



**To:**  
 Office of Planning and Research  
 For U.S. Mail:  
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**From:**  
 Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 Northern Region  
 619 Second Street  
 Eureka, California 95501  
 Contact: Christine Hahn Vertical  
 Phone: 707-441-2091

Lead Agency (if different from above)  
 County of Mendocino  
 860 N. Bush Street  
 Ukiah, CA 95482  
 Contact: Mary Lynn Hunt  
 Phone: 707-234-6650

**SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108 State Clearinghouse Number:** 2016112028

**Project Title:** Etherton Big Fir Farms Stream Crossings Ponds and Stream Crossings Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2018-0800-R1)

**Project Location (include county):** The project is located approximately 6. miles south east of the town of Whitethorn; affecting unnamed tributaries to Sproul Creek in the County of Mendocino, State of California; Section 19, Township 5S, Range 03E; Humboldt Base and Meridian, in the Garberville, Calif. 7.5-minute quadrangle, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map.

**Project Description:** The project consists of 2 encroachment(s): Both encroachments are for decommissioning two crossings from an unnamed tributary to Sproul Creek.

Work for these encroachments includes the removal of two legacy stream crossings on an unnamed tributary to Sproul Creek. The ATV road/trail will no longer be used. Work will include excavation, removal of the failing culverts (if present), and complete decommissioning by recontouring slopes to match native channel bank slopes, and revegetation with native plantings. Also disclosed in the Notification are two rainwater catchment ponds that providing all irrigation needs for cannabis operations. The excavated pit is 100' x 33' wide and 15'-20' deep with an 180,000-gallon capacity, which is lined with black plastic extending over banks. Filled to capacity no overtopping evident during the wet season of 2019. The pond contains goldfish, aquatic macro, and micro invertebrates. The second sediment rain catchment pond was determined to be placed upon an unstable legacy logging landing and was agreed to be decommissioned. 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* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cheri Sanville, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Date: 8/22/19  
 Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

**AUG 22 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**