



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Northern Region
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Office of Planning and Research
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SUBJECT: ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF EXEMPTION - Q2396001 BATTLE CREEK FLOODPLAIN ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

California Trout was awarded \$892,712 by CDFW Watershed Restoration Grants Branch to enhance the existing wetland complex at the Battle Creek Wildlife Area, Oaktree Trailhead (23999 Coleman Fish Hatchery Rd, Anderson, CA 96007).

The purpose of the enhancement is two-fold: to maintain existing infrastructure for ease of management for the purpose of the original restoration site – waterfowl habitat; and to reconnect Battle Creek floodplain aquatic ecosystem productivity with the main channel to improve rearing conditions for juvenile salmonids, particularly the ESA endangered Sacramento Winter Run Chinook.

The project work will involve maintaining, replacing, and/or enhancing existing wetland water control structures, wetland pond berms, and wetland grading to promote the production of aquatic invertebrates and efficiently export wetland water and invertebrates to Battle Creek to support juvenile Chinook salmon rearing. Infrastructure improvements will also increase management capacity to provide waterfowl habitat in ponds.

The project is exempt under CEQA § 15301 (i): maintenance of existing infrastructure and topographical features – wildlife habitat areas; and § 15304 (d): minor alterations to land – wildlife management areas.