



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

11 September 2024

Robert LeMoine
Southern California Edison
2244 Walnut Grove
Rosemead, CA 91770

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON, BIG CREEK ROADS PROJECT 3 EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIR PROJECT (WDID# 5B10CR00134), FRESNO COUNTY

On 27 August 2024, Southern California Edison (Applicant) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 1 August 2023 State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regional General Permit 8 (General Certification Order) for the Big Creek Roads Project 3 Emergency Road Repair (Project). After review of the notification and the supplemental material submitted by the Applicant, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under this General Certification Order. The proposed activity will take place within 0.04 acre of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under United States Army Corps of Engineers Regional General Permit 8, Emergency Repair and Protection Activities, subject to the conditions and the notification requirements described in the Nationwide Permit ("Special Conditions"). This Notice of Applicability is being issued under the General Certification Order pursuant to Section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

A copy of the [General Certification Order](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2023/rgp-8-certification-mainbody.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2023/rgp-8-certification-mainbody.pdf) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage.

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. The Project is described in the notification form requesting coverage under the General Certification Order, dated 27 August 2024, and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

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

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The 18.3-acre Project consists of repairs to forest roads and Southern California Edison right of ways within the Sierra National Forest due to storm damage from the 2023/2024 winter and spring storms. Work includes:

- Vegetation removal and clearing downed tree and boulder obstructions;
- Blading to remove slides and slumps;
- Grading to repair blowouts, erosion, and rutting;
- Recompacting and reinforcing undermined roads;
- Cleaning and repairing ditches, turnouts, and spur roads;
- Re-establishing berms, water bars, side drains, and water crossings;
- Returning drain inlets and overside drains to a functional state;
- Leveling and re-compacting road surfaces to remove potholes, ruts, and other unsafe surface irregularities; and
- Repairing and returning into service culverts, McCarthy drains, walls, and over road protection features.

Project elements that affect aquatic resources include the repair and/or replacement of culverts at seven stream crossings within Jose Creek and unnamed tributaries.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1. Temporarily impacted areas shall be restored to pre-Project condition.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.04	61	126
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:

1. Water Quality Monitoring

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 Applicant shall perform surface water sampling:

- i. When performing any in-water work;

- ii. During the entire duration of temporary surface water diversions;
- iii. In the event that the Project activities result in any materials reaching surface waters; or
- iv. When any activities result in the creation of a visible plume in surface waters.

Sampling during in-water work or during the entire duration of temporary water diversions shall be conducted in accordance with Table 2 sampling parameters. The sampling requirements in Table 2 shall be conducted upstream out of the influence of the Project, and approximately 300 feet downstream of the work area unless otherwise approved by the Executive Officer.

Table 2: 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
Temperature	Degrees F (or as degrees C)	Grab	Every 4 hours
Visible construction related pollutants ¹	Observations	Visual Inspections	Continuous throughout the construction period

2. Reporting and Notification Requirements

The Applicant shall submit all reports in accordance with the report submittal instructions in Attachment B of Order No. WQ 2023-0061-DWQ, and in accordance with conditions specified in this Notice of Applicability and email it to centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov with a cc to Brandon Salazar at brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov. The WDID No. for this Project is 5B10CR00134.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Project is located within the Sierra National Forest west of the community of Shaver Lake.

Northern Project Extent

Latitude: 37.155432 Degrees North and Longitude: -119.424994 Degrees West

¹ Visible construction-related pollutants include oil, grease, foam, fuel, petroleum products, and construction-related, excavated, organic or earthen materials.

Southern Project Extent

Latitude: 37.100405 Degrees West and Longitude: -119.369735 Degrees North

Table 3. Stream impact locations

Site ID	Latitude	Longitude
ENV_010503	37.11995607	119.3793059
ENV_010504	37.12214969	119.3813587
ENV_010505	37.1260511	119.3803295
ENV_010506	37.1277859	119.3839798
ENV_010507	37.11680762	119.3769818
ENV_010508	37.11635821	119.377333
ENV_010509	37.10647978	119.3752065

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

The approximate timeframe of Project construction is September 2024 through October 2024.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

An application fee of \$2,985.00 was received on 9 September 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 F - Emergency Projects authorized by a Water Board General Order (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Brandon Salazar at (559) 445-6287 or at Brandon.Salazar@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Alexander S. Mushegan
for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

cc: Via email only:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
R9cwa401@epa.gov

Southern California Edison
Big Creek Roads Project 3 Emergency Road Repair

11 September 2024

cc: United States Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento District Headquarters
SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil

Justin Sloan
United States Fish & Wildlife Service
justin_sloan@fws.gov

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Region 4
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CWA Section 401 WQC Program
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
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Richard Haywood
Southern California Edison

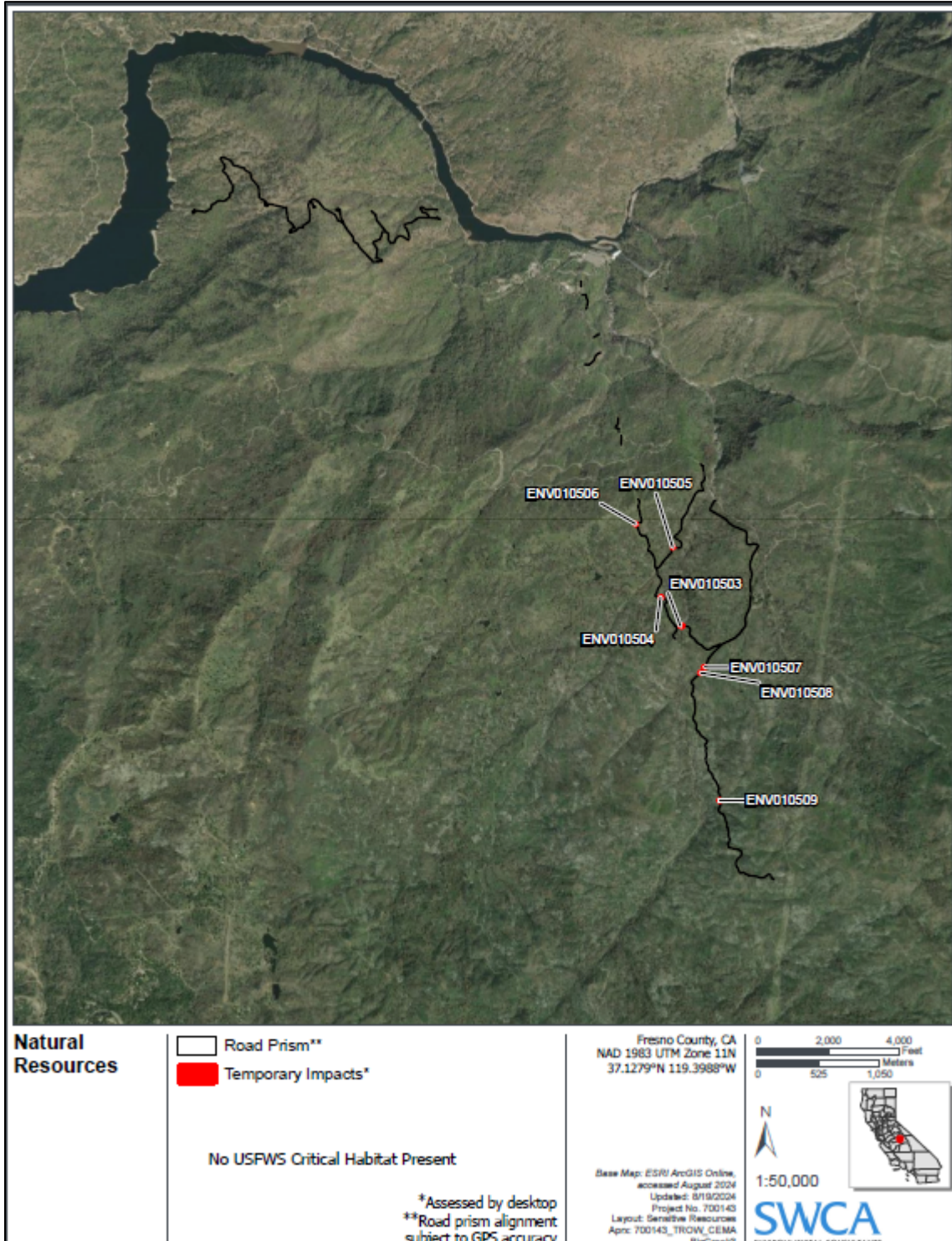


Figure 1. Project Location Map