California Environmental Quality Act
Notice of Determination
in compliance with Section 21008 or 21152
of the Public Resources Code

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

From: California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region, Redding Office
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002

Date: 20 November 2025

State Clearinghouse Number:

2025090845

Project Title:

Crane Valley Meadow Restoration Project (Project)

Project Location - Specific:

Nearest City: Stirling City
Latitude: 39.96099° and Longitude: -121.44863°

Project Location - County:

Butte County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Project proposes to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance approximately 100 acres of meadow habitat to support and assist recovery of native fish and wildlife species. The Project includes the use of low-tech, process-based restoration practices to construct three types of woody structures in degraded meadow channels: channel-spanning, bank-attached, and mid-channel. The Project includes construction of 100 channel spanning beaver dam analogs (BDA), which can be post-less or post assisted with hand placed rock, 10 bank-attached post assisted log structures (PALS), and 10 mid-channel PALS. The Project also includes selective thinning of conifers throughout the 100 acres of predicted project impacts. The felled trees will be used to create the PALS and BDAs. Willow (*Salix*) planting will occur along stabilized banks to support riparian recovery and bank integrity.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:
Federal Agencies: The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404.

State Agency approval for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification: California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Redding Office. WDID No. 5A04CR00379.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
Jesse Barnett
Sierra Pacific Industries
2849 Northgate Drive
Chico, CA 95973

Susanna Wilson
Wilson Family Trust
135 Carpenter Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Exempt Status:
The Project was determined to qualify as a statutorily exempt restoration project under CEQA pursuant to California Public Resources Code, section 21080.56 (Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects). The lead agency, Butte County Resource Conservation District, received concurrence of statutory exemption from California Department of Fish and Wildlife on 27 August 2025 (Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects) and filed a Notice of Exemption (NOE) at the State Clearinghouse (SCH) on 18 September 2025 (SCH No. 2025090845).

Reasons why Project is Exempt:
This project is Statutorily Exempt under California Public Resources Code, section 21080.56 because the Project is exclusively a project to restore and enhance habitat for California native fish and wildlife.

Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:
Lillian Jepson
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
(916) 557-7759

State Responsible Agency Contact Person:
Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist
Chief Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Redding Branch Office
(530) 224-2437

Lynn Coster
Digitally signed by Lynn Coster
Date: 2025.11.20 11:38:59 -08'00'
Water Boards

Lynn Coster
Senior Environmental Scientist
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

cc: U.S. EPA, Region 9, San Francisco
Water Quality Certification Program, SWRCB, Sacramento
Hillary H. Regnart, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Lillian Jepson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Zachary Kearns, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Rancho Cordova
Kevin Swift, Swift Water Design, Westwood