



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: 16 July 2024

Project Title:

Sacramento NWR Entrance Road and Parking Project
(Project)

Project Location - Specific:

Section 10, Township 18 North, Range 03 West, MDB&M.
Nearest City: Maxwell, CA
Latitude: 39.4313° and Longitude: -121.1845°

Project Location - County:

Glenn County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The overall project includes rehabilitation of the Entrance Road and Auto Tour Route and minor improvements to three parking lots. The two roads will be repaved at a narrower width to stay on the existing road bench and avoid impacts to adjacent wetlands. A 48-inch diameter culvert (ID-2) along the Entrance Road will be replaced with a 48-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe with riprap at the outlet, a second culvert (ID-1) will be abandoned in place. The abandoned culvert is approximately 18-inches in diameter and will be removed from the north of Entrance Road and under Entrance Road. The culvert will be plugged south of the road and will remain in place. The visitor center parking lot will be modified to improve drainage and reduce flooding. The existing emergent wetland (EW-2) will be filled; removal of the wetland will benefit federally protected species because it currently attracts them into the path of vehicles as they cross a road and the visitor center parking lot.

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 No. 14.

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. 5A11CR00055.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Curtis Scott
Federal Highway Administration
12300 W. Dakota Avenue
Lakewood, CO 80228

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 15301, Existing Facilities. Class I consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, or minor alterations of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, of topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

In addition, the Project is categorically exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Article 19, section 1530, Minor Alterations to Land. Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes.

Reasons why Project is Exempt:

This project is Categorically Exempt under CEQA section 15301 because the project involves minor repair of existing facilities with no expansion of use.

This project is Categorically Exempt under CEQA section 15304 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:

Gabriel Leggieri
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Gabriel.J.Leggieri@usace.army.mil
(530) 557-5120

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

(for) Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

cc: Curtis Scott, Federal Highway Administration, Lakewood, CO
Gabriel Leggieri, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento
Greg Badon, Federal Highway Administration, Lakewood, CO