

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Reclamation District 2092
1720 G Street, Modesto, CA 95358

County Clerk

County of: Stanislaus

(Address)

Project Title: El Puente Floodplain Reconnection Project

Project Applicant: River Partners

Project Location - Specific:

37.6014977, -121.134926; approx 2725 Shiloh Road, Modesto CA 95358

Project Location - City: Unincorporated

Project Location - County: Stanislaus

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

River Partners will restore floodplain habitat along the south bank of the Tuolumne River to protect, enhance and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife and the habitat upon which they depend. The project will restore habitat for California native fish and wildlife by converting 16 acres of farmed almond orchard into native riparian forest habitat. Migrant and resident birds and many other common and imperiled wildlife species will benefit from the project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Reclamation District 2092

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: River Partners

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: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: PRC Section 21080.56 subdivisions (a) – (e) inclusive

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exclusively to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife and the habitat upon which they depend; or is exclusively to restore or provide habitat for native fish and wildlife; the project may have public benefits incidental to the fundamental purpose; the project will result in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery; project activities are solely related to habitat restoration.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Julie Rentner Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 209-639-2012

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? X Yes No

Signature:  Date: 10/10/2024 Title: President

X Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant