

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

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



Project Title: Sonoma RCD Levee Maintenance Program (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SON-35682-R3)

Project Location (Sonoma County): The project is located at 23 distinct locations within the Petaluma River and Sonoma Creek watersheds, in the County of Sonoma, State of California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SON-35682-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Sonoma Resource Conservation District.

The Project is limited to routine maintenance activities scheduled and implemented as necessary to maintain existing levees protecting the adjacent properties from flooding.

Maintenance activities considered to be “routine” are described in Attachment A. In summary these activities include mechanical dredging of sediment from adjacent waterways to reinforce levee structures. Specifically, dredging of up to four cubic yards (cy) of material per linear-foot of levee, not to exceed 10,000-cubic yards or 2,500-linear feet per parcel in one year, for placement onto existing levees. Dredging volumes shall not exceed 150,000 cy in any given year. Mechanical dredging will be completed using long-reach clamshell excavators or a drag line excavator working from the top of existing levees, and dredged material will be excavated on the outboard side of the levee at the extreme reach of the available equipment to avoid damage to the levee toe. Dredging will not occur within 10 feet of the toe of the levee. Dredged material will be placed on the levee crown and mechanically compressed. Maintenance activities may result in minor temporary loss of salt marsh habitat in the form of targeted pickleweed removal using hand tools, as is required under Measure 2.23.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Sonoma Resource Conservation District

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301

Reasons why project is exempt: The project consists of operation, repair, and maintenance of existing structures involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

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DocuSigned by:
Craig Weightman
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Signature: _____ Date: 8/25/2023

Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____