
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

13 November 2020

James Newcomb
Department of Water Resources
3500 Industrial Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95691

ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, GEOTECHNICAL DRILLING EXPLORATION FOR YOLO BYPASS SALMONID HABITAT RESTORATION AND FISH PASSAGE PROJECT (WDID#5A57CR00186A1), YOLO COUNTY

This Order responds to the 6 October 2020 request for an amendment of the Geotechnical Drilling Exploration for Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Project (Project) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WDID#5A57CR00186). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 4 November 2019. The requested amendment is hereby approved. The original Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification.

AMENDMENT:

The Department of Water Resources is requesting to add four new borings within wetland habitat, allow the ability to convert one of the borings to a Cone Penetration Test (CPT) if necessary, and add a 50-foot buffer around the proposed drilling locations to provide operational flexibility. The Department of Water Resources also requests to amend the project schedule.

The Certification is amended as shown below:

[...]

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project consists of conducting three standard penetration tests, four borings and up to two cone penetration tests within wetland habitat during naturally dry conditions. The standard penetration test requires driving a 2-inch diameter sampler using an automatic hammer. The cone penetration test requires driving a 2.25-inch diameter drill, backfilling with cementitious grout using the tremie method to avoid mixing with wetland habitat, and adding a 1-inch, capped PVC pipe to monitor groundwater for three years. The four boreholes will be conducted by a truck mounted drill rig or similar depending on access

KARL E. LONGLEY ScD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

or availability. Hollow stem auger drilling will be used to drill each hole unless adverse conditions require the use of a mud rotary drilling method. If a CPT is necessary, a separate CPT truck mounted rig will be used. The boreholes will be backfilled with cementitious grout to approximately 2 feet below ground surface and topped with the native soil cuttings to match the existing grade. All remaining drill fluids and cuttings will be stored in containers and transported off site for disposal at a State-licensed facility. The Permittee will remove the PVC pipes and restore the area to pre-project conditions after three years of monitoring.

The Project will temporarily impact less than 0.01 acre of waters of the United States. Wet cementitious grout will be placed into wetland habitat during naturally dry conditions, after sealing the area using the tremie method. The Project must adhere to Section XIII.H.7 in the General Certification Order.

[...]

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

1 February 2021 through 31 December 2021

[...]

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

No fee was required for this amendment. Total fees of \$1,638.00 for the original Certification were received on 26 September 2019. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3383(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), as was calculated as category E - Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CONTACT:

Angela Nguyen-Tan, Environmental Scientist
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114
Angela.Nguyen-Tan@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 464-0335

PUBLIC NOTICE:

The Central Valley Water Board provided public notice of the application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 from 9 October 2020 to 30 October 2020. The Central Valley Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification for the Geotechnical Exploration for Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Project (WDID#5A57CR00186A1). All other conditions and provisions of the original Water Quality Certification and any previously approved amendments remain in full force and effect, except as modified based on the conditions of this Order. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the original Water Quality Certification, previously approved amendments, or of this Order may result in suspension or revocation of the Water Quality Certification.

Original Signed By James Marshall for:

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Project Information

Attachment: Figure 1 – Site Impact Map

cc: [Via email only] (w/enclosure)

Zach Simmons
United States Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento District Office
Regulatory Division
SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil

Sam Ziegler
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Ziegler.Sam@epa.gov

CWA Section 401 WQC Program
State Water Resources Control Board
Stateboard401@waterboards.ca.gov

Bill Jennings
CA Sportfishing Protection Alliance
DeltaKeep@me.com

Analisa Martinez
Department of Water Resources
Analisa.Martinez@water.ca.gov

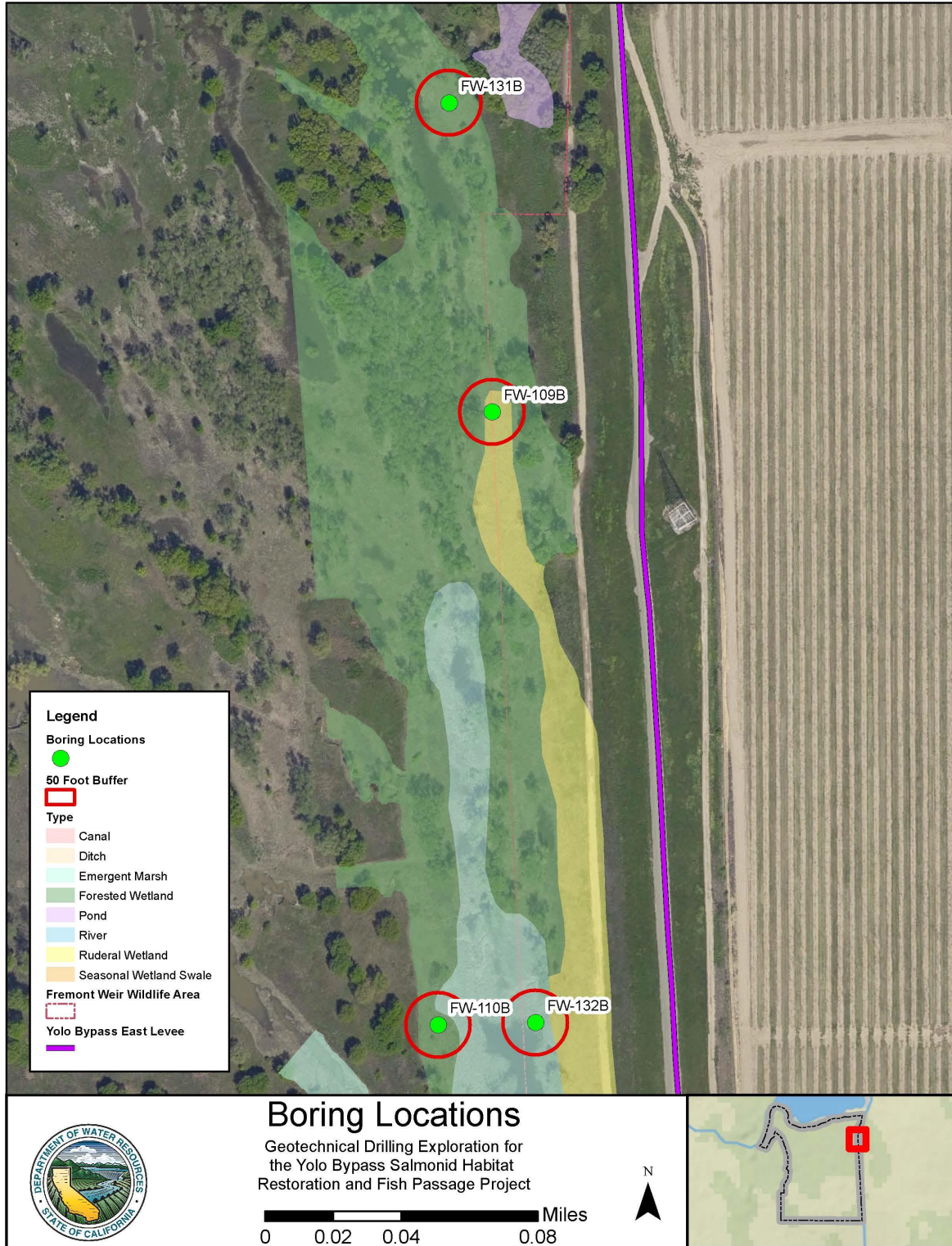


Figure 1 Site Impact Map