

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: _____

From: (Public Agency): Calif. Dept. of Water Resources
Northern Region Office
2440 Main Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080

(Address)

Project Title: Statewide Monitoring Network Modernization - Lake Lois Station

Project Applicant: California Department of Water Resources

Project Location - Specific:

Located approximately 0.3 mile northwest of Lois Lake within the Desolation Wilderness Area of the Eldorado National Forest. Located in the SW quadrant of Section 22, Township 12N, Range 16E (38.921036, -120.204445).

Project Location - City: Community of Strawberry Project Location - County: El Dorado

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

DWR proposes to replace a failed 25G Rohn tower at the Lake Lois weather station with a galvanized hinged fold tilt pole anchored to an above ground ballast tray (8.5'x8.5'x16"), which would be transported by helicopter. Soil probes would also be installed within the vicinity of the tower by excavating a 3'x3'x3' pit and a shallow conduit trench from the tower to the soil probes. Data collected is part of the Statewide Monitoring Network used for agency decision-making and made publicly available through the California Data Exchange Center website.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Water Resources

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Sect. 15301, 15304, and 15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The failed tower is being replaced and upgraded to meet current safety and design standards, while outdated data collection equipment is being upgraded to collect accurate information used as part of Statewide Monitoring Network. These activities qualify for coverage under Sect. 15301. Existing Facilities, 15304. Minor Alterations of Land, and 15306. Information Collection. The proposed replacement and modernization of this weather station has been designed to minimize and avoid potential impacts to environmental resources, scenic resources, cultural resources, and special status species. The project will not result in any significant impact to the environment.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Brian Humphrey Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-317-8623

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Brian Humphrey Date: 8/30/2024 Title: Sr. Environmental Scientist

▪ Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____