# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN JOSE DIVISION

4 SIERRA CLUB,

Case No.: 5:11-cv-06392-HRL

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Judge: Hon. Howard R. Lloyd

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V.

CONSENT DECREE

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LEHIGH SOUTHWEST CEMENT COMPANY, and HANSON PERMANENTE CEMENT, INC.

Date Lodged: April 24, 2013

Defendants.

Plaintiff,

Date Entered

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#### I. RECITALS

- 1. On December 19, 2011, Plaintiff Sierra Club ("Plaintiff" or "Sierra Club") filed a Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief and for Civil Penalties in this federal Clean Water Act case against Defendants Lehigh Southwest Cement Company and Hanson Permanente Cement, Inc. ("Defendants") pertaining to Defendants' quarry, cement plant and associated facilities, located in Santa Clara County, California. Sierra Club and Defendants are collectively referred to herein as "Parties," and individually referred to as "Party."
- 2. The Complaint alleges that Defendants have, and continue to, discharge pollutants from the quarry pit into Permanente Creek without an authorizing national pollutant discharge elimination system ("NPDES") permit and in violation of their storm water discharge permit.
- 3. The Complaint also alleges that Defendants have caused fill, including but not limited to mining wastes, overburden and sediment, to enter the bed and banks of Permanente Creek, and that such fill degrades, and continues to degrade, the water quality, habitat and natural function of the Creek.
  - 4. Defendants deny all of Plaintiff's allegations and claims in the Complaint.
- 5. The Parties, through their authorized representatives and without either adjudication of Plaintiff's claims or admission by Defendants of any alleged wrongdoing have

chosen to resolve in full Plaintiff's Complaint through settlement and avoid the cost and uncertainties of further litigation.

6. The Parties agree that this Consent Decree has been negotiated in good faith and will avoid further litigation among the Parties, and that this Decree is fair, reasonable and in the public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, with the consent of the Parties, IT IS HEREBY ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED as follows:

#### II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 1365(a)(l)(A) (citizen suit provision of the Clean Water Act) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question statute). The relief required is authorized pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202 (declaratory judgment), and 33 U.S.C. §§ 1319 and 1365 (Clean Water Act).
- 8. Venue in the Northern District of California is proper pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 1365(c)(1) (Clean Water Act citizen suit provision) because Defendants' discharges are located in this District. Venue also lies in the Northern District of California, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (e), because the property that is the subject of this action is in Santa Clara County, California, and because Defendants' Facility is located in Santa Clara County, California.
- 9. Plaintiff and Defendants consent to this Court's jurisdiction to enter and enforce this Consent Decree, and consent to venue in this judicial district.

#### III. APPLICABILITY

- 10. The provisions of this Consent Decree apply to and are binding on Plaintiff and Defendants, any of their respective successors and/or assigns, officers, agents, servants, and employees, and any other entities who are in active concert or participation with Plaintiff or Defendants.
- 11. No transfer of ownership or operation of the Facility shall relieve Defendants of their obligation to comply with the terms of this Consent Decree. Moreover, prior to any transfer of ownership or operation, the transferee shall provide written confirmation to the Court and

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Plaintiff acknowledging the terms of the Consent Decree and consenting to be bound by its terms.

12. Defendants shall provide a copy of this Consent Decree to all officers, employees, agents, performance guarantors, consultants and contractors whose duties include the implementation of any provision of this Consent Decree.

#### IV. DEFINITIONS

- 13. Terms used in this Consent Decree that are defined in the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251, et seq., ("CWA"), or in regulations issued pursuant thereto, shall have the meanings assigned to them therein, unless otherwise provided in this Decree. Whenever the terms set forth below are used in this Consent Decree, the following definitions shall apply:
- (a) "Applicable chronic water quality standard for Selenium" means 5 micrograms per liter (µg/l) of total Selenium.
- (b) "Complaint" shall mean the Complaint filed by Sierra Club in this action on December 19, 2011.
- (c) "Consent Decree" or "Decree" shall mean this Consent Decree and the exhibits attached hereto.
  - (d) "Creek" shall mean Permanente Creek.
- (e) "Day" shall mean a calendar day unless expressly stated to be a business day. In computing any period of time under this Consent Decree, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday or federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next business day.
  - (f) "Effective Date" shall mean the date this Decree is entered by the Court.
- (g) "Facility" shall mean Defendants' Permanente quarry, cement plant and associated works and property, located in Santa Clara County, California.
- (h) "Final treatment system" shall mean a water pollution abatement system and associated flow modulation facilities designed, constructed and operated to achieve continuous compliance with all NPDES permit limits, and all water quality standards applicable to Permanente Creek, for all discharges to Permanente Creek from the Facility, including quarry pit

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water and process waters currently associated with Pond 4A (quarry pit and primary crusher washdown), Ponds 9 & 11 (cement plant process waters in Pond 11 that flow through Pond 9), and Pond 20 (cement plant truck wash), and only excluding authorized storm water discharges from Pond 9 (after Pond 11 no longer flows to Pond 9), Pond 13, Pond 20 (after truck wash water no longer flows to Pond 20), and Pond 30. To the extent Defendants' future NPDES permit contains an effluent limit for nickel that differs from the water quality standard for nickel, such NPDES nickel effluent limit shall control.

- (i) "Interim treatment system" shall mean a water pollution abatement system and associated flow modulation facilities designed, constructed and operated to treat up to 24,000 gallons per hour of the quarry pit water currently associated with Pond 4A (quarry pit and primary crusher washdown) for the primary purpose of substantially reducing Selenium in the quarry pit water prior to discharge. Operation of this interim treatment system is also intended to inform the final design and successful operation of the final treatment system.
- (j) "Meet and confer" shall mean to communicate at the same time in person, by phone, or through any video or other virtual electronic method.
  - (k) "NPDES" shall mean National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.
  - (1) "Parties" shall mean Plaintiff and Defendants.
- (m) "Quarry pit water" shall mean that surface and ground water that is pumped by Defendants to facilitate quarry mining.
- (n) "Reach" shall mean that length of Permanente Creek that has been assigned a numerical value from 1 to 22 as shown in the URS profile and site layout map set forth as Exhibit A.
- (o) "Regional Water Board" shall mean the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- (p) "Section" shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by a Roman numeral.
- (q) "Station" shall mean the numerical value (from 0 to 192) assigned to a location on Permanente Creek as shown on the URS profile set forth in Exhibit A.

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(r) "EPA" shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any of its successor departments or agencies.

(s) "Work", as that term is used in Section X, shall mean all activities necessary to satisfy the Permanente Creek restoration obligations described in Section VI of this Decree, including but not limited to design, contracting, permitting, construction and monitoring activities.

#### V. DISCHARGE TREATMENT

14. Within 45 days of the date of lodging of this Decree, Defendants shall supplement their November 30, 2011 application for an individual NPDES permit for the Facility by submitting an amended Report of Waste Discharge, or procedurally similar document, to the Regional Water Board that includes requirements no less stringent than those set forth in Paragraphs 15 through 32 below.

#### Interim Quarry Pit Water Discharge Compliance A.

- 15. No later than August 1, 2013, Defendants shall execute one or more contracts for the engineering, procurement, and construction of the interim treatment system. No later than January 17, 2014, Defendants shall commence construction of the interim treatment system.
- 16. No later than October 1, 2014, Defendants shall have installed and commenced operation of the interim treatment system.
- 17. Beginning no later than October 1, 2014, and continuing no later than September 30, 2017, Defendants shall direct all quarry pit water to the interim treatment system. Defendants shall treat no less than 24,000 gallons per hour of quarry pit water with the interim treatment system, except at those times when only flows less than 24,000 gallons per hour are available from the flow modulation facilities, in which case Defendants shall treat all lesser flows. Beginning no later than December 1, 2014, Defendants shall either remove, on a continuous basis, at least 50 percent of the total Selenium from the totality of such quarry pit water flow to be treated, or achieve a concentration of no greater than 10 µg/l of total Selenium in such quarry pit water flow to be treated when the concentration of total Selenium in the quarry pit water entering the interim treatment system is 20 μg/l or less, prior to its discharge into

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Permanente Creek. Notwithstanding the above, Defendants shall operate the treatment system at all times to maximize the reduction of Selenium in the quarry pit discharge.

- 18. To determine the flow rates described above, Defendants shall use automatic, continuous flow measuring equipment with continuous data logging to monitor the total gallons per hour of quarry pit water entering the interim treatment system. Defendants shall also monitor the total gallons per hour of all quarry pit water treated by the interim treatment system and discharged to Permanente Creek, and the total gallons per hour of any quarry pit water that is not treated by the interim treatment system and discharged to Permanente Creek.
- 19. Beginning on October 1, 2014, and continuing through September 30, 2017, Defendants shall monitor, on no less than a weekly basis, the total Selenium in the untreated quarry pit water at the inlet to the interim treatment system, and at the outlet from the interim treatment system. The inlet and outlet samples shall be taken at the same time, and shall consist of a composite of twelve equal aliquots collected evenly over a 24-hour period. Data generated from this monitoring shall be used to assess compliance with Paragraph 17 on a weekly basis.
- 20. No later than March 31, 2015, Defendants shall provide Plaintiff with a report summarizing the performance of the interim treatment system since October 1, 2014, including but not limited to the measured concentration of total Selenium in the water discharged from the interim treatment system to Permanente Creek.
- No later than June 30, 2015, Defendants shall provide Plaintiff with a report 21. summarizing what additional treatment facilities or operational changes, if any, are necessary to ensure that quarry pit water treated by the interim treatment system will comply with the applicable chronic water quality standard for Selenium. If the water discharged from the interim treatment system is in compliance with the applicable chronic water quality standard for Selenium at that time, no additional treatment facilities or operational changes must be identified by Defendants, and in that case, after June 30, 2015 Defendants shall comply with such standard, in lieu of the 50 percent removal requirement set forth in Paragraph 17.
- 22. No later than December 31, 2015, Defendants shall have installed and shall commence operation of additional treatment facilities, if any, necessary to ensure that quarry pit

water treated by the interim treatment system will comply with the applicable chronic water quality standard for Selenium.

- 23. No later than March 31, 2016, the water discharged from the interim treatment system shall comply with the applicable chronic water quality standard for Selenium, in lieu of the 50 percent removal requirement set forth in Paragraph 17, unless compliance with the applicable chronic water quality standard for Selenium was achieved by June 30, 2015 pursuant to Paragraph 21.
- 24. No later than September 30, 2013, and continuing no later than September 30, 2017, Defendants shall have installed and commenced operation of treatment facilities at Pond 9, for the discharge of water from Pond 11, and compliance with the Regional Water Board's discharge limits for pH, turbidity, and total suspended solids shall be attained and maintained.
- 25. Defendants shall provide to Plaintiff on a quarterly basis, in .pdf electronic format, all monitoring results from the interim treatment facility and Pond 9 discharges from the previous calendar quarter, within 30 days of the last day of each calendar quarter, including but not limited to the results of all flow and Selenium monitoring.

## B. <u>Final Facility Discharge Compliance</u>

- 26. No later than August 1, 2016, Defendants shall execute contract(s) for engineering, procurement, and construction of the final treatment system. No later than February 1, 2017, Defendants shall commence construction of the final treatment system.
- 27. Beginning no later than September 30, 2017, Defendants shall have installed and commenced operation of the final treatment system.
- 28. Beginning no later than September 30, 2017, Defendants shall not discharge any quarry pit water, or any process water, or stormwater mixed with process water, from the Facility into Permanente Creek unless such discharge is treated by the final treatment system and is in compliance with all applicable NPDES permit effluent limits, and all applicable receiving water quality standards, including but not limited to the applicable chronic Selenium and chronic toxicity standards.

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- 29. Compliance with the chronic toxicity standard shall be determined by EPA's whole effluent toxicity (WET) test, based on: (1) survival and reproduction of Ceriodaphnia (water flea) (EPA/821/R-02/013 (Test Method 1002.0), (2) survival and growth of pimephales promelas (fathead minnow), EPA/821/R-02/013, Test Method 1000.0 (2002), and (3) growth of Selenastrum (algae), EPA/821/R-02/012, Test Method 1003.0 (2002). If Defendants' NPDES permit requires a different method for determining compliance with the chronic toxicity water quality standard, Defendants' compliance with the chronic toxicity water quality standard shall be determined by such method.
- 30. For the first six months of operation of the final treatment system, compliance sampling and analysis for conventional constituents and metals, including Selenium, shall take place on no less than a weekly basis. To determine compliance with the chronic toxicity standard, sampling and analysis shall take place on no less than a monthly basis consistent with Paragraph 29 immediately above.
- 31. Beginning on the seventh month of operation of the final treatment system, and continuing thereafter, Defendants' compliance with all applicable water quality standards and effluent limits shall be determined by the monitoring requirements in Defendants' individual Facility NPDES permit.
- 32. Defendants shall provide to Plaintiff on a quarterly basis, in .pdf electronic format, all monitoring results required by this Decree and Defendants' NPDES permit, from the previous calendar quarter within 30 days of the last day of each calendar quarter.

#### VI. CREEK RESTORATION

#### Permanente Creek Restoration. A.

- 33. The parties agree that the objectives of the Permanente Creek restoration requirements set forth below include the following:
  - Provide for sustainable anadromous fish passage and year-round habitat;
  - Remove mining-related fill and sediments in the bed, banks and adjacent hill slopes;
  - Layback creek banks and adjacent hill slopes to provide stable slopes sufficient to prevent fill from entering the creek;

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Require work recommended by URS in the March 11, 2011 Permanente Creek Long-Term Restoration Plan ("URS Plan"), as proposed or as modified as described below; and

- Require restoration that is no less stringent than any restoration that is approved or required by any agency, including but not limited to the Santa Clara County Planning Department and the Regional Water Board, and that is to be performed in a period of time no greater than any restoration that is approved or required by any agency, including but not limited to the Santa Clara County Planning Department and the Regional Water Board.
- Reaches 19-20-21. Defendants shall provide for sustainable fish passage 34. throughout reaches 19, 20 and 21, and improve holding and rearing habitat during summer lowflow periods as follows. Using hand tools and small engine implements as necessary, Defendants shall create at least two self-sustaining, self-scouring rock-step pools in each reach, with each pool designed and constructed to maintain a depth of at least 12 inches and a surface area of at least 60 square feet (approximately 6 feet wide, 10 feet long), at locations where water has the greatest potential to remain in the pools year-round. Immediately above each pool, Defendants shall design and construct a rock reinforced drop that maximizes the scouring of the downstream pool. The downstream ends of the pools may be narrowed with logs on the banks to force the flow to the center to promote additional scouring. Defendants shall design the rock step pools and drops to withstand a 100-year storm event assuming the use of hand tools and small engine implements. If Defendants believe implementation of such design is infeasible using hand tools and small engine implements, and if Defendants notify Plaintiff prior to July 30, 2014, the parties will meet and confer to determine appropriate alternative design criteria. If the parties cannot agree regarding the appropriate design criteria, Defendants may invoke the dispute resolution provisions in this Decree.
- 35. Reaches 17-18. Defendants shall provide for sustainable fish passage between stations 138 and 119 in reaches 17-18 by excavating and permanently exporting overburden and mining-related sediment from the creek bed, banks, and from upland slopes (to the extent upland slope materials pose a risk of entering the creek), sufficient to restore creek alignment and slopes and to eliminate subsurface flow through the overburden and mining-related sediment.

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In particular, Defendants shall layback and re-grade the north overburden slope to provide a stable slope no steeper than 2:1 (50% grade) and shall remove sufficient material to move the north toe of the slope at least 25 feet northward from its current location and elevation. Defendants shall establish a creek channel and flood plain proportionally following the conceptual modified trapezoidal cross-section as shown in Exhibit B, while preserving the flood capacity geometry set forth therein. Fish passage design approaches for all reconstructed Creek portions shall follow the California Department of Fish & Wildlife's California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (Vols. I-II, 2010) ("DFW Restoration Manual"), attached as Exhibit C, or its revision if approved by Plaintiff, and shall incorporate channel lengthening meanders and stepped pool and grade control complexes. The course of the Creek shall follow exposed bedrock, and large native boulders with sands and gravels. Defendants shall either create a berm along both reaches at the toe of the north slope, parallel to the creek (but set-back above the 100-year flood high water line) or install other structures (*e.g.*, benches along the north slope) to prevent overburden and sediment from entering the Creek.

Defendants shall remove the relic concrete structure at approximately Station 128, and evaluate the feasibility of removing the old crusher foundation at approximately Station 116. No later than June 30, 2013, Defendants shall provide to Plaintiff an evaluation of the environmental advantages and disadvantages of removing the old crusher foundation. No later than July 15, 2013, Defendants shall meet and confer with Plaintiff regarding such evaluation. Defendants shall seek agency approval to remove the old crusher foundation consistent with this Decree unless (a) the Parties otherwise agree, or (b) Defendants do not believe the old crusher foundation should be removed in which case Defendants may invoke the dispute resolution provisions of this Decree.

36. Reaches 14-15-16. Defendants shall provide for sustainable fish passage throughout reaches 14, 15 and 16 and improve holding and rearing habitat during summer low-flow periods as follows. Using hand tools and small engine implements as necessary, Defendants shall create at least two self-sustaining, self-scouring rock-step pools in each reach, with each pool designed and constructed to maintain a depth of at least 12 inches and a surface

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area of at least 60 square feet (approximately 6 feet wide, 10 feet long), at locations where water has the greatest potential to remain in the pools year-round. Immediately above each pool, Defendants shall design and construct a rock reinforced drop that maximizes the scouring of the downstream pool. The downstream ends of the pools may be narrowed with logs on the banks to force the flow to the center to promote additional scouring. Defendants shall design the rock step pools and drops to withstand a 100-year storm event assuming the use of hand tools and small engine implements. If Defendants believe implementation of such design is infeasible using hand tools and small engine implements, and if Defendants notify Plaintiff prior to July 30, 2014, the parties will meet and confer to determine appropriate alternative design criteria. If the parties cannot agree regarding the appropriate design criteria, the Defendants may invoke the dispute resolution provisions in this Decree.

- 37. Reach 13. Defendants shall provide for sustainable fish passage through this reach by removing the dam infrastructure at Pond 13 and the half-culvert immediately downstream, including the removal of all concrete and metal structures and deposited sediment. The new channel and flood plain shall proportionally follow the conceptual modified trapezoidal cross-section as shown in Exhibit B, while preserving the flood capacity geometry set forth therein. Fish passage design approaches for all reconstructed creek portions shall follow the DFW Restoration Manual, and shall incorporate channel lengthening meanders and stepped pool and grade control complexes. The course of the Creek shall follow exposed bedrock, and large native boulders with sands and gravels.
- 38. Reaches 10-11-12. Defendants shall provide for sustainable fish passage throughout reaches 10, 11 and 12 by removing all culverts, riprap, and the road on top of the creek (concrete ramp), and by sufficiently setting back the road and aggregate rock pile to provide more room for a natural streambed and banks. Defendants shall narrow the road and accompanying vehicle barrier to a reduced total width no greater than 28.5 feet at any point, measured from the toe of the inside slope to the top of the creek-side vehicle barrier. The vehicle barrier height shall not exceed 5 feet, and the slopes of the vehicle barrier shall be no less than 1.5 to 1 (67% slope). Defendants shall establish an enlarged creek channel that contains the

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features set forth in the conceptual modified trapezoidal cross-section as shown in Exhibit B except the south side slope shall meet existing slope conditions and the north side slope shall be modified up to a 1.5 to 1 slope. Fish passage design approaches for all reconstructed creek portions shall follow the DFW Restoration Manual, and shall incorporate channel lengthening meanders and stepped pool and grade control complexes. The course of the creek shall follow exposed bedrock, and large native boulders with sands and gravels.

39. Reaches 8-9. Defendants shall provide for sustainable fish passage throughout reaches 8 and 9 by sufficiently setting back the road and associated slopes to provide more room for a natural streambed and banks. Defendants shall narrow the road and accompanying vehicle barrier to a reduced total width no greater than 28.5 feet at any point, measured from the toe of the inside slope to the top of the creek-side vehicle barrier. The vehicle barrier height shall not exceed 5 feet, and the slopes of the vehicle barrier shall be no less than 1.5 to 1 (67% slope). Defendants shall establish an enlarged creek channel that contains the features set forth in the conceptual modified trapezoidal cross-section as shown in Exhibit B except the south side slope shall meet existing slope conditions and the north side slope shall be modified up to a 1.5 to 1 (67% slope). Fish passage design approaches for all reconstructed creek portions shall follow the DFW Restoration Manual, and shall incorporate channel lengthening meanders and stepped pool and grade control complexes.

Defendants shall remove the culvert in the vicinity of Station 59 and, if replaced, replace it with a concrete box culvert with a sustainable, natural gravel bottom. Fish passage design approaches for all rehabilitated or replaced culverts shall follow the DFW Restoration Manual. Lehigh shall remove, and not replace, any culvert in the vicinity of Station 48. Defendants may leave the culvert in the vicinity of Station 42 as is, unless such culvert has greater than a 2% grade and/or does not have a gravel bottom in which case it shall be removed, and if replaced, it shall be replaced with a concrete box culvert with a sustainable, natural gravel bottom designed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Box culverts referred to in this Paragraph do not need to contain the features set forth in Exhibit B.

in accordance with the DFW Restoration Manual.

Defendants shall remove the alluvial fan of gravel deposited on the floodplain located upstream of the culvert crossing in the vicinity of Stations 61-62. Defendants shall remove the gravel from the channel and banks located in the ephemeral drainage from a storage area in the vicinity of Stations 61-62 and take all other necessary measures to prevent further mining-related sediment and material from reaching Permanente Creek in the future from this drainage.

Defendants shall revegetate the floodplain and ephemeral channel with native vegetation.

40. Reaches 6-7. Defendants shall provide for sustainable fish passage throughout reaches 6 and 7 by making sufficient modifications to the existing concrete-lined channel to be consistent with the fish passage design approaches set forth in "Fish Passage Design for Road Crossings: an Engineering Document Providing Fish Passage Design Guidance for Caltrans Projects," Caltrans 2007, attached as Exhibit D, or its revision if approved by Plaintiff. The design shall ensure the passage of adult and juvenile fish during high and low flows, and provide for resting areas.

Defendants shall also create at least two (2) sustainable, shaded pools for migrating fish, located at approximately Stations 25-27 and 17. Each pool shall be at least fifteen (15) feet long, at least seven (7) feet wide, and have a depth of at least three (3) feet. The bottom of each pool shall be at, or lower than, the bottom elevation of the existing concrete channel. Defendants shall partially backfill the pools with a gradation of rock to simulate a natural pool. Larger rocks shall be used at the upstream end of the pool to provide resting places for fish within the scour pool. A gradation of larger to smaller rocks shall be used downstream (beginning no closer than five (5) feet to the upstream end) towards the weir and the next drop to transition from the three (3) feet deep area to a shallower depth at the downstream weir.

Defendants shall also remove the culverts in the vicinity of Stations 28-29 and Stations 34-37 and, if replaced, replace them with concrete box culverts with sustainable, natural gravel bottoms. Any box culvert installed at Stations 34-37 shall provide for permanent passive lighting at approximately every fifty (50) feet sufficient to illuminate the floor of the culvert during the day to the same level of illumination that exists twenty (20) feet from either end of the

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culvert. Defendants may leave the culverts in the vicinity of Stations 38-39 and 31-32 as they are, unless any culvert has greater than a 2% grade and/or does not have a gravel bottom in which case it shall be removed, and if replaced, it shall be replaced with a concrete box culvert with a sustainable, natural gravel bottom designed in accordance with the DFW Restoration Manual. Fish passage design approaches for all rehabilitated or replaced culverts shall follow the DFW Restoration Manual.

- throughout reaches 2-3-4-5. Defendants shall provide for sustainable fish passage throughout reaches 2, 3, 4 and 5 as follows. Defendants shall remove the Pond 22 steel diversion structure, culverts, and ancillary concrete structure at the pond outlet, leaving the concrete dam structure in place. Immediately downgradient of the concrete dam structure, Defendants shall create an appropriate step pool transition channel profile to ensure sustainable fish passage up and over the concrete dam structure. Defendants shall leave Pond 14 in place for California red-legged frog use. Defendants shall make modifications to the Pond 14 bypass channel, if any, to ensure it is the main creek channel suitable for fish passage in accordance with the DFW Restoration Manual. Where the Pond 14 outfall channel meets the bypass channel, Defendants shall install a permanent drop structure barrier to discourage the passage of fish up to Pond 14. Defendants shall place rock to armor the channel, stabilizing it under clear-water discharge conditions.
- 42. After completing the required restoration work in each reach, Defendants shall revegetate the Creek banks and disturbed areas with native vegetation including willows, alders, elderberries, blackberries, rushes, and sedges. Defendants shall incorporate willow fascines along the edges of banks and spillways where high bank shear stress is expected.
- 43. By no later than July 1, 2013, Defendants shall correctly and permanently stake all reach boundaries and stations identified in this Decree at locations adjacent to the Creek that will not be disturbed by the restoration activities required by this Decree. The stakes shall be permanently labeled by applicable number and their location recorded using a professional "subfoot" GPS. By no later than September 1, 2013, Defendants shall provide to Plaintiff a plan view topographic map (in hard copy and electronic format) showing the professional "sub-foot" GPS

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locations of all stakes, the current thalweg and bank slope toes of the Creek, and all other current features such as road dimensions and pond and culvert locations referred to in this Decree.

- B. <u>Permanente Creek Restoration Permitting and Performance Deadlines.</u>
- 44. The Parties anticipate that approvals will be required prior to the implementation of the Creek restoration work required above, including but not limited to approvals from:
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Section 404 permit)
  - Regional Water Board (NPDES permits and Section 401 certification)
  - California Department of Fish & Wildlife (Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement)
  - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (Section 7 Endangered Species Act consultation)
  - Santa Clara County (Reclamation Plan amendment)

Defendants intend to secure authorization and access from Union Pacific Railroad, if necessary, for restoration activities at Pond 22 and Reaches 2-7. Applicable environmental review processes (*e.g.*, CEQA and/or NEPA) must also be satisfied prior to proceeding with any creek restoration activities.

- 45. To ensure a timely permit application and approval process with respect to the creek restoration work required above, Defendants shall complete the tasks below by the following deadlines:
- (a) June 1, 2013: Notify all pertinent agencies of Consent Decree restoration requirements, design and permitting milestones, and anticipated transmittal of Conceptual Restoration Plan (30% design level) by October 7, 2013. Request agency meeting and/or meetings to be calendared in November 2013 through January 2014.
- (b) September 10, 2013: Complete Conceptual Restoration Plan, submit to Plaintiff for review and comment.
  - (c) October 7, 2013: Submit Conceptual Restoration Plan to all pertinent agencies.
- (d) November 2013 through January 2014: Participate in agency meetings regarding Conceptual Restoration Plan and permitting. To the extent one or more agency meetings do not

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take place by January 2014, the parties shall meet and confer to determine whether subsequent deadlines can and should be modified. If the parties cannot agree, then Defendants may invoke the dispute resolution provisions of this Decree.

- (e) July 30, 2014: Complete Draft Restoration Plan (70% design level) and permit applications, submit to Plaintiff for review and comment.
- (f) August 30, 2014: Submit all necessary permit and approval applications to appropriate agencies. This submission shall include all conditions reasonably calculated to be necessary to secure approval.
- 46. Defendants shall complete all restoration work required in Reaches 19-21, 14-16 and 2-5 within one year of receipt of all necessary permits and approvals. Defendants shall provide Plaintiffs with a schedule showing commencement and expected completion dates for all restoration activities in these reaches within thirty (30) days of receipt of such permits and approvals.
- 47. Defendants shall complete all restoration work required in reaches 6-13 and 17-18, within two years of receipt of all necessary permits and approvals. Defendants shall provide Plaintiffs with a schedule showing commencement and expected completion dates for all restoration activities in these reaches within thirty (30) days of receipt of such permits and approvals.
- 48. This Consent Decree shall not relieve Defendants of their obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and permits. To the extent there is any conflict between any provision in this decree and any other applicable requirement, the most stringent requirement shall apply.
- C. Alternative Permanente Creek Restoration.
- 49. Should any regulatory agency not provide one or more legally necessary approvals to conduct the actions specified in Section VI.A., or place one or more unexpected conditions on the approval of any given action, Paragraphs 50-53 shall apply.
- 50. For purposes of this Section, "unexpected conditions" shall mean: (i) one or more conditions placed by a regulatory agency on the approval to undertake a creek restoration activity

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Consent Decree

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United States District Court
For the Northern District of California

in addition to the conditions specified in Paragraph 45(f), (ii) such conditions exceed the costs specified in subparagraph (b) below, and (iii) Defendants are unwilling to expend the additional costs of such conditions.

- (a) For purposes of this Section, the initial total estimated cost to Defendants of the Permanente Creek restoration project is ten (10) million dollars. This estimated cost shall be adjusted annually consistent with the Engineering News-Record construction cost index for the Bay Area or, if unavailable, an equivalent cost index. The parties agree that the estimated total cost of the project is projected to be allocated within the Reaches of Permanente Creek as follows:
  - Reaches 2-7: Forty percent (40%) of total project cost
  - Reaches 8 13: Forty percent (40%) of total project cost
  - **Reaches 14 21:** Twenty percent (20%) of total project cost
- (b) Unexpected conditions occur if the cost of the conditions of approval exceed the following amounts: <sup>2</sup>
  - **Reaches 2 7:** Conditions cause the cost of creek restoration actions in these reaches to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total project cost, as adjusted.
  - **Reaches 8 13:** Conditions cause the cost of creek restoration actions to exceed the total project cost by twenty percent (20%) of the total estimated cost, as adjusted.
  - **Reaches 14 21:** Conditions cause the value of creek restoration actions to exceed the total project cost by ten percent (10%) of the total estimated cost, as adjusted.
- 51. For purposes of this Section, if Defendants believe any unexpected conditions will be or have been placed upon the approval or authorization to undertake one or more Creek restoration activities, Defendants shall notify Plaintiff within thirty (30) days of becoming aware of such unexpected conditions. The Parties shall meet and confer regarding any unexpected conditions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> These percentages were derived by multiplying the allocated percentage by reach group times fifty percent. Thus, for Reaches 2-7, 40% allocation x 50% cost buffer = 20% of the total estimated cost of the restoration project.

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52. In the event any unexpected conditions become final, within thirty (30) days of such event, Defendants shall notify Plaintiff and provide Plaintiff with a written demonstration explaining why the conditions are unexpected. The Parties shall meet and confer within fourteen (14) days of such notice. If Plaintiff does not agree that unexpected conditions have been imposed, Defendants may invoke the dispute resolution provisions of this Decree. If Plaintiff agrees unexpected conditions have been imposed, the Parties may stipulate to an alternative method of achieving the purposes of this Decree and present it to the Court for approval. Otherwise, without a stipulated agreement, and in lieu of implementing the relevant Creek restoration actions required by this Decree, for the affected reaches, Defendants shall pay the value of the project cost specified in Paragraph 50(a) above, plus the additional value specified in Paragraph 50(b) above, as follows: Defendants shall pay the funds to the Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment ("Rose Foundation"), 1970 Broadway, Suite 600, Oakland, California 94612, to be held in a separate Permanente Creek restoration account. Such funds shall be subject to the condition that they only be distributed by the Rose Foundation after a competitive application process, and that such funds, after satisfying any Rose Foundation administrative costs,<sup>3</sup> shall only be used for the purpose of Permanente Creek restoration, including steelhead re-introduction, unless such restoration activity is unavailable, in which case, the funds shall be used for other local watershed restoration projects including those on Stevens Creek.

53. In the event any regulatory agency does not provide a legally necessary approval to conduct an action specified in Section VI.A. either by actual notice or constructively through inaction, the Parties shall meet and confer within fourteen (14) days of such event. If Plaintiff disagrees that a necessary approval has not been provided, Defendants may invoke the dispute

<sup>24</sup> 25

<sup>26</sup> 2.7

<sup>28</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Rose Foundation administrative costs shall not exceed the following amounts: for funds paid of \$500,000 or less, administrative costs shall not exceed ten percent of the total funds paid; for funds greater than \$500,000 but no more than \$1,500,000, administrative costs shall not exceed eight percent of the total funds paid; for funds greater than \$1,500,000 but no more than \$3,000,000, administrative costs shall not exceed seven percent of the total funds paid; and for funds greater than \$3,000,000, administrative costs shall not exceed six percent of the total funds paid.

resolution provisions of this Decree. If Plaintiff agrees that a necessary approval has not been provided, the Parties may stipulate to an alternative method of achieving the purposes of this Decree and present it to the Court for approval. Otherwise, without a stipulated agreement, and in lieu of implementing the relevant creek restoration actions required by this Decree, for the affected reaches, Defendants shall pay the value of the project cost specified in Paragraph 50(a) above, plus the additional value specified in Paragraph 50(b) above, to the Rose Foundation in the same manner and for the same purposes as specified in Paragraph 52 above.

### VII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- 54. All reports shall be submitted to the persons designated in Paragraph 96 of this Consent Decree.
- 55. The reporting requirements of this Consent Decree do not relieve Defendants of any reporting obligation required by the CWA or its implementing regulations, or by any other federal, state or local law, regulation, permit or other requirement.
- 56. Any information provided pursuant to this Consent Decree may be used by Plaintiff in any proceeding to enforce the provisions of this Consent Decree and as otherwise permitted by law.

#### **VIII. SITE INSPECTIONS**

- 57. Defendants shall provide access to Plaintiff to inspect the interim and final treatment systems and related facilities, and to Permanente Creek and adjacent lands, at such intervals and times sufficient for Plaintiff to assess compliance with the terms of this Decree. At a minimum, access shall be provided to Plaintiff to inspect the interim and final treatment systems during construction and within six (6) months of the completion of construction of such systems. At a minimum, access shall also be provided to Plaintiff to inspect any Creek restoration work within five (5) days of the commencement of work in any Reach, at thirty (30) day intervals during restoration work in any Reach, and within six (6) months of the completion of any work in any Reach.
- 58. Plaintiff shall provide Defendants written notice of the date of any requested inspection at least five (5) days in advance of any inspection, and the requested inspection shall

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take place on that date unless Defendants propose a different date in which case the Parties shall meet and confer to determine the best date for an inspection within a period no greater than fourteen (14) days after Plaintiff's notice.

#### IX. STIPULATED PENALTIES

- 59. In any calendar month in which Defendants violate any provision of this Decree, Defendants shall pay all accrued stipulated penalties to the Rose Foundation as specified in Paragraph 62 below within ten (10) days after the end of such month, without written demand from Plaintiff, except for penalties due under Paragraph 60(d). Stipulated penalties due under Paragraph 60(d) shall be due and payable to the Rose Foundation within 25 months of the violation if mandatory minimum penalties have not been paid to the State of California for the same violation. To the extent Defendants believe their non-compliance is due to a force majeure event, the funds shall be paid into an escrow account until such issue is resolved.
- 60. Defendants shall pay stipulated penalties for each failure to comply with the interim and final treatment system terms of this Decree as follows:
- (a) For each failure to meet the obligation to install and operate the interim treatment system after October 1, 2014, as specified in Section V, Paragraph 16, per violation per day:
  - (1) 1st through 30th day after deadline \$1,000/day
  - (2) 31st through 60th day after deadline \$2,000/day
  - (3) Beyond 60th day \$5,000/day
- (b) For each failure to meet the obligations to install and operate the final treatment system after September 30, 2017, as specified in Section V, Paragraph 27, per violation per day:
  - (1) 1st through 30th day after deadline \$1,000/day
  - (2) 31st through 60th day after deadline \$2,000/day
  - (3) Beyond 60th day \$5,000/day
- (c) For each failure to comply with any interim discharge limit in Paragraph 17, \$3,000 per violation per week up to fifteen weeks, and \$10,000 per week after the fifteenth week, and for each failure to comply with any interim discharge limit in Paragraph 23 of this Decree, \$3,000 per violation per day;

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| (d) For each failure to comply with any discharge (effluent) limit set forth in the NPDES       |
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| Permit applicable to the final treatment system, \$3,000 per violation per day unless mandatory |
| minimum penalties of the same or greater amounts for the same discharge limit are paid by       |
| Defendants to the State of California within 24 months of the violation.                        |
| 61. Defendants shall pay stipulated penalties for each failure to comply with the               |
| stream restoration terms of this Decree as follows:   |
| (a) For each day after August 30, 2014, or any later date that the parties agree to pursuar     |

- ant to Paragraph 45(d), that Defendants fail to submit all necessary permit and approval applications to all appropriate agencies pursuant to Paragraph 45(f).
  - (1) 1st through 30th day after deadline \$1,000/day
  - (2) 31st through 60th day after deadline \$2,000/day
  - (3) Beyond 60th day \$5,000/day
- (b) For each day that Defendants fail to complete all restoration work required in Reaches 19-21, 14-16 and 2-5 within one year of receipt of all necessary permits and approvals or any later date that the parties agree to pursuant to Section XI:
  - (1) 1st through 30th day after deadline \$1,000/day
  - (2) 31st through 60th day after deadline \$2,000/day
  - (3) Beyond 60th day \$5,000/day
- (c) For each day that Defendants fail to complete all restoration work required in Reaches 6-13, and 17-18 within two years of receipt of all necessary permits and approvals or any later date that the parties agree to pursuant to XI.
  - (1) 1st through 30th day after deadline \$1,000/day
  - (2) 31st through 60th day after deadline \$2,000/day
  - (3) Beyond 60th day \$5,000/day
- 62. Defendants shall pay the stipulated penalty funds to the Rose Foundation in the same manner and for the same purposes as specified in Paragraph 52 above.
- 63. During any period of dispute resolution where a stipulated penalty may run, Defendants may request that the Court reduce or eliminate any such penalty that accrued during

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the dispute resolution period if the Court deems that, although Defendants did not prevail in the dispute, the Defendants pursued the dispute in good faith and not for purposes of delay.

64. Stipulated penalties are not the Plaintiff's exclusive remedy for violations of this Decree. Plaintiff reserves its right to pursue any other remedies to which it is entitled, which may include, but are not limited to, additional injunctive relief or statutory penalties for Defendants' violations of the Decree or the Clean Water Act. The obligation to pay stipulated penalties under this Decree shall not relieve Defendants from any obligation to pay penalties for violations of any term or condition of any permit issued under the Act, including any NPDES permit. Any amounts paid by Defendants as stipulated penalties may be asserted by Defendants in response to any action requesting the imposition of additional civil penalties.

#### X. PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE

- 65. In order to ensure the full and final completion of the Work required in Section VI, Defendants shall establish and maintain an irrevocable performance guarantee, initially in the amount of \$12 million, to ensure the completion of such Work after issuance of a Work Takeover Notice and determination of Work Takeover as provided for below. The performance guarantee shall state it is for the exclusive benefit of the U.S. District Court, Northern District, to fund the actions required by Section VI of this Decree, immediately upon issuance of Plaintiff's Work Takeover determination.
- 66. The parties agree that the irrevocable surety bond set forth in Exhibit E, is an acceptable form of performance guarantee for the Work to be performed as required in Sections VI.
- 67. Within ten (10) days of entry of this Decree, Defendants shall execute or otherwise finalize all instruments and other documents required in order to make the selected performance guarantee(s) legally binding in a form substantially identical to the documents attached hereto as Exhibit E, and such performance guarantee(s) shall thereupon be fully effective.
- 68. In the event that Plaintiff determines at any time that a performance guarantee provided by Defendants pursuant to this Section is no longer sufficient, whether due to an

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the Northern District of California

| increase in the estimated cost of completing the work required in Section VI or for any other        |
|--|
| reason, or in the event that Defendants become aware of information indicating that the              |
| performance guarantee is insufficient, whether due to an increase in the estimated cost of           |
| completing the work required or for any other reason, Defendants, within thirty (30) days after      |
| receipt of notice of Plaintiff's determination or, as the case may be, within thirty (30) days after |
| any Defendant becoming aware of such information, shall obtain and present to Plaintiff for          |
| approval a proposal for a revised performance guarantee. Within thirty (30) days after receiving     |
| Defendants' revised performance guarantee proposal, or within sixty (60) days after Plaintiff's      |
| insufficiency determination notice, Plaintiff shall provide to Defendants its determination of the   |
| additional amount of performance guarantee that is necessary to ensure completion of the work        |
| required by Section VI. Defendants may dispute this determination pursuant to the dispute            |
| resolution provisions of this Decree, but only after they have provided the additional amount of     |
| performance guarantee consistent with Plaintiff's insufficiency determination.                       |

- 69. In the event Plaintiff determines that Defendants have (1) ceased implementation of any portion of the Work, or (2) are seriously or repeatedly deficient or late in their performance of the Work, Plaintiff may issue a written notice ("Work Takeover Notice") to Defendants. Any Work Takeover Notice issued by Plaintiff will specify the grounds upon which such notice was issued and will provide Defendants a period of ten (10) days within which to cure the circumstances giving rise to Plaintiff's issuance of such notice. Within five (5) days of receipt of a Work Takeover Notice, Defendants shall establish the Permanente Creek Restoration escrow account to which performance guarantee funds shall be deposited if a Work Takeover is determined as described in Paragraph 70. Funds deposited into the Permanente Creek Restoration escrow account shall be accessible by the Court-appointed trustee described in Paragraph 70.
- 70. If, after expiration of the ten-day cure period specified above, Defendants have not remedied to Plaintiff's satisfaction the circumstances giving rise to Plaintiff's issuance of the relevant Work Takeover Notice, Plaintiff may at any time thereafter notify the Court, Defendants, and Defendants' Guarantor in writing (which writing may be electronic) that all or

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any portion(s) of the Work will be completed with performance guarantee funds ("Work Takeover"). Within fourteen (14) days of such notice to the Court, Defendants, and Defendants' Guarantor, Defendants' Guarantor shall convey all funds held as a performance guarantee to the Permanente Creek Restoration escrow account. Plaintiff shall provide to the Court the names of three (3) potential trustees from which the Court may select one trustee to take all necessary measures to complete the unfinished work required by Section VI of this Decree using the performance guarantee funds deposited in the Permanente Creek Restoration escrow account.

- 71. If Plaintiff triggers a Work Takeover, and actions are undertaken to complete the Work required in Section VI, the Defendants fully release Plaintiff, any Court-appointed trustee, any independent contractor, and any of their respective officers, employees, agents, successors, or assigns from any and all claims and demands, either at law or in equity, as to the sufficiency of actions taken to complete the work required in Section VI.
- They may notify Plaintiff of their determination, which determination shall include sufficient evidence of such completion. If Defendants receive written notice from Plaintiff that the Work has been fully and finally completed in accordance with the terms of this Consent Decree, Defendants may thereafter release, cancel, or discontinue the performance guarantee. Only after Plaintiff provides such notice may Defendants release, cancel, or discontinue any performance guarantee. In the event of a dispute, Defendants may release, cancel, or discontinue the performance guarantee(s) required hereunder only in accordance with a final judicial decision resolving such dispute pursuant to the dispute resolution provisions of this Decree.

#### XI. FORCE MAJEURE

73. For the purposes of this Decree, a "force majeure event" is defined as any event arising from causes beyond the reasonable control of Defendants or any entity controlled by Defendants (including, without limitation, Defendants' contractors and subcontractors, and any entity in active participation or concert with Defendants with respect to the obligations to be undertaken by the Defendants pursuant to this Decree), that delays or prevents or can reasonably

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be anticipated to delay or prevent compliance with the obligations of this Decree, despite Defendants' best efforts to meet such deadlines. The requirement that Defendants exercise "best efforts" to meet the deadlines includes using best efforts to avoid any force majeure event before it occurs, and to use best efforts to mitigate the effects of any force majeure event as it is occurring, and after it has occurred, such that any delay is minimized to the greatest extent possible.

- 74. Without limitation, unanticipated or increased costs or changed financial circumstances shall not constitute a force majeure event. The absence of any regulatory approval shall not constitute a force majeure event, unless Defendants demonstrate that, as appropriate to the approval: (a) they made timely and complete applications for such approval(s) to meet the deadlines set forth in Sections V and VI of this Decree; (b) they reasonably complied with all requirements to obtain such approval(s); (c) they diligently sought such approval, (d) they diligently and timely responded to all requests for additional information, and (e) without such approval, Defendants will be required to act in violation of law to meet one or more of the obligations set forth in this Decree.
- any deadline in this Decree, whether or not attributable to a force majeure event, Defendants shall notify Plaintiff in writing within ten (10) days of the time Defendants first knew, or within thirty (30) days of when Defendants reasonably should have known that the event is likely to cause a delay. Defendants shall be deemed to have notice of any circumstance of which its contractors or subcontractors had or reasonably should have had notice, provided that those contractors or subcontractors were retained by Defendants to implement, in whole or in part, the requirements of this Decree. Within fifteen (15) days thereafter, Defendants shall provide in writing to Plaintiff a report containing: (a) an explanation and description of the reasons for the delay; (b) the anticipated length of the delay; (c) a description of the activity(ies) that will be delayed; (d) all actions taken and to be taken to prevent or minimize the delay; (e) a timetable by which those measures will be implemented; and (f) a schedule that fully describes when Defendants propose to meet any deadlines in this Decree which have been or will be

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affected by the claimed force majeure event. Defendants shall include with any notice their rationale and all available documentation supporting its claim that the delay was or will be attributable to a force majeure event.

- 76. If Plaintiff agrees that the delay has been or will be caused by a force majeure event, the Parties may stipulate to an extension of the deadline for the affected activity(ies) as is necessary to complete the activity(ies). Plaintiff shall take into consideration, in establishing any new deadline(s), evidence presented by Defendants relating to weather, outage schedules and remobilization requirements. In the event the Parties cannot agree to the length of the extension, Defendants may invoke the dispute resolution procedures set forth in this Decree. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Plaintiff finds that a force majeure event may delay Defendants' compliance with the terms of this Decree for more than six (6) months, Plaintiff may seek further relief from the Court to fulfill the purposes of this Decree.
- 77. If Plaintiff does not agree that the delay or anticipated delay has been or will be caused by a force majeure event, it will notify Defendants in writing of this decision within twenty (20) days after receiving Defendants' report alleging a force majeure event, and will not extend the deadline for any activity identified in this Decree. If Defendants seek review of this decision, the matter shall be resolved through the dispute resolution procedures set forth in this Decree.
- 78. At all times, Defendants shall have the burden of proving that any delay was caused by a force majeure event (including proving that Defendants had given proper notice and had made "best efforts" to avoid and/or mitigate such event), and of proving the duration and extent of any delay(s) attributable to such event.
- 79. Failure by Defendants to fulfill in any way the notification and reporting requirements of this Section shall constitute a waiver of any claim of a force majeure event as to which proper notice and reporting was not provided.
- 80. Any extension of one deadline based on a particular incident does not necessarily constitute an extension of any subsequent deadline(s) unless agreed to by the Parties or directed by this Court.

81. If Defendants fail to perform an activity by a deadline in this Decree due to a force majeure event, Defendants may only be excused from performing that activity or activities, and paying stipulated penalties for such failure, for that period of time excused by the force majeure event.

#### XII. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 82. Plaintiff and Defendants may invoke the dispute resolution procedures of this Section to the extent provided for in this Decree. The dispute resolution procedures of this Section shall be the exclusive mechanism to resolve such disputes with respect to such provisions of this Decree.
- 83. To invoke dispute resolution, a Party must provide written notice to the other party within thirty (30) days of the occurrence of the disputable event. The notice shall include all reasons the Party has for raising the disputed issue. Within thirty (30) days of receiving written notification, the other Party shall provide a written response and the Parties shall thereafter meet and confer within ten (10) days of such response. Failure of any party to fulfill this notification or response requirement shall constitute a waiver of the Party's right to dispute the issue(s).
- 84. If the Parties cannot resolve a dispute within fifteen (15) days of the Parties' meet and confer process above, the disputed issue shall be deemed to have been withdrawn unless the Party that raised the dispute files a petition or application with the Court to have the Court resolve the issue. Such petition or application shall include a description of the matter in dispute (but shall only rely on matters previously disclosed in writing in the dispute resolution process, unless information that was unavailable at the time of the filing of the initial dispute has come to light), the efforts made by the Parties to resolve it, the relief requested, and the schedule, if any, within which the dispute must be resolved to ensure orderly implementation of this Decree. The other Party shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of any petition or application to file a response.
- 85. In judicial proceedings on any dispute under this Section, the disputing Party shall carry the burdens of proof and persuasion.

86. The invocation of dispute resolution procedures under this Section shall not extend, postpone or affect in any way any obligation under this Decree not directly in dispute, unless the other Party or the Court agrees otherwise. Stipulated penalties with respect to the disputed matter shall continue to accrue, but payment shall be stayed pending resolution of the dispute as provided in this Section. Notwithstanding the stay of payment, stipulated penalties shall accrue from the first day of noncompliance with any applicable provision of this Decree until or unless no violation is established. In the event that the Defendants do not prevail on the disputed issue, stipulated penalties shall be assessed and paid as provided in Section IX.

87. If Defendants' invoke the dispute resolution provisions of this Decree, Defendants shall pay Plaintiff's costs if Plaintiff substantially prevails, including reasonable attorney and expert witness fees, associated with such dispute.

#### XIII. FEES AND COSTS

88. Defendants agree that, pursuant to Section 505(d) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1365(d), Plaintiff is both eligible and entitled to recover its reasonable costs of litigation in this action, including attorney and expert witness fees. The issue of the amount of such costs is reserved. If Defendants and Plaintiff are unable to reach an agreement regarding the amount of such costs, Plaintiff may petition the Court for a determination of such amount. Furthermore, Plaintiff expressly reserves its right to petition the Court for recovery of additional costs and fees incurred after it signs this Decree, and Defendants reserve their right to oppose any such petition.

#### XIV. MUTUAL RELEASE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE

- 89. This Decree constitutes a complete and final release of all civil claims for violations alleged in the Complaint through the effective date of this Decree.
- 90. Nothing in this Decree shall be construed to create any rights in or grant any cause of action to any person not a Party to this Decree. The preceding sentence shall not be construed to waive or nullify any rights that a person not a signatory to this Decree may have under applicable law, including any regulatory agency with jurisdiction over Defendant's activities at the Facility. Plaintiff expressly reserve all rights, defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action that it might have against Defendants with respect to any matter, transaction, or

occurrence relating to the Facility that is not addressed in this Decree. Defendants expressly reserve all rights and defenses that they may have to any claim, demand, or cause of action relating to the Facility that is not addressed in this Decree. The Parties expressly reserve all rights, defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action which each Party may have against any person not a Party to this Decree with respect to any matter, transaction, or occurrence relating to the Facility. Nothing in this Decree shall be construed as a waiver of any privilege by a Party.

- 91. For the duration of this Decree, Plaintiff covenants not to sue Defendants, their officers, employees, agents, successors, or assigns for matters alleged in the Complaint. Nothing herein shall prevent Plaintiff from seeking any legal or equitable remedy to enforce the requirements of this Decree. This covenant not to sue does not pertain to any matters not alleged in the Complaint.
- 92. This Decree shall not be used to establish the liability of Defendants in any action, except to enforce the provisions of this Decree.

#### XV. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 93. **Severability.** In the event that any one of the provisions of this Consent Decree is held by a Court to be unenforceable, the validity of the enforceable provisions shall not be adversely affected.
- 94. **Construction.** The language in all parts of this Consent Decree, unless otherwise stated, shall be construed according to its plain and ordinary meaning.
- 95. **Choice of Law.** This Consent Decree shall be governed by the laws of the United States.
- 96. **Third Party Beneficiary.** This Consent Decree and its attachments are made for the sole benefit of the Parties, and no other person or entity shall have any rights or remedies under or by reason of this Consent Decree unless otherwise expressly provided for therein.
- 97. **Notices.** Any notices or documents required or provided for by this Consent Decree shall be sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows or, in the alternative, shall be sent by electronic mail transmission to the email addresses listed below:

| 1        |   |
|----------|---|
| 2        | For Plaintiff Sierra Club:  |
| 3        | Reed Zars   |
| 4        | Attorney at Law<br>910 Kearney Street   |
| 5        | Laramie, Wyoming 82070<br>Tel: (307) 745-7979<br>E-mail: rzars@lariat.org                           |
| 6        |   |
| 7        | George E. Hays Attorney at Law 236 West Portal Avenue #110  |
| 8        | San Francisco, CA 94127<br>Office: (415) 566-5414   |
| 9        | e-mail: georgehays@mindspring.com   |
| 10       | For Defendants:   |
| 11       | Kari Saragusa, President, Region West<br>Greg Knapp, Director Environmental Region West             |
| 12       | Lehigh Hanson, Inc.<br>12667 Alcosta Blvd., Suite 400   |
| 13<br>14 | San Ramon, CA 94583 Tel: (925) 244-6500   |
| 15       | Email: KSaragusa@lehighcement.com<br>Email: Greg.Knapp@hanson.biz                                   |
| 16       | With copies sent to:  |
| 17       | Legal Department, Attn: General Counsel<br>Lehigh Hanson Inc.                                       |
| 18       | 300 East John Carpenter Freeway<br>Suite 1800   |
| 19       | Irving, Texas 75028<br>Tel: (972) 653-5572  |
| 20       | Fax: (972) 653-6185<br>E-mail: michael.hyer@hanson.com  |
| 21       | Nicole E. Granquist   |
| 22       | Downey Brand LLP<br>621 Capitol Mall, 18th Floor  |
| 23       | Sacramento, CA 95814-4601<br>Tel: 916-444-1000<br>Fax.: 916-444-2100                                |
| 24       | E-mail: ngranquist@downeybrand.com  |
| 25       | Each Party shall promptly notify the other of any change in the above-listed contact information.   |
| 26       | 98. <b>Termination of Decree.</b> This Decree shall remain an enforceable order of the              |
| 27       | Court until Plaintiff agrees, or the Court determines in response to a petition by Defendants, that |
| 28       | (a) Defendants have satisfied in full all requirements of this Decree, (b) Defendants have 30       |

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installed all treatment systems and have demonstrated compliance with all applicable NPDES permit limits for at least twelve (12) consecutive months, (c) Defendants have completed all required creek restoration work, and (d) Defendants have paid any stipulated penalties due under this Decree.

- 99. Negotiated Agreement. This Consent Decree shall be deemed to have been drafted equally by the Parties, and shall not be interpreted for or against any Party on the ground that any such party drafted it.
- 100. Full Settlement. This Consent Decree constitutes a full and final settlement of this matter. The Parties expressly understand and agree that each Party has freely and voluntarily entered into this Consent Decree with and upon advice of counsel.
- Integration Clause. This Consent Decree and the attachments contain all of the 101. final terms and conditions agreed upon by the Parties relating to the matters covered by the Consent Decree, and supersede any and all prior and contemporaneous agreements, negotiations, correspondence, understandings, and communications of the Parties, whether oral or written, respecting the matters covered by this Consent Decree.
- 102. **Modification.** This Consent Decree may be amended or modified only by a writing signed by the Parties or their authorized representatives, and then by order of the Court.
- 103. **Counterparts.** The Consent Decree may be executed in one or more counterparts which, taken together, shall be deemed to constitute one and the same document. An executed copy of this Consent Decree shall be valid as an original.
- Authority. The undersigned representatives of Plaintiff and Defendants are 104. authorized to execute this Consent Decree on behalf of the Party or Parties whom he/she represents.
- Electronic or Facsimile Signatures. Telecopy, pdf, and/or facsimile copies of 105. original signatures shall be deemed to be originally executed.

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United States District Court
For the Northern District of California

### XVI. NOTICE OF DECREE

106. Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 1365(c)(3) and 40 C.F.R. § 135.5, this Decree shall be lodged with the Court and simultaneously presented to the United States for review and comment for a period not to exceed forty-five (45) days.

- 107. After the review period, the Decree may be entered by the Court. If the Decree is not entered by the Court, the Parties shall retain all rights they had in this litigation before the lodging of the Decree.
- 108. The Parties agree to cooperate in good faith to obtain prompt review of this Decree by the United States and the Court. If the United States or the Court comment on the Decree, and as a consequence the Decree is not entered, the Parties agree to discuss such comments and attempt to make such revisions as necessary to obtain entry of the Decree.

#### XVII. FINAL JUDGMENT

109. Upon approval and entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, this Consent Decree shall constitute a final judgment between the Plaintiff and Defendants.

SO ORDERED, THIS DAY OF , 2013.

#### **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE**

| 1  | FOR PLAINTIFF:   |
|----|--|
| 2  | Whoten Dated 14, 2015  Dated                             |
| 3  |  |
| 4  | Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter 3921 E Bayshore Road     |
| 5  | Palo Alto, CA 94303                                      |
| 6  | Approved as to form:                                     |
| 7  |  |
| 8  | REED ZAMS 4/22/13  |
| 9  | Reed Zars Dated Attorney at Law                          |
| 10 | 910 Kearney Street<br>Laramie, Wyoming 82070             |
| 11 | Tel: (307) 745-7979<br>E-mail: rzars@lariat.org          |
| 12 |  |
| 13 | Leone E, Hays April 5, 2013                              |
| 14 | George E. Hays Attorney at Law                           |
| 15 | 236 West Portal Avenue, #110<br>San Francisco, CA 94127  |
| 16 | Tel: (415) 566-5414<br>E-mail: georgehays@mindspring.com |
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# FOR DEFENDANTS: April 22, 2013 Lehigh Hanson, Inc. 12667 Alcosta Blvd., Suite 400 San Ramon, CA 94583 Tel: (925) 244-6500 Email: KSaragusa@lehighcement.com Approved as to form: Nicole E. Granquist Downey Brand LLP 621 Capitol Mall, 18th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814-4601 Tel: 916-444-1000 United States District Court For the Northern District of California E-mail: ngranquist@downeybrand.com

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Consent Decree

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