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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: ☒ Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ County Clerk
County of Sonoma
585 Fiscal Drive, Room 103
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

☒ County Clerk
County of Mendocino
501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020
Ukiah, CA 95482

FROM: Sonoma County Water Agency
404 Aviation Boulevard
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Project Title: Russian River Watershed Water Supply Resiliency Project: Potter Valley Water Supply Reliability Study

Project Location- Specific: 10510 Eastside Potter Valley Road and 13500 North Busch Road, Potter Valley, Mendocino County, CA (Figure 1).

Project Location – City: Unincorporated **Project Location – County:** Mendocino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Potter Valley Water Supply Reliability Study (Project) will develop a groundwater monitoring network to establish baseline groundwater levels and determine the sustainable yield of the Potter Valley Basin. Groundwater investigations, including the installation of monitoring wells to evaluate long-term groundwater level trends and groundwater/surface-water interactions, will address uncertainties in historical and current Potter Valley water budget estimates and help identify water-supply alternatives to augment future water budgets.

Five monitoring wells will be installed within the Potter Valley Groundwater Basin at depths ranging from approximately 50 to 80 feet and will be constructed within 10-inch diameter boreholes. The well casings will be four inches in diameter with an eight inch diameter protective steel casing at the surface. The monitoring wells will provide groundwater information to support and implement long-term sustainable groundwater planning and management, and inform projects to address sustainable groundwater management goals.

The Project will also contribute to the development of long-term strategies to provide water supply resiliency to the Russian River in the face of exceptional drought, continuing effects of climate change, and potential future changes in the magnitude and timing of Potter Valley Project water transfers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sonoma County Water Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sonoma County Water Agency

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: CEQA Guidelines 15306: Information Collection
☐ Statutory Exemptions. State Code number:

Reasons why project is exempt: The installation of monitoring wells will not result in any change in existing environmental conditions. The project consists of data collection, research, and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental, historical, or scenic resource. There are no cumulative effects from the project or unusual circumstances that would lead to a significant effect on the environment. The project is part of a study that may result in a future project, which has not yet been approved, funded, or adopted.

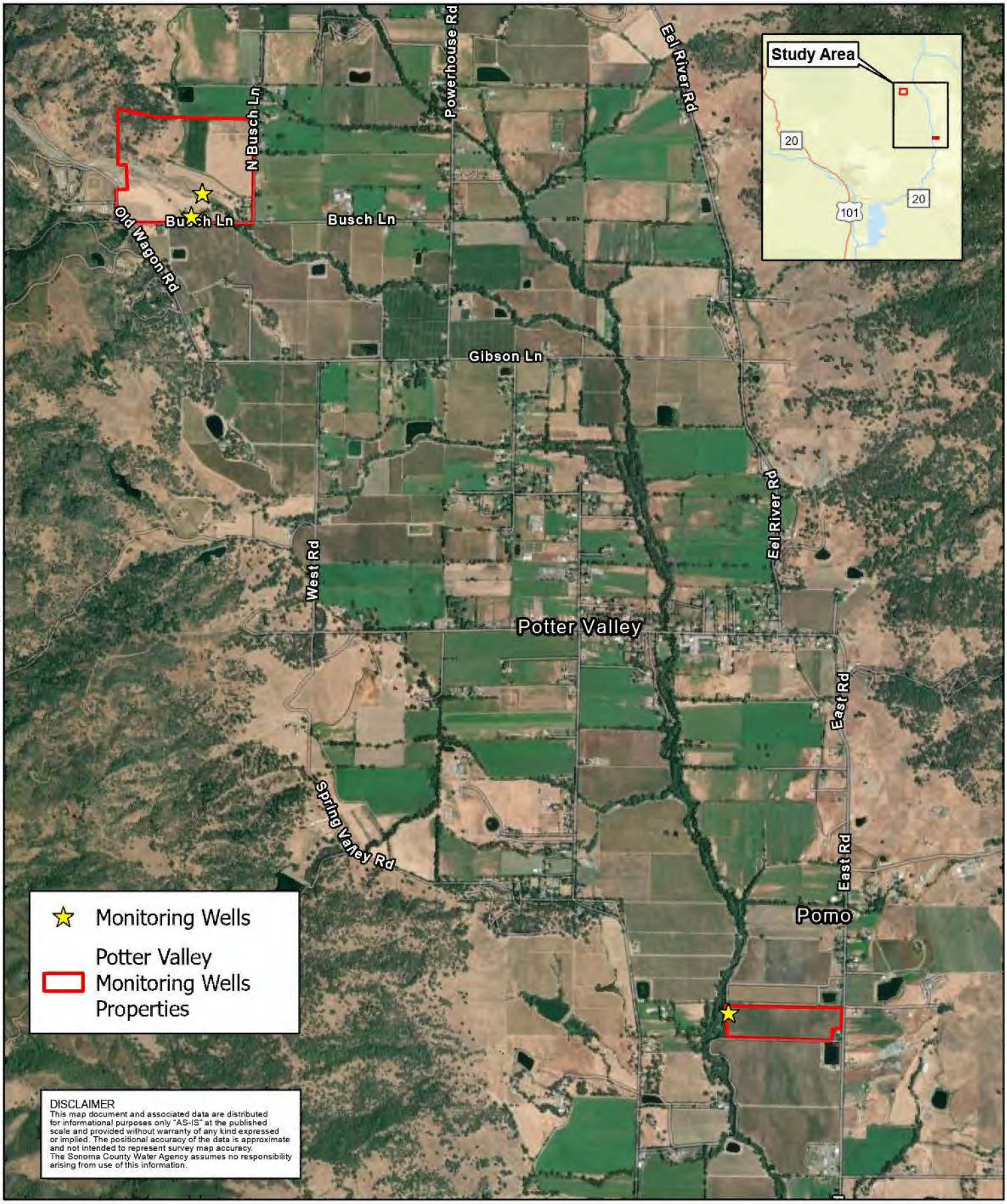
Lead Agency Contact Person: Jeff Church **Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** 707-547-1949

Signature	Title	Date
R Sell	for General Manager	8-29-24

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

☒ Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR:_____



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Figure 1 Potter Valley Water Supply Reliability Study

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0 1,250 2,500 Feet

Sonoma Water