

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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



February 3, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

FEB 03 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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

**Subject: CEQA Notice of Exemption – Sunny Hill (NF Cottonwood Crk.)
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 North Fork (NF) Cottonwood Creek, located approximately 17 miles southwest of Redding and 4.5 miles west of the town of Ono in Shasta County. The bubbler type stream gage will be installed on the east bank of NF Cottonwood Creek, approximately 2.1 miles downstream of Rainbow Lake (Misselbeck Dam), which will be accessed via Sunny Hill Road. NF Cottonwood Creek is a tributary to Cottonwood Creek, which eventually flows into the Sacramento River at approximately River Mile 273.5.

The Department of Water Resources is proposing to install a bubbler gage connected to a National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) box on the east bank of NF Cottonwood Creek, which will be used to measure the water surface elevation of NF Cottonwood Creek downstream of Rainbow Lake. The NEMA box will be attached to two two-inch diameter galvanized pipes that will be driven into the ground on top of the streambank. A two-inch diameter galvanized pipe will be installed on the ground surface from the NEMA box to the creek. Brackets will be used to anchor the pipe to the bedrock along the streambank, while 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 activities.

The proposed bubbler installation is for information gathering purposes and falls under Categorical Exemption described in CEQA Guidelines §15306 for Information Collection (Class 6). The proposed project is not anticipated to impact any environmental resources, including scenic resources, cultural resources, hazardous waste sites, sensitive habitats, and special status species. Overall, proposed activities 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". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and a long, sweeping underline.

Brian Humphrey, Environmental Scientist
Environmental Services Section

Enclosure

2020020040

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): CA Dept of Water Resources
2440 Main Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080

County Clerk
County of:

(Address)

Project Title: Sunny Hill (NF Cottonwood Creek) Bubbler Installation Project

Project Applicant: California Department of Water Resources

Project Location - Specific:
The project is located on NF Cottonwood Creek., 2.1 miles downstream of Rainbow Lake, approximately 4.5 miles west of the town of Ono in Shasta County. (Latitude: 40°28'29.91"N, Longitude: 122°42'19.13"W)

Project Location - City: Ono Project Location - County: Shasta

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
DWR is proposing to install a bubbler gage to measure water surface elevation in North Fork Cottonwood Creek downstream of Rainbow Lake. 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 creek with no heavy equipment.

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));
[X] 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 water surface elevation in North Fork Cottonwood Creek. 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? [X] Yes [] No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 2/3/2020 Title: Environmental Scientist

[X] Signed by Lead Agency [X] Signed by Applicant

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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: FEB 03 2020

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