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Office of Planning and Research
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From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, California 95501
Contact: Angela Liebenberg

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Lead Agency (if different from above)
County of Mendocino
860 N. Bush Street
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Contact: Julia Acker
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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2016112028

Project Title: Espino-Cardoza Stream Crossing and Water Diversion Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2019-0940-R1)

Project Location (include county): The project to be completed is located within the Eel River watershed, approximately 14 miles north of the City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California. The project is located in Sections 5 and 6, T20N, R13W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Willis Ridge U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2019-0940-R1, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Mr. Jose Manuel Espino-Cardoza.

The project is limited to six (6) encroachments. One encroachment is for water diversion from a well hydrologically connected to the Eel River. Water is diverted for domestic use and irrigation. Work for the water diversion will include use and maintenance of the water diversion infrastructure.

Four (4) proposed encroachments are to upgrade failing and undersized culverts. Prior to completion of this work, permittee shall submit culvert sizing and design plans prepared by a qualified professional, for CDFW review and concurrence. Work for these encroachments will include excavation, removal of the failing culverts, replacement with new properly sized culverts, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion.

One (1) encroachment is for remediation of a location identified as Site 2. Prior to completion of this work, permittee shall submit a remediation plan prepared by a qualified professional, for CDFW review and concurrence. Work for this encroachment will include removal of a concrete cistern, removal of sediment from the stream channel, removal of irrigation lines and other debris, and stream channel restoration.

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

1. The project 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. A mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
CDFW considered the mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration 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 not adopted by CDFW for this project.

6. Findings were not made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21081, subdivision (a).

The mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record related to the Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

Signature Scott Bauer Date: 1/22/2021
Scott Bauer, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____