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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:** 6 October 2022

**Project Title:**

Scott Hinds Staircase Project (Project)

**Project Location - Specific:**

Address: 7541 Highway 147, Lake Almanor  
Section 21, Township 28 North, Range 8 East, MDB&M.  
Nearest City: Lake Almanor  
Latitude: 40.267508° and Longitude: -121.089559°

**Project Location - County:**

Plumas County

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

The purpose of the project is to install a stairway from the property bank of a private residence to the shoreline of Lake Almanor. The project includes the installation of six concrete piers and a prefabricated 4-foot-wide by 40-foot-long aluminum staircase with an upper concrete pad. No heavy equipment will be used for the project. The stairway and materials will be brought to the site by boat, and the project will commence when the water level is low and the project site is dry.

**Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:**

**Federal Agencies:** The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404, Nationwide Permit No. 18 (Non-Reporting).

**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. 5A32CR00232.

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

Scott Hinds  
15679 Norton Road  
Healdsburg, CA 95448

**Exempt Status:**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region has determined that the Project is exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Article 19, section 15304, Minor Alterations to Land. Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes.

**Reasons why Project is Exempt:**

This project is Categorically Exempt under CEQA section 15304 because the project involves minor alterations to land, water, and vegetation with no removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees.

**Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Hillary Kraft  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding  
(530) 223-9536

**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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** Senior Environmental Scientist

cc: Scott Hinds, Healdsburg  
Hillary Kraft, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding  
Rob Schmidt, NST Engineering, Inc., Susanville