California Environmental Quality Act
Notice of Exemption for
Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Date: 30 July 2026

Project Title:

Labbe Meadow Restoration Project (Project)

Project Location - Specific:

Address: 2571 Quincy Junction Rd., Quincy, CA 95971
Nearest City: Quincy
Latitude: 39.963299° and Longitude:-120.907997 °

Project Location - County:

Plumas County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of the project is to improve meadow hydrologic function and increase meadow habitat complexity by the creation of a series of open water ponds within a historic ditch feature on the Labbe Ranch. A series of earthen plugs and corresponding ponds are proposed to be constructed throughout the ditch feature where the channel is most defined. The objective of these treatments is to create open water habitat while raising the base elevation of the ditch channel. Plugs will have the added benefit of increasing the vertical and lateral connectivity of the ditch surface flow path with the meadow surface to the northeast, reducing surface flow conveyance of the ditch, and promoting groundwater recharge in the meadow.

Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:

Federal Agencies: The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404, Nationwide Permit 27.

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. 5A32CR00265.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
Noah Abramson
MTN Consulting and Restoration LLC
P.O. Box 725
Graeagle, CA, 96103

Exempt Status:
The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, as lead agency, has determined that the Project is categorically exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, article 19, section 15333, Small Habitat Restoration Projects. Class 33 consists of projects not to exceed five acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife provided that (a) there would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat pursuant to section 15065; (b) there are no hazardous materials at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed; and (c) the project will not result in impacts that are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.

Reasons why Project is Exempt:
This project is categorically exempt under CEQA section15333 because the project's sole purpose is habitat restoration and is less than 5 acres in size.

Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:
Christy Morgan
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento District
Christy.M.Morgan@usace.army.mil

State Lead 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
Water Boards Date: 2026.07.30 09:32:11 -07'00'

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

cc: U.S. EPA, Region 9, San Francisco
Water Quality Certification Program, SWRCB, Sacramento
Christy Morgan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Briana Seapy, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Region 2
Zachary Kearns, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Region 2