



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
 Northern Region  
 601 Locust Street  
 Redding, CA 96001  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor  
 CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



August 23, 2023

Sandra Duchi  
 City Clerk  
 City of Weed  
 550 Main Street  
 Weed, CA 96094  
[sandra.duchi@ci.weed.ca.us](mailto:sandra.duchi@ci.weed.ca.us)



**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR DHAMI'S TRUCK WASH & TRUCK REPAIR PROJECT, STATE CLEARING HOUSE NUMBER 2023070571, SISKIYOU COUNTY**

Dear Sandra Duchi:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed the draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (ISMND), dated July 2023, for the above referenced project which proposes a conditional use permit to develop a 2.4-acre site into a truck wash and truck repair building located along the western side of Interstate 5 on the corner of South Weed Boulevard and Vista Drive in Weed (Project). CDFW's review of this Project is pursuant to our role as the State's trustee agency for fish and wildlife resources under the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq. Additionally, as a State responsible agency, CDFW administers the California Endangered Species Act and other provisions of the Fish and Game Code that conserves the State's fish and wildlife public trust resources.

The avoidance and minimization measures listed in the ISMND appear adequate in avoiding and minimizing impacts to biological resources therefore, CDFW has no comments pertaining to Project impacts of biological resources. However, CDFW recommends that the City of Weed consider revising the list of proposed vegetation, listed on Sheet L-1, with native species known to occur in Siskiyou County and those that promote our native pollinating species. The proposed plants as they are listed on Sheet L-1 include unspecified, non-native species of lavender, azalea, peony, and Japanese maple.

CDFW encourages utilizing vegetation native to the local area in landscaping. Benefits of utilizing native vegetation in landscaping are numerous and include providing vital resources for native wildlife such as hummingbirds and other beneficial pollinators, conserving water, reducing pesticide use, and reducing landscaping maintenance.

*Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870*


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The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) website (<https://www.cnps.org>) includes a variety of useful information and tools to help determine which native species occur in a particular area, information on care and maintenance of native species, and contacts for purchasing native plants or seeds. The CNPS tool, Calscape (<https://calscape.org/>), generates a list of native plants that grow in an area based on a specific address and can be used to develop a planting palette for landscaping plans. For more information regarding the importance of using native species in landscaping, please see the CNPS Guidelines for Landscaping to Protect Native Vegetation from Genetic Degradation at: <https://www.cnps.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/landscaping.pdf>.

Additionally, for added efficiency throughout the project development process and to promote impact *avoidance* as first priority, CDFW recommends conducting protocol surveys *before* project approval, for those species with potential to occur. In this instance, CDFW is referring to botanical surveys. CDFW understands that at times, project timelines can restrict certain protocol surveys from occurring prior to the environmental document however, in most instances it may not only be necessary, but may prove to be most efficient for the Lead Agency. Identifying impacts early in the project development process will allow the Lead Agency to accurately identify impacts during the CEQA process, curate comprehensive avoidance strategies and aid in the development and implementation of the most suitable avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures.

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the ISMND to assist the City of Weed in adequately analyzing and minimizing impacts to biological resources. If you have any questions, please contact Erika Iacona, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) by email at [R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Tina Bartlett, Regional Manager  
Northern Region

cc: State Clearinghouse  
[State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov](mailto:State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov)

Erika Iacona  
[R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov)