

Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
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From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
601 Locust Street
Redding, California 96001



Project Title: Wood Creek Phase III – Felt Ranch Off-Channel Rearing Habitat Project (Project) (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-HUM-39331-R1C)

Project Location: The Project is located within the Freshwater Creek watershed, approximately two miles east of the City of Eureka, County of Humboldt, State of California. The Project is located in Sections 29 and 32, T05N, R01E, Humboldt Base and Meridian; in the Arcata South U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; latitude 40.78156 N and longitude 124.09024 W.

Project Description: On 11/29/2023, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Number EPIMS-HUM-39331-R1C pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602 for the Project, which will be carried out by the Northcoast Regional Land Trust in partnership with the Humboldt County Department of Public Works. The Project involves rerouting Wood Creek, constructing a new channel network, filling an existing agricultural drainage ditch, installing large wood features, creating off-channel habitat, and planting native species. CDFW expects that the Project will restore ecological function and natural processes, which will thereby benefit native fish and wildlife species.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Northcoast Regional Land Trust in partnership with the Humboldt County Department of Public Works

Exempt Status: Statutory Exemption: Public Resources Code section 21080.56 (Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects)

Reasons why project is exempt: CDFW has determined that the Project meets the qualifying criteria set forth in Section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) through (d), inclusive. CDFW's determination is supported by (1) Humboldt County Department of Public Works' May 9, 2023, initial determination as lead agency that the Project meets the qualifying criteria set forth in Section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) through (d), inclusive; and (2) pursuant to Section 21080.56, subdivision (e), the CDFW Director's June 13, 2023, concurrence with that Humboldt County Department of Public Works' determination, which is available at wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Cutting-Green-Tape/SERP/Concurrences.

CDFW Contact Person: Nicholas Van Vleet, Environmental Scientist, Nicholas.VanVleet@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:
Signature: Michael van Hattem 609BB48539B6406... *Date:* 11/29/2023

Michael van Hattem, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Date received for filing at OPR: _____