

Notice of Exemption**Appendix E**

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Fresno

From: (Public Agency): California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
1234 E. Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710

(Address)

Project Title: Recovery of Endangered Mountain Yellow-legged Frogs (MYLF) (Rana sierrae), Sierra National Forest

Project Applicant: CDFW Central Region - R4, Brian Beal, Senior Environmental Scientist

Project Location - Specific:

Collection site UTM E348059, N4124358. Reintroduce site UTM E350678, N4125014.

Project Location - City: Bishop

Project Location - County: Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project involves the capture and transport of Rana sierrae larvae from the Lower Desolation Lake population to the Oakland Zoo over three successive years (2020, 2021, 2022). These larvae are positive for Bd (fungal disease causing amphibian declines worldwide) and will be cleared at the Zoo, raised to adult lifestage and introduced to Marmot Lake in 2021, 2022 and 2023. These are historic sites for Mountain Yellow-legged Frog (MYLF) and this project will result in population expansion and a significant recovery trend for MYLF within their historic range. MYLF are a Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab (SNARL),

Exempt Status: **(check one):** Roland Knapp and Thomas Smith. Cooperative partners-USFS, Sierra NF; USFWS, Reno Office; CDFW Region 4, Fresno Office.

Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 7 (CCR, Title 14, Section 15307)

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Class 7 categorical exemption applies to proposed "actions by regulatory agencies for protection of natural resources" projects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, 21000 et seq.). The proposed project is an activity that falls within the Class 7 categorical exemption because it is a wildlife preservation activity of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife that is limited in scope and no serious or major disturbances to environmental resources are expected. The amphibian species benefited is MYLF, and ESA listed species. This project will result in the re-establishment of a historic population of MYLF and a significant recovery trend within their native range.

Lead Agency

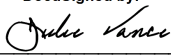
Contact Person: Brian Beal

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 559-250-5780

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature  _____

Date: 10/1/2020

Title: Regional Manager

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▪ Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: Oct 01 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE