

Notice of Exemption

Form D

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Phone 707-576-2220
Fax 707-523-0135
Email: NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov

Project Title: Dominie Creek Fish Passage Project

Project Location - Specific: State Route 101

Project Location - City: Smith River

Project Location - County: Del Norte

Description of Project: The purpose of the project is to remove an existing barrier to fish passage at PM 39.78 of US 101 at Dominie Creek by replacing the existing concrete box culvert with a full span bridge. Caltrans proposes to implement a fish passage improvement project on Dominie Creek to address California Endangered Species Act (CESA) mitigation requirements for the incidental take of State-listed species associated with the proposed Dr. Fine Bridge Replacement Project. The project on Dominie Creek would address a high-priority stream crossing identified for fish passage remediation in Caltrans District 1 by removing a known impediment to Coho salmon, Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout migration (i.e., replacing the concrete box culvert with a full span bridge) and improving access to an estimated 8,400 feet (1.6 miles) of habitat above US 101.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); (5268):
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)):
Emergency Project (Sec. 21 080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301 - Existing Facilities (c) and (d).
Statutory Exemptions, State code number: 15269 (d)

Reasons why project is exempt: The project will address the existing barrier to fish passage at Dominie Creek by the replacing the existing concrete box culvert with a full span bridge. The project will not result in an expansion of existing facilities.

Lead Agency Contact: Brandon Stevens

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 707-576-2377

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Digitally signed by Jonathan Warmerdam
Date: 2019.07.16

Signature: Matthias St. John

Date: 7/16/2019 Title: Executive Officer

- Signed by Lead Agency
Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUL 19 2019