

2019100347

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): CA Dept of Water Resources
2440 Main Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080

(Address)

Project Title: Cherokee Canal Bubbler Installation Project

Project Applicant: California Department of Water Resources

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located on the west bank of Cherokee Canal approximately 0.7 mile downstream of Highway 99 and 1.1 miles north of Nelson Road in Butte County. (Latitude: 39°35'51.51"N, Longitude: 121°42'8.40"W)

Project Location - City: Nelson

Project Location - County: Butte

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

DWR is proposing to install a bubbler gage to measure water surface elevation in Cherokee Canal downstream of the State Highway bridge crossing. A National Electrical Manufacturers Assoc. (NEMA) box will be installed on the bank, while a galvanized pipe will be installed from the NEMA box to the edge of the canal.

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: 15306. Information Collection
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:


The installation of the bubbler gage will be used to measure surface elevation in Cherokee Canal. No heavy equipment will be used and ground disturbance will be minimal. Proposed activities are not anticipated to impact any environmental resources, including scenic resources, cultural resources or special status plants or wildlife species. The project will not result in any significant impact to the environment.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Brian Humphrey Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 529-7307

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:  Date: 10/17/19 Title: Environmental Scientist

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☒ Signed by Applicant

OCT 17 2019

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: _____

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

NORTHERN REGION OFFICE
2440 MAIN STREET
RED BLUFF, CA 96080-2356



Governor's Office of Planning & Research

October 17, 2019

OCT 17 2019

State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Post Office Box 3044
Sacramento, California 95812-3044
E-mail: State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**Subject: CEQA Notice of Exemption – Cherokee Canal Bubbler Installation**

The purpose of this letter is to submit the enclosed California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption form (Appendix E) to install a bubbler type stream gage on Cherokee Canal, located approximately 4.7 miles northeast of the town of Nelson in Butte County. The bubbler type stream gage will be installed on the west bank of Cherokee Canal, approximately 0.7 mile downstream of the Highway 99 bridge crossing and 1.1 miles upstream of the Nelson Road bridge crossing. Cherokee Canal was originally constructed to protect agricultural land from mining debris, but now serves primarily as an irrigation drainage canal. The bubbler gage will be installed in the proximity of where Dry Creek becomes Cherokee Canal, which is located upstream of the confluence with Cottonwood Creek. Cherokee Canal flows into Butte Creek and eventually to the Sacramento River.

DWR is proposing to install a bubbler gage connected to a National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) box on the west bank of Cherokee Canal, which will be used to measure the water surface elevation of Cherokee Canal downstream of State Highway 99. The NEMA box will be attached to two two-inch diameter galvanized pipes that will be driven into the ground on the streambank. A two-inch diameter galvanized pipe will be placed on or just beneath the ground from the NEMA box to the edge of Cottonwood Creek. The pipe will be anchored at the edge of the stream bank with a one-inch steel stake and bracket, and the end of the pipe will be submerged underneath the water surface. All work will take place with hand tools. No heavy equipment will be used as part of the proposed project.

The proposed bubbler gage installation is for information gathering purposes and falls under Categorical Exemption described in CEQA Guidelines §15306 for Information Collection (Class 6). Proposed activities will take place within a previously disturbed area and are not anticipated to result in any significant impact to the environment.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (530) 529-7307.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Humphrey'.

Brian Humphrey, Environmental Scientist
Environmental Services Section

Enclosure