

July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Michael S. Jewell, Chief, Regulation Division Regulatory Division (SPK-2022-00120) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District. 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Subject: Granting with conditions of the Regional General Permit for Wildfire Activities

Dear Chief Jewell,

La Posta Band of Mission Indians is granting the request for 401 Water Quality Certification for the Regional General Permit for Wildfire Activities (RPG) with notification and inspection conditions.

The Tribe considers that the 0.5-acre threshold area does not provide a reliable measure of the extent of impact. Many tribal waters are narrow and a 0.5-acre threshold may result in thousands of feet of impact that could potentially exceed minimal adverse effects and no longer comply with water quality requirements such as limits on sediment and suspended solids specified in La Posta Water Quality Standards.

Notification requirements allow the Corps and the Tribe to evaluate RGP projects to ensure the proposed activities will result in discharges being controlled as necessary to meet applicable water quality requirements. The inspection requirement will provide confirmation that the Best Management Practices are followed and that the discharges respect the water quality parameters. The Tribe has the expertise to evaluate and inspect the effects of RGP projects issued on tribal land and ensure water quality requirements will be met.

The notification and inspection conditions will ensure that the projects will not impair the water quality.

For more information, please contact La Posta Environmental Director, Anne Turcotte at <u>aturcotte@lptribe.net</u> or 619-996-9005.

Sincerely,

James Hill, Vice-Chair & Tribal Administrator La Posta Band of Mission Indians 8 Crestwood Rd Boulevard, CA 91905