

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR
CLEAN WATER ACT 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD**

A request for a water quality certification (certification) under section 401 of the Clean Water Act for the following project was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application for certification at least twenty-one (21) days before taking certification action on the application. The notice period may be shortened in an emergency.

Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to Annabelle Long:

By email:

Annabelle.Long@Waterboards.ca.gov

or

By mail:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights – Water Quality Certification Program
Attn: Annabelle Long
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED:	November 20, 2025
PROJECT:	Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge and Recovery Project
APPLICANT:	Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
APPLICANT CONTACT:	Brian Lockwood, lockwood@pvwater.org
COUNTY:	Santa Cruz
PUBLIC NOTICE:	December 18, 2025

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency is requesting certification for the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge and Recovery Project (Project). The Project would involve installation of an intake screen at the existing Harkins Slough filter plant, installation of a screened intake and pump station at Struve Slough, a pipeline to connect the Struve Slough pump station to the Harkins Slough filter plant, and construction of an approximately 12.7 acre groundwater recharge basin with associated recovery wells and monitoring wells. On average, the Project would pump approximately 1,510 acre-feet of water per year from Struve Slough to supply irrigation water from recovery wells. The Project is intended to balance usage of the groundwater basin and prevent seawater intrusion while upgrading existing facilities.