

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

A request for water quality certification (certification) for the Ralston Afterbay Maintenance and Enhancement/Restoration Activities Project (Project) was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). Certifications are issued under section 401 of the Clean Water Act. 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 typical notice period may be shortened in an emergency. Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to Derek Wadsworth:

Email:

Derek.Wadsworth@Waterboards.ca.gov

or

Mail:

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

RECEIVED:	September 5, 2023
PROJECT:	Ralston Afterbay Maintenance and Enhancement/Restoration Activities Project
APPLICANT:	Placer County Water Agency
CONTACT:	Ben Ransom
COUNTIES:	El Dorado and Placer
PUBLIC NOTICE:	October 2, 2023

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: On September 5, 2023, Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) submitted a request for a water quality certification for the Project. The Project is required by sediment management and spawning habitat improvement plans included in PCWA's 2020 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license for the Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project. The Project consists of sediment removal (excavation and dredging), sediment augmentation, relocation and re-establishment of spawning gravel, and sediment pass through at Ralston Afterbay. Suitable dredged or excavated material will periodically be relocated to the augmentation and spawning habitat sites following mobilization. The Project aims to increase downstream movement of sediments and gravels, that are otherwise retained in Ralston Afterbay, as well as enhance aquatic and riparian habitats along the Middle Fork American River downstream of Ralston Afterbay near Foresthill, California.