

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
601 Locust Street
Redding, California 96001

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Wilderness Gateway Ranch Diversion 1600 (Streambed Alteration Agreement Number EPIMS-SIS-18176-R1)

Project Location (include county): The project is located on French and Miners Creek, in the County of Siskiyou, State of California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-SIS-18176-R1, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Wilderness Gateway Ranch, represented by Rebecca Schenone-Chase.

The project is limited to inspection, operation, maintenance and repair of the fish screen and fish screen bypass return, in addition for any modifications instream to assist in the conveyance of water towards the diversion and protection of fish and wildlife species at two diversions of water: a single point of diversion on French Creek and a single point of diversion on Miners Creek. The Permittee divert water from French and Miners Creeks pursuant to Decree #14478 of the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Siskiyou judgement for French Creek.

The French Creek Diversion #20 and Miner Creek Diversion #36, existing water diversions for Wilderness Gateway Ranch. Both diversion facilities include a headgate, a conveyance ditch, a fish screen, and a fish screen bypass return. Note French Creek Diversion #20 has a seasonal grade control structure instream and the headgate is after the fish screen. The Miners Creek Diversion #36 has a rock weir near the point of diversion.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption.

Categorical Exemption. Type – **Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301**, Operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project is limited to operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features with negligible or no expansion. The diversion facilities are currently in good working order. Therefore, the continued use of these facilities is consistent with a Class 1 exemption, and no unusual circumstances exist with regard to this facility at this time.

CDFW Contact Person: Janae R. Scruggs, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) (530) 945-9458

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Croteau".

Signature: _____

Date: February 15, 2022

Joe Croteau
Klamath Watershed Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____