



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

CEQA – APPENDIX E

**To: Office of Land Use and Climate
Innovation (Planning and Research)**
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: City of Crescent City
377 J Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

County of Del Norte
County Clerk
981 H Street, Suite 160
Crescent City, CA 95531

Project Title:

Drinking Water Test Well

Document/Project Description:

The City is looking to install a test well in order to determine the feasibility of a municipal well as a backup supply to their existing water source. The test well is anticipated to be approximately 150 feet in depth. As part of the construction of the test well a pump test would be completed to assess the capacity of the well, determine effects on adjacent wells, and collect water quality samples for submittal to an analytical laboratory for water quality analysis. If the pump test and water quality results indicate that the well is viable as a supply well, then, as a separate project, design of the well pump, headworks, and tie-in into the City's water system would commence. If the pump test and water quality results indicate that the well is not viable as a supply well, the test well would be destroyed per California well regulation requirements.

Name of Public Agency

Approving Project:

City of Crescent City

Name of Person or Agency

Carrying Out Project: City of Crescent City

CONTACTS:	PUBLIC/LEAD AGENCY:	APPLICANT:
Name:	Bob Brown	David Yeager
Organization:	City of Crescent City	City of Crescent City
Title:	Contract Planning Director	Public Works Director
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Regions: Countywide

Counties: Del Norte

Cities: Crescent City

Project Location-Specific: APN 105-260-011-000, off Rellim Rd, north of the chlorination building, approximately ½ mile south of the Smith River.

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption

Type, Section Number, or Code Number: Class 6: Information Collection and Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land

Reasons why the project is exempt:

Class 6: Information Collection (14 CCR § 15306). The test well is designed strictly to gather hydrological data (e.g., flow rate, water quality, and drawdown impact) rather than operating as a permanent production well. Drilling involves minimal surface disruption and testing is temporary,

Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land (14 CCR § 15304). This covers the physical act of drilling, grading a temporary pad, or trenching required to conduct the test. The Project does not remove healthy, mature trees or impact sensitive environments such as wetlands.

The project will be located on a site that has had past disturbances, is already graded and contains no habitat for rare, threatened, or endangered species or wetlands. The site is surrounded by and is already adequately served by

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utilities and public services and will not result in traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality impacts. Standard City operational safeguards will ensure complete on-site containment of all project elements. Drilling muds and cuttings will be managed within an above-ground, closed-loop system with zero ground discharge. Temporary pump-test water will be retained on-site for sediment settling and managed via standard Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent surface runoff or erosion, ensuring complete protection of any nearby biological and hydrological resources. None of the exceptions to categorical exemptions set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply.

No permanent municipal water infrastructure, pipeline connections, or long-term operational groundwater extractions are authorized under this approval. Any potential future conversion to a production well is completely independent of this data-gathering step, remains contingent upon the hydrogeologic results retrieved, and will be subject to subsequent, separate project-level CEQA review.



Signature by Lead Agency:

Sept 23, 2026

Approval Date:

Contract Planning
Director

Title:

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

Date Received
for filing at
DNCO: _____

Filed in County Clerk's Office
County of Del Norte
Alissia Northrup
Clerk & Recorder

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