
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: 6 June 2024

Project Title:

Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), Valley Subdivision
Mile Post 241.13 Bridge Replacement Project (Project)

Project Location - Specific:

Nearest City: Cottonwood, CA
Sections 12, Township 29 North, Range 04 West, MDB&M.
Latitude: 40.388460° and Longitude: -122.268435°

Project Location - County:

Shasta County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

UPRR proposes to replace the existing two-span, 31-foot-long, timber stringer trestle ballast deck bridge with four 60-inch-diameter, 50-foot-long, corrugated metal pipe culverts. Construction will occur within an existing UPRR right-of-way (ROW) extending 100 feet to both sides of the track alignment (200 feet total ROW width). The Project limits include the existing bridge structure, access routes, and staging areas on all four corners of the bridge. The bridge spans an unnamed intermittent stream, designated as Water-1. Water-1 flows to Cottonwood Creek, a tributary to the Sacramento River. One palustrine emergent/scrub-shrub wetland (Wetland-1) is also present within the Project limits. No concrete will be poured. The length of the Project as measured along the railroad tracks is approximately 1,040 linear feet.

Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:

Federal Agencies: The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404, Nationwide Permit 14, Linear Transportation Projects.

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. 5A45CR00660.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Steve Cheney
Union Pacific Railroad
1400 Douglas Street, Stop 0910
Omaha, NE 68179

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 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

Reasons why Project is Exempt:

This project is categorically exempt under CEQA section 15302 because the project involves replacement of an existing structure with a new structure that will be located in the same footprint and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:

Shannon Morgan
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
(916) 326-9130

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: Steve Cheney, Union Pacific Railroad, Omaha, NE
Shannon Morgan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Janet Hill, Arcadis U.S., Inc., Highlands Ranch, CO