
Website:	<a href="https://www.nfwf.org/mitigating-impacts/sacramento-district-california-lieu-fee-program">https://www.nfwf.org/mitigating-impacts/sacramento-district-california-lieu-fee-program</a>
In-Lieu Fee Program Contact Name:	TBD
Phone:	415-593-7627
Email:	TBD
In-Lieu Fee Program Location - County:	Merced
Latitude:	TBD
Longitude:	TBD

**Table 6: Mitigation Type Information**

Aquatic Resource Credit Type	Acres	Linear Feet	Number of Credits to Purchase
Lake	0.08		0.16
Stream Channel	0.01		0.01
Wetland	0.16		0.32

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## **A. Environmental Review**

On 24 August 2020, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, as lead agency, certified a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) (State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2018101047) for the Project and filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) at the SCH on 24 August 2020. The Central Valley Water Board is a responsible agency under CEQA (Public Resources Code, section 21069) and in making its determinations and findings, must presume that California Department of Parks and Recreation's certified environmental document comports with the requirements of CEQA and is valid. (Public Resources Code, section 21167.3.) The Central Valley Water Board has reviewed and considered the environmental document and finds that the environmental document prepared by California Department of Parks and Recreation addresses the Project's water resource impacts. (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15096, subd. (f).) The environmental document includes the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) developed by California Department of Parks and Recreation for all mitigation measures that have been adopted for the Project to reduce potential significant impacts. (Public Resources Code, section 21081.6, subd. (a)(1); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15091, subd. (d).)

## **B. Incorporation by Reference**

Pursuant to CEQA, these Findings of Facts (Findings) support the issuance of this Order based on the Project FEIR, the application for this Order, and other supplemental documentation.

The Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which includes analyses of broad impacts and serves as a first tier document for the FEIR, is available at: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2018101047/2>

All CEQA project impacts, including those discussed in subsection C below, are analyzed in detail in the Project FEIR which is incorporated herein by reference. The Project FEIR is available at: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2018101047/3>

Requirements under the purview of the Central Valley Water Board in the MMRP are incorporated herein by reference.

The Permittee's application for this Order, including all supplemental information provided, is incorporated herein by reference.

## **C. Findings**

The FEIR describes the potential significant environmental effects to water resources. Having considered the whole of the record, the Central Valley Water Board makes the following findings:

Findings regarding impacts that will be avoided or mitigated to a less than significant level. (Public Resources Code, section 21081, subd. (a)(1); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15091, subd. (a)(1).)

**D. Determination**

The Central Valley Water Board has determined that the Project, when implemented in accordance with the MMRP and the conditions in this Order, will not result in any significant adverse water quality or supply impacts. (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15096, subd. (h).) The Central Valley Water Board will file a NOD with the SCH within five (5) working days from the issuance of this Order. (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15096, subd. (i).)

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## **REPORTS AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

### **I. Copies of this form**

In order to identify your project, it is necessary to include a copy of the Project specific Cover Sheet below with your report; please retain for your records. If you need to obtain a copy of the Cover Sheet, you may download a copy of this Order as follows:

- A. [Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's Adopted Orders Web page](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/401_wqcerts/)  
([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/401\\_wqcerts/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/401_wqcerts/))
- B. Find your Order based on the County, Permittee, WDID No., and/or Project Name.

### **II. Report Submittal Instructions**

- A. Check the box on the Report and Notification Cover Sheet next to the report or notification you are submitting. **(See your Order for specific reports required for your Project)**
  - **Part A (Annual Report):** This report will be submitted annually from the anniversary of Project effective date until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued.
  - **Part B (Project Status Notifications):** Used to notify the Central Valley Water Board of the status of the Project schedule that may affect Project billing.
  - **Part C (Conditional Notifications and Reports):** Required on a case by case basis for accidental discharges of hazardous materials, violation of compliance with water quality standards, notification of in-water work, or other reports.
- B. Sign the Report and Notification Cover Sheet and attach all information requested for the Report Type.
- C. Electronic Report Submittal Instructions:
  - Submit signed Report and Notification Cover Sheet and required information via email to: [centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov) and cc: [Brandon.Salazar@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Brandon.Salazar@waterboards.ca.gov)
  - Include in the subject line of the email:  
ATTN: Brandon Salazar; Project Name; and WDID No. 5B24CR00089

### III. Definition of Reporting Terms

- A. Active Discharge Period:** The active discharge period begins with the effective date of this Order and ends on the date that the Permittee receives a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter or, if no post-construction monitoring is required, a Notice of Project Complete Letter. The Active Discharge Period includes all elements of the Project including site construction and restoration, and any Permittee responsible compensatory mitigation construction.
- B. Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter:** This request by the Permittee to the Central Valley Water Board staff pertains to projects that have post construction monitoring requirements, e.g., if site restoration was required to be monitored for 5 years following construction. Central Valley Water Board staff will review the request and send a Completion of Discharges Letter to the Permittee upon approval.
- C. Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter:** This request by the Permittee to the Central Valley Water Board staff pertains to projects that either have completed post-construction monitoring and achieved performance standards or have no post-construction monitoring requirements, and no further Project activities are planned. Central Valley Water Board staff will review the request and send a Project Complete Letter to the Permittee upon approval. Termination of annual invoicing of fees will correspond with the date of this letter.
- D. Post-Discharge Monitoring Period:** The post-discharge monitoring period begins on the date of the Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter and ends on the date of the Notice of Project Complete Letter issued by the Central Valley Water Board staff. The Post-Discharge Monitoring Period includes continued water quality monitoring or compensatory mitigation monitoring.
- E. Effective Date:** 26 October 2020

### IV. Map/Photo Documentation Information

When submitting maps or photos, please use the following formats.

**A. Map Format Information:**

Preferred map formats of at least 1:24000 (1" = 2000') detail (listed in order of preference):

- **GIS shapefiles:** The shapefiles must depict the boundaries of all project areas and extent of aquatic resources impacted. Each shape should be attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. Features and boundaries should be accurate to within 33 feet (10 meters). Identify datum/projection used and if possible, provide map with a North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83) in the California Teale Albers projection in feet.



- **Google KML files** saved from Google Maps: My Maps or Google Earth Pro. Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. Include URL(s) of maps. If this format is used include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted.
  - **Other electronic format** (CAD or illustration format) that provides a context for location (inclusion of landmarks, known structures, geographic coordinates, or USGS DRG or DOQQ). Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. If this format is used include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted.
  - Aquatic resource maps marked on paper **USGS 7.5 minute topographic maps** or **Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quads (DOQQ)** printouts. Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. If this format is used include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted.
- B. Photo-Documentation:** Include a unique identifier, date stamp, written description of photo details, and latitude/longitude (in decimal degrees) or map indicating location of photo. Successive photos should be taken from the same vantage point to compare pre/post construction conditions.

**V. Report and Notification Cover Sheet**

**Project:** Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering  
**Permittee:** Gonzaga Ridge Wind Farm LLC  
**WDID:** 5B24CR00089  
**Reg. Meas. ID:** 438938  
**Place ID:** 867718  
**Order Effective Date:** 26 October 2020  
**Order Expiration Date:** 26 October 2025

**VI. Report Type Submitted**

**A. Part A – Project Reporting**

Report Type 1  Monthly Report – NOT APPLICABLE  
Report Type 2  Annual Report

**B. Part B – Project Status Notifications**

Report Type 3  Commencement of Construction  
Report Type 4  Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter  
Report Type 5  Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter

**C. Part C – Conditional Notifications and Reports**

Report Type 6  Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report  
Report Type 7  Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report  
Report Type 8  In-Water Work/Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report  
Report Type 9  Modifications to Project Report  
Report Type 10  Transfer of Property Ownership Report  
Report Type 11  Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report  
Report Type 12  Other Report Type

“I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.”

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<b>Print Name<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Affiliation and Job Title</b>
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<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
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**<sup>1</sup>STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION (include if authorization has changed since application was submitted)**

I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to act in my behalf as my representative in the submittal of this report, and to furnish upon request, supplemental information in support of this submittal.

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<b>Permittee's Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
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<b>*This Report and Notification Cover Sheet must be signed by the Permittee or a duly authorized representative and included with all written submittals.</b>
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**A. Part A – Project Reporting**

**1. Report Type 1 - Monthly Report – NOT APPLICABLE**

**2. Report Type 2 - Annual Report**

- a. **Report Purpose** - Notify the Central Valley Water Board staff of Project status during both the active discharge and post-discharge monitoring periods.
- b. **When to Submit** - The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year on the 1st day of the month one year after the effective date of the Order (e.g., if the effective date is 1 January 2020 then the annual report is due the following year on 1 February 2021). Annual reporting shall continue until the Central Valley Water Board issues a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee.
- c. **Report Contents** - The contents of the annual report shall include the topics indicated below for each project period. Report contents are outlined in Annual Report Topics below.

**During the Active Discharge Period**

- **Topic 1: Construction Summary**
- **Topic 2: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status**
- **Topic 3: Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status**

**During the Post-Discharge Monitoring Period**

- **Topic 2: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status**
- **Topic 3: Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status**

i. Annual Report Topic 1 - Construction Summary

**When to Submit** - With the annual report during the Active Discharge Period.

**Report Contents** - Project progress and schedule including initial ground disturbance, site clearing and grubbing, road construction, site construction, and the implementation status of construction storm water best management practices (BMPs). If construction has not started, provide estimated start date and reasons for delay.

- 1) Map showing general Project progress.
- 2) If applicable:
  - a) Summary of Conditional Notification and Report Types 6 and 7 (Part C below).
  - b) Summary of Certification Deviations. See Certification Deviation Attachment for further information.

ii. Annual Report Topic 2 - Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status

**When to Submit** - With the annual report during both the Active Discharge Period and Post-Discharge Monitoring Period.

**Report Contents -**

- 1) Planned date of initiation and map showing locations of mitigation for temporary impacts to waters of the state and all upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.
- 2) If mitigation for temporary impacts has already commenced, provide a map and information concerning attainment of performance standards contained in the restoration plan.

iii. Annual Report Topic 3 - Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status

**When to Submit** - With the annual report during both the Active Discharge Period and Post-Discharge Monitoring Period.

**Report Contents - \*If not applicable report N/A.**

**1) Part A. Permittee Responsible**

- a) Planned date of initiation of compensatory mitigation site installation.
- b) If installation is in progress, a map of what has been completed to date.
- c) If the compensatory mitigation site has been installed, provide a final map and information concerning attainment of performance standards contained in the compensatory mitigation plan.

**2) Part B. Mitigation Bank or In-Lieu Fee**

- a) Status or proof of purchase of credit types and quantities.
- b) Include the name of bank/ILF Program and contact information.
- c) If ILF, location of project and type if known.

**B. Part B – Project Status Notifications**

**1. Report Type 3 - Commencement of Construction**

- a. **Report Purpose** - Notify Central Valley Water Board staff prior to the start of construction.
- b. **When to Submit** - Must be received at least seven (7) days prior to start of initial ground disturbance activities.
- c. **Report Contents** -
  - i. Date of commencement of construction.
  - ii. Anticipated date when discharges to waters of the state will occur.
  - iii. Project schedule milestones including a schedule for onsite compensatory mitigation, if applicable.
  - iv. Construction Storm Water General Permit WDID No.
  - v. Proof of purchase of compensatory mitigation for permanent impacts from the mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program.

**2. Report Type 4 - Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter**

- a. **Report Purpose** - Notify Central Valley Water Board staff that post-construction monitoring is required and that active Project construction, including any mitigation and permittee responsible compensatory mitigation, is complete.
- b. **When to Submit** - Must be received by Central Valley Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project construction activities.
- c. **Report Contents** -
  - i. Status of storm water Notice of Termination(s), if applicable.
  - ii. Status of post-construction storm water BMP installation.
  - iii. Pre- and post-photo documentation of all Project activity sites where the discharge of dredge and/or fill/excavation was authorized.
  - iv. Summary of Certification Deviation discharge quantities compared to initial authorized impacts to waters of the state, if applicable.
  - v. An updated monitoring schedule for mitigation for temporary impacts to waters of the state and permittee responsible compensatory mitigation during the post-discharge monitoring period, if applicable.

**3. Report Type 5 - Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter**

- a. **Report Purpose** - Notify Central Valley Water Board staff that construction and/or any post-construction monitoring is complete, or is not required, and no further Project activity is planned.

**b. When to Submit** - Must be received by Central Valley Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project activities.

**c. Report Contents -**

i. Part A: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts

- 1) A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the restoration plan have been met for Project site upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.
- 2) A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the restoration plan have been met for restored areas of temporary impacts to waters of the state. Pre- and post-photo documentation of all restoration sites.

ii. Part B: Permittee Responsible Compensatory Mitigation

- 1) A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the compensatory mitigation plan have been met.
- 2) Status on the implementation of the long-term maintenance and management plan and funding of endowment.
- 3) Pre- and post-photo documentation of all compensatory mitigation sites.
- 4) Final maps of all compensatory mitigation areas (including buffers).

iii. Part C: Post-Construction Storm Water BMPs and Monitoring

- 1) Date of storm water Notice of Termination(s), if applicable.
- 2) Report status and functionality of all post-construction BMPs.
- 3) Dates and report of visual post-construction inspection during the rainy season as indicated in XIII.C.4.

### **C. Part C – Conditional Notifications and Reports**

#### **1. Report Type 6 - Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report**

- a. Report Purpose** - Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff that an accidental discharge of hazardous material has occurred.
- b. When to Submit** - Within five (5) working days of notification to the Central Valley Water Board of an accidental discharge. Continue reporting as required by Central Valley Water Board staff.
- c. Report Contents** -
  - i. The report shall include the OES Incident/Assessment Form, a full description and map of the accidental discharge incident (i.e., location, time and date, source, discharge constituent and quantity, aerial extent, and photo documentation). If applicable, the OES Written Follow-Up Report may be substituted.
  - ii. If applicable, any required sampling data, a full description of the sampling methods including frequency/dates and times of sampling, equipment, locations of sampling sites.
  - iii. Locations and construction specifications of any barriers, including silt curtains or diverting structures, and any associated trenching or anchoring.

#### **2. Report Type 7 - Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report**

- a. Report Purpose** - Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff that a violation of compliance with water quality standards has occurred.
- b. When to Submit** - The Permittee shall report any event that causes a violation of water quality standards within three (3) working days of the noncompliance event notification to Central Valley Water Board staff.
- c. Report Contents** - The report shall include: the cause; the location shown on a map; and the period of the noncompliance including exact dates and times. If the noncompliance has not been corrected, include: the anticipated time it is expected to continue; the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance; and any monitoring results if required by Central Valley Water Board staff.

#### **3. Report Type 8 - In-Water Work and Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report**

- a. Report Purpose** - Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff of the start and completion of in-water work. Reports the sampling results during in-water work and during the entire duration of temporary surface water diversions.



- b. **When to Submit** – At least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the start of in-water work. Within three (3) working days following the completion of in-water work. Surface water monitoring reports to be submitted within two (2) weeks of initiation of in-water construction and every two weeks thereafter, and during the entire duration of temporary surface water diversions. Continue reporting in accordance with the approved water quality monitoring plan or as indicated in XIII.C.3.
- c. **Report Contents** - As required by the approved water quality monitoring plan or as indicated in XIII.C.3.

#### 4. Report Type 9 - Modifications to Project Report

- a. **Report Purpose** - Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff if the Project, as described in the application materials, is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority.
- b. **When to Submit** - If Project implementation as described in the application materials is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority.
- c. **Report Contents** - A description and location of any alterations to Project implementation. Identification of any Project modifications that will interfere with the Permittee's compliance with the Order.

#### 5. Report Type 10 - Transfer of Property Ownership Report

- a. **Report Purpose** - Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff of change in ownership of the Project or Permittee-responsible mitigation area.
- b. **When to Submit** - At least 10 days prior to the transfer of ownership.
- c. **Report Contents** -
  - i. A statement that the Permittee has provided the purchaser with a copy of this Order and that the purchaser understands and accepts:
    - 1) the Order's requirements and the obligation to implement them or be subject to administrative and/or civil liability for failure to do so; and
    - 2) responsibility for compliance with any long-term BMP maintenance plan requirements in this Order. Best Management Practices (BMPs) is a term used to describe a type of water pollution or environmental control
  - ii. A statement that the Permittee has informed the purchaser to submit a written request to the Central Valley Water Board to be named as the permittee in a revised order.

**6. Report Type 11 - Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report**

- a. Report Purpose** - Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff of transfer of long-term BMP maintenance responsibility.
- b. When to Submit** - At least 10 days prior to the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.
- c. Report Contents** - A copy of the legal document transferring maintenance responsibility of post-construction BMPs.

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## **SIGNATORY REQUIREMENTS**

All Documents submitted in compliance with this Order shall meet the following signatory requirements:

- A.** All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Central Valley Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) must be signed and certified as follows:
  - 1.** For a corporation, by a responsible corporate officer of at least the level of vice-president.
  - 2.** For a partnership or sole proprietorship, by a general partner or proprietor, respectively.
  - 3.** For a municipality, or a state, federal, or other public agency, by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
  
- B.** A duly authorized representative of a person designated in items A.1 through A.3 above may sign documents if:
  - 1.** The authorization is made in writing by a person described in items A.1 through A.3 above.
  - 2.** The authorization specifies either an individual or position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated activity.
  - 3.** The written authorization is submitted to the Central Valley Water Board Staff Contact prior to submitting any documents listed in item A above.
  
- C.** Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:

“I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.”

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## **CERTIFICATION DEVIATION PROCEDURES**

### **I. Introduction**

These procedures are put into place to preclude the need for Order amendments for minor changes in the Project routing or location. Minor changes or modifications in project activities are often required by the Permittee following start of construction. These deviations may potentially increase or decrease impacts to waters of the state. In such cases, a Certification Deviation, as defined in Section XIII.M of the Order, may be requested by the Permittee as set forth below:

### **II. Process Steps**

- A. Who may apply:** The Permittee or the Permittee's duly authorized representative or agent (hereinafter, "Permittee") for this Order.
- B. How to apply:** By letter or email to the 401 staff designated as the contact for this Order.
- C. Certification Deviation Request:** The Permittee will request verification from the Central Valley Water Board staff that the project change qualifies as a Certification Deviation, as opposed to requiring an amendment to the Order. The request should:
1. Describe the Project change or modification:
    - a. Proposed activity description and purpose;
    - b. Why the proposed activity is considered minor in terms of impacts to waters of the state;
    - c. How the Project activity is currently addressed in the Order; and
    - d. Why a Certification Deviation is necessary for the Project.
  2. Describe location (latitude/longitude coordinates), the date(s) it will occur, as well as associated impact information (i.e., temporary or permanent, federal or non-federal jurisdiction, water body name/type, estimated impact area, etc.) and minimization measures to be implemented.
  3. Provide all updated environmental survey information for the new impact area.
  4. Provide a map that includes the activity boundaries with photos of the site.
  5. Provide verification of any mitigation needed according to the Order conditions.
  6. Provide verification from the CEQA Lead Agency that the proposed changes or modifications do not trigger the need for a subsequent environmental document, an addendum to the environmental document, or a supplemental EIR. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15162-15164.)

**D. Post-Discharge Certification Deviation Reporting:**

1. Within 30 calendar days of completing the approved Certification Deviation activity, the Permittee will provide a post-discharge activity report that includes the following information:
  - a. Activity description and purpose;
  - b. Activity location, start date, and completion date;
  - c. Erosion control and pollution prevention measures applied;
  - d. The net change in impact area by water body type(s) in acres, linear feet and cubic yards;
  - e. Mitigation plan, if applicable; and
  - f. Map of activity location and boundaries; post-construction photos.

**E. Annual Summary Deviation Report:**

1. Until a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter or Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued, include in the Annual Project Report (see Construction Notification and Reporting attachment) a compilation of all Certification Deviation activities through the reporting period with the following information:
  - a. Site name(s);
  - b. Date(s) of Certification Deviation approval;
  - c. Location(s) of authorized activities;
  - d. Impact area(s) by water body type prior to activity in acres, linear feet and cubic yards, as originally authorized in the Order;
  - e. Actual impact area(s) by water body type in, acres, linear feet and cubic yards, due to Certification Deviation activity(ies);
  - f. The net change in impact area by water body type(s) in acres, linear feet and cubic yards; and
  - g. Mitigation to be provided (approved mitigation ratio and amount).