



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 94534
(707) 428-2002
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



September 26, 2023

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Sep 26 2023

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Mr. Ezekiel Bean
City of Santa Cruz
123 Jewell Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
EBean@santacruzca.gov

Subject: Anadromous Salmonid Habitat Conservation Plan (ASHCP), Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, SCH No. 2023080658, City of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County

Dear Mr. Bean:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has received and reviewed the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) prepared by the City of Santa Cruz (City) for the Anadromous Salmonid Habitat Conservation Plan (ASHCP) (Project), located in Santa Cruz County, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.¹

CDFW submits this letter to acknowledge the City's continued coordination with CDFW on development of the Project since 2001. CDFW commends the City for working in partnership with CDFW to provide protective bypass flows for steelhead and coho salmon and for addressing, avoiding and minimizing potentially significant direct impacts from the City's operation and maintenance activities to these species. CDFW appreciates your previous coordination and looks forward to future collaboration on development of the City's Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for coho salmon and Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Notification for activities that may substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow; change or use material from the bed, channel, or bank (including associated riparian or wetland resources); or deposit or dispose of material where it may pass into a river, lake, or stream.

CDFW anticipates that the Project will have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of filing fees is necessary (Fish and Game Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089). Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW.

¹ CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Project's IS/MND. If you have any questions regarding this letter or for further coordination with CDFW, please contact Ms. Serena Stumpf, Environmental Scientist, at (707) 337-1364 or Serena.Stumpf@wildlife.ca.gov; or Mr. Wesley Stokes, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory), at (707) 339-6066 or Wesley.Stokes@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Erin Chappell

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Erin Chappell
Regional Manager
Bay Delta Region

ec: Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 2023080658)