

## Notice of Exemption

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**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
[CEQA Submit](#)

For U.S. Mail:  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Inland Deserts Region  
3602 Inland empire Boulevard,  
Suite C-220  
Ontario, CA 91764



**Project Title: Groundwater Monitoring Well Installation for Hot Creek Hatchery**

**Project Location:** This project is located five miles east of the City of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County. Access is gained via Hot Creek Hatchery Road, traveling north from U.S. Highway 395.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Hot Creek Hatchery is located on Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and Inyo National Forest owned property. As part of the Hatchery's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit requirements, CDFW routinely collects water quality samples from the springs and discharge effluent to ensure compliance with the permit conditions. CDFW has been required by the RWQCB to develop a Groundwater Monitoring Program which includes the installation of monitoring wells and the collection of water quality samples from these observation points. The intent of the Groundwater Monitoring Program will be to establish baseline groundwater level and water quality parameters in the shallow aquifer system near the hatchery and to help identify any potential impacts associated with the percolation ponds and/or other point sources upgradient of the hatchery. This project will include the installation of four groundwater monitoring wells with 2-inch casing, estimated to be required no deeper than 100 feet below ground surface.

**Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

**Exempt Status:**

Statutory Exemption.

Categorical Exemption. Class 4 (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, §15304) and Class 6 (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, §15304)

**Reasons why project is exempt:** *Class 4, §15304*, Minor Alterations to Land - the Project will result in minimal impacts to the condition of the land and will potentially result in the improvement of fish and wildlife habitat through improved water quality. *Class 6 §15333*, Information Collection – the project area will result in basic data collection activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource and will assist in determination of point source of increased nitrogen levels in water springs supplying Hot Creek.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Russell Black 951-852-6386

*Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Black, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_