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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:** 9 November 2021

**Project Title:** Town of Paradise Culvert Replacement Project

**Project Location - Specific:** Township 22N, Range 3E, Section 1, 13, & 24  
Paradise, CA  
Latitude: 39.7660° and Longitude: -121.5919°

**Project Location - County:** Butte County

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

The Project purpose is to remove melted high-density polyethylene pipe (HDPE) culverts and damaged corrugated steel culverts that have been extensively damaged by the Camp Fire and replace with new reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) culverts, as well as restore roadway sections above the pipes at 66 locations town-wide. All culvert replacements will be with equivalent sized culverts. Of the 66 culvert replacements, 3 are located within waters of the United States and the remaining 63 are located within artificially-constructed stormwater conveyances.

**Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:**

***Federal Agencies:*** The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404, Nationwide Permit No. 3.

***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. 5A04CR00333.

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

Jessica Erdahl  
Town of Paradise  
5555 Skyway Road  
Paradise, CA 95969

**Exempt Status:**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region has determined that the Project is exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Article 12, section 15269(a), Emergency Projects, which includes, "Projects to maintain, repair, restore, demolish, or replace property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code. This includes projects that will remove, destroy, or significantly alter a historical resource when that resource represents an imminent threat to the public of bodily harm or of damage to adjacent property or when the project has received a determination by the State Office of Historic Preservation pursuant to Section 5028(b) of Public Resources Code."

**Reasons why Project is Exempt:**

This project is exempt under CEQA section 15269 because the project involves repair and replacement of damaged facilities in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed.

**Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Hillary Kraft,  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:**

(530) 223-9536

**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:** 11/9/2021

**Title:** Senior Environmental Scientist

cc: Jessica Erdahl, Town of Paradise, Paradise  
Sarah Holm, Dokken Engineering, Folsom  
Hillary Kraft, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding