

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
North Region - Inland
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001
Contact: Dyana Judnick
Email:
R1LSARedding@wildlife.ca.gov
Phone: (530) 225-2367



Lead Agency

Skyview County Water District
33731 Ponderosa Way
Paynes Creek, CA 96075
Contact: Timothy R. Taylor
Phone: (530) 597-2913

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2022020646

Project Title: Skyview County Water District Water System Improvements (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPMIS-TEH-39203-R1)

Project Location (Tehama): The project is located at Paynes Creek, a tributary to the Sacramento River, in an unincorporated area of Tehama County, California; Latitude 40.34458, Longitude -121.75889; section 29, township 29N, range 02E, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Finley Butte U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Number 013-220-041-000.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPMIS-TEH-39203-R1), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant, Skyview County Water District.

The project would consist of updates to the Skyview County Water District infrastructure including replacement and installation of water distribution lines, installation of new hydrants and blowoff valves, a new diesel generator and pad, a new chlorine injection vault, installation of a new 110,000-gallon steel water tank and demolition of existing water tank. The tank overflow will be equipped with a dechlorination device to limit impacts to water quality. An access stairway will be constructed across Paynes Creek to allow District staff to safely access the well for year-round maintenance. The stairway will be approximately five feet wide and sixty feet long. The southern (lower) stairway footing would be protected from flood flows by installation of riprap. One to two pine trees will be removed for the installation of the access stairway and approximately four

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pine trees will be removed at the new water storage tank location. To operate the well during a power outage, a new transformer and concrete pad would be installed at the well site, and electrical conduit would be installed via open-cut trenching from the well site to the new generator on the Ponderosa Way water tank site. The water main will span the creek attached to the new access stairway structure and then be buried adjacent to the conduit. A trench will be excavated to install piping for water transmission lines and conduit. Trenching will impact two ephemeral streams; work will be conducted when the streams are dry. The trench will be backfilled and recontoured to native conditions. The well location is accessed via a rock ford stream crossing on Paynes Creek; a temporary crossing will be constructed at this location out of spawning gravel, if water is present, for project construction activities. Yearly ford maintenance activities will occur during the summer when the channel is dry to maintain the crossing.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on July 10, 2024, and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the **Negative Declaration** prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures **were** made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Reporting or Monitoring Plan **was** adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations **was not** adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings **were** made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The Negative Declaration prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:
Adam McKannay
 Signature: _____ Date: 7/10/2024
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Adam McKannay, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____