

## **NOTICE OF EXEMPTION (California Environmental Quality Act)**

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| <b>To: County Clerk</b><br>County of Plumas<br>520 Main Street, Room 102<br>Quincy, CA 95971 | <b>To: State of California</b><br>Office of Planning & Research<br>1400 Tenth Street, Room 121<br>Sacramento, CA 95814 | <b>From: Hamilton Branch Community Services District</b><br>3749 Highway A-13<br>Lake Almanor CA 96137 |
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**Lead Agency:** **Hamilton Branch Community Services District**

**Project Title:** **Municipal Water Supply Well Site Feasibility Assessment and Preliminary Test Well Design**

**Project Location:** In the town of Hamilton Branch, north of Lake Almanor near the intersection of Plumas County Road A13 and Foxwood Drive. The property is a 97.9-acre parcel (APN 103-140-044) (the Property). The proposed test well is adjacent to the District's fenced compound that houses water tank A-13 (see attached Exhibit). In total, the project area is less than a quarter of an acre.

**Project Description:** Hamilton Branch Community Services District requires a supplemental water source to supply customer needs. Engineers have determined that the ideal location is adjacent to the District's fenced compound that houses water tank A-13. The proposed project consists of the following elements: contractor mobilization to project site and equipment staging; installation of estimated 12-inch conductor casing; drilling of 6-inch diameter bore hole to a depth of about 500 feet; perform geophysical surveys in bore hole; construct a temporary on-site retention basin (made by digging a depression and/or using soil to create berms); install submersible test pump and test pump well to assess aquifer yield and groundwater quality discharge water to temporary storage tanks and on-site retention basin; upon completion, abandon borehole in accordance with State and local regulatory requirements; and contractor demobilization and site restoration.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Hamilton Branch Community Services District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Hamilton Branch Community Services District

**Exempt Status:** Categorical Exemption—CEQA Guidelines Section 15306. Information Collection.

CEQA Guidelines grant exemption to "...resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded." The Project will not have a significant physical effect on the environment and mitigation measures are not required. Note that the well drilling will only temporarily affect less than a quarter acre of ground and will not require significant disturbance of natural habitats or removal of large trees. The resulting project will not be visible to the public. Existing ordinances, building codes, and permit conditions will ensure that the well installation will be made correctly, safely, and without significant impacts.

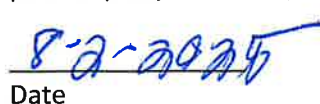
**Lead Agency Contact Person**

Michael Saitone, General Manager

  
Signature

**Contact Info**

phone: (530) 596-3002; email: hbcasd@frontier.com

  
Date

**Certificate of Posting**

I hereby certify that from 9/8/2025 to 10/8/2025 (30 days), I posted a copy of this Notice of Exemption in the Office of the Plumas County Clerk.

By:   
Mercy DeMartile, County Clerk/Deputy

9-8-2025  
Date

Receipt # 32-09082025 Document # 2025-024  
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