

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Omoichumne-Hartnell Water District
8970 Elk Grove Blvd. Elk Grove, CA 95624

County Clerk

County of: Sacramento

(Address)

Project Title: Blodgett Dam Fish Passage Improvement Project

Project Applicant: Omoichumne-Hartnell Water District (OHWD)

Project Location - Specific: Between river mile 22 and 23 (38.45244005, -121.21137740) on Cosumnes River

Project Location - City: Wilton

Project Location - County: Sacramento

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will reconnect and enhance approximately 15 miles of salmonid habitat and improve aquatic habitat function by modifying an existing dam, installing a fish passage feature and performing riparian revegetation. Blodgett Dam (PAD ID 758175) currently acts as a 60-foot-long fish passage barrier in the Cosumnes River. The project is designed to improve habitat conditions for several riparian and aquatic species including Central Valley fall-run Chinook salmon, California Central Valley steelhead DPS, and Pacific lamprey. Due to the potential for sensitive biological resources, the project is designed to avoid impacts to endangered, rare, or threatened species or their habitat. A historical resources assessment resulted in a finding of no adverse effect to historic properties and a finding of no significant impact to historical resources.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Omoichumne-Hartnell Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Michael Wackman

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 33 (15333) and Class 4 (15304) and Class 1 (15301)
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project qualifies as a Class 33 Small Habitat Restoration Project (14 CCR 15333) as it is under five acres in size and its purpose is to restore both aquatic and riparian habitat for the benefit of multiple species. The site is not listed on a hazardous waste site list and is not within a state scenic highway corridor. The project qualifies as a Class 4 (15304) Minor Alteration to Land as it would improve habitat for fish resources in an area with a slope of less than 10%. The project qualifies as a Class 1 (15301) Existing Facilities Project as it is the restoration of a deteriorated or damaged structure to protect fish resources. No unusual circumstances are present that would create a reasonable possibility of a significant environmental effects.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Michael Wackman

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-716-1358

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:  Date: 8/19/26 Title: General Manager

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

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

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____