

Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Department of Water Resources
691 N. Laverne Ave.
Fresno, CA 93727

Project Title: Yurok Up-River Water System Interconnection Project (Small Community Drought Relief Program Grant Agreement #4600014765)

Project Location:

The Project is located on the Yurok Reservation along the Klamath River, California in Del Norte County, approximately 24 miles south east of the city of Klamath. The Yurok Reservation includes 55,000 acres of rural foothill and forest landscape.

Project Description:

The California Department of Water Resources has executed a grant agreement (Agreement #4600014765) through the Small Community Drought Relief Program in the amount of \$10,860,054, to the Yurok Tribe.

The Yurok Tribe Upriver water system includes four systems operated by the Yurok Public Utilities Department. Two of the water systems have dwindling water supplies due to the current drought.

The Project is comprised of connecting the Kenek and Kepel water systems by constructing approximately 10 miles of pipelines and 2 booster pump stations to provide water supply reliability and drought resiliency.

Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

The Yurok Tribe

Exempt/Suspend Status:

- ✓ Declared Emergency: (Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to Drought)
Emergency Project: (Public Resources Code §21080[b][4]; California Code of Regulations §15269[c])
Categorical Exemption:
- ✓ Statutory Exemptions:
Public Resources Code §21080[b][4]; California Code of Regulations §15269[c] per Water Code section 13198.2(d)

Reasons Why Project Is Exempt:

Grants and direct expenditures for interim or immediate relief in response to conditions arising from a drought scenario to provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies under Water Code Section 13198.2, are exempt from the requirement of Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) of the Public Resources Code (CEQA Guidelines section 15269).

Contact Person: Kevin Faulkenberry

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Signature: Kevin Faulkenberry **Date:** 10/25/2022 **Title:** Region Office Manager, SCRO