

NOTICE OF CEQA EXEMPTION

To: Lassen County Clerk
220 South Lassen Street
Susanville, CA 96130

From: Honey Lake Valley RCD
1516 Main Street
Susanville, CA 96130
530-260-0067

Date: November 21, 2024

Project Title:

Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District Johnstonville Dam Rehabilitation Project

Project Location:

Johnstonville, Lassen County, California (CA)

Project Description:

The Johnstonville Dam Rehabilitation Project area is located approximately 0.5 miles northwest of Johnstonville along the Susan River (NE ¼, Section 11, T.29N, and R.12E. MDMB). The Project is focused on improving the Johnstonville Dam structure to facilitate safer and more efficient maintenance. The structure is currently in poor condition based on the definitions used by the National Inventory of Dams which the State of California advocates. The concrete abutments are deteriorating and piping has occurred within the structure. The operators using the flood control structure manually remove flashboards to release flow downstream which is a safety hazard during high flow storm events. The proposed design will include the following improvements: replacement of wooden flashboards and checkboards with five tilting weir gates and supportive concrete walls. To perform work in the river channel the project area will first be dewatered prior to construction with the use of a temporary coffer dam or approved alternate. Water from the Susan River will be diverted to the nearby AB Canal (Lake Leavitt Inlet Canal). Additionally, a sheet pile wall will be installed upstream of the dam and used to mitigate seepage. Construction is expected to occur when the flows are low in the Susan River between the months of July to December. This project aims to provide a design that allows for a safe and efficient way to control flows at the Dam and to improve the structural stability of the structure and prolong its functionality for Lassen Irrigation Company (LIC).

Exempt Status (Guidelines Section and Class): Categorical Exemption:

15301, which exempts operation and repair of existing facilities.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

This review for dam rehabilitation activities concludes that project implementation as designed would have less than significant impact in each resource area. Class 1 exemption (CCR Section 15301) covers the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District (RCD) has determined that

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the objective of the project and the implementation activities as designed for this project are continuing the operation and repair of existing facilities and therefore fit within the CCR Section 15301 exemption. Additional environmental analysis was conducted by Environmental Specialists regarding proposed project effects on rare, threatened and endangered plants; threatened, endangered and special status wildlife species; and cultural resources. The Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District (HLVRCD) has reviewed these reports and determined that the project's implementation will result in multiple benefits. There will be no significant adverse impacts on endangered, rare, or threatened species or their habitats. There are no hazardous materials at or around the project site. The project will avoid all archeological resource sites. The project will not result in cumulatively significant impacts. The Project will have no significant adverse effect on the environment.

Public Agencies that will be involved with the project:

Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District
City of Susanville
Lassen Irrigation Company

Lead Agency Contact Person:

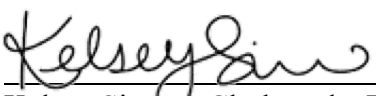
Kelsey Siemer, District Manager
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District
530-260-0067

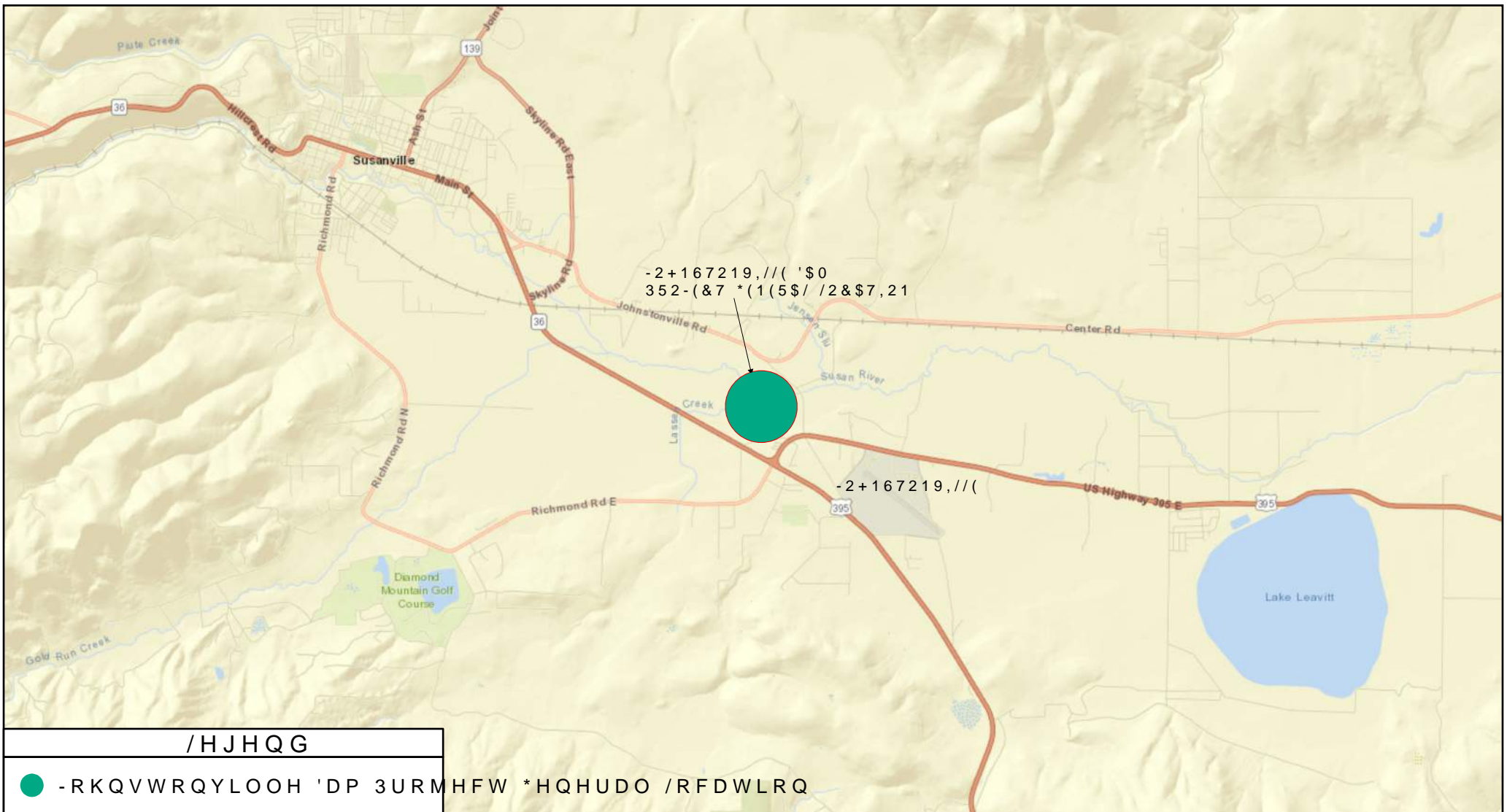
Signature:  _____ Date: 11/21/2024
Jesse Claypool, Chairman
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District

ATTEST:

I, Kelsey Siemer, Clerk to the Board of Directors, Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District, do hereby certify that the Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District approved this Notice of Exemption on the 21st day of November, 2024 by the following vote:

Ayes:	<u>3</u>	Abstentions:	<u>0</u>
Noes:	<u>0</u>	Absent:	<u>2</u>


Kelsey Siemer, Clerk to the Board of Directors
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District



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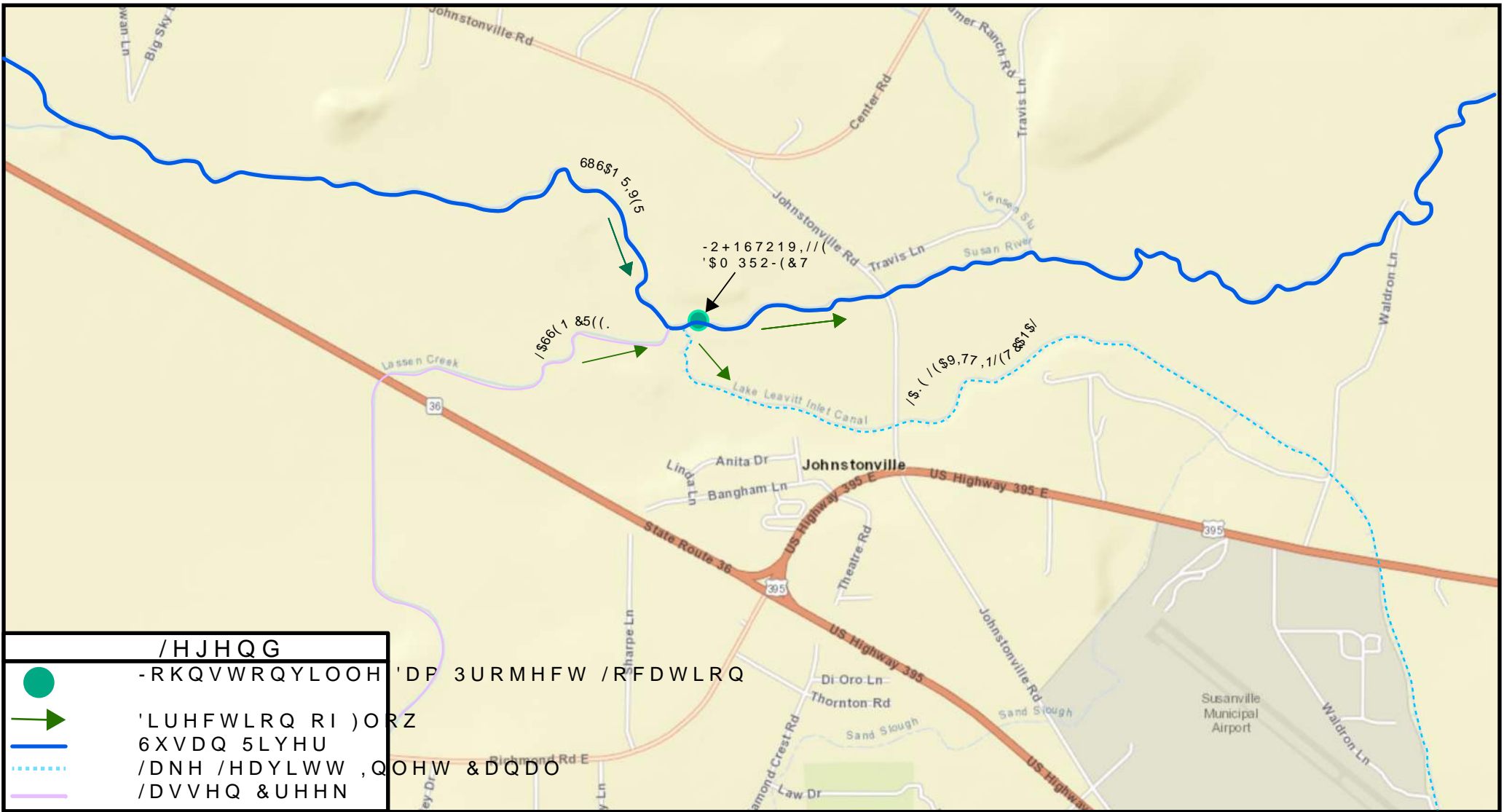
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


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