



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, California 93003

IN REPLY REFER TO:
08EVEN00-2019-CPA-0031

January 31, 2019

Cecile DeMartini
Water Resources Control Engineer
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

Subject: Recommendation on Use of Tertiary Treated Water within California Red-Legged Frog Habitat, Davenport, California

Dear Ms. DeMartini:

We are writing to provide the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) recommendation regarding the use of tertiary treated water for use within habitat of the federally threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*). On November 7, 2017, the Service approved the California Red-Legged Frog Restoration and Research Proposal, Davenport, Santa Cruz County, California, submitted by Biosearch Environmental Consulting (Biosearch) in partnership with the Davenport County Sanitation District (District). This project involves the construction of California red-legged frog non-breeding aquatic habitat, which would provide the species with alternative aquatic habitat in the area of an existing concrete wastewater treatment pond. The Service and District anticipated the potential need to supplement this newly created habitat with water in order to provide suitable aquatic conditions for the species. We understand that the proposed supplemental water would consist of tertiary treated water, which meets California Title 22 standards. Title 22 standards have been approved for a wide variety of uses including landscaping, food crops, and publicly accessible fish hatcheries. We have no concerns with the use of tertiary treated water within habitat of the California red-legged frog and therefore approve the use of this water to supplement the newly created habitat. We very much appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with the District and Biosearch on this beneficial restoration project. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Chad Mitcham of my staff at (805) 677-3328 or by electronic mail at chad_mitcham@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Leilani Takano
Assistant Field Supervisor