
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:

UPRR Canyon Subdivision Mile Post 260.35 Bridge Replacement Project (Project)

Project Location - Specific:

Section 24, Township 25 North, Range 06 East, MDB&M.
Nearest City: Belden, CA
Latitude: 40.00517° and Longitude: -121.24997°

Project Location - County:

Plumas County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of the proposed project is to continue and improve freight and passenger rail service in the region by replacing the existing structure that has outlived its useful life. The project will replace Bridge 260.35 in the Canyon Subdivision, consisting of two parallel 161-foot-long, 48-inch-diameter corrugated metal pipe (CMP) culverts. The existing culverts will be replaced with two 60-inch-diameter culverts, horizontally auger bored (i.e., jack and bored) through the existing railroad embankment approximately 14 feet east of the existing culvert.

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.

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. 5A32CR00244.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Stephen Cheney
Union Pacific Railroad Company
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 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.

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

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

cc: Stephen Cheney, Union Pacific Railroad Company, Omaha, NE
Shannon Morgan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Michael Clary, Jacobs, Sacramento