



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

24 January 2024

Cathy Mueller
American River Conservancy
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Coloma, CA 95613
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**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE UNDER ORDER SB12006GN,
AMENDED ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER
QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS,
LEEK SPRINGS MEADOW RESTORATION PROJECT (WDID#5A09CR00238), EL
DORADO COUNTY**

On 21 December 2023, the American River Conservancy submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll under and comply with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order No. SB12006GN, Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects.

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

A copy of [Order SB12006GN](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/hrpcert032713.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/hrpcert032713.pdf) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage and is enclosed.

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

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The approximately 4-acre Project consists of constructing beaver dam analogs (BDAs) and post-assisted log structures (PALS) within incised and eroded stream channels in Leek Springs Meadow to improve meadow wetland habitat. The Project will construct about 100 instream structures that will not exceed 2 feet in height. The structures will be built by hand using native materials (lodgepole pine, willow, sod/gravel). Lodgepoles will

MARK BRADFORD, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

be cut at the project site to provide materials for BDA construction, and to decrease evapotranspiration. Sod and gravel will be harvested from channel banks upstream of each in stream structure or from nearby wetland or upland areas.

A defunct culvert will be removed from a road that is no longer functional or accessible due to erosion and vegetation growth. Vehicle access to the site will be on an existing road. Work in the meadow will be limited to foot traffic only, no tracked or wheeled equipment will be used in the construction of this project. Only handheld tools such as saws, handheld hydraulic rammers, shovels, and clippers will be used. Plastic tray sleds will be used to pull materials by hand from the point of harvest to the edge of the stream.

The Project will temporarily impact approximately 3 acres of wetland habitat from sod and gravel removal activities, foot traffic, and lodgepole pine removal activities. The Project will permanently impact 0.2 acre of stream channel habitat through the placement of BDAs and PALS within the channel. Temporarily impacted areas will be restored to pre-Project condition.

The project is anticipated to enhance an estimated 40 to 80 acres of wetland habitat within Leek Springs Meadow.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Project is located north of U.S. Highway 88 and south of Mormon Emigrant Trail, in Leek Springs Valley, El Dorado County. The approximate center of the Project area is located at latitude 38.6326° and longitude -120.2523°.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

The project is expected to take place from May 2024 to December 2026. Work will be conducted seasonally from May to November.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

\$796.00 was received on 9 January 2024. 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 D - Ecological Restoration and Enhancement Projects (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

NOTICE OF COMPLETION:

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

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Nicholas Savino by phone at (916) 464-4920 or by email at Nicholas.Savino@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Anne Walters for:
Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

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

Attachment: Figure 1: Project Location
Figure 2: Project Area
Figure 3: BDAs/PLAS Locations

cc: [Via email only]

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Figure 1: Project Location

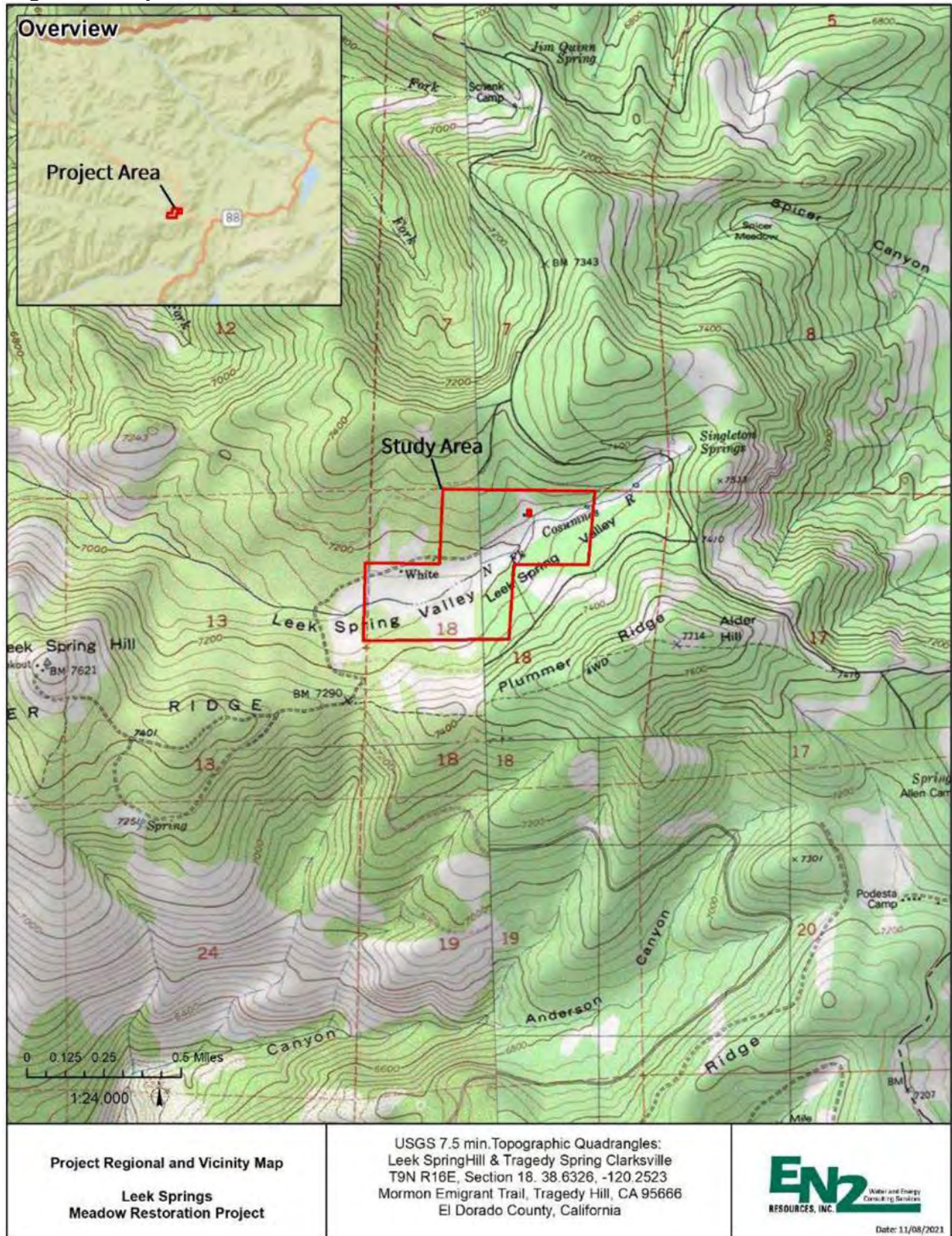


Figure 2: Project Area



Figure 3: BDAs/PLAS Locations

