
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

9 February 2023

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Placer County Water Agency
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CERTIFIED MAIL
7021-0950-0000-9918-5679

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY
OF
WAIVER OF REPORTS OF WASTE DISCHARGE AND WASTE DISCHARGE
REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF DISCHARGE WITHIN THE CENTRAL
VALLEY REGION,
FRENCH MEADOWS CAMPGROUND SOUTH SHORE WATER SUPPLY PROJECT,
PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY, PLACER COUNTY**

On 14 October 2022, Placer County Water Agency (Discharger) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to obtain coverage under the *Waiver of Report of Waste Discharge and Waste discharge Requirements for Specific Types of Discharge within the Central Valley Region*, Order R5-2018-0085 (the Waiver). The submittal contains all the information required to evaluate the applicability of the Waiver; therefore, the NOI is considered complete, and the discharge meets the conditions of the Waiver. The discharge is hereby covered under the Waiver, Order R5-2018-0085-0078. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge. A copy of the Waiver is enclosed and is also available at the State Water Boards' [Adopted Orders: Waivers webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2018-0085.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2018-0085.pdf).

PROJECT LOCATION

The Discharger plans to install a new drinking water supply well on the Discharger's French Meadows Campground (Campground) on Forest Road 96, an unincorporated area of Placer County in the Tahoe National Forest. The Campground is located 22 miles east of Georgetown off of Wentworth Springs Road. The well site is on 0.5 acre approximately 700 feet (ft) to the south of the Campground, adjacent to and just north of the collection basin for drilling muds and boring wastes, at 39° 6' 41.11"N, 120° 25' 24.68"W. The nearest surface water body, French Meadow Reservoir, is more than 900 ft from the well installation site.

The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, Fifth Edition*, revised May 2018 (Basin Plan) establishes water quality objectives, contains implementation plans and policies for protecting waters of the

basin, and incorporates by reference plans and policies adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. Pursuant to §13263(a) of the California Water Code (CWC), waste discharge requirements must implement the Basin Plan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this project is to drill a fresh water supply well at the French Meadows Campground. The well will be drilled to approximately 300 to 800 ft below ground surface, with work anticipated to occur between May and October 2023.

During well installation, development, and testing, groundwater will be discharged at a rate between 5 to 60 gallons per minute (gpm) to one or more Baker tanks or water trucks for temporary containment, until it can be used for dust control at the well project area. There will be four 1-hour discharges with 30-minute recovery periods, and a continuous discharge at 5 to a maximum of 60 gpm for 16 to 72 hours for a maximum volume of approximately 273,000 gallons. Drilling muds and boring wastes will be collected in a temporary storage basin to the east-southeast of the well. The bermed temporary storage basin will be 30 ft by 30 ft, to a maximum anticipated depth of 5 ft, if needed, due to limited availability of temporary groundwater storage containers. The total estimated solids volume is approximately 12 cubic yards (324 cubic ft). Best management practices (BMPs), e.g., geotextile fabrics and gravel bags, will be employed around the temporary storage basin to comply with the Discharger's stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP).

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The discharge must comply with the Conditions of Discharge contained in Attachment A of the Waiver, including the details for freshwater well drilling muds and boring wastes and for test pumping of freshwater wells as listed in Waiver Attachment A Table 1:

- Drilling operations must only occur in uncontaminated soils.
- Drilling mud must contain no halogenated solvents and be non-hazardous in nature.
- The sump in the drilling muds and boring waste storage area must be greater than five feet above local groundwater level and located at least 100 feet from the nearest surface water.
- Buried drilling muds must first be dried then the site restored to pre-sump conditions and covered with one foot of clean soil.
- The freshwater discharge shall remain on the property where the test pumping of the new well is being conducted unless there is a signed use agreement.
- The discharge must be conducted in a manner such as to not cause nuisance conditions or threaten discharge to surface waters.

The Discharger is responsible for compliance with the Waiver and must provide sufficient oversight to ensure compliance and prompt reporting of any noncompliance.

DOCUMENT SUBMITTALS

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to searchable portable document format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to: centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov.

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Program:	Non-15 Compliance
Facility Name:	French Meadows South Shore Water Supply
CIWQS Place ID:	880759
Order:	R5-2018-0085-0078

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
ECM Mailroom
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Now that the NOA has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Guy Childs is your point of contact for any questions about compliance with the Waiver. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, he will direct you to the appropriate permitting staff. You may contact Guy at (916) 464-4648 or at guy.childs@waterboards.ca.gov.

*Original digitally signed by: John J. Baum on
Date: 2023.02.09 13:11:02 – 08'00'*

for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments: Attachment A: Site Location Map
Attachment B: Site Plan

Enclosure: Resolution No. R5-2018-0085

cc w/o enc.: Mohan Ganapathy, Placer County Environmental Health Dept., Auburn
Brett Stevens, Central Valley Water Board, Rancho Cordova
Howard Hold, Central Valley Water Board, Rancho Cordova

**PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY
 FRENCH MEADOWS CAMPGROUND SOUTH SHORE WATER SUPPLY PROJECT
 PLACER COUNTY**

ATTACHMENT A



Source:
 USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles
<https://viewer.nationalmap.gov>

SITE LOCATION
 Placer County Water Agency
 French Meadows Campground
 Placer County



Source:

Well and Discharge Site Map
Created by PCWA on
11/10/2022

SITE PLAN

Placer County Water Agency
French Meadows Campground
South Shore Water Supply Project Site
Placer County



Scale:

1 in. = approx. 230 ft.