

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF TEHAMA COUNTY  
ADOPTING AN INITIAL STUDY AND MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR THE ADAMS POND RESTORATION PROJECT  
RESOLUTION #2026-02**

WHEREAS, the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC) is established under Division 9 of the California Public Resources Code and by the rules of the Tehama County Local Agency Formation Committee as a locally governed agency with primary authority to implement local natural resource conservation measures; and

WHEREAS, the RCDTC has been granted funding through a federal grant from the USDA Forest Service Region 5, State and Private Forestry Program, administered to the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (Grant Awardee) and passed through to the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (Grant - Sub awardee) in 2022 for Storm Damage Post Fire Disaster Recovery.

WHEREAS, the RCDTC wishes to implement the Adams Pond Restoration Project (here throughout referred to as the "Project"), to restore a licensed and permitted, private agricultural pond impacted by the 2021 McFarland Fire to pre-fire conditions. The project is located in western Tehama County, California, off Vestal Road, approximately 30 miles west of Red Bluff, on Stinking Creek, a tributary to Salt Creek, within the Cottonwood Creek watershed (40.230943°N, -122.715017°W). The project occurs on private land at an elevation of approximately 1,000-1,200 feet above sea level. The fire caused extensive vegetation loss in the upper Stinking Creek watershed, leading to increased soil erosion and significant sediment deposition within the pond, reducing the pond's water-holding capacity by approximately 75% and impacting associated aquatic habitat. The proposed Project will remove 80,000 cubic yards of sediment from the pond, restore aquatic habitats, and stabilize surrounding uplands through revegetation. Once work is complete, the Project will reestablish aquatic habitat, support water retention for agricultural and fire suppression needs, and prevent future downstream sedimentation. Work will be completed during the dry season and will take approximately 60 working days. The sediment removal may occur during the dry season for more than one year depending on the availability of funds.

WHEREAS, the RCDTC considers this project to be a benefit to Tehama County while protecting natural resources; and

WHEREAS, a duly noticed public hearing was held before the RCDTC on March 4, 2026;  
And

WHEREAS, the RCDTC has considered the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by RCDTC staff; and

WHEREAS, said Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration determined that the project would potentially significantly impact Biological Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, and Hydrology and Water Quality without the implementation of Mitigation Measures; and

WHEREAS, the RCDTC has adopted Mitigation Measures to reduce potential project Biological Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, and Hydrology and Water Quality impacts to less than significant, as described in the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration; and

WHEREAS, said Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated for public review and comment per CEQA for a 30-day review period that ended on February 15, 2026; and

WHEREAS, said Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated for state review and comment per CEQA for a 30-day review period that ended on February 18, 2026; and

WHEREAS, said Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was referred to potentially affected property owners, various affected public and private agencies, County departments, native American tribes, and referral agencies for review and comments; and

WHEREAS, the Board of the RCDTC has solicited and considered public comments which included one comment from the California Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams dated January 23, 2026, and a staff report;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC):

- I. Adopts a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to CEQA with the following findings:
  - A. An Initial Study was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. Said study identified potentially significant environmental effects and included mitigation measures that would mitigate such effects below significant levels; a Mitigated Negative Declaration is proposed.
  - B. The RCDTC has considered the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, together with comments received during the review process and public hearing.
  - C. On the basis of the whole record before the Board of the RCDTC, including the Initial Study and any comments received, the RCDTC has determined the Project as developed, implemented, and mitigated, would not have a significant impact on the environment.
  - D. The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the RCDTC, which is the Lead Agency under CEQA.
  - E. The Mitigated Negative Declaration includes Mitigation Measures **BIO-MM-GEN 1 to 3; BIO-MM-HERP-1 to 11; BIO-MM-NWPT-1 to 5; BIO-MM-FYLF-1; BIO-**

**MM-TOAD-1 to 2; BIO-MM-BIRD-1; BIO-MM-NEST-1 to 4; BIO-MM-GOLD-1 to 2; BIO-MM-BALD-1; BIO-MM-BAT-1 to 6; BIO-MM-RING-1; BIO-MM-BADG-1; BIO-MM-PLANT-1 to 2; SOIL-MM 1 to 4; HAZ-MM 1 to 5 and WQ-MM 1 to 9** as detailed in Attachment A of this document.

- F. The RCDTC will serve as custodian of the record of this CEQA determination. The location of the record is 202 Walnut Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080.
- II. Finds that the collection of fees pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 711.4 and 14 CCR 753.5 is required, prior to filing a Notice of Determination for the Project. The Project will not be operative, nor may any local permits be issued for the Project, and the Project will be invalid (per Section 711.4 (c) (3)) until such fees are paid.
- III. In order to avoid, minimize, and/or reduce environmental impacts of the Project to a less than significant level, the RCDTC approves the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) for this Project, as detailed in Attachment A of this document.
- IV. Adoption of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project is subject to the following findings:
- A. The proposed use on the property where the Project is located will not impair the integrity and character of the community and watershed resources.
- B. The proposed Project would not be unreasonably incompatible with, or injurious to, surrounding properties, or detrimental to the health and general welfare of the persons residing or working in the area, or to the health, welfare and safety of the residents of the County, as supported by the following:
1. The RCDTC has circulated the proposed Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration to County, responsible and Trustee agencies and has not received any responses that indicate that there is evidence that the Project, with fifty-eight (58) appropriate mitigation measures, would cause any significant environmental impacts.
  2. The environmental impacts of this Project appear to be minor in general. Assuming all mitigation measures are dutifully executed, impacts will be less than significant.
  3. Adoption of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for this Project does not preclude the possible need for permits and/or licenses from other, local, State, federal, and Responsible or Trustee agencies under CEQA.
- C. The Project does not require the removal of any rare, threatened, or protected species.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution #2026-02, adopted on the motion of Logan Jennings, seconded by Trena Kimler-Richards, and duly passed at a regular public

meeting held by the Board of Directors at 9:15 A.M. on March 4, 2026, at the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County, 202 Walnut Street, Red Bluff, California.

Roll Call was as follows:

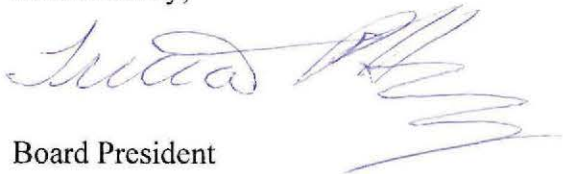
AYES: T. Hamelberg, L. Jennings, V. Williams, T. Kimler-Richards, T. Stroing, F. Dawley,

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: M. Vasey

Submitted by,



3/4/2026

Board President