

## Notice of Determination

---

**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
[CEQA Submit](#)

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Bay Delta Region  
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100  
Contact: Karen Taylor  
Email: [Karen.Taylor@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Karen.Taylor@wildlife.ca.gov)  
Phone: 707-287-2144



Lead Agency

**California Department of Transportation**  
**111 Grand Avenue**  
**Oakland CA 94612**  
Contact: Chris Pincetich  
Email: [Lindsay.Vivian@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Lindsay.Vivian@dot.ca.gov)  
Phone: (510) 506-4310

**SUBJECT:** Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2022070088

**Project Title:**

Petaluma River Bridge Fenders Project (04-2Q500) (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS MAN-47736-R3)

**Project Location (Solano):**

The project is located in Novato crossing the Petaluma River, adjacent to State Route 37 at PM 14.5 in the County of Marin, State of California; Latitude 38.115330, Longitude -122.506179. Tidal marsh habitat occurs along the Petaluma River in the project area

**Project Description:**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-MAN-47736-R3), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant, California Department of Transportation.

The Project proposes to rehabilitate the bridge deck, upgrade the bridge railings, and replace the bridge fender system to meet current highway standards. The fender system protects the bridge bents from direct impact from vessels traveling in the navigable channel of the Petaluma River, and replacement of the fenders is needed to ensure the structure is protected. The bridge rehabilitation activities will include resurfacing the existing bridge deck and other ancillary activities. The Project will replace and upgrade the existing 4,412 feet of concrete baluster bridge railing with a Type 85 concrete barrier along both sides of the bridge. The bridge will be widened one (1) foot on each side from the addition of each new railing. The existing timber bridge fender system, all in-water vertical timber piles and the horizontal timber fenders, will be removed and replaced. The new fender system will be supported by 96 piles. The new fender system will consist of 24-inch steel pipe piles and steel walers with plastic lumber sheathing. The vertical limits of the fender system will be increased to allow for the anticipated sea level rise. Navigational lighting will be upgraded to meet the current U.S. Coast Guard requirements. Work in the navigational channel will most likely be conducted using barges to replace the fender system at bents 7 and 8. The existing wood fender system will be removed by vibrating and pulling piles from a barge-mounted crane. If complete pile removal is not possible with vibratory methods, wood piles will be cut and removed to 3 feet below the mudline. The new steel fender support piles will first be vibrated in, then driven to tip with an impact hammer, then the remaining fender elements would be installed. Pile driving activities could last 32-60 days depending on installation rate. The piles might be installed in segments (i.e., not consecutively) due to limited clearance of the bridge.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on February 12, 2025 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

**Notice of Determination**

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Reporting or Monitoring Plan was adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by: *Jason Faride* 2/12/2025  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
FEF0FA03CD48D...

Craig Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_