

Notice of Exemption

To:

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

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd C-220
Ontario, CA 91764



Lead Agency:

California Department of
Transportation
500 South Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514

Project Title: Westgard Shoulder Protection Project, Amendment and Transfer of Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-INY-15275-R6

Project Location (Inyo County): The project is located at an unnamed tributary within the Caltrans Right of Way and Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 016-160-03-00, 016-160-04-00, and 016-160-05-00, at 10 separate locations along State Highway 168 beginning at PM 32.1 and ending at PM 38.5, in unincorporated Inyo County, State of California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has amended and transferred Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-INY-15275-R6, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the California Department of Transportation as represented by Katie Rodriguez.

The project is limited to the installation of reinforcements where an ephemeral drainage crosses the road at several locations. The project amendment is limited to: (A) the modification of the original project design at 10 locations, (B) changes to Agreement measures associated with staging, and (C) the transfer of the Agreement from Forest Becket to Katie Rodriguez. Amended project activities include the excavation and disturbance of a collective 0.22 acres of permanent impacts accompanying 108.1 linear feet of channel, and 0.71 acres of temporary impacts accompanying 341.2 linear feet of channel, the installation of concrete erosion control structures at each location's road edge, and the remediation of the locations to pre-project contour or better where temporary impacts will occur.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

Exempt Status:

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

Reasons why project is exempt: In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this project amendment is categorically exempt from CEQA review pursuant to Section 15301, Class 1, as the project as amended consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The proposed amendment and project activities described within meet the requirements of these exemptions; therefore no further CEQA review is required.

CDFW Contact Person: Andrew Chambers, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (909) 354-0919, Andrew.Chambers@wildlife.ca.gov

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Signature: _____ **Date:** 11/15/2023
Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____