Attachment A - 40 CFR Part 121.7 Information

The purpose of Attachment A is to provide information pursuant to title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) part 121.7(d)(2), which necessitates that all certification conditions be accompanied by an explanation of why the condition is necessary to assure that any discharge authorized under the Certification will comply with water quality requirements, and a citation to federal, state, or tribal law that authorizes the condition.

Notwithstanding any determinations by the U.S. Army Corps or other federal agency made pursuant to 40 CFR section 121.9, dischargers must comply with the entirety of this Certification because the Certification also serves as waste discharge requirements in accordance with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality General Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ.

This attachment includes citations to some sources of authority that are applicable to all Certification conditions. These sources are specifically identified where they are most relevant but are also generally applicable to the conditions below. California Code of Regulations, title 23,[1] chapter 28 sets forth regulations pertaining to water quality certifications. Conditions are set forth in this Certification to assure that the discharge complies with water quality objectives adopted or approved under sections 13170 or 13245 of the California Water Code. These conditions are also generally required to comply with the state's Anti-Degradation Policy (State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16), which requires that for any "activity which produces or may produce a waste or increased volume or concentration of waste and which discharges or proposes to discharge to existing high quality waters will be required to meet waste discharge requirements which will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that (a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur and (b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the state will be maintained." All Regional Board Water Quality Control Plans incorporate the state's Anti-Degradation Policy by reference. The state Anti-Degradation Policy incorporates the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 CFR Part 131.12 (a)(1)), which requires "[e]xisting instream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect the existing uses shall be maintained and protected." According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), discharges of dredged or fill material comply with the federal Antidegradation Policy by complying with USEPA's section 404(b)(1) Guidelines. The State Water Board adopted a modified version of USEPA's section 404(b)(1) Guidelines in the Dredge or Fill Procedures (State Supplemental Guidelines).

STANDARD CONDITIONS

<u>Standard Condition No. 1</u>
This is a standard condition that "shall be included as conditions of all water quality certification actions" (California Code of Regulations section 3860(a)).

<u>Standard Condition No. 2</u>
This is a standard condition that "shall be included as conditions of all water quality certification actions" (California Code of Regulations section 3860(a)).

[1] Unless as otherwise noted, all citations are to title 23 of California Code of Regulations.

Standard Condition No. 3
This is a standard condition that "shall be included as conditions of all water quality certification actions" (California Code of Regulations section 3860(a)). This fee requirement condition is also required pursuant to California Code of Regulations sections 3861(c)(4) and 3833(b), which require payment of fees by project proponents discharging dredge or fill material.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS

Administrative Condition No. 1
This condition is required pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 3856(e), which requires that copies be provided to the Water Boards of "any final and signed federal, state, and local licenses, permits, and agreements (or copies of the draft documents, if not finalized) that will be required for any construction, operation, maintenance, or other actions associated with the activity. If no final or draft document is available, a list of all remaining agency regulatory approvals being sought shall be included."

Administrative Condition No. 2
This condition provides notice of the State's rights to levee penalties as allowed by State law in order to protect water quality.

Administrative Condition No. 3
California Water Code section 13267 authorizes the Central Coast Water Board to require any person or entity who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within the region to furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring reports when necessary to investigate the quality of any waters of the state. These reports are necessary to ensure compliance with water quality standards.

Administrative Condition Nos. 4, 5
In the event of non-compliance, modified conditions may be necessary return the discharger to compliance and prevent violation of water quality standards. If a Permittee is violating the terms of a Certification that protect water quality standards, canceling the Certification halts authorization to discharge, which can ensure compliance with water quality standards. California Water Code section 13381 states that waste discharge requirements or dredged or fill material permits may be terminated or modified for cause, including, but not limited to, all of the following: (a) Violation of any condition contained in the requirements or permits; (b) Obtaining the requirements by misrepresentation, or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; and (c) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the permitted discharge.

Administrative Condition No. 6
This condition requires site personnel and agencies to be familiar with the content of the Certification and availability of the document at the project site. This condition is required to assure that any authorized discharge will comply with the terms and conditions of the Certification, which requires compliance with water quality objectives and beneficial uses adopted or approved under sections 13170 or 13245 of the California Water Code.

Administrative Condition No. 7
Conditions related to site access requirements are authorized pursuant to the Central Coast Water Board's authority to investigate the quality of any waters of the state within its region

under California Water Code section 13267. California Water Code section 13267(c) provides that "the regional board may inspect the facilities of any person to ascertain whether the purposes of this division are being met and waste discharge requirements are being complied with."

Administrative Condition No. 8
This Certification is issued based on information submitted by the applicant. If the applicant does not implement the project in accordance with the submitted information, the project may not comply with water quality standards. Therefore, the applicant must implement the project as described in order for compliance with water quality standards to be assured, in accordance with water quality objectives and beneficial uses adopted or approved under sections 13170 or 13245 of the California Water Code.

Administrative Condition No. 9
This condition related to the accidental discharge of hazardous materials is necessary to assure that discharges comply with any water quality objectives adopted or approved under sections 13170 or 13245 of the California Water Code. Conditions related to notification and reporting requirements in the event of an accidental discharge of hazardous materials are required pursuant to section 13271 of the California Water Code, which requires immediate notification of the Office of Emergency Services of the discharge in accordance with the spill reporting provision of the state toxic disaster contingency plan adopted pursuant to article 3.7 (commencing with Section 8574.16) of chapter 7 of division 1 of title 2 of the Government Code. These monitoring and reporting requirements are also consistent with the Central Coast Water Board's authority to investigate the quality of any waters of the state within its region under California Water Code sections 13267 and 13383. The reports related to accidental discharges also ensure that corrective actions, if any, that are necessary to minimize the impact or clean up such discharges can be taken as soon as possible in order to achieve compliance with water quality standards.

Administrative Condition No. 10
Authorization under this Certification is granted based on the application information submitted, including the legally responsible party. Notification is necessary to confirm whether the new owner wishes to assume legal responsibility for compliance with this Certification. If not, the original discharger remains responsible for compliance with this Certification. Correct identification of a legally responsible party is necessary to ensure compliance with water quality standards. California Water Code section 13264 prohibits any discharge that is not specifically authorized in this Certification.

Administrative Condition No. 11
In accordance with State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ, waste discharge requirements are issued to all persons proposing to discharge dredged or fill material to waters of the United States where such discharge is also subject to the water quality certification requirements of Clean Water Act section 401 and such certification has been issued by the Central Coast Water Board. In order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of Clean Water Act and regulations adopted thereunder, Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ requires dischargers to implement all the terms and conditions of the applicable certification issued for the discharge irrespective of whether the federal license or permit for which the Certification was obtained is subsequently deemed invalid because the water body subject to the discharge has been deemed outside of federal jurisdiction. In addition, continued compliance with

certification/waste discharge requirements is necessary, regardless of federal permit status, to ensure compliance with water quality standards is maintained.

Administrative Condition No. 12
This fee requirement condition is required pursuant to California Code of Regulations sections 3861(c)(4) and 3833(b), which requires payment of fees by project proponents enrolling in this Certification.

PROJECT INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

Required Project Mitigation and Compensatory Mitigation Quantities; Compensatory Mitigation Requirements

Conditions related to restoration and/or mitigation of temporary impacts are required to assure that the discharge complies with water quality standards adopted or approved under sections 13170 or 13245 of the California Water Code. These conditions are also consistent with the Dredge or Fill Procedures, which require "in all cases where temporary impacts are proposed, a draft restoration plan that outlines design, implementation, assessment, and maintenance for restoring areas of temporary impacts to pre-project conditions" (Dredge or Fill Procedures section IV. A.2(d) & B.4). Restoration and/or mitigation of temporary impacts is necessary to control discharges of waste, such as sediment from disturbed areas, so that compliance with water quality standards is maintained. Restoration requirements for temporary impacts are also authorized by California Water Code section 13263, which requires the imposition of requirements that implement water quality control plans, and take into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected and the need to prevent nuisance.

Conditions regarding compensatory mitigation are necessary to ensure compliance with state and federal anti-degradation policies. Compensatory mitigation requirements are consistent with State Supplemental Guidelines, section 230.10, restrictions on discharge and the Dredge or Fill Procedures, section IV.B.1.a (California Code of Regulations section 3013), which requires that the Water Boards will approve a project only after it has been determined that a sequence of actions has been taken to first avoid, then to minimize, and lastly compensate for adverse impacts that cannot be practicably avoided or minimized (see also California Code of Regulations section 3856(h) (requiring submittal of proposed mitigation and description of steps taken to avoid, minimize, or compensate)). Compensatory mitigation conditions are consistent with Executive Order W-59-93 commonly referred to as California's "no net loss" policy for wetlands. Compensatory mitigation requirements are also authorized by California Water Code section 13263, which requires the imposition of requirements that implement water quality control plans, and take into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected and the need to prevent nuisance.

Project Requirements

Project Requirement No. 1
This condition requires site personnel and agencies to be familiar with the content of the Certification. Familiarity with the requirements of this Certification is necessary to assure that any authorized discharge will comply with the terms and conditions of the Certification, which requires compliance with water quality objectives and beneficial uses adopted or approved under sections 13170 or 13245 of the California Water Code.

Project Requirement No. 2

Conditions related to compliance with water quality objectives and designated beneficial uses are required pursuant to the state's Anti-Degradation Policy (State Board Resolution No. 68-16), which requires that for any "activity which produces or may produce a waste or increased volume or concentration of waste and which discharges or proposes to discharge to existing high quality waters will be required to meet waste discharge requirements which will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that (a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur and (b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the state will be maintained." The state Anti-Degradation Policy incorporates the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 CFR Part 131.12 (a)(1)), which requires "[e]xisting instream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect the existing uses shall be maintained and protected." According to USEPA, for dischargers of dredged or fill material comply with the federal Antidegradation Policy by complying with USEPA's section 404(b)(1) Guidelines. The State Water Boards adopted a modified version of USEPA's section 404(b)(1) Guidelines in the Dredge or Fill Procedures (State Supplemental Guidelines).

Project Requirements Nos. 3, 6, 7

Disturbed areas in delineated waters must be stabilized prior to a rainfall event to assure that sediment is controlled and the discharge from the proposed project will comply with water quality objectives established for surface waters. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Region, section 4.8.5.2, states. "timing [of construction activities] should be established with reference to environmental sensitivity factors such as fish migrations, spawning or hatching, and minimum stream flow conditions."

Conditions related to stormwater management are required to comply with Water Quality Control Plans and to assure that the discharge complies with water quality objectives adopted or approved under Sections 13170 or 13245 of the California Water Code. Post-rain erosion and sedimentation problems can contribute to significant degradation of the waters of the state; therefore, it is necessary to take corrective action to eliminate such discharges in order to avoid or minimize such degradation. Design, implementation, and maintenance of control measures and best management practices (BMPs) described in the conditions will assure compliance with water quality objectives including sediment, turbidity, temperature, suspended material, and settleable material. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Region, section 3.3.2, prohibits alteration of the suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters in such as manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Project Requirements Nos. 3-5, 8

Conditions related to erosion and sediment control design requirements are required to sustain fluvial geomorphic equilibrium. Improperly designed and installed BMPs result in excess sediment, which impairs surface waters, adversely affect beneficial uses, and results in violations of water quality objectives in the Water Quality Control Plans in California. Water Quality Control Plans impose design requirements to ensure excess stormwater sediment does not exceed water quality objectives in the plans. For example: "The discharge or threatened discharge of soil, silt, bark, slash, sawdust, or other organic and earthen materials into any stream in the basin in violation of best management practices for timber harvesting, construction, and other soil disturbance activities and in quantities deleterious to fish, wildlife, and other beneficial uses is prohibited. The placing or disposal of soil, silt, bark, slash, sawdust, or other organic and earthen materials from timber harvesting, construction, and other soil

disturbance activities at locations above the anticipated high water line of any stream in the basin where they may be washed into said waters by rainfall or runoff in quantities deleterious to fish, wildlife, and other beneficial uses is prohibited" (Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin, section 4.8.5.1).

Many waters in California are high in mercury either naturally or due to historic mining activities. This mercury, when discharged to waters of the state can become bioavailable and impair beneficial uses including Subsistence Fishing (SUB) and Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB). Effective sediment control is required under the Tribal and Subsistence Fishing Beneficial Uses and Mercury Provisions (Cal. Code of Reg., section 3010.)

In addition, disturbed areas in delineated waters must be stabilized prior to a rainfall event to assure that the discharge from the proposed project will comply with water quality objectives established for surface waters. For example, the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Region, section 3.3.2, prohibits the suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters not to be altered in such as manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Conditions related to stormwater management are required to comply with the Water Quality Control Plans and to assure that the discharge complies with water quality objectives adopted or approved under Sections 13170 or 13245 of the Water Code. Post-rain erosion and sedimentation problems can contribute to significant degradation of the waters of the state; therefore, it is necessary to take corrective action to eliminate such discharges in order to avoid or minimize such degradation. Implementation of control measures and BMPs described in the conditions will assure compliance with water quality objectives including sediment, turbidity, temperature, suspended material, and settleable material. For example, the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Region, section 4.6.4.1, prohibits the discharge of solid wastes "to rivers, streams, creeks, or any natural drainageways or flood plains of the foregoing."

<u>Project Requirement No. 9</u>
On-site availability of materials and supplies assures BMPs can be reasonably implemented and that the discharge complies with water quality objectives. This condition and other conditions related to best management practices are consistent with the Central Coast Water Board's authority to establish, "[w]ater quality conditions that could reasonably be achieved through the coordinated control of all factors which affect water quality in the area" pursuant to Water Code section 13241(c). The activities authorized under this Certification have the potential to result in a discharge that exceed water quality objectives and work in waters of the state must not cause an exceedance of water quality objectives. As required by California Water Code section 13369, all Water Quality Control Plans incentivize the use of best management practices to prevent prohibited discharges into waters of the state.

<u>Project Requirement No. 10</u>
California Water Code section 13264 prohibits any discharge that is not specifically authorized in this Certification. This condition is necessary to prevent violation of state discharge prohibitions that protect water quality objectives. Water Quality Control Plans prohibit the discharge of construction materials and byproducts from being discharged into waters of the state. For example, the "discharge or threatened discharge of soil, silt, bark, slash, sawdust, or other organic and earthen materials into any stream in the basin in violation of best management practices for timber harvesting, construction, and other soil disturbance activities and in quantities deleterious to fish, wildlife, and other beneficial uses is prohibited. The placing

or disposal of soil, silt, bark, slash, sawdust, or other organic and earthen materials from timber harvesting, construction, and other soil disturbance activities at locations above the anticipated high water line of any stream in the basin where they may be washed into said waters by rainfall or runoff in quantities deleterious to fish, wildlife, and other beneficial uses is prohibited." (Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin, section 4.8.5.1). Furthermore, section 4.6.4.1 of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Region prohibits the discharge of solid wastes "to rivers, streams, creeks, or any natural drainageways or flood plains of the foregoing."

This condition prohibiting discharge of materials detrimental to water quality or hazardous to aquatic life is also consistent with the Dredge or Fill Procedures, Appendix A, Subpart H, which requires actions to minimize and avoid adverse effects, including actions concerning the location, the material. and controlling the material after the discharge (§ 230.70 et seq.).

<u>Project Requirements Nos. 11, 12</u>
These conditions are required pursuant to the Water Quality Control Plan, and the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (SIP) which prohibit the discharge of substances in concentrations toxic to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life. For example: "All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations which are toxic to, or which produce detrimental physiological responses in, human, plant, animal, or aquatic life." In addition, "Survival of aquatic life in surface waters subjected to a waste discharge or other controllable water quality conditions, shall not be less than that for the same waterbody in areas unaffected by the waste discharge …" (Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin, section 3.3.2.1). Conditions related to toxic and hazardous materials are necessary to assure that discharges comply with any water quality objectives adopted or approved under sections 13170 or 13245 of the Water Code.

<u>Project Requirement No. 13</u>
Work in waters of the state must not cause exceedances of water quality objectives; accordingly, these conditions require implementation of best practicable treatments and controls to prevent pollution and nuisance, and to maintain water quality. Consistent with the Dredge or Fill Procedures, section IV.A.2.c, water quality monitoring plans are required for any in-water work, including temporary dewatering or diversions. Appropriate stream diversion and dewatering measures are BMPs needed to assure that 1) the discharge shall not adversely affect the beneficial uses of the receiving water or cause a condition of nuisance; 2) the discharge shall comply with all applicable water quality objectives; and 3) treatment and control of the discharge shall be implemented to assure that pollution and nuisance will not occur and the highest water quality is maintained.

These conditions are also required pursuant to the state's Anti-Degradation Policy (State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16), which requires that for any "activity which produces or may produce a waste or increased volume or concentration of waste and which discharges or proposes to discharge to existing high quality waters will be required to meet waste discharge requirements which will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that (a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur and (b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the state will be maintained." All Water Quality Control Plans incorporate the state's Anti-Degradation Policy by reference.

If surface waters or ponded waters are not appropriately diverted from areas undergoing grading, construction, excavation, and/or vegetation removal, the waters will be susceptible to

erosion and increased sediment loads, contamination and pollution from construction equipment, temperature fluctuations, etc. Diverting waters away from these areas will ensure that the discharge will not exceed water quality objectives, adversely affect beneficial uses of the receiving waters, or cause a condition of nuisance. Dewatered areas must also be stabilized prior to a rainfall event to assure that the discharge from the proposed project will comply with water quality objectives established for surface waters. For example, the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Region, section 3.3.2, prohibits alteration of the suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters in such as manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Project Requirement No. 14

Conditions related to post-construction stormwater management are required to comply with Water Quality Control Plans and to assure that the discharge complies with water quality objectives adopted or approved under Sections 13170 or 13245 of the California Water Code. Post-construction pollution, erosion, and sedimentation problems can contribute to significant degradation of the waters of the state; therefore, it is necessary to take corrective action to control the volume, velocity, frequency, and discharge duration of such discharges in order to avoid or minimize such degradation. Design, implementation, and maintenance of control measures and best management practices (BMPs) described in the conditions will assure compliance with water quality objectives including pollutants, toxic compounds, sediment, turbidity, suspended material, and settleable material that may result from modification of watershed processes. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Region, section 3.3.2, prohibits alteration of the suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters in such as manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. Section 3.3.2 also requires that all waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations which are toxic to, or which produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.

Project Requirement No. 15

California Water Code section 13264 prohibits any discharge that is not specifically authorized in this Certification. This condition is necessary to prevent violation of state discharge prohibitions that protect water quality objectives. Water Quality Control Plans prohibit the discharge of construction materials and byproducts from being discharged into waters of the state. For example, “The discharge or threatened discharge of soil, silt, bark, slash, sawdust, or other organic and earthen materials into any stream in the basin in violation of best management practices for timber harvesting, construction, and other soil disturbance activities and in quantities deleterious to fish, wildlife, and other beneficial uses is prohibited.” (Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin, section 4.8.5.1).

This condition prohibiting discharge of materials detrimental to water quality or hazardous to aquatic life is also consistent with the Dredge or Fill Procedures, Appendix A, Subpart H, which requires actions to minimize and avoid adverse effects, including actions concerning the location, the material. and controlling the material after the discharge (§ 230.70 et seq.).

Project Requirement No. 16

Authorization under this Certification is granted based on the application information submitted. California Water Code section 13264 prohibits any discharge that is not specifically authorized in this Certification. As such, dischargers must inform Central Coast Water Board staff of modifications so they may be addressed. California Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Central Coast Water Board to require submittal of information.

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

These monitoring and reporting requirements are also consistent with the Central Coast Water Board's authority to investigate the quality of any waters of the state within its region under California Water Code sections 13267 and 13383. The reports confirm that the best management practices and other measures required under this order are sufficient to protect beneficial uses and water quality objectives. Conditions regarding monitoring and reporting of BMP implementation and mitigation are necessary to ensure compliance with state and federal anti-degradation policies and Executive Order W-59-93 commonly referred to as California's "no net loss" policy for wetlands.

The condition for a streamed alteration agreement submittal is required pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 3856(e), which requires that copies be provided to the Water Boards of "any final and signed federal, state, and local licenses, permits, and agreements (or copies of the draft documents, if not finalized) that will be required for any construction, operation, maintenance, or other actions associated with the activity. If no final or draft document is available, a list of all remaining agency regulatory approvals being sought shall be included."