
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 – Whiskeytown Dam Site Project

Project Location - Specific: Paige Bar Road
Assessor's Parcel Number: 011-180-012
Latitude: 40.59643° and Longitude: -122.53839°

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 into the stream channel with the intent of restoring sediment transport processes, such as coarse bedload transport. Up to 1,500 tons of clean, size-sorted natural river gravel will be added into the streambed indirectly using a talus cone. The gravels within the talus cone are transported downstream with high flows, requiring the placement of more gravel after evaluation events.

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. 5A45CR00603.

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 Categorically 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: 

Date: 6/18/2021

Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

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