

## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

14 November 2025

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### **ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, AMERICAN RIVER COMMON FEATURES PROJECT (WDID#5A34CR00819A1), SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

This Order responds to the 22 September 2025 request for an amendment of the American River Common Features Project (Project) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WDID#5A34CR00819). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 13 July 2021. The requested amendment is hereby approved. The original Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification.

#### **AMENDMENT:**

United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is requesting a 5-year time extension to complete the Project. Additionally, construction plans for the permittee-responsible compensatory mitigation projects are included in this amendment.

The Certification is amended to include the information as shown below:

**Expiration Date:** 31 December 2030

#### **Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State**

Sacramento River Mitigation Site (SRMS): The Sacramento River Mitigation Site (SRMS) intends to add aquatic and riparian habitat while increasing ecosystem function in a region of the North Delta where Endangered Species Act (ESA) protected species occur. The project plans to restore a 40-acre section of land, owned by USACE, currently behind existing earthen levees that were once historically connected to waterways and tidal hydrodynamics. The project will provide aquatic habitat through the construction of dendritic channel connected to Steamboat Slough and riparian habitat creation within the upper elevations of the site. This project will temporarily impact 3.58 acres of wetland habitat and

1.41 acres of stream channel habitat and create 14.6 acres of riparian habitat and 23.7 acres of wetland habitat.

American River Mitigation Site (ARMS): ARMS comprises of approximately 122 acres of land formerly operated by the Gardenland Sand and Gravel Mine. The historical mining operations resulted in a pit, up to 35 feet-deep, which occupies 55.3 acres. The project plans to construct back water channels connected to floodplain habitat within the footprint of the existing site while adding riparian habitat. The project will temporarily impact 55.3 acres of pond habitat (mining pit) and 0.7 acre of stream channel habitat. The Project will create 31.9 acres of riparian habitat and 79 acres of floodplain habitat.

#### **Final Compensatory Mitigation Plan**

The Permittee shall provide additional compensatory mitigation for impacts to waters of the state in accordance with *Attachment 1. American Rivers Common Features (ARCF) Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Water Quality Certification Amendment (WDID No. 5A34CR00819)* (Compensatory Mitigation Plan) dated 12 November 2025 and incorporated herein by reference. Any deviations from, or revisions to, the Compensatory Mitigation Plan must be pre-approved by Central Valley Water Board staff. The monitoring period shall continue until the Central Valley Water Board staff determines that performance standards have been met. This may require the monitoring period to be extended.

#### **APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:**

No fee was required for this amendment. Federal dischargers involved in Dredge and Fill Operations only are not subject to permit fees as required by Section 3833(b)(3)(A) and Section 2200(a)(3) of the California Code of Regulations.

#### **CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CONTACT:**

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#### **CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT:**

On 18 July 2025, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, as lead agency, certified a supplemental environmental impact report/environmental impact statement (EIR/EIS) (State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2005072046) for the Project and filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) at the SCH on 22 July 2025.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification for the American River Common Features Project (WDID#5A34CR00819A1). 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 Anne Walters*  
Patrick Pulupa  
Executive Officer

cc: Distribution List, page 4

Attachments: Figure 1 – Sacramento River Mitigation Site (Grand Island) Vicinity Map  
Figure 2 – Sacramento River Mitigation Site (Grand Island) Project  
Impacts Map  
Figure 3 – American River Mitigation Site (Urutia Pond) Vicinity Map  
Figure 4 – American River Mitigation Site (Urutia Pond) Project  
Impacts Map

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CWA Section 401 WQC Program  
Division of Water Quality  
State Water Resources Control Board  
[StateBoard401@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:StateBoard401@waterboards.ca.gov)

Figure 1: Sacramento River Mitigation Site (Grand Island) Project Map

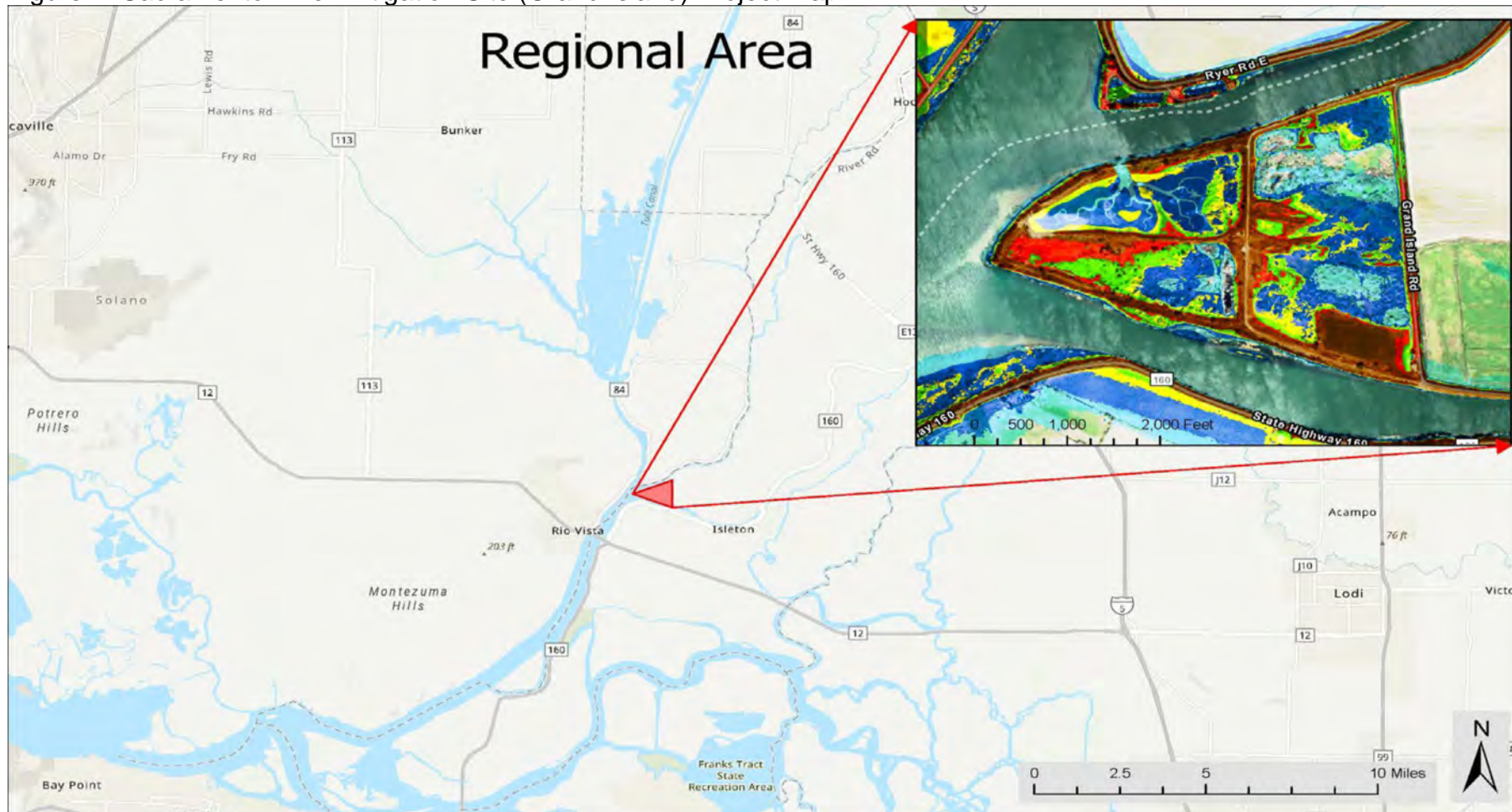




Figure 2: Sacramento River Mitigation Site (Grand Island) Project Impacts Map

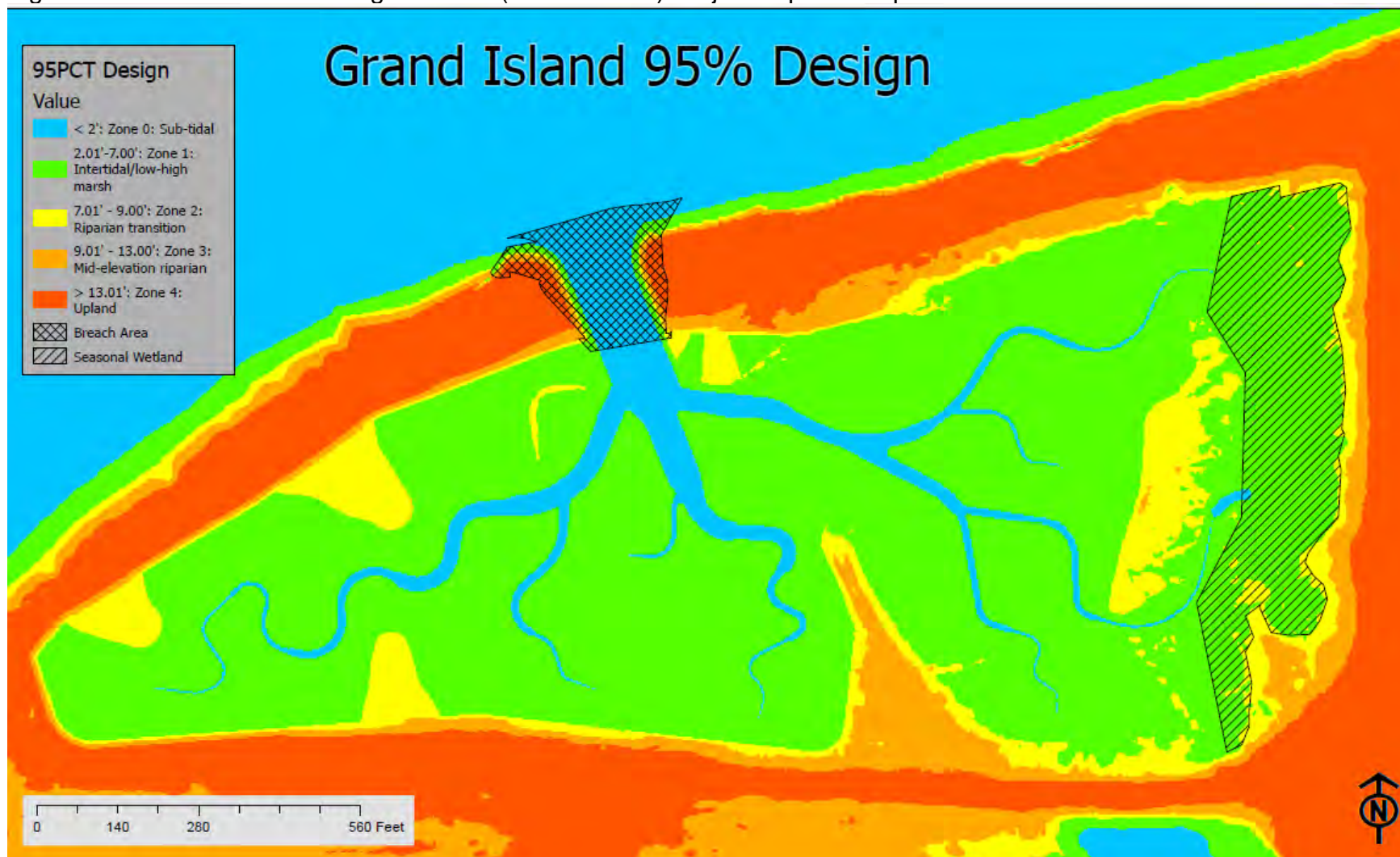




Figure 3: American River Mitigation Site (Urutia Pond) Project Map





Figure 4: American River Mitigation Site (Urutia Pond) Project Impacts Map

