

Notice of Exemption

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-Coastal
612 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501



Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Riparian Vegetation Removal for Fire Protection (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-MEN-13801-R1)

Project Location (include county): The project is located within the Russian River watershed, within the town of Talmage, County of Mendocino, State of California; Assessor’s Parcel Number 182-240-16-05; latitude 39.0755 N and longitude -123.09044 W at 4951 Bodhi Way, Talmage, CA 95482.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-MEN-13801-R1, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Allen Huang.

This Agreement relies on the Notification materials and a CDFW site inspection by Environmental Scientist Christine Hahn Vertical on December 17, 2020. The project is limited to removing non-native trees and shrubbery, brush, grasses, and low hanging branches of native vegetation within ten feet of the ground that interconnect to surrounding upland vegetation. The project will create a break from riparian vegetation to upland vegetation in order to create a 100-foot fire break around residential and commercial buildings located at 4951 Bodhi Way. The parcel contains high quality contiguous riparian habitat in good condition along Mill Creek and North Fork Mill Creek, but interconnects to upland vegetation with dead and dying vines and branches. These connections will be removed with hand tools such as gas-powered string trimmers, pole saws, shovels, mattocks, pruners, or rakes. Riparian native trees may only be limbed up 10-feet and branches left on streambank, bed, or channel. Non-native vegetation such as Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) and Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) will be removed completely and replanted with willow cuttings from the surrounding stands within the immediate bank implementing measures outlined in Vegetation Management and Riparian Restoration sections of this Agreement.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Allen Huang

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption. Type – **Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304**, Minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes.

Reasons why project is exempt: Vegetation that is being removed is primarily non-native and a fire hazard. There is no grading or trenching associated with this project. Healthy, mature, scenic trees will not be removed. Mature native trees will be pruned, but not removed.

CDFW Contact Person: Christine Hahn Vertical, Environmental Scientist (707)502-8768

Signature: _____ *Date:* _____
Cheri Sanville, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

Date received for filing at OPR: _____