NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Stonebriar Drive Pond Leveler Installation Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	The Stonebriar Drive neighborhood is located in El Dorado Hills and is part of the Rolling Hills Community Services District. The location of the upstream dam is (38.638755, -121.078359). The location of the downstream dam is (38.637223, -121.077643).	**COUNTY**	El Dorado
LEAD AGENCY	El Dorado Resource Conservation Dsitrict		
CONTACT	100 Forni Road, Suite A	**PHONE**	530-295-0120
ADDRESS	Placerville, CA 95667		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Stonebriar Drive Pond Leveler Installation project will install two pond leveler flow devices in existing beaver ponds and dams on a small drainage. Pond leveler devices facilitate human/beaver coexistence by maintaining a pond height required by humans to protect nearby infrastructure while not interrupting the instinctual damming behavior of resident beavers. Pond leveler devices consist of an intake cage and connected pipe running from the intake cage which is settled into the pond, to the crest of the beaver dam downstream. Installation is accomplished using hand tools and foot traffic. This work stabilizes the elevation of the pond upstream of the beaver dam and sustains the aquatic habitat that would otherwise be lost if the humans concerned about the flooding of nearby infrastructure were to obtain a depredation permit and remove the offending beavers.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4;§15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- ☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- ☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

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. Impacts from installation will be minimal, and the Project will not result in a loss of waters of the state. On the contrary, implementation of the Project will ensure that aquatic habitat that has established because of the beaver dams will remain. The United States Army Corps of Engineers determined the Project activities, as described in the submitted documents, will not result in the discharge of dredged or fill material within waters of the United States and that a Department of the Army Permit is not required; therefore, a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification is not required. The Central Valley Water Board has determined that the Project, as described in the submitted documents, will not affect the quality of waters of the state as defined; therefore, waste discharge requirements are not required.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Mark A. Egbert

Mark Egbert, District Manager
8/4/25