## **Notice of Exemption**

To:

Office of Planning and Research CEQA Submit

## From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Central Region 1234 East Shaw Avenue Fresno, California 93710



**Project Title:** Middle Mile Broadband Network Project Master Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-MMBN-43890-R4

**Project Location:** Activities authorized by Master Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-MMBN-43890-R4 (Agreement) will occur along 3,770 miles of existing California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) owned State highway right-of-way where it intersects with streams (Project). The entire Project area is located within California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Central Region encompassing the whole of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne Counties.

**Project Description:** On \_\_\_\_\_\_, CDFW executed the Agreement pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602 for the Project, which will be carried out by the California Department of Technology. The Agreement authorizes activities related to installation of the state-owned Middle Mile Broadband Network, within CDFW's Central Region. Activities authorized under the Agreement include the following: geotechnical investigations, site preparation (clearing and grubbing), trenching, subsurface drilling, trenchless conduit/cable installation, and backfilling of excavated areas.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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

## **Exempt Status:**

Statutory Exemption. California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15269, subdivision (b); Public Resources Code, section 21080.51, subdivision (a)(1)

**Reasons why project is exempt:** CDFW has concluded that the activities authorized through the Agreement meet the qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.51, subdivision (a)(1 - 5.). CDFW's conclusion is supported by the attached Master Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-MMBN-43890-R4.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Adam Thompson, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) - adam.thompson@wildlife.ca.gov.

Signature:	DocuSigned by:  Julie Vaner  FARST-DOFF-DOGUSES	Date: _	12/7/2023
	Julie A. Vance Regional Manager, Central Region		
Date received for filing at OPR:			