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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:** 25 October 2024

**Project Title:**

Redding Riffle Spawning Habitat Project (Project)

**Project Location - Specific:**

Latitude: 40.591403° and Longitude: -122.381190°

**Project Location - County:**

Shasta County

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance adult spawning and juvenile rearing habitat and eliminate redd dewatering and associated mortality for state and/or federally listed salmonids. Due to dam impeding the natural flow of sediment and leading to a scarcity of appropriately-sized spawning gravel in downstream river reaches, Redding Riffle experiences gravel scarcity. High stream flows from dam releases mobilize sediment from the site, but in its current form, the site does not retain sediment added from upstream gravel injections.

**Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:**

**Federal Agencies:** The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404, Regional General Permit 16, Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Activities.

**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. 5A45CR00665.

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**

John Hannon  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
801 I Street, Suite 140  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**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 15333, Small Habitat Restoration Projects, which consists of projects not to exceed five acres to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

**Reasons why Project is Exempt:**

This project is Categorically Exempt under CEQA section 15333 because the Project involves enhancement of habitat for fish and is less than five acres in size.

**Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Kyler Walsh  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District  
[Kyler.J.Walsh@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kyler.J.Walsh@usace.army.mil)

**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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Lynn Coster  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Redding

cc: John Hannon, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Sacramento  
Kyler Walsh, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District  
Stacey Alexander, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Redding  
Jeff Souza, Tehama Environmental Solutions, Inc., Red Bluff