

Notice of Exemption

To:

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

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 95434
AskBDR@wildlife.ca.gov



Project Title: Lakeville Creek Restoration Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SON-33545-R3)

Project Location (Sonoma County): The project is located at Lakeville Creek, in an unincorporated area of the County of Sonoma, State of California; Latitude 38.148166°, Longitude -122.481769°; Assessor's Parcel Number 068-150-014; the intersection of Lakeville Creek and Lakeville Highway and extending approximately 3,250 feet to the northeast.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SON-33545-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Sonoma Land Trust.

The project is limited to restoration of Lakeville Creek along an approximate 4,240 feet reach. Restoration will include grading of the incised channel, revegetation with native wet meadow species and bands of willow (*Salix* sp.), and protection of the site from grazing impacts with wildlife friendly fencing. Restoration will also include the removal of an existing culvert crossing of Lakeville Creek and replacement with a stabilized rock ford crossing of the same size, approximately 40 square feet. Restoration will follow the "Stage Zero" methodology, which involves restoring the channel bottom to its historic geomorphic grade through a combination of excavation of anthropogenic fill in the upper project reach to create a wider inset valley floor and filling the incised channel sections in the middle and lower reaches to the existing alluvial fan elevations. The goal is to raise the water table and create the distributary channel network and wet meadow ecosystem that was present before incision of the channel. Excess sediment from the upper reaches and fill for the lower reaches will be balanced to avoid the need for material off haul or soil import. The project area will encompass approximately 9.2 acres with grading activities limited to approximately 5.4 acres. After completion of the grading, erosion control and revegetation will be implemented. Revegetation will consist of seeding with native wetland species mix, wet meadow plug plantings, riparian plug and shrub plantings, bands of willow pole plantings, and native upland grass seed mix based on slopes and desired habitat types post-grading.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Sonoma Land Trust

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption. Public Resources Code section 21080.56, statutory exemption for restoration projects (SERP)
- Categorical Exemption.

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project falls within the SERP because the Project meets all of the following conditions: (1) the Project is exclusively to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife, and the habitat upon which they depend; or is exclusively to restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife; (2) the Project may have public benefits incidental to the Project's fundamental purpose; (3) the Project will result in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery; and includes procedures and ongoing management for the protection of the environment; and (4) Project construction activities are solely related to habitat restoration.

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CDFW Contact Person: James Hansen (Environmental Scientist), (707) 576-2869,
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Craig Weightman
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Signature: _____

6/20/2023

Date: _____

Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____