
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
1400 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: 22 November 2022

Project Title:

Paynes Creek Bend Water Users Fish Passage
Restoration Project (Project)

Project Location - Specific:

Section 14 and 15, Township 28 North, Range 3 West,
MDB&M.
Nearest City: Red Bluff
Latitude: 40.280° and Longitude: -122.167°

Project Location - County:

Tehama County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of the Project is to restore fish passage at Bend Water Users' (BWU) diversion facilities and address mortality associated with the unscreened irrigation ditch for the benefit of juvenile and adult Central Valley steelhead, fall- / late fall-run Chinook salmon, and Pacific lamprey, while meeting the operational needs of BWU.

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 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. 5A52CR00223.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Brian Johnson
Trout Unlimited
5950 Doyle Street, Suite 2
Emeryville, CA 94608

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 Projects, which consists of projects not to exceed five acres to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

Reasons why Project is Exempt:

This project is categorically exempt under CEQA section 15333 because the project's sole purpose is fish passage restoration and is less than 5 acres in size.

Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:

Matthew Roberts
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding
(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
(530) 224-2437

Signature: _____

Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

cc: Brian Johnson, Trout Unlimited, Emeryville
Ben Cook, Trout Unlimited, Emeryville
Matthew Roberts, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding