



# State Water Resources Control Board



Linda S. Adams

Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

Division of Water Rights  
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Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION Pursuant to Section 21108 Public Resources Code

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<b>To:</b> Office of Planning & Research State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814	<b>From:</b> State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Rights P.O. Box 2000 Sacramento, CA 95812-2000
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**PROJECT TITLE:** Grizzly Creek Weir Modification Project

**APPLICANT:** Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
c/o Melissa Brosnan  
77 Beale Street, Mail Code N10A  
San Francisco, CA 94177

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** PG&E proposes modifications to the existing Grizzly Weir measuring structure (PG&E gage NF22), located on Grizzly Creek approximately 300 feet downstream of Grizzly Forebay Dam, on lands within the Plumas National Forest. The weir will be reconstructed to provide accuracy in measuring the minimum flow release increases required by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order issued January 11, 2006, amending the Bucks Creek Project license (FERC No. 619). Work involves the diversion of streamflow around the center of the existing weir using a temporary cofferdam made from clean sandbags along with a corrugated plastic conduit bypass system. Creation of a dry construction zone will result in the temporary dewatering of approximately 50 feet of streambed immediately upstream of the weir location. During reconstruction of the measurement weir, minimum flow releases from Grizzly Forebay Dam to Grizzly Creek will be maintained for protection of the aquatic ecosystem in all but the limited area scheduled for temporary dewatering. Construction activities will include concrete cutting to enlarge the rectangular measurement notch in the weir, installation of a weir plate, and concrete patching of pervious areas of the existing weir expanse and wingwall structure. All construction debris will be removed from the creek drainage; affected channel and riparian zone areas will be restored after completion of the construction activities.

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** The purpose of the project is to enlarge the facility outlet valve and upgrade metering devices and access to the outlet valve area of the dam.

**WATER SOURCES:** Grizzly Creek (POD within NE ¼ of section 34, T24, R6E) in Plumas County, tributary to the North Fork Feather River.

*California Environmental Protection Agency*

**EXEMPT STATUS:** Categorical Exemption for repair, maintenance and restoration of existing facilities, in accordance with title 14, California Code of Regulations, Sections 15301(b) and (d). CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**

1. This project will not cause significant adverse impacts on any sensitive environment and will not result in significant cumulative impacts.
2. There are no state or federal threatened or endangered aquatic species known within a two-mile radius from the project site. To avoid potential risk of disturbance to local Bald Eagle breeding activities, construction activity will be delayed until after all fledging has been completed at the occupied nest approximately 0.75 mile from the site.
3. The project will not result in impacts that are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.
4. There are no known hazardous materials at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed.
5. No long-term impacts to water quality or beneficial uses will result from this project.
6. There are no known cultural resource sites at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed.
7. It appears that there is no possibility that this project may have a significant effect on the environment.

Contact Person: Sharon Stohrer Environmental Scientist Division of Water Rights	Telephone: (916) 341-5397 e-mail: sstohrer@waterboards.ca.gov
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**APPROVAL OF THE ABOVE IS RECOMMENDED BY:**

Sharon Stohrer 6-21-07  
Sharon Stohrer Date  
Environmental Scientist

Leslie F. Grober 6/22/07  
Leslie F. Grober, Manager Date  
Hearings and Special Projects Section

**APPROVED:**

for James W. Kassel  
Victoria A. Whitney, Chief  
Division of Water Rights

7/2/07  
Date