

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670



Project Title: Pool Creek Restoration Project (Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. LAK-46418-R2)

Project Location: The project is located at Pool Creek, in the County of Lake, State of California; Latitude 39.07198, Longitude, -122.96229 (WGS 84 datum, decimal degrees) 2947 Hendricks Road, Lakeport, CA, 95453; Assessor's Parcel Number 005-014-380-000.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification Number LAK-46418-R2, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Aaron Hiatt.

The project is limited to the restoration of approximately 1,050 linear feet of Pool Creek by clearing overgrown vegetation, removing woody debris and accumulated sediment. Restoration activities will be focused on materials blocking natural flow and then returning the historic grade of Pool Creek to allow for natural water conveyance and fish passage. The project will be completed in two phases. The first phase will begin immediately, prior to the upcoming wet season, and consists of cutting dense vegetation along Pool Creek. Additionally, accumulated sediment will be removed from segments of the project site where the creek is level with the road and causes flooding. Debris and material will be removed from Pool Creek with an excavator and placed where it may not reenter the channel. Sediment removal activities will be limited to the extent necessary to reasonably establish the channel and reduce flood risk. The second phase of the project will occur following the upcoming wet season. The newly cleared channel will allow access to the project area and will determine how much additional sediment needs to be removed throughout the project site. Sediment removal and the increasing of channel capacity will be limited to the extent necessary to ensure the historic flow of Pool Creek and will not exceed an additional 10 yards of removed sediment, for a total of no more than 20 yards of removed material throughout the duration of the project. The grade of the streambed will be restored to ensure proper flow and will include the removal of a significant drop pool currently restricting access to spawning habitat. The barrier may be removed by placing large rocks to reduce the drop, shifting sediment to create a smoother transition, or other similar methods developed in coordination with CDFW. Approximately, 3 dead walnut trees and 5 to 6 native trees growing inside the channel will be cut at the base of the tree to ensure no impacts to the creek from the removal of the root ball. Willow cuttings will be placed strategically along the creek bank to secure the bank, reduce future erosion, and restore habitat values for ecosystem function.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying out Project: Aaron Hiatt

Exempt Status:

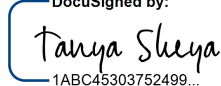
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class (33); California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections (15333)

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Reasons why project is exempt: Class 33 because the project does not exceed 5 acres in size and involves the maintenance, restoration, enhancement or protection of fish or wildlife habitat.

CDFW Contact Person: Ben Huffer, Environmental Scientist, (916) 216-6253

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Signature: _____ Date: 12/19/2023
Tanya Sheya, Environmental Program Manager