
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: 16 July 2021

Project Title: Mill Creek Ward Dam Sediment Routing Project

Project Location - Specific: Assessor's Parcel Number: 078-140-034-000
Latitude: 40.053170° and Longitude: -122.076607°

Project Location - County: Tehama County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project purpose is to improve anadromous fish passage at the Ward Dam Fish Ladder in Mill Creek by addressing gravel deposition problems. Three to five weirs will be installed along both banks of Mill Creek, upstream of Ward Dam, to force higher velocity water and suspended, cobble-sized bedload back into the center of Mill Creek channel during high flow events, which will reduce the potential for gravel and coble deposition in front of the existing headgate and fish ladder.

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, Anadromous Salmonid Fisheries Restoration.

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. 5A52CR00213.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Matt Brown
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
10950 Tyler Road
Red Bluff, CA 96080

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 improved anadromous fish passage and the project 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

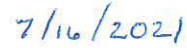
Area Code/Telephone/Extension:

(530) 224-2437

Signature:



Date:



Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

cc: Matt Brown, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Red Bluff
Matthew Roberts, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding