California Environmental Quality Act
Notice of Determination
in compliance with Section 21008 or 21152
of the Public Resources Code

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region, Redding Office
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002

Date: 18 November 2025

State Clearinghouse Number:
2019100230

Project Title:
Oroville Wildlife Area River Restoration Project at Robinson's Riffle (Project)

Project Location - Specific:
The Project coordinates are:
Latitude (Northern Boundary): 39.4929° & Longitude (Northern Boundary): -121.5860°
Latitude (Southern Boundary): 39.4637° & Longitude (Southern Boundary): -121.6002°

Project Location - County:
Butte County

Name of Applicant:
Michael W. Bessette
Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency
P.O. Box M
Yuba City, CA 95992

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The Project is a multi-benefit habitat restoration effort designed to enhance aquatic and riparian conditions along a dynamic reach of the lower Feather River. The Project is located within the Oroville Wildlife Area (OWA) and aims to restore natural geomorphic and ecological processes by constructing a complex network of in-channel and floodplain features that support anadromous salmonids and other native species. Restoration efforts are specifically focused on improving habitat conditions for Central Valley spring-run and fall-run Chinook salmon, which rely on this reach of the Feather River for

spawning and rearing. By addressing key limiting factors – such as lack of channel complexity, poor sediment structure, and disconnected floodplain habitats – the Project is expected to increase juvenile rearing capacity, improve spawning habitat quality, and contribute to the overall resilience of salmon populations in the watershed. The restoration design responds to degraded existing conditions – an overly wide and simplified channel with minimal riffle-pool structure, limited sediment supply, and disconnected floodplain habitats. The primary components of the project include gravel bar and riffle construction, excavation of historic mine tailings, construction of floodplain features, formation of pools at meander bends, and riparian restoration.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:

This is to advise that the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, as a Responsible Agency, has approved the above-described project on 18 November 2025 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board considered the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Statewide Restoration General Order as prepared by State Water Resources Control Board.
2. The Project will not result in any new or more severe environmental effects that are peculiar to the Project which were not previously analyzed as significant effects in the PEIR.
3. No additional environmental review is required for the Project.
4. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the PEIR.
5. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was adopted under the PEIR.
6. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted under the PEIR.
7. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The final PEIR with comments and responses is available to the general public at: SCH 2019100230 SRGO Final PEIR (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders/2022/srgo-final-peir-combined.pdf).

The record of project approval is available to the general public at: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's Adopted Orders Web page (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/401_wqcerts/).

State Responsible Agency Contact Person:
Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist
Chief Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Redding Branch Office
(530) 224-2437

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Date: 2025.11.18 10:28:00 -08'00'
Water Boards

Lynn Coster
Senior Environmental Scientist
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Redding

cc: Hillary Regnart, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Ian MacLeod, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Rancho Cordova
Michael W. Bessette, Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency, Yuba City
Bjorn Gregersen, ECORP Consulting, Inc., Rocklin