

Department of Fish and Wildlife
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

October 13, 2020

**Attachment to Notice of Exemption
Bank Swallow Braden Sand Pit Safe Harbor Agreement for Pacific Gas
& Electric Company (2089-2020-004-01)**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), by and through its Deputy Director, has taken final action to execute the Safe Harbor Agreement between CDFW and Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) on enrolled lands in Shasta County. The project is an agreement that assures the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of bank swallow nesting habitat. CDFW has established a baseline condition and consulted with PG&E on commitments that will lead to a net conservation benefit. The project will not result in impacts that are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects. In adopting this Safe Harbor Agreement, CDFW relied for purposes of CEQA on the Class 7 categorical exemption. The exemption as relevant to the Safe Harbor Agreement is discussed below.

Class 7 Categorical Exemption

CDFW finds the Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) to be exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15307, the "Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources Exemption" (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15307). CDFW has determined that implementation of this SHA is reasonably expected to provide a "net conservation benefit" to bank swallow due to habitat enhancement, which will result in increased availability to nesting habitat. This will be achieved through maintaining and creating additional nesting habitat.