

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

TO: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

FROM: Central Valley Flood Protection Board
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Project Title: Permit No. 19928 El Puente Floodplain Reconnection Project

Project Applicant: River Partners

Project Location: This project is located 0.44 miles south of the intersection of Shiloh Road and Paradise Road in Grayson, California on the left bank of the Tuolumne River.

Project Description: To restore 16 acres of agricultural fields with native riparian vegetation. This includes using standard agricultural techniques to pull planting berms, plant trees, and shrubs, and disperse native seeds using basic tractor-pulled equipment. An existing underground flood irrigation system will be used to irrigate the site for three growing seasons. Site maintenance will include invasive plants management. Project monitoring will include vegetation and wildlife monitoring.

Public Agency Approving Project: Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board)

Agency/Person Carrying Out Project: River Partners

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Common Sense Exemption (CEQA Sec. 15061(b)(3))
- ☐ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:
- ☒ Statutory Exemption. State code number: 21080.56

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The Board has determined that the El Puente Floodplain Reconnection Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080.56 of the Public Resources Code, which exempts a project to restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife meeting certain requirements. On September 26, 2024, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Director concurred with the Reclamation District 2092 and River Partners' determination that the Project meets the qualifying criteria set forth in PRC Section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive. Specifically, the CDFW Director concurred with the Reclamation District 2092 and River Partners that the Project meets all of conditions in PRC Section 21080.56 and is statutorily exempt. This concurrence is posted online at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Notices/CEQA>.

Chris Lief

5/22/2025

Signature

Chris Lief, Executive Officer

Date

- ☒ Signed by Public Agency
- ☐ Signed by Responsible Agency

Date Received for filing at the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation:

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.