

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

P.O. BOX 942836  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001  
(916) 653-5791



September 25, 2024

Mr. Michael Hagman, Executive Director  
East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
240 West Lindmore Street  
Lindsay, California 93247

Sentinel Butte Mutual Water Company (SBMWC) Flood Capture Basin Project  
SCH# 2024090379  
Tulare County

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Dear Mr. Hagman:

The Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) has reviewed the Mitigate Negative Declaration for the SBMWC Flood Capture Basin Project, submitted by East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency), which describes the construction of a flood capture basin to provide flood water storage for the City of Woodlake.

As defined in sections 6002 and 6003, Division 3, of the California Water Code, dams 25 feet or higher with a storage capacity of more than 15 acre-feet, and dams higher than 6 feet with a storage capacity of 50 acre-feet or more are subject to State jurisdiction. The dam height is the vertical distance measured from the maximum possible water storage level to the downstream toe of the barrier.

Insufficient information is provided in the project description to make an accurate jurisdictional determination with regards to the proposed construction work. The Agency needs to submit design drawings for the proposed storage reservoir so that DSOD can make a jurisdictional determination.

If the proposed work is subject to State jurisdiction, an alteration application, together with plans, specifications, and the appropriate filing fee must be filed with DSOD for this project. All dam safety related issues must be resolved prior to approval of the application, and the work must be performed under the direction of a Civil Engineer registered in California. Erik Malvick, our Design Engineering Branch Manager, is responsible for the application process and can be reached at (916) 820-7820.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Area Engineer William Vogler at (916) 565-7828 or me at (916) 565-7827.

Sincerely,

*Cameron Lancaster*  
for Brandon Cruz

Brandon Cruz, P.E., Regional Engineer  
Southern Region  
Field Engineering Branch  
Division of Safety of Dams

cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
[state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov](mailto:state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov)