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## 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:** 23 July 2024

**Project Title:**

UPRR Canyon Subdivision Mile Post 255.26 Culvert  
Replacement Project (Project)

**Project Location - Specific:**

Section 02, Township 24 North, Range 06 East, MDB&M.  
Nearest City: Rodgers Flat, CA  
Latitude: 39.958027° and Longitude: -121.281064°

**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. Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) proposes to replace the existing 54-foot-long, 48-inch-diameter, corrugated metal pipe culvert with a 60-inch-diameter, 60-foot-long, smooth steel pipe culvert. Proposed activities within the stream channel include the placement of permanent fill material for the riprap aprons, temporary excavation for the bore pit, and temporary workspace. The new culvert structure will be installed using jack and bore methods and will be located approximately 12 feet west 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. 5A32CR00245.

**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

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(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  
Jennifer McBride, Arcadis U.S., Inc., Colorado