



State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION Pursuant to Section 21092 – Public Resources Code

The staff of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration setting forth the findings that the following proposed action will have a less than significant effect on the environment.

PROJECT TITLE: Ronald McGehee Water Right Change Petition and Application to Appropriate Water (Applications A021429B and A031057)

APPLICANT: Ronald W McGehee
c/o Ryan Stolfus, Wagner & Bonsignore CCE
2151 River Plaza Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95833-4133

PROJECT LOCATION:

Approximately one mile northwest of the city of Ukiah in Mendocino County, California, within Sections 30, 31, and 32 of Township 16 North, Range 12 West of the "Ukiah, California" U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Under water right Application 31057 (A031057), Ronald McGehee (Applicant) proposes to construct an off-stream reservoir for storage of 45 acre-feet (af) per year of water diverted from Hensley Creek tributary to the Russian River. The appropriated water would be used for irrigation and frost protection of 37 acres of proposed vineyard on previously cultivated land near Hensley Creek.

The Applicant is also petitioning to change the place of use (POU) and add purposes of use to an existing water right license, License 9947B (Application A021429B). License 9947B authorizes diversion of up to 290 af of water from an unnamed stream tributary to York Creek, thence the Russian River, for the irrigation of 35.8 acres along York Creek, as well as for domestic, stockwatering, recreation, and fire protection purposes. Under License 9947B, water is diverted at and stored in an onstream reservoir (Round Mountain Reservoir). Combined diversion under License 9947B and two other licenses for Round Mountain Reservoir, 9947A and 9947C, shall not exceed 290 af per year. The Applicant seeks to eliminate the POU authorized under License 9947B and add the 37 acres specified under A031057, add frost protection and heat control as purposes of use, and add the offstream reservoir requested under A031057 as a place of storage for water diverted at Round Mountain Reservoir.

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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DETERMINATION:

The State Water Board has determined that the above-described project will have a less than significant effect on the environment for the reasons specified in the Initial Study prepared for this project.

The Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Initial Study in support of the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are available on the Division of Water Rights website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/ceqa/index.shtml

A hard copy of these documents or additional information concerning the proposed action may be obtained by writing to State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights, Attn: Jennifer Calles, P.O. Box 2000, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000, by email at Jennifer.Calles@waterboards.ca.gov, or by phone at (916) 322-8568.

Persons who disagree with the conclusions set forth in the Mitigated Negative Declaration or who disagree with the information contained therein are invited to furnish written comments to Jennifer Calles at the above address. The comments should summarize the specific substantive and factual basis for disagreement. Comments must be received by the Division of Water Rights within **30 days** from the date of this notice.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Greg Brown, Senior
Russian River Permitting Unit
Division of Water Rights

Dated: **OCTOBER 11, 2018**