

Notice of Exemption

To:

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

From:

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



Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Project Title: Monache Meadow Restoration and Engagement Project Phase I: Demonstration Area (Project)
(Request No. 1652-2024-070-001-R4)

Project Applicant: Jessica Strickland, Trout Unlimited, Inc.

Project Location: The Project is located within the South Fork Kern River, in the Monache Meadow Wildlife Area, in Tulare County, California; centered at coordinates 36.225242, -118.172681; Section 34, Township 19 South, Range 35 East; U.S. Geological Survey Map Monache Mountain; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 116-090-009-000, 116-090-008-000, and 116-090-007-000.

Project Description: Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1652, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has approved the Project submitted by Trout Unlimited, Inc., represented by Jessica Strickland.

The primary purposes of the Project are habitat improvement and meadow restoration. The Project includes the installation of low-tech process-based restoration biogenic structure complexes within approximately 0.1 acres of an incised meadow. Structure types include post-assisted log structures and beaver dam analogs. Materials include whole conifers and conifer limbs, sagebrush (*Artemisia spp.*) and willow (*Salix sp.*) limbs, untreated wooden posts, rock, cobble, and soil. All materials will be sourced within the Project site, except for untreated wooden posts. Installation will consist of driving wooden posts up to three-foot deep into the streambed, perpendicular to flow, and weaving woody material between poles. Rock, cobble, and soil will be installed at the base of each structure for reinforcement. Each structure will vary in width from five to 25 feet but will be no more than 3.2-foot tall. Structures will be installed using hand tools, including chainsaws, loppers, and pile drivers. Structures are expected to capture sediment and increase streambed elevation, reduce peak flood flows and extend summer base flows, increase instream cover, and improve surface water infiltration. Due to the impermanence of these structures, they will be adaptively maintained as needed within the five-year Project term to achieve Project goals.

Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

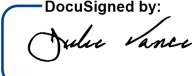
Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Trout Unlimited, Inc.

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 33 California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333

Reasons why project is exempt: Class 33 consists of small projects not to exceed 5 acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

CDFW Contact Person: Megan Rooney (Environmental Scientist), (559) 203-2792 or megan.rooney@wildlife.ca.gov.

DocuSigned by:


Signature: _____
Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager
Central Region

Date: 6/24/2024

Date received for filing at OPR: _____