



# San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: SF Bay Regional Water Board  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland CA, 94612

**Project Title:** Eames Ranch Irrigation and Fire Pump Project (Project)

**Project Location - Specific:** (lat: 38.18503, long: -122.648226)

**Project Location - City:** Unincorporated Sonoma County

**Project Location - County:** Sonoma County

**Responsible Agencies:** Sonoma County (Permit Sonoma),  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

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

The Project purpose is to update an existing retention reservoir pond (Pond) irrigation and fire pump system to meet current functional requirements and safety standards. The water supply generated from the Pond irrigates 19 acres (ac) of gardens, orchards, and rangeland, while maintaining two fire water supply connections for emergency use. The current conditions at the Pond require unsafe electrical practices for diesel pump operation, and the pump has reached the end of its useful service life.

The Project consists of; hardwiring a new upland water pump system into the existing electrical grid, replacing the floating pump platform with a floating (pile-less) composite polyethylene and aluminum gangway ramp dock EZ Dock structure, constructing two water supply lines with stands, supports, and water intake heads with strainers above submerged aggregate stone aprons on the Pond floor. All work will be completed within 5 to 6 weeks.

The reconstruction of the pumping system will permanently impact approximately 0.001 ac and 27 linear feet (lf) of the Pond through the installation of the intake supports, intake aprons, and HDPE pipes. The Project will temporarily impact 0.04 ac and 135 lf of the Pond through staging, trench excavation, Pond floor disturbances, and the dewatering of the work site.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project as Lead Agency:** SF Bay Regional Water Board

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** The Eames Institute

**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080b(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080b(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080b(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption (State Type and Section Number): 15302 – Replacement or Reconstruction, Class 2, C.
- Statutory Exemption (State Code Number): \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons why Project is exempt:** The Project replaces existing irrigation and fire pump infrastructure with no additional expansion of use. The Project will minimize impacts on waters of the State to the greatest extent possible and be restored to pre-project conditions after Project completion.

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