

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk

County of: Yuba

915 8th Street, Suite 107

Marysville, CA 95901

From: (Public Agency): Yuba County Water Agency
1220 F Street

Marysville, CA 95901

(Address)

FILED

YUBA COUNTY CLERK/RECORDER

SEP 17 2026

DONNA HILLEGASS, Clerk

BY Brigitte Evans
DEPUTY CLERK

Project Title: Bert's Turnout Upgrade Project

Project Applicant: Yuba County Water Agency

Project Location - Specific:

Bert's Turnout on Wheatland Canal (39°05'32.3"N, 121°25'52.5"W) via Hutchinson Creek, South Yuba Subbasin, Yuba County, California

Project Location - City: Wheatland (or Unincorporated Yuba County) Project Location - County: Yuba

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project consists of upgrading Bert's Turnout on the Wheatland Canal by installing an additional 48-inch gate valve adjacent to the existing 36-inch gate valve, increasing the size of a downstream culvert from 36" to 48", and minor vegetation removal in an existing canal. The project will increase surface water deliveries to Deep Violet Ranch through Hutchinson Creek, reducing groundwater pumping by approximately 840 to 1,680 acre-feet per year. The project provides in-lieu groundwater recharge benefits, improves groundwater storage within the South Yuba Subbasin, increases water supply reliability, and provides operational flexibility and emergency redundancy within the Yuba Water conveyance system. Beneficiaries include Deep Violet Ranch, agricultural water users in the South Yuba Subbasin, and regional groundwater resources.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Yuba County Water Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Yuba County 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. State type and section number: 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project involves minor alterations and improvements to an existing irrigation water delivery facility. The proposed installation of an additional gate valve at an existing turnout will involve negligible expansion of the operational footprint. The project consists of improvements to existing public utility and irrigation infrastructure and therefore qualifies for a Class 1 Existing Facilities exemption and/or a Class 2 Replacement or Reconstruction exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. The project represents the installation of a small new utility facility and related equipment within an existing irrigation system. Construction is limited in scope, occurs within an existing developed water conveyance corridor, and does not involve substantial expansion of the physical footprint of the facility. Therefore, the project qualifies for the Class 3 categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 as well as Class 1 and 2. Also exempt are "minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees" (CEQA Guidelines, § 15304). Minimal vegetation trimming will occur as part of the scope of work, but no scenic trees will be removed in the process.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jessica Nichols

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-789-4649

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: Jessica Nichols Date: 9/16/26 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

■ 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.

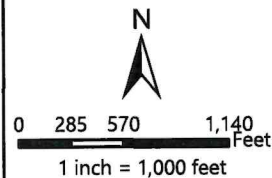
Date Received for filing at OPR: _____



Component 4:
Bert's Turnout Upgrade
Project Location
 Yuba Water Agency
 SGMA Implementation

Legend

- Irrigation Wells for Monitoring
- △ Bert's Turnout



Project #: 0012642.00
 Map Created: August 2026

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