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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
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 170
Sacramento, CA 95821
Jordan Robbins, (916) 524-3454
Jordan.Robbins@cvflood.ca.gov

State Clearinghouse Number: 2025100279

Project Title: Minor Alteration No. WA2025031 – Geotechnical Investigations for the Sunset Weir and Pumps Fish Passage Project

Project Location: The project is located near the existing Sunset Weir location, approximately 2.25 miles southeast of the community of Live Oak in Sutter and Yuba Counties (39.24768°, 121.63638°).

Project Description: To drill nine geotechnical borings along the right (west) bank levee and floodway of the Feather River. The exploration activities consist of nine geotechnical exploration borings drilled to maximum depth of 120 feet, or to refusal, below existing ground, collecting soil samples using standard penetration tests, and backfilling the boreholes with cement mixed with cuttings the same day of drilling, placed to depth by a tremie. Two of the nine borings will be done using Seismic Cone Penetration Test. Construction activities will include clearing and grubbing existing vegetation in the work areas within the floodway and ground disturbance by a truck-mounted drill rig and equipment to backfill the borehole. The data collected will be used to inform elements of the Sunset Weir and Pumps Fish Passage Project design which includes the removal of Sunset Weir.

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

Project Applicant/Lead Agency, Contact, Phone Number: Department of Water Resources; Rachel Ballanti; Program Manager II; 1416 Ninth Street, PO Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 94236; Rachel.Ballanti@water.ca.gov; (916) 460-0404

Exempt Status:

☒ Categorical Exemption: Sec. 15306 & 15304

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:
The Board has determined that the project is exempt from CEQA under the Class 6, Information Collection categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15306), because the activity consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. The project also is exempt from CEQA under the Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15304), because the activity 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 or agricultural purposes. Further, none of the exceptions to the exemption in CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15300.2 apply.

Chris Lief 12/3/2025

Signature Chris Lief, Executive Officer Date

☒ Signed by Public Agency ☐ Signed by Responsible Agency