

# APPENDIX G: POST CONSTRUCTION MONITORING PLAN

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**Adams Pond Restoration Project  
CEQA Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration**

## Monitoring Plan for Adam's Pond Restoration Project – Tehama County

**A.** Adam's Pond and Stinking Creek serve several ecological functions within the Cottonwood Creek Watershed. These include improved seasonal water retention, support for riparian vegetation and aquatic habitat.

**B.** The purpose of the proposed restoration includes the removal of accumulated sediment from the Adam's Pond and restore the original ponds hydrologic behavior. Due to post-fire upland erosion following the 2021 McFarland Fire, the pond has lost approximately 75% of its original storage volume. Sediment excavation will restore the pond's original storage capacity, improve both terrestrial and aquatic habitat conditions, and re-establish its seasonal hydrologic function.

Excavated material will be hauled to designated upland areas within project parameters as part of soil stabilization aspect of the project.

Upon project completion, Adam's Pond and all tributaries will be restored to pre-existing conditions including full removal of temporary Best Measure Practices (BMPs), reestablished and stabilized banks, and a native vegetation reseeding.

**C.** Performance criteria have been developed for each project goal to allow for measurable outcomes. These include restoring the pond to its original storage capacity, verifying that all temporary BMPs such as wattles and silt fencing have been removed; achieving a minimum of 70% native vegetative cover within seeded areas; and improving sediment discharge conditions.

**D.** Monitoring activities will include scheduled site visits, photo documentation, and vegetation assessments. Annual monitoring will occur during the growing season for Years 1 through 5 or until restoration conditions are met. Monitoring will occur during the appropriate time of year in relation to the water year and cycle of the pond's hydrology.

**E.** The Landowner will be the party responsible for ensuring the annual monitoring is performed, and the contract biologist will prepare an annual report and activity recommendation to meet the permit conditions.

**F.** The proposed monitoring schedule will span up to five (5) years, in consistency with California State Waterboard requirements for post-construction aquatic habitat restoration projects. As part of this monitoring period, the landowner will ensure that site visits are conducted to verify achieved project goals such as slope stability and structural integrity of earth work, desired hydrologic functions of the pond and surrounding tributaries, and successful reseeding of native vegetation. In addition, the site will be assessed for the structural integrity of all completed earthwork and constructed features. The proposed monitoring schedule will include a post-construction inspection in Year 0, immediately following reseeding. Annual monitoring will occur during the growing season for Years 1 through 5, during the appropriate time of year in relation to the water year and cycle of the pond's hydrology. Additionally, inspections will be conducted within 72 hours of significant precipitation events.

**G.** All construction activities are to be conducted in accordance with applicable environmental protections and in coordination with the appropriate resource management entities. If a biological resource that qualifies as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species is observed during construction,

appropriate measures are to be implemented, such as establishing a temporary no-work buffer based on the resource type and site conditions. Buffer distances typically range from 25 to 75 feet for vegetation and from 25 to 100 feet for active nests or wildlife activity. Measures for watercourses and habitat are to be incorporated as needed to minimize disruption to flora, fauna, and hydrologic function beyond those associated with approved project objectives.

In the event that cultural resources or human remains are encountered during ground-disturbing activity, work in the immediate vicinity is to be paused and the discovery assessed in accordance with applicable cultural resource protection protocols.