

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION  
1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706

**INTENT TO RELY ON NEPA DOCUMENT**

**Project Title: East Yosemite Valley River Restoration Project**

**Project Location: Yosemite Valley, Yosemite National Park, Mariposa County, CA 95389**

Project Description: The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to complete the East Yosemite Valley River Restoration Project in Yosemite National Park. The Project will stabilize riverbanks and prevent further erosion and widening of the Merced River in east Yosemite Valley by re-establishing native vegetation on the heavily eroded riverbanks and removing riprap.

In connection with this project, NPS has applied for Clean Water Act section 404 permit coverage under Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit 27. Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires a section 404 permit applicant to obtain a state certification that the resulting discharge will comply with water quality standards (Water Quality Certification). NPS applied to the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) for such a Water Quality Certification, the issuance of which is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

NPS, as Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan and circulated it for public comment. Based on the EIS and the comments received, Christine S. Lehnertz, Regional Director, Pacific West Region of the National Park Service, approved a Record of Decision (ROD) for the proposed project on 31 March 2014.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15220 and following, the Central Valley Water Board, as Lead Agency under CEQA, has determined that the EIS prepared by NPS meets the requirements of CEQA. Accordingly, the Central Valley Water Board proposes to use the EIS instead of preparing a separate CEQA document. This public notice is being circulated pursuant to section 15225 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The EIS and ROD are available online at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/getinvolved/planning.htm>.

Anyone having questions on this proposed action should contact Debra Mahnke at (559) 445-6281 or at [debra.mahnke@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:debra.mahnke@waterboards.ca.gov). Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone who would be interested in this matter.

  
for L. RODGERS, Assistant Executive Officer

Dated: 16 September 2015