



Linda S. Adams
Acting Secretary for
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State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Water Rights

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Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

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

The staff of the State Water Resources Control 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: Water Right Application 31373 of Flowers Vineyard and Winery

APPLICANT: Walter and Joan Flowers
c/o Drew Aspegren
Napa Valley Vineyard Engineering
176 Main Street, Suite B
St. Helena, CA 94574

PROJECT LOCATION:

The proposed project associated with Application 31373 of Flowers Vineyard and Winery is located in the town of Cazadero, approximately eight miles northwest of the town of Jenner, in Sonoma County California. The project site consists of approximately 36 acres located within the "Fort Ross, California" U.S. geological Survey Base and Meridian.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Water Right application 31373 requests diversion of 13 acre feet per annum of water to storage, at a rate not to exceed 2.0 cubic feet per second, from December 15 of each year to March 31 of the succeeding year. Water would be diverted via an off-set well from the South Fork Gualala River tributary to the Gualala River thence the Pacific Ocean into two offstream reservoirs. Stored water would be used for irrigation and frost protection of approximately 35 acres of existing vineyard, domestic uses, including landscape irrigation and dust control, at on-site residences and the winery buildings, and incidental fire protection at the winery buildings. The project involves review of potential impacts resulting from changing an existing 8 acre foot regulatory reservoir into a storage reservoir, construction and operation of an existing unauthorized 5 acre foot storage capacity reservoir, and installation and operation of approximately 2,300 linear feet of four inch diameter pipeline to connect the 5 acre foot reservoir with the pipeline between the point of diversion and the 8 acre foot reservoir. At this time, all components of the project exist.

DETERMINATION:

The State Water Resources Control 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.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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 Jennifer Dick-McFadden, Division of Water Rights, P.O. Box 2000, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000, by email at jdick-mcfadden@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 322-8568.

Persons who disagree with the conclusions set forth in the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration or who disagree with the information contained therein are invited to furnish written comments to Ms. Dick-McFadden at the above address. The comments should summarize the specific substantive and factual basis for disagreement. The final date for submitting comments is 30 days from the date of this notice.

Barbara Evoy FOR

Barbara Evoy, Deputy Director
Division of Water Rights

Dated: