

## Notice of Exemption

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**To:**

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

**From:**

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



**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Project Title:** Bradley (Ringer) Cachagua Creek Fish Passage Project, Request No.1652-2024-072-001-R4

**Project Applicant:** Paul Robins, Resource Conservation District of Monterey County

**Project Location (Monterey County):** The Bradley (Ringer) Cachagua Creek Fish Passage Project (Project) is located at an existing concrete ford crossing at 20775 Cachagua Road, in the census-designated place of Carmel Valley, Monterey County, California; within Cachagua Creek, a tributary to the Carmel River; centered at coordinates 36.39396, -121.61337; Section 02, Township 18 South, Range 3 East; U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map Rana Creek; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 418-231-004-000 and 418-231-005-000.

**Project Description:** Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1652, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has approved the Project submitted by the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County, represented by Paul Robins.

The primary purpose of the Project is to improve fish passage conditions within Cachagua Creek by removing a concrete ford fish passage barrier and replacing it with a free-span bridge. The Project will reduce energy expenditure and passage delays for migrating adult south-central California coast steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), will improve post-spawning survival of adult steelhead, and will facilitate access to 8.1 miles of upstream spawning habitat within the watershed.

Implementation of a site-specific dewatering and diversion plan may be necessary to construct the Project if flow is present within Cachagua Creek. The Project will require the clearing of 1,664 square feet of vegetation. The following live trees will be removed: a 26-inch diameter breast height (dbh) western sycamore (*Platanus racemose*), a 16-inch dbh coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), and an alder (*Alnus spp.*) stand with three trunks less than four inches dbh. The following live trees may be removed a 16-inch dbh western sycamore and a 32-inch dbh coast live oak. The existing 13-foot-wide by 75-foot-long ford crossing and driveway will be demolished and removed. The existing ford will be replaced with a precast 12-foot-wide by 37-foot-long slab bridge deck with cast-in-place concrete footings. Revegetation includes the application of a native seed mix within disturbed areas, planting of 30 live willow (*Salix spp.*) and 10 alder stakes along stream banks, planting of saplings and acorns (if available onsite), and container plantings to replace mature trees removed during construction at a 2:1 ratio.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** Resource Conservation District of Monterey County

**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

DocuSigned by:  
*Julie A. Vance*  
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Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager  
Central Region

Date: 6/24/2024

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_