

# Notice of Exemption

# Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk  
County of: San Mateo

From: (Public Agency): \_\_\_\_\_  
San Mateo Resource Conservation District  
80 Stone Pine Rd, #100, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

(Address)

Project Title: Baker Bridge Emergency Removal

Project Applicant: San Mateo Resource Conservation District (RCD)

Project Location - Specific:  
Baker Bridge at Pescadero Creek on the Baker Fire Road in Pescadero Creek County Park (37.256918, -122.232507).

Project Location - City: Pescadero Project Location - County: San Mateo

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: A large tree fell onto Baker Bridge over Pescadero Creek in Pescadero Creek County Park, San Mateo County damaging the bridge beyond repair, rendering it no longer functional and a hazard to park users and stream habitat. It is deteriorating rapidly and has a high risk of imminent collapse into the creek. In addition to being impassable for fire response vehicles, the presence of the damaged bridge blocks any alternate creek crossing (e.g., fording) for vehicles. Its removal is necessary to prevent additional harm to creek water quality, the creek bed which is spawning habitat for threatened and endangered anadromous fish, and downstream structures (e.g., bridges). A temporary log deck will be protect the creek while the bridge is cut into pieces that will be taken off site to an approved disposal facility.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: RCD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: RCD

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt: Removal of the bridge is exempt under 15269 (c) because the damaged bridge is rapidly deteriorating and is at imminent risk of collapse, posing a hazard to park users, creek habitat and other bridge crossings downstream. Furthermore, Baker Bridge is on a critically important fire access road and the damaged bridge currently blocks any emergency crossing of Pescadero Creek (e.g. fording) should CAL FIRE need access. Ideally the bridge could have been removed and replaced shortly after it was damaged, but safe access to this remote, steep site for the large, specialized equipment needed for removal required construction engineering planning as well as timing the work for driest conditions for safety. Due to supply chain delays for steel, it is not possible to get a replacement bridge in time for this emergency work.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Sara Polgar Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 650-712-7765

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes  No

Signature: Sara Polgar Digitally signed by Sara Polgar  
Date: 2022.08.29 13:30:54  
+07'00 Date: 8/18/2022 Title: Conservation Program Specialist

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

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