

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, California 95814

Date: August 12, 2019

From: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, California 95501

Project Title: Issuance of Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2019-0383-R1, Dominie Creek Culvert Replacement Project.

Project Location (Specific): The project is located on United States Highway 101 (US 101) at Post Mile (PM) 39.78 approximately 13 miles north of the city of Crescent City in Del Norte County, State of California; Latitude 41.929492° North, Longitude 124.144979° West.

Project Location (City and County): The project is located on United States Highway 101 (U.S. 101) near the towns of Crescent City, respectively, County of Del Norte.

Description of Project: Caltrans proposes to implement a fish passage improvement project by replacing the existing culvert carrying Dominie Creek, tributary to Rowdy Creek and the Smith River, under US 101 at PM 39.78. The project will replace the existing 80-foot-long by 10-foot-wide reinforced concrete box culvert with an 80-foot-long single span precast box girder structure. The bridge will provide an active channel width of 30 feet. The project will potentially address California Endangered Species Act (CESA; See note below) mitigation requirements for incidental take (see Exhibits C and D) of Southern-Oregon California Coast (SONCC) coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) associated with the Dr. Fine Bridge Project. The project will allow unimpeded passage conditions for adult and juvenile salmonids to access 1.6-miles of perennial cold-water habitat valuable for refugia, rearing and spawning. Efforts shall be made to construct the project in one season of stream diversion. The clear water diversion will be installed in conformance with a Construction Site Dewatering and Diversion Plan, and an Aquatic Species Relocation Plan.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Entity Carrying Out Project: Mr. Jaime Matteoli representing the California Department of Transportation.

Exempt Status (Guidelines Section and Class): Categorical Exemption: Type – Class 2; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15302

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The project replaces and improves an existing culvert at the same location. There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat pursuant to section 15065.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jamie Jackson

Phone: (707) 441-2076

Signature:

Date:

Gordon Leppig

8/12/19

Title: Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor
Northern Region

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

AUG 13 2019

Signed by Lead Agency
 Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: STATE CLEARINGHOUSE