Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): Modoc Resource Conservation District
221 W. 8th Street, Alturas
California 96101

(Address)

County Clerk
County of: Modoc
108 E. Modoc Street
Alturas, CA 96101

FILED
SEP 29 2026
STEPHANIE WELLEMEYER, COUNTY CLERK
BY S. Wellemeyer DEPUTY

Project Title: BIDWELL CREEK NEAR FORT BIDWELL STREAM GAGE INSTALLATION PROJECT

Project Applicant: Modoc Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific: 41.879421° Latitude and -120.170639° Longitude
Township 46N, Range 16E SW¼, SW¼ Section 5 Mount Diablo Base & Meridian

USGS 7.5' Quad Map(s): Mount Bidwell

Project Location - City: Fort Bidwell Project Location - County: Modoc

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The County of Modoc, through funding provided by the California Department of Water Resources Stream Gage Improvement Program (CalSIP), proposes installation of a stream gage and associated monitoring equipment to reestablish streamflow monitoring capabilities on Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell. Project improvements include installation of a bubbler pressure-sensor stream gage and associated monitoring equipment. The Project includes installation of a solar-powered datalogger/control box with telemetry within an existing roadside turnout, supported by two posts installed in approximately six-inch-diameter holes approximately two feet deep; installation of conduit between the control box and the stream gage; installation of associated anchoring; and installation of low- and high-flow staff plates along the streambank. The Project will use hand tools and small equipment and will result in minimal ground disturbance, primarily associated with the two control-box postholes. The Project does not include grading, dredging, stream channel modification, substantial vegetation removal, alteration of the streambank or streambed, diversion or obstruction of streamflow, or placement of fill within the stream channel. The Project was originally proposed at a different location along Bidwell Creek. The original location was subsequently determined to be unsuitable for installation and operation of the stream gage, and the Project was relocated to the existing roadside turnout along County Road 224 described above. The environmental review and CEQA exemption determination are based on the revised Project location and Project description.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Modoc Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: County of Modoc/Modoc Resource Conservation District

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. State type and section number: Class 6, CCR Section §15306 Information Collection
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: ___

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project qualifies for a Class 6 Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 - Information Collection, which consists of basic data collection, research, and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The project involves installation and operation of a small stream gaging station for collection of hydrologic and streamflow data. Activities are limited to installation of minor monitoring equipment with minimal ground disturbance. No grading, channel modification, alteration of streamflow, or substantial disturbance to environmental resources would occur. The Modoc Resource Conservation District prepared an Environmental Review Report for the revised Project location. Based on the Project description, environmental setting, and analysis contained in the Environmental Review Report, the District determined that the Project will not result in significant environmental effects and that none of the exceptions to categorical exemptions identified in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply. Therefore, the project is appropriately exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15306, Class 6, Information Collection.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Michael Colbert Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-640-2179

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: Lani Cockrell Date: 9-29-2026 Title: District Manager

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR: _____
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2011

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RESOLUTION NO. 10-2026
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MODOC RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MODOC RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT APPROVING THE REVISED BIDWELL CREEK NEAR FORT BIDWELL STREAM GAGE INSTALLATION PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING FILING OF A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION UNDER CEQA

WHEREAS, the County of Modoc has received funding through the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Stream Gage Improvement Program (CalSIP) under Standard Agreement No. 4600016311 for the installation of stream gages within Modoc County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Modoc has contracted with the Modoc Resource Conservation District (MRCD) to administer and implement certain activities associated with the CalSIP program; and

WHEREAS, MRCD is serving as the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell Stream Gage Installation Project; and

WHEREAS, the Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell Stream Gage Installation Project ("Project") is intended to reestablish streamflow monitoring on Bidwell Creek and provide continuous hydrologic data to support water management, drought and flood monitoring, emergency response, watershed planning, aquatic resource management, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Project was originally proposed at a different location along Bidwell Creek; and

WHEREAS, the original proposed location was subsequently determined to be unsuitable for installation and operation of the stream gage, and the Project location was therefore revised to an existing roadside turnout along County Road 224 that provides suitable access and site conditions for installation and operation of the stream gage and associated monitoring equipment; and

WHEREAS, the revised Project location is approximately 1.75 miles northwest of Fort Bidwell, California, at approximately 41.879421° latitude and -120.170639° longitude; and

WHEREAS, the revised Project consists of installation of a bubbler pressure-sensor stream gage within Bidwell Creek and a solar-powered datalogger/control box with telemetry located within an existing roadside turnout in the county road easement adjacent to and above Bidwell Creek; and

WHEREAS, the revised Project location and Project description are evaluated in the Environmental Review Report for an Exempt Project prepared by the Modoc Resource Conservation District ("Environmental Review Report"); and

WHEREAS the California Environmental Quality Act (Section 21000 et seq. of the Public Resources Code) requires that Lead Agencies consider the environmental consequences of their actions before approving a project; and

WHEREAS, the Project has been reviewed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code §21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, California Code of Regulations §15000 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Class 6, §15306 – Information Collection; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors finds that the Project meets the criteria for exemption and that none of the exceptions listed in CEQA Guidelines §15300.2 apply; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15062, a Notice of Exemption (NOE) may be filed following project approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Modoc Resource Conservation District as follows:

1. Finds that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.
2. The Project is a limited project undertaken for the purpose of information collection and consists of installation and operation of streamflow monitoring equipment with minimal physical disturbance.
3. The Board of Directors hereby approves the revised **Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell Stream Gage Installation Project** as described in the environmental review report for an exempt project and supporting documentation.
4. Determines that the revised **Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell Stream Gage Installation Project** is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 - Information Collection.
5. Finds that none of the exceptions contained in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to the project.
6. Adopts the Notice of Exemption for the **Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell Stream Gage Installation Project.**
7. Authorizes the District's Manager, or designee, to execute all necessary documents and file the Notice of Exemption with the Modoc County Clerk and any other agencies as required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Modoc Resource Conservation District this **28th day of September, 2026**, by the following vote:

- AYES: 4
- NOES: 0
- ABSENT: 3
- ABSTAIN: 0

I, Erika Forrest, the undersigned Chairman of the Modoc Resource Conservation District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Executive Board at a meeting held on **September 28, 2026**, at which a quorum was present.

Erika Forrest

Modoc Resource Conservation District, Chairperson
Modoc Resource Conservation District Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Pearce Flournoy

Pearce Flournoy, Secretary,
Modoc Resource Conservation District Board of Directors