

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: County of Tulare c/o Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov and jwillis@tularecountv.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Tulare County Public Works
5961 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000

Project Title: Emergency Road and Bridge Repairs Related to March 2023 Storm Event Damages

Project Location: Various roads and bridges located throughout Tulare County as per Attachment "A"

Project Location County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The County of Tulare (County) experienced a series of rainstorms (atmospheric rivers) beginning in January of 2023, causing significant and widespread flooding and damage to critical transportation infrastructure. The Resource Management Agency (RMA) staff has identified over 225 locations, including three bridges, in need of critical emergency repairs as a result of the March 2023 storm events.

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (PRC Sec. 21080(b)(3); California Code of Regulations, Sections 15269(a) and (c));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption:
- Statutory Exemptions:


Reasons why project is exempt: This activity/project is intended and necessary to protect the health and safety of the public through the construction of replacement bridges and roads (as noted earlier) due to severe damage caused by catastrophic floodwater flows during March 2023. Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 15269, sets forth emergency projects that are exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). California Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency on March 4, March 8, and March 13, 2023, which included Tulare County. President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., declared an emergency for the State of California on March 10, 2023, for the California counties consistent with Governor Newsom's proclamations. Lastly, the Tulare County Board of Supervisors (Board) proclaimed a Local Emergency due to Winter Storms and Flooding March 9, 2023. As noted above, the President, Governor, and Board of Supervisors all declared emergencies due to the severe damage caused by catastrophic flooding. At their meeting of May 16, 2023, the Board approved Resolution No. 2023-0424 The construction of the new replacement bridges and roads fall within the scope of CCR sections 15269 (a) and (c) as they are specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. As such, the activity/project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 California Code of Regulations, section 15269 (Emergency). Therefore, the application of CEQA sections 15269 (a) and (c) are applicable and appropriate for this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Project Planner/Representative: Reed Schenke, RMA Director


Telephone: 559-624-7000

FILED TULARE COUNTY
MAY 23 2024
ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER BY:
DATE FILED AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Signature: 
Gary A. Mills

Date: 5/21/2024

Title: Chief Environmental Planner

Signature: 
Reed Schenke, P.E.

Date: 5/22/24

Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to OPR: _____

Exhibit A

March 2023 Storm Event Damage Locations

Additional Locations from NOE dated October 31, 2023

- Avenue 120 between Road 16 and State Route 43 (L251)
- Avenue 128 between Road 16 and Road 24 (L252)
- Avenue 132 between Road 16 and Road 24 (L254)
- Avenue 112 between Road 164 and Road 184 (L210)
- D243 (Dry Creek Drive) between State Route 216 and M453 (Stage Coach Drive) (L9, L30, L286)
- Road 248 between Avenue 96 and Avenue 102 (L82)
- Road 264 between Avenue 88 and Avenue 96 (L81)
- Avenue 368 between Road 80 and Road 112 (L70)
- Road 144 between Avenue 24 and Avenue 32 (L69)
- Avenue 360 between Road 80 and Road 100 (L63)
- Road 176 (Thompson Road) between Avenue 160 to Avenue 184 (L62)
- Road 272 Bridge over Deer Creek from Avenue 120 to end (South) at Deer Creek River (L53)
- Road 248 between Avenue 108 to Avenue 120 at Deer Creel Rover (L44)
- Road 88 from Avenue 56 to Avenue 72 (L4)
- Road 164 from Avenue 352 to Avenue 360 (L394)
- Mehrten Drive (D246) Bridge over Dry Creek (L375)
- Road 220 at D219 (Culvert) (L374)
- Road 164 Bridge over Cottonwood Creek (L371)
- Road 192 Bridge over Cottonwood Creek (L370)
- Road 258 South of Avenue 220 at Lewis Creek (L369)
- Palomino Drive (M159) culvert east of Cattle Drive (M164) (L356)
- Road 320 North of Avenue 176 at Cambell Creek (L352)
- Sand Creek Drive (D143) at Sand Creek (L348)
- Road 128 between Avenue 464 and Avenue 468 (L347)
- Road 44 between Avenue 272 and Avenue 276 (L346)
- Road 80 South of Avenue 256 at Rockford Ditch (L344)
- Avenue 184 East of Road 152 at North Branch Tule River (L343)
- Road 112 North of Avenue 176 at North Branch Tule River (L342)
- Road 136 South of Avenue 72 at Deer Creek (L337)
- Mountain Road 33 South of Avenue 272 at White River (L333)
- Road 208 South of Avenue 40 at White River (L331)
- Road 192 South of Avenue 32 at White River (L330)
- Road 144 South of Avenue 40 at White River (L327)
- Oakridge Drive (M341) East of Grouse Drive (M345)- Three Rivers (L325)
- Road 142 at North Branch Tule River (L165)
- Road 240 at Avenue 224 (L314)

- Avenue 438 between Road 148 and Road 154 (L308)
- Kennedy Meadow (M152B) between Beach Meadow Road (M152B) and Mile Post 25.8 (L306)
- Road 124 between Avenue 448 and Avenue 460 (L300)
- Road 128 between Avenue 468 and Avenue 472 (L299)
- Road 124 between Avenue 464 and Avenue 472(L298)
- Avenue 472 between road 120 and Road 128(L297)
- Road 220 between Avenue 360 and Avenue 348 (L295)
- Road 248 between Avenue 196 and Avenue 204 (L293)
- Avenue 204 between Road 252 and Road 256 (L292)
- Road 224 at Avenue 128 (L291)
- Road 184 between Avenue 44 and avenue 48 (L289)
- Avenue 108 between State Route 43 to Road 49 (L288)
- Camp Nelson Community Roads (L296, L365)
- Avenue 340 between State Route 216 and Road 222 (L285)
- Road 248 between Avenue 326 and Avenue 324 (L284)
- Road 212 between Avenue 216 and Avenue 247 (L283)
- Road 212 between Avenue 304 and Avenue 314 (L282)
- Road 136 between Avenue 192 and Avenue 180 (L280)
- Avenue 160 between Road 64 and Road 76 (L277)
- Road 48 between Avenue 384 and Avenue 392 (L272)
- Rio Vista Drive (M189B) between Avenue 188 (end) and M190A (L271)
- Road 144 between Avenue 64 and Avenue 72 (L268)
- Capinero Drive (M10) between Old Stage Road (M3) and Avenue 15 (end) (L263)
- Road 108 between Avenue 368 and Avenue 384 (L26)
- Road 24 between Avenue 112 and Avenue 136 (L253)
- Road 168 at St. John's River Bridge (L247)
- Avenue 92 between Road 256 and Road 264 (L245)
- Avenue 168 between Road 32 and Road 48 (L233)
- Deer Creek Drive (M166C) from Coyote Drive (M168D) to Silver Fox Lane (M168E) (L231)
- Campbell Creek Drive (M194G) between Road 320and M195G (Meadowlark) (L227)
- Avenue 175 between Road 292 and Road 296 (L226)
- Road 84(Enterprise Street) between Avenue 256 (Oakdale Avenue) and Avenue 260 (L222)
- Lort Drive (D184B) between Road 196 and Avenue 312 (L22)
- Avenue 140 between Road 284 and Road 290 (end) (L215)
- Manter Meadow Road (M43) between Hot Springs Road (M568) and Rocking K Drive (M45) (L200)
- Flying T Drive (M47) between Rocking K Drive(M45) to end (L200)
- Oakwood Court (M46) east of Hot Spring Road (M56) at Capinero Creek (L20)
- I Street (D112 between Road 112 and Avenue 184 (L199)
- Road 32/D32A between State Route 201 to Avenue 408 (L188)
- Avenue 176 between Road 192 and Road 200 (L187)

- Road 142 between Avenue 186 and Avenue 190 (L165)
- Road 156 between Avenue 32 and Avenue 40 (L158)
- Road 256 between Avenue 196 and Avenue 212 (L15)
- Avenue 220 between Road 252 and Road 254 (L148)
- Avenue 176 between Road 128 and Road 112 (L147)
- Road 112 between Avenue 160 and Avenue 184 (L146)
- Road 244 between Avenue 220 and Avenue 224 (L144)
- I St (D112) at North Branch Tule River Bridge (L143)
- Harris Drive (M231) between Balch Park Road (M296) and Avenue 240 (L137)
- Road 64 between Avenue 160 and Avenue 184 (L133)
- Road 224 between Avenue 304 and Avenue 306 (L128)
- Avenue 176 at Road 276 (Box Culvert) (L124)
- Avenue 84 between State Route 43 and Road 84 (L121)
- Road 184 between Avenue 24 and Avenue 32 (L116)
- Road 224 at Deer Creek River (L109)
- Road 172 between Avenue 352 and Avenue 364 (L107)
- Road 152 between Avenue 24 and Avenue 40 (L103)
- Poso Park Drive (M11) between Old Stage Road (M3) and Camp Road (M14) (L389)
- Stewart Road (M240) between Yokohl Valley Drive (M296) and Avenue 242 (L376)
- Bridge Drive (M189A) between Rio Vista Drive (M189A) and State Route 190 at Tule River (L351)
- Road 144 between Avenue 412 and Avenue 416 (L7)
- Mountain Road 99 between Kern County Line and Mountain Road 50 (L16)
- Old Stage Road (M109) north of Avenue 108 at Deer Creek River (L34)
- Hot Springs Road (M56) between Mile Post 15.5 and Mile Post 16.5 (L49, 386)
- Avenue 328 between Road 108 and Road 92 (L64)
- Road 108 between Avenue 320 and Avenue 328 (L68)
- Road 192 between Avenue 96 and Avenue 112 (L90)
- Road 168 between Avenue 416 and Mile Post 4.0 (L111)
- Road 124 between Railroad Drive (D128B) and Avenue 416 (L115)
- Mountain Road 50 between Mile Post 1.5 and Mile Post 19.0 (L119, L176, L177, L179, L278)
- Old Stage Road (M109) south of Hot Springs Road (M56) over White River (L122)
- Mountain Road 1 west of Jack Ranch Rd at Mile Post 1.83 (L127)
- Road 192 north of Drive 192 at Deer Creek River (L134)
- Road 128 between Avenue 184 and Avenue 192 (L153)
- Road 160 between Avenue 32 and Avenue 40 (L157)
- Road 192 between Avenue 168 and Avenue 180 (L164)
- Pratt Street (R96) north of Avenue 160 at Tule River (L181)
- Mountain Road 296 between Mile Post 4.0 and Mile Post 21.0 (L186, L258, L259)
- Avenue 184 between Road 96 and State Route 99 (L201)
- Avenue 56 between State Route 43 (BSNF R/R) and Private Railway Tracks (west) (L224)
- Avenue 144 between State Route 43 and Road 32 (L255)

- Mountain Road 56 between Mile Post 7.0 and Mile Post 20.0 (L269)
- Mountain Road 107 at Mile Post 5.5 (L274)
- Richgrove Drive (D205) between Avenue 32 and Avenue 56 (L54)
- Orange Belt Drive (D238) at Deer Creek (L335)
- Road 140 at Avenue 260 (Deep Creek) (L 345)
- Avenue 328 west of Road 108 (Culvert) (L350)
- Road 256 between Avenue 188 and Avenue 196 (L355)
- Avenue 416 west of Road 40 at Kings River (L358)
- Mountain Road 99 at Gold Ledge Creek (L380)
- Mountain Road 56 at Mile Post 14.4 (Culvert) (L387)
- Road 128 between Avenue 0 and Avenue 56 (L395)
- Kennedy Meadows (M152B) between Mile Post 10.5 to Mile Post 25.5 (L396)
- Avenue 24 between Road 128 and Drive 40 (L400)
- Mountain Road 107 between State Route 190 and Mountain Road 50 (L401)