Print Form

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: Fresno
2281 Tulare Street
Fresno CA 93721

From: (Public Agency): Sierra Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 693
Auberry Ca 93602
(Address)

Project Title: Department of Water Resources Prop 1 Round 2 Project 3 Post-Fire Headwaters Restoration -- Big Dry Creek and Jose Creek Watersheds of the upper San Joaquin River

Project Applicant: Sierra Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:
S10 T10S R24E, S17 T10S R24E, S18 T10S R24E, S13 T10S R24E, S06 T10S R24E, S07 T10S R24E, S13 T10S R24E

Project Location - City: Auberry Project Location - County: Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
This project aims to improve water quality and overall watershed health within post-fire landscapes in the Upper Auberry Ridge area. The primary goal is to improve native vegetation, stabilizing stream banks, and improving water flow to reduce erosion and sedimentation. These efforts will not only reestablish habitat for local wildlife but also contribute to the long-term health of the watershed and safeguard cultural resources within high-hazard fuel zones. Treatments include hazard tree removal, mechanical and hand fuel reduction of dead dying trees, limbing and brushing, pile burning, prescribed burning, cultural burning, invasive species removal, erosion mitigation, riparian improvements, habitat and stream restoration, native plantings, and reforestation.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sierra Resource Conservation District

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: 15304, 15333
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Section 15304 Which exempts minor alterations in the condition of the land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. Section 15333: Which exempts small habitat restoration projects to maintain, restore, enhance or protect species or their habitat while avoiding significant negative impacts.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Kelly Kucharski Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559)-855-5840

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Kelly Kucharski Date: 10/28/2025 Title: District Manager

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

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

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____