

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
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From (Public Agency):
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Attention: Derek Wadsworth
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812
Phone: 916-322-9255

Lead Agency (if different from above):
Placer County Water Agency
Attention: Ben Ransom
P.O. Box 6570
Auburn, CA 95604
Phone: 530-823-4886

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2012082046

Project Title: Ralston Afterbay Maintenance and Enhancement/Restoration Activities Project (Project)

Project Applicant: Placer County Water Agency (PCWA)

Project Location – Specific: Middle Fork American River, Ralston Afterbay.

Project Location – Nearest City: Foresthill **Project Location – County:** El Dorado, Placer

Project Description: The Project is located on the Middle Fork American River (MFAR), approximately five miles east of Foresthill in El Dorado and Placer Counties. Project activities include: excavation and dredging of sediment from Ralston Afterbay; relocation of suitable excavated material to downstream MFAR sediment augmentation sites and spawning gravel habitat sites; and sediment pass-through. The Project is required under the Sediment Management Plan and Spawning Habitat Improvement Plan (Plans), which are included in PCWA's 2020 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license for the Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project (Hydroelectric Project), also referred to as FERC Project No. 2079. In part, the Plans aim to ensure the downstream movement of sediments and gravels that are otherwise retained in Ralston Afterbay, as well as enhance spawning habitat and overall aquatic and riparian habitats along the MFAR downstream of Ralston Afterbay. PCWA anticipates beginning Project sediment removal activities (i.e., excavation and dredging) during the Hydroelectric Project 2025 Fall Outage Period (i.e., late September or early October 2025) and continue Project implementation periodically over the effective period of the USACE permit. Lands in the vicinity of Ralston Afterbay are owned primarily by the United States Forest Service.

Responsible Agency: State Water Resources Control Board

This is to advise that the State Water Resources Control Board has approved the above described project on September 2, 2024 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

Other: SWRCB has considered the 2013 FERC EIS, PCWA CEQA Supplement.

3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.

4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.

5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.

6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final environmental document is available to the General Public upon request at 1001 I Street, Sacramento CA, 95814 (2nd floor Water Rights Library).

Contact Person: Derek Wadsworth

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 322-9255

Signature: Parker Thaler Title: Environmental Program Manager I Date: 9/4/24

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Applicant