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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

### California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Central Valley Region, Redding Office  
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205  
Redding, CA 96002

**Date:** 8 June 2021

**Project Title:** Clear Creek Gravel Augmentation – Reading Bar Site Project

**Project Location - Specific:** Paige Bar Road  
Assessor's Parcel Number: 041-350-056  
Latitude: 40.48962° and Longitude: -122.4954°

**Project Location - County:** Shasta County

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The Project purpose is to improve habitat conditions in Lower Clear Creek for anadromous salmonid species. The Project will improve fish habitat by placing gravel and other desirable materials into the stream channel with the intent of restoring sediment transport processes, such as coarse bedload transport. The Project will utilize a riffle supplementation style augmentation, which immediately produces salmonid spawning and rearing habitat. Up to 1,500 tons of clean, size-sorted natural river gravel, several boulders, and several pieces of large wood will be placed into the creek channel for the purpose of riffle augmentation.

**Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:**

**Federal Agencies:** The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404, Regional General Permit No. 16.

**State Agency approval for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification:**  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Redding Office.  
WDID No. 5A45CR00602.

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**

Derek Rupert  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
16349 Shasta Dam Boulevard  
Shasta Lake, CA 96019

**Exempt Status:**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region has determined that the Project is categorically exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Article 19, section 15333, Small Habitat Restoration. Class 33 consists of projects not to exceed five acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife provided that: (a) there would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat pursuant to section 15065; (b) there are no hazardous materials at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed; and (c) 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

**Reasons why Project is Exempt:**

This project is Categorical Exempt under CEQA section 15333 because the project's sole purpose is salmonid habitat restoration and is less than 5 acres in size.

**Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Matthew Roberts,  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:**

(530) 223-9538

**State Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist  
Chief Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Redding Branch Office

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:**

(530) 224-2437

**Signature:** Lynn Coster

**Date:** 6/8/2021

**Title:** Senior Environmental Scientist

cc: Derek Rupert, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Shasta Lake  
Matthew Roberts, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding