

Notice of Exemption

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To:
Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Region 1 – Northern
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501



Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

State Clearinghouse Number: N/A

Project Title: Arcata/Eureka Fiber Optic Cable Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-HUM-13723-R1)

Project Location: The project is located within the Humboldt Bay watershed on tributary streams between the towns of Arcata and Eureka, County of Humboldt, State of California; All activities will take place in the public right of way of Myrtle Avenue, Old Arcata Road and the City of Arcata; latitude/longitude 40.86663, -124.08196 at the first stream crossing.

Project Description: This Agreement relies on the Notification materials and a desk review without a CDFW site inspection. The project is limited to 10 encroachments (Table 1) for horizontal direction drilling (HDD) under streams in order to install a fiber optic cable and associated infrastructure. The entire project will be constructed underground using trenchless methods, such as the HDD construction method. The project consists of a single bore path from an existing facility in Arcata, continues along the eastern side of Humboldt Bay and terminates at an existing substation just east of Eureka.

Table 1. Project Encroachments with Description

ID	Latitude/Longitude	Description
Crossing-1	40.86663, -124.08196	HDD, Arcata C-105 on notification map
Crossing-2	40.85567, -124.07094	HDD, Arcata C-110 on notification map
Crossing-3	40.83777, -124.07003	HDD, Humboldt C-102 on notification map
Crossing-4	40.83444, -124.07290	HDD, Humboldt C-103 on notification map
Crossing-5	40.82708, -124.07626	HDD, Humboldt C-106 on notification map
Crossing-6	40.82117, -124.07849	HDD, Humboldt C-108 on notification map
Crossing-7	40.80238, -124.08801	HDD, Humboldt C-114 on notification map
Crossing-8	40.78603, -124.08537	HDD, Humboldt C-119 on notification map
Crossing-9	40.78459, -124.08568	HDD, Humboldt C-119 on notification map
Crossing-10	40.78585, -124.10455	HDD, Humboldt C-124 on notification map

No other projects that may be subject to FGC section 1602 were disclosed. This Agreement does not retroactively permit any constructed reservoirs (including "ponds"), stream crossings, water diversions, modifications to riparian buffers, or other encroachments not described in Table 1.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Vero Fiber Networks, LLC represented by Nathan McGinn

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption.

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 3 & 4; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15303 & 15304

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Reasons why project is exempt: The project installs a fiber optic cable underground within an existing public right of way using horizontal direction drilling to minimize disturbance. No significant vegetation removal will occur. There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, threatened, or rare species or their habitat pursuant to §15065. There are no hazardous materials at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed. The project will not result in impacts that are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.

CDFW Contact Person: Cheri Sanville (Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor), (707) 441-5901

Signature: _____ *Date:* _____

Cheri Sanville, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Date received for filing at OPR: _____