



Notice of Exemption

To: ☒ Office of Planning and Research
Submitted online

From: ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY
100 North Canyons Parkway
Livermore, CA 94551
925-454-5000

To: ☒ County Clerk, County of Alameda
1106 Madison Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Date: August 12, 2026

Project Title: Stage and Rain Gauges at Altamont Creek and Arroyo de la Laguna

Project Location – Specific: (1) Altamont Creek at Bluebell Dr. in Livermore, and (2) and Arroyo de la Laguna at Hwy 84 in Sunol.

Altamont Creek at Bluebell Drive

One proposed field camera will be placed on the existing Zone 7 gauge structure (37.71843, -121.74318). An additional field camera will be installed upstream of the bridge on the left bank access road (37.71864, -121.74288). The station's closest address that could be referenced is the Marin Pound Neighborhood Park, 2010 Bluebell Dr, Livermore, CA with the nearest cross street on Shire Ct, Livermore, CA. Gauges will be located within Zone 7 property.

Arroyo De La Laguna at Highway 84 bridge

The proposed field camera will be placed along Arroyo de la Laguna and within the SF Public Utility Commission (SFPUC) property (37.592999, -121.883069). The exact location is still tentative, but the field camera may be installed within this vicinity along the left bank's terrace. The station's closest address that could be referenced is 11600 Pleasanton Sunol Rd, Sunol, CA 94586 with the nearest cross street on Pleasanton Sunol Rd, Sunol, CA. Access is within the SFPUC fence property so public access will be restricted.

Project Location – County: Alameda County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Zone 7 will install new stream gauging equipment at two locations: Livermore, CA, and Sunol, CA. The installations will include three field cameras, two telemetered pressure transducer probes, ten staff gauges, and associated telemetry equipment. This equipment will benefit the public, Zone 7 Water Agency, and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), who are providing partial funding support for the project. The field camera system will enable real-time visual monitoring of stream conditions, debris accumulation, and channel flow, supporting storm response and operational decision-making during high-flow events. The new stream gauge in Sunol, CA will further allow for:

- 1) Better understanding of the hydrology along Arroyo De la Laguna (ADLL) located in Sunol, CA
- 2) Improve the flood agency's early flood warning system
- 3) Fill stream and precipitation data gaps along ADLL
- 4) Provide real-time stream and precipitation data to the public

Construction activities include manually dug footings for the equipment box near top of bank, mounting galvanized pipes along the channel slope for the probes, and mounting several staff plates along the channel slope. In all, the working footprint dimension for the two structures is approximately 50 square feet. This project will have minimal/ no impact on baseline noise and riparian vegetation.

Temporary construction noises will be small and limited to a few hours during business hours.

The target construction date for each camera location is set for Summer/Fall 2026, and for each location it will take approximately 1-2 days to construct the pole mounting equipment, then approximately 1 day to install the field camera and telemeter equipment. Field surveying and camera calibration of the station will take 2-3 days. In total it will take approximately 2 weeks of onsite field activity.

Ongoing operations and maintenance of this station may require staff to periodically enter the riparian corridor where the field probes/cameras are placed.

Name of Public Agency Approving and Carrying Out Project: Zone 7 Water Agency

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. CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 Existing Facilities
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines as follows:

15301. EXISTING FACILITIES. Operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

None of the conditions noted under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines 15300.2 (as revised) will occur. Furthermore, this project will not result in potential for significant environmental impacts because:

- Work will be limited to the smallest footprint practicable.
- Only hand equipment will be used to install the gauge and appurtenances.
- No vegetation will be removed as part of this project.

- No changes to the streambed or bank as part of this project.
- No impacts to sensitive habitat or wildlife are expected.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project could result in a significant impact.

Lead Agency CEQA Contact: Elke Rank **Area Code/Telephone/Ext:** 925-454-5005

Signature:

Elke Rank

Title

Senior Water Resources Planner

Zone 7 Water Agency