

Notice of Determination

To:
Office of Planning and Research
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 95434
Contact: Emily Galli
Phone: (707) 210-4531



Lead Agency
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060,
Contact Juliette Robinson
Phone: 831-454-3156

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2004112063

Project Title: Seascape Wetland Enhancement Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SCR-49566-R3)

Project Location (Santa Cruz): The Project is located at an unnamed pond tributary to the Pacific Ocean in the County of Santa Cruz, State of California; Latitude 36.95541, Longitude -121.86922. The site is accessed from the end of Castillo Court in Aptos, California; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 053-131-29.

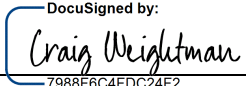
Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SCR-49566-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Center for Natural Lands Management (Permittee) as represented by Cathy Little.

The Seascape Uplands Preserve (Preserve) is located near Seascape Beach in Aptos, Santa Cruz County, California. There are three ponds on the Preserve (Ponds 1, 2, and 3). The Santa Cruz Long-toed salamander (SCLTS) (*Ambystoma macrodactylum croceum*) uses these ponds for breeding. Pond 2 is currently overrun with a monoculture of herbaceous California bulrush (*Schoenoplectus californicus*), resulting in minimal open water habitat. It is also surrounded by dense woody riparian vegetation (predominantly willows). Both of these factors limit sunlight exposure and have contributed to the decline of SCLTS populations on the Preserve. Since SCLTS prefer ponds with ample sunlight and thrive with increased invertebrate production, the Project is limited to the removal of California bulrush and associated rhizomes from the bottom of the pond.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described project on 9/25/2024 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will / will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the environmental impact report prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were / were not made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were / were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The final environmental impact report prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:

 Signature _____ Date: 9/25/2024
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Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____