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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123

CALIFORNIA RESTORATION MANAGEMENT PERMIT ACT
RESTORATION MANAGEMENT PERMIT
NO. RMP 2025-0015-R5
SISAR CREEK BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

This Restoration Management Permit (RMP) is issued to Friends of the Santa Clara River (Permittee) by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the Sisar Creek Bridge Construction Project (Project) pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1670, et seq. This RMP authorizes Permittee to take[1] certain protected species and to impact certain rivers, streams, lakes, or a combination thereof while conducting the activities described below in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth below:

Permittee:	**Friends of the Santa Clara River**
Mailing Address:	**P.O. Box 7713** **Ventura, CA 93006** **(805) 628-2250** **contact@fscr.org**

Summary of Project Activities

The Project includes management or propagation activities intended to benefit native fish, wildlife, plants, or their habitat, or a combination thereof. The Project is expected to benefit southern California steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) by full removal of a fish passage barrier, replacement with a full span bridge, and recontouring of the streambed to meet aquatic passage criteria.

Project Location and Size:
The 1.5-acre Project is located on Sisar Creek, at 14145 Highway 150, Santa Paula, CA 93060. The Project is located in the County of Ventura, State of California; Approximate coordinates 34.428611, -119.112778. The Project area (Project Area) is depicted in Exhibit 1, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Project Description:

The Project is designed to remove a fish passage barrier on Sisar Creek and install a 90-foot free span bridge to allow for volitional fish passage to upstream habitat for southern California

[1] Fish and Game Code section 86 defines "take" as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill."

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steelhead, listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Project will also benefit other native species including California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii;* state Species of Special Concern (SSC) and listed as threatened under the ESA); and southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys pallida;* SSC and proposed for listing as threatened under the ESA) through improved habitat connectivity. The Project will also recontour the in-channel slope appropriately for fish and aquatic organism passage and includes installation of boulder dominated riparian habitat with step-pool stream habitat. Following streambed recontouring, bridge abutments and foundations will be constructed. Prefabricated bridge components will be installed and finished. After restoration implementation is complete, the Project Area will be re-vegetated with native plants. Monitoring of Project success will occur post-implementation. The Project intends to restore 2.7 acres of riparian habitat and 700 linear feet of streambed.

Project components (each a Covered Activity; collectively, Covered Activities) include:

1. Clearing and grubbing of Project Area
2. Dewatering and/or diversion of creek
3. Removal of existing concrete crossing and components
4. Streambed recontouring and installation of habitat features
5. Construction of bridge foundation and abutments
6. Bridge installation
7. Relocation of Covered Species
8. Revegetation of Project Area

RMP Authorizations

CDFW may issue a restoration management permit to authorize take, possession, import, or export of any species or subspecies of fish, wildlife, or plant in association with a qualifying restoration project and to authorize any impacts to fish and wildlife resources as a result of activities otherwise subject to Section 1602, all pursuant to terms and conditions determined by CDFW. (Fish & G. Code, § 1672, subd. (a).)

This RMP includes the following specific types of CDFW authorizations:

1. Take Authorization for Species Designated Pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.)

   Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1672, subdivision (b), CDFW may authorize the take, possession, import, or export of any endangered species, threatened species, or candidate species designated pursuant to CESA for management or propagation purposes, including scientific or educational purposes related to management or propagation, through a restoration management permit for a qualifying restoration project.

2. Take Authorization for Species Not Designated as Endangered, Threatened, Candidate, Fully Protected, or Rare

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Pursuant to Fish & G. Code section 1672, subdivision (e), CDFW may authorize the take, possession, import, or export of any fish, Herpetological, reptile, mammal, bird, or the nests or eggs thereof, or any other form of plant or animal life not subject to Fish and Game Code section 1672, subdivisions (b) through (d), inclusive, for management or propagation purposes, including scientific or educational purposes related to management or propagation, through a restoration management permit for a qualifying restoration project.

3. Authorization for Impacts to Rivers, Streams, Lakes, or a Combination Thereof

   Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1672, subdivision (f), if a qualifying restoration project includes the substantial diversion or obstruction of the natural flow of, or substantial change or use of any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, any river, stream, or lake and CDFW determines the activity may substantially adversely affect an existing fish or wildlife resource, CDFW may authorize those activities through a restoration management permit for a qualifying restoration project.

Covered Species Subject to RMP Take Authorization

This RMP authorizes take of the species listed below in Table 1 (Covered Species) subject to the terms and conditions of this RMP.

Table 1. Covered Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Protected Status	Source of Take Authorization
Southern California steelhead	*Oncorhynchus mykiss*	CESA endangered species (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.; Cal Code Regs., tit. 14, § 670.5 (a)(2)(Q))	Fish & G. Code, § 1672, subd. (b)
California red-legged frog	*Rana draytonii*	Fish & G. Code, § 2000	Fish & G. Code, § 1672, subd. (e)
Southwestern pond turtle	*Actinemys pallida*	Fish & G. Code, § 2000	Fish & G. Code, § 1672, subd. (e)

Take of individuals of the Covered Species in the form of mortality (“kill”) may occur as a result of Covered Activities such as clearing and grubbing, dewatering and/or diversion of the creek, revegetation, and bridge installation. Take of individuals of the Covered

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Species may also occur as a result of Covered Activities in the form of pursue, catch, capture, or attempt to do so from relocation efforts. The Project is authorized to take, in the form of mortality and capture and relocation, individuals of the Covered Species.

Permittee shall not engage in any Project-related activities that result in take that exceeds the amount described below in Table 2 of this RMP, if specific take limits are provided, without prior written approval from CDFW. If Permittee anticipates Project-related activities may cause take that exceeds the amount described in Table 2 of this RMP, Permittee shall cease all Project-related activities that could result in take and consult with CDFW. CDFW may approve an increased take limit for the Project by email without amending this RMP in accordance with Section VII (Amendment) of this RMP.

Table 2. Authorized Take Level

Common Name	Authorized Take Limit	Authorized Forms of Take
Southern California steelhead	Up to 30 juveniles of take and 3 individuals may be killed	Pursue, catch, capture, and relocation out of harm's way (30) Mortality related to restoration work or associated with relocation efforts (3)
California red-legged frog	Up to 10 individuals and 1 egg mass may be relocated, 1 individual and up to 1 egg mass may be killed	Pursue, catch, capture, and relocation out of harm's way (10 individuals and 1 egg mass) Mortality related to restoration work or associated with relocation efforts (1 individual and 1 egg mass)
Southwestern pond turtle	Up to 4 individuals and 1 nest may be relocated and 1 individual and 1 nest may be killed	Pursue, catch, capture, and relocation out of harm's way (4 individuals and 1 nest) Mortality related to restoration work or associated with relocation efforts (1 individual and 1 nest)

Rivers, Streams, or Lakes Subject to RMP Impact Authorization

This RMP authorizes the substantial diversion or obstruction of the natural flow of, or substantial change or use of any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, all rivers, streams, or lakes listed below in Table 3 (Covered Waterbodies), subject to the terms and conditions of this RMP.

Table 3. Covered Waterbodies

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Name(s) of Covered Waterbodies	Watershed (HUC 8)	Source of Impact Authorization
Sisar Creek	18070102	Fish & G. Code, § 1672, subd. (f)

Authorized Impacts to Covered Waterbodies

Impacts to Covered Waterbodies may occur as a result of Covered Activities such as removal of an existing Arizona crossing, installation of bridge abutments and bridge, removal of riparian vegetation, and revegetation of the Project Area.

Permittee shall not engage in any Covered Activities that result in impacts to Covered Waterbodies that exceed the impacts described below in Table 4 of this RMP without prior written approval from CDFW. If Permittee anticipates Covered Activities may cause impacts to rivers, streams, or lakes that exceed the impacts described in Table 4 of this RMP, Permittee shall cease all Covered Activities that could result in impacts to rivers, streams, or lakes and consult with CDFW. CDFW may approve an increase in the authorized impacts to rivers, streams, lakes, or a combination thereof for the Project by email without amending this RMP in accordance with Section VII (Amendment) of this RMP.

Table 4. Authorized Impacts to Covered Waterbodies

Name(s) of Covered Waterbodies	Impact Description	Area Impacted (acres)	Linear Feet of River or Stream Impacted
Sisar Creek	Removal of an existing Arizona crossing, installation of bridge abutments and bridge, removal of riparian vegetation, and revegetation	2.7	700

Terms and Conditions of Approval

CDFW's issuance of this RMP is subject to Permittee's compliance with and implementation of the following terms and conditions of approval:

I. General Conditions of Approval

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1. Legal Compliance. Permittee shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws in existence on the effective date of this RMP or adopted thereafter.

2. Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) Compliance. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Restoration Center (NOAA RC) is expected to authorize the Project under a programmatic biological opinion (PBO), titled Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a)(2) Biological Opinion and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation and revised Incidental Take Statement (ITS), Service File No. SPL-2026-00036. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is also expected to authorize the Project under a PBO, entitled Programmatic Biological and Conference Opinion on the Statewide Programmatic Biological Assessment for Restoration: Multi-Agency Implementation of Aquatic, Riparian, Floodplain, and Wetland Restoration Projects to Benefit Fish and Wildlife in California (PBA) and ITS (Service File Reference No. 2022- 0005149-S7). Once issued, Permittee shall implement and adhere to any terms and conditions required by NOAA RC or USFWS related to the Covered Species in both PBOs and ITSs for the Project for purposes of this RMP, where the terms and conditions for the Covered Species in the federal authorization are less protective of the Covered Species or otherwise conflict with this RMP, the conditions of approval set forth in this RMP shall control.

3. Compliance with Other Federal or State Permits or Authorizations. Permittee shall implement and adhere to the terms and conditions of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board's Notice of Applicability for coverage under Order Number WQ 2022-0048-DWQ, Order for Waste Discharge Requirements for Restoration Projects Statewide (Statewide Restoration General Order) (SRGO), in progress.

4. Project Area Access. Permittee shall provide CDFW with reasonable access to the Project Area and shall cooperate fully with CDFW's efforts to verify compliance with or the effectiveness of this RMP.

5. RMP Compliance. Permittee shall make compliance with the terms, conditions, and requirements of this RMP a condition of all contracts and agreements that are made for the purpose of completing any Project-related activities. Permittee shall provide CDFW copies of any such contracts or agreements upon request.

6. Permittee Responsible for Authorized Personnel. Permittee, operating under the authority of this RMP, is responsible for the actions of non-permitted individuals assisting with management and monitoring activities as outlined in the Project description above.

7. Documentation at Project Area. Permittee or the Designated Biologist shall have a copy of this RMP in their possession when undertaking the permitted activities.

II. Conditions of Approval for Covered Species and Waterbodies Protection During Restoration Work

1. Designated Biologist(s). The Permittee shall retain one or more Designated Biologist(s) with expertise in the areas of Covered Species biology, including

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handling, collecting, and relocating Covered Species, Covered Species /habitat relationships, and biological monitoring of Covered Species in riparian habitat. Permittee shall submit to CDFW in writing the name, qualifications, business address, telephone number, and email address of the Designated Biologist(s) at least 30 days before commencing Project activities that could result in take of the Covered Species. CDFW shall provide written approval or denial of proposed Designated Biologist(s) within seven business days of receiving this information. Permittee shall also obtain CDFW written approval in advance if the Designated Biologist(s) must be changed. Permittee shall allow the Designated Biologist to communicate freely with CDFW. Permittee shall ensure that non-disclosure agreements or clauses that restrict communication with CDFW do not exist in any contracts or agreements between Permittee and Designated Biologist(s) related to the Project except as necessary to protect proprietary technology or proprietary information unrelated to fish and wildlife.

2. Restoration Work Monitoring. The Designated Biologist shall be present and shall visually monitor the Project Area and offer pertinent advice to persons implementing Project activities prior to and during Covered Activities such as clearing and grubbing, dewatering and/or diversion of the creek, and bridge installation to ensure that incidental take to the Covered Species is minimized. The Designated Biologist shall be on site during these Covered Activities to capture, handle, and safely move the Covered Species out of harm's way to another suitable location if encountered during Project activities.

3. Movement of Covered Species Out of Harm's Way. This RMP authorizes the Designated Biologist to capture, temporarily possess, and relocate Covered Species to reduce harm or mortality in connection with otherwise lawful Project activities. When moving Covered Species out of harm's way, Permittee shall relocate the individuals of the Covered Species to a safe location as near as reasonably practicable to the location at which they are originally found. Relocation of Covered Species for the purposes of moving out of harm's way shall only be permitted pursuant to an authorized relocation plan to be approved by CDFW pursuant to this section.

    a. Covered Species Dewatering and Relocation Plan for Southern California Steelhead.

        i. Covered Activities that involve relocation/dewatering work within any wetted or flowing stream channel shall only occur from June 1 to November 30.

        ii. During dewatering, a minimum of two Designated Biologists shall be on site for relocation of any southern California steelhead, and monitoring of up- and down-stream block nets.

        iii. During instream work that requires stream diversion, at least one Designated Biologist shall be on site each day the diversion is in

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place. The Designated Biologist shall check the up- and down-stream block nets at a minimum 3 times per day (before work, during work, and after work ends for the day).

iv. Electrofishing must occur at water temperatures that do not exceed 18 degrees Celsius or could reasonably be expected to rise above this temperature during the activities. Each electrofishing session must start with all equipment settings set to the minimum setting and should only be increased to the point where fish are immobilized and captured.

v. Up to two passes with the electrofisher will be utilized depending on the number of fish captured.

vi. All captured fish shall be held in water temperatures not greater than ambient in-stream temperatures. Additionally, all captured fish shall be held in well oxygenated water.

vii. Prior to release, the following information shall be recorded:

1. Enumerate fish by species
2. Visual determination of age of steelhead
3. Enumerate steelhead injuries and fatalities by age class
4. Enumerate successfully relocated steelhead by age class for each relocation site
5. Date and time of release of steelhead to each relocation site

viii. Relocation pools with a depth of greater than two feet with available instream cover shall be identified directly upstream of the dewatered area.

b. Covered Species Relocation Plan for Southwestern Pond Turtle and California Red-Legged Frog (Covered Herpetological Species).

i. Southwestern Pond Turtle. Prior to the start of any Covered Activities two surveys for southwestern pond turtle shall be conducted by a Designated Biologist. One shall be conducted 10 days before and one 24 hours before the start of vegetation clearing and ground-disturbing activities where suitable habitat exists (e.g., along riparian areas, freshwater emergent wetlands, and adjacent upland areas), as well as an appropriate distance upstream and downstream of these areas, to determine presence or absence of southwestern pond turtle following the U.S. Geological Survey's 2006 Western Pond Turtle (*Emys marmorata*) Visual Survey Protocol. No trapping will be performed. Upon completion of surveys and no later than five (5) days prior to the start of Project activities, the survey results, including negative findings, analysis, recommendations, and field

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notes shall be provided to CDFW for review. If there is a pause of more than five days in Project activities, southwestern pond turtle surveys shall be repeated, and the findings shall be submitted to CDFW for review prior to reinitiation of work. Southwestern pond turtles found within the Project Area will be allowed to leave of their own volition. If southwestern pond turtles or their nests are observed during surveys, a Designated Biologist shall be on site to relocate southwestern pond turtle if necessary. If avoidance of southwestern pond turtle is infeasible, or if nests are identified, Permittee shall consult with CDFW.

ii. California Red-legged Frog. The Designated Biologist shall survey the Project Area for California red-legged frogs no more than 48 hours prior to the commencement of Covered Activities. If any life stage of California red-legged frog is found, all work shall halt until the Designated Biologist relocates the animal or it leaves on its own volition. Relocation areas shall be in proximity to the capture site, contain suitable habitat, not be affected by Covered Activities, and be free of exotic predatory species (i.e. bullfrogs, crayfish). In the rare case that egg masses are found after July 1, the Permittee shall make every attempt to wait until the egg masses hatch to transport them.

b. Notify CDFW of Covered Species Relocation. The Permittee shall notify the CDFW at least five business days prior to any Covered Species relocation/movement out of harm's way.

4. Least Bell's Vireo Biological Monitoring. To minimize effects to nesting least Bell's vireo, all clearing of vegetation in occupied habitat or potential suitable habitat shall occur outside the breeding season (September 16 through March 14). If the breeding season cannot be avoided, the Designated Biologist shall conduct preconstruction nesting bird surveys at least 48 hours before and no more than 1 week prior to vegetation removal. If no active nests are found in the project area, Covered Activities may proceed. Surveys shall adhere to the Least Bell's Vireo Survey Guidelines (USFWS 2001).

5. Mortality or Injury of Covered Species. If any dead or injured individuals of the Covered Species are found, whether during relocation/movement out of harm's way, or otherwise, Permittee shall contact CDFW staff (Christian Romberger) by phone or email immediately at (562) 292-6365 or christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov and shall contact CDFW staff by email at R5RMP@wildlife.ca.gov. If the Covered Species is also listed or a candidate for listing under the federal ESA, CDFW staff will coordinate with NMFS and/or USFWS to review the activities resulting in take and to determine if additional protective measures are required.

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IV. Conditions of Approval for Post-Project Monitoring, Reporting, and Management

1. Southern California Steelhead Passage Monitoring. Permittee shall determine presence or absence observations of southern California steelhead per the Fish Passage Monitoring Methods (Taylor 2015). Permittee shall complete a fish passage evaluation after construction per the California Salmonoid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual (CDFW 2010), and Fish Passage Barrier Removal Monitoring Worksheet (California Fish Passage Forum 2025).

2. Revegetation. Plants shall be selected based on site observations and research of plants that historically occurred at or within less than 5 miles of the Project Area. Permittee shall maintain a minimum of 60% native cover. Three planting zones were established based on the projected area of disturbance required for Covered Activities.

    a. Three Planting Zones.

        i. Wet Zone Area completely contained within the active channel when the stream is below bankfull flow approximately a 1.5-2-year flow event.

        ii. Lower Riparian Bankfull flow and adjacent flood plain below the 50-year flood event.

        iii. Upper Riparian Area above the 50-year flood plain including road embankments.

    b. Irrigation. Inline drip irrigation shall be used for the higher elevation portions of the Lower, Riparian, and Upper Riparian zone designations. Irrigation for the Wet Zone and the lowest elevations in the Lower Riparian zone shall be done by installing overhead irrigation above flood stage so that irrigation lines are not washed away. Drip and hand watering is anticipated with volunteers.

1. Annual Report. By mail or email, Permittee shall provide CDFW a written annual report of Project activities and results each year by January 15. The report shall include, at minimum:

    a. Relocation. The report shall include a description of the location where Covered Species were removed and the release site, including: photographs; the date and time of the relocation effort; a description of the equipment and methods used to collect, hold, and transport Covered Species; the number of individuals of the Covered Species relocated; the number of Covered Species injured or killed; a brief narrative of the circumstances surrounding listed Covered Species injuries or mortalities; and a description of any problems which arose during the relocation activities and a statement as to whether or not the activities had any unforeseen effects.

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b. Monitoring. The report shall summarize annual monitoring activities and will include the number of all Covered Species captured; the life stage of the Covered Species captured or tagged; the number and species of Covered Species injured or killed; a brief narrative of the circumstances surrounding Covered Species injuries or mortalities; effects of Covered Activities on vegetative habitat; number and locations of monitoring sites, and a description of any problems which arose during monitoring activities and a statement as to whether or not the activities had any unforeseen effects.

c. Take Table. Completed take tables from this RMP with the addition of added columns to include actual take and actual mortality. The form of the take table is included as Exhibit 3, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

d. Field Survey Forms. California Native Species Field Survey forms for listed or rare species, including all information specified in CDFW's *Instructions for Submitting Data to the CNDDB*, available online: https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data

2. CDFW Contact for Reporting Requirements. Permittee shall submit all required reports to the following CDFW contacts:

Department
of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region 5
RMP-2025-0015-R5
Sisar Creek Bridge Construction Project
R5RMP@wildlife.ca.gov

Christian Romberger
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(562) 292 6365
christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov

Failure to submit the information outlined above may result in suspension or revocation of this RMP, preclude extension or amendment of this RMP, or impact the eligibility of responsible parties to secure subsequent permits or approvals from CDFW.

Contacts

Permittee:

Friends of the Santa Clara River
P.O. Box 7713, Ventura CA 93006

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(805) 628-2250
contact@fscr.org

Contact Person:

Candice Meneghin
P.O. Box 7713, Ventura CA 93006
(310) 890-2834
candicemeneghin@gmail.com

California Department of Fish and Wildlife:

Christian Romberger
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(562) 292 6365
christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov
R5RMP@wildlife.ca.gov

V. Effective Date and Termination

The effective date of this RMP shall be the date of execution, and unless extended, amended, or revoked, this RMP will terminate 5 years from the effective date (Termination Date).

VI. Extension

If Permittee is unable to complete the Covered Activities by the Termination Date, Permittee may request in writing that CDFW extend the term of this RMP without otherwise changing the terms and conditions of this RMP, which request CDFW may grant in its reasonable discretion. A written request to extend the term of this RMP must be received by CDFW at least sixty days prior to the then-current termination date of the RMP. If CDFW grants the request, CDFW will reissue this RMP with a new Termination Date and without changing any other terms and conditions of this RMP.

VII. Amendment

Other than an extension of the Termination Date pursuant to Section VI (Extension) of this RMP, this RMP may only be amended in the following ways:

1. Amendment by Mutual Agreement. This RMP may be amended by mutual agreement of CDFW and the Permittee. To initiate an amendment to this RMP, either Permittee shall submit a written amendment request to CDFW or CDFW shall submit a written amendment request to Permittee. An RMP amendment shall become effective when a written amendment is signed by CDFW. Amendments to this RMP by mutual agreement may include the transfer of this RMP to a new

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permittee.

2. Unilateral Amendment or Termination by CDFW.

   CDFW may amend or terminate this RMP without the concurrence of Permittee: (a) as required by law; (b) if CDFW determines that continued implementation of the Project as authorized by this RMP would jeopardize the continued existence of any Covered Species or other endangered, threatened, candidate, fully protected, or rare species; or (c) if there are substantial changes in the Project or biological conditions that may cause new or different impacts to native fish, wildlife, plants, or their habitat or may cause the Project to no longer meet the definition of a qualifying restoration project as set forth in Fish and Game Code section 1671, subdivision (d)(1).

VIII. Suspension and Revocation

CDFW may issue a written decision to suspend or revoke this RMP if Permittee fails to complete the Project as described in the Project Description, fails to comply with any term or condition of this RMP, or fails to commence Project activities within two years from the effective date.

IX. Compliance with Other Laws

This RMP sets forth CDFW's requirements for the Permittee to complete the Project pursuant to the Restoration Management Permit Act. (Fish & G. Code, § 1670 et seq.) This RMP does not necessarily create an entitlement to proceed with the Project. Permittee is responsible for complying with all other applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

X. CEQA Compliance

CDFW has determined that the proposed Project complies with the Class 33 Categorical Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15333)

XI. Findings Pursuant to the Restoration Management Permit Act:

These findings are intended to document CDFW's compliance with the Restoration Management Permit Act. (Fish & G. Code § 1670 et seq.)

CDFW finds based on substantial evidence in the application the Permittee submitted to CDFW for this RMP, Sisar Creek Arizona Crossing Replacement Project – Pre-Bid Set (May 2025), and the administrative record of proceedings, that issuance of this RMP complies with and is consistent with the Restoration Management Permit Act. CDFW further specifically finds as follows:

(1) The Project meets the definition of a qualifying restoration project as set forth in Fish and Game Code section 1671, subdivision (d)(1):

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a. Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1671, subdivisions (b) and (c), the Project is a management or propagation project that includes activities that will: benefit, aid the conservation of, and assist in the recovery of a native fish, wildlife, or plant species, such as restoration of native fish, wildlife, plants, or their habitat and propagation; or help sustain or increase native fish, wildlife, or plant populations for scientific, conservation, management, or educational purposes;

b. Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1671, subdivision (d)(1), the Project has the primary purpose of restoring native fish, wildlife, plants, or their habitat;

c. Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1671, subdivision (d)(1), the Project will result in a substantial net benefit to any one or more of the following: native fish; native wildlife; native plants; or the habitat of native fish, native wildlife, or native plants.

d. Pursuant to Fish and Game section 1671, subdivision (e), CDFW reasonably expects that substantial net benefit will be a substantial, cumulative benefit to native fish, wildlife, plants, or their habitat, or any combination thereof, above baseline conditions. In making this determination, CDFW considered the duration of the qualifying restoration project; all impacts on native fish, wildlife, plants, or their habitat, or any combination thereof, from the qualifying restoration project; and any other information in the administrative record of proceedings for CDFW's issuance of this RMP. Further, the substantial net benefit will assist either directly or indirectly in the recovery of native fish, wildlife, plants, or their habitat, or a combination thereof.

e. Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1671, subdivision (d)(2), other benefits that result from the Project, such as flood risk reduction, recreation, or groundwater recharge, will be secondary or incidental benefits.

(2) Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1672, subdivision (f),because the Project includes the substantial diversion or obstruction of the natural flow of, or substantial change or use of any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, a river, stream, or lake and CDFW determined the activity may substantially adversely affect an existing fish or wildlife resource, this RMP includes reasonable measures that are necessary to protect existing fish and wildlife resources associated with Covered Waterbodies.]

(3) Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1675, subdivision (b), this RMP requires appropriate species protection, management, monitoring, and reporting measures.

(4) Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1677, this RMP does not authorize any activities associated with the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of isolated Delta conveyance facilities.

(5) The Project will not jeopardize the continued existence of any Covered Species or

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other endangered, threatened, candidate, fully protected, or rare species, including consideration of the species' capability to survive and reproduce and any adverse impacts of the Project on those abilities in light of known population trends, known threats to the species, and reasonably foreseeable impacts on the species from other related projects and activities. Further, this finding is based, in part, on CDFW's express authority to amend or terminate this RMP without the concurrence of Permittee to avoid jeopardy or as required by law.

ISSUED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

DocuSigned by:
B6E58CFE24724F5...

Date: 1/16/2026

Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Regional Manager
South Coast Region
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Exhibits:

1. Map Depicting Project Area
2. Take and Impacts Table Templates

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References

1. *California Department of Fish and Wildlife Aquatic Invasive Species Decontamination Protocol*, prepared by California Department of Fish and Wildlife, dated October 2022

2. *California Salmonoid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual*, prepared by California Department of Fish and Wildlife, dated July 2010

3. *Fish Passage Barrier Removal Monitoring Worksheet,* prepared by California Fish Passage Forum, dated September 2025

4. *Fish Passage Monitoring Methods*, prepared by Ross Taylor and Associates, dated September 2015

5. *Least Bell's Vireo Survey Guidelines*, prepared by the United State Fish and Wildlife Service, dated January 2001

6. *USGS Western Pond Turtle (Emys marmorata) Visual Survey Protocol for the Southcoast Ecoregion*, prepared by the United States Geological Survey, dated 2006

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Exhibit 1
Map Depicting Project Area

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Exhibit 2
Covered Species Take Reporting Table

Common Name	Expected Take	Authorized Take Mechanism	Actual Take (Capture)	Actual Take (Kill)	Comments
Southern California steelhead	Up to 30 juveniles of take and 3 individuals may be killed	Pursue, Catch, Capture, Kill or attempt to do so			
California red-legged frog	Up to 10 individuals may be relocated and 1 individual and up to 1 egg mass may be killed	Pursue, Catch, Capture, Kill or attempt to do so			
Southwestern Pond Turtle	Up to 4 individuals and 1 nest may be relocated and 1 individual and 1 nest may be killed	Pursue, Catch, Capture, Kill or attempt to do so			

Covered Waterbodies Impact Reporting Table

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Name(s) of Covered Waterbodies	Impact Description	Expected Impacts	Actual Impacts
Sisar Creek	Removal of an existing Arizona crossing, installation of bridge abutments and bridge, removal of riparian vegetation, and revegetation	2.7 acres	