

Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
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From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
601 Locust Street
Redding, California 96001



Project Title: McKee Creek Habitat Restoration and Forest Thinning Project (Project) (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No.EPIMS-HUM-46979-R1C)

Project Location (Humboldt County): The Project is located within the Mattole River watershed, approximately eight miles west southwest of the town of Garberville, County of Humboldt, State of California. The project is located in Sections 28 and 33, T04S, R02E, Humboldt Base and Meridian; in the Briceland U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; latitude 40.08153 N and longitude 123.95133 W.

Project Description: On 7/17/2024, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Number EPIMS-HUM-46979-R1C pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602 for the Project, which will be carried out by Sanctuary Forest. The Project involves forest health improvements (i.e., forest thinning), large wood installation, construction of log and boulder weirs, channel grading, and bank stabilization with boulders and large wood with rootwads.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Sanctuary Forest in partnership with the Humboldt County Planning and Building Department

Exempt Status: Statutory Exemption: Public Resources Code section 21080.56 (Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects)

Reasons why project is exempt: CDFW has determined that the Project meets the qualifying criteria set forth in Section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) through (d), inclusive. CDFW's determination is supported by (1) the Humboldt County Planning and Building Department's May 22, 2024, initial determination as lead agency that the Project meets the qualifying criteria set forth in Section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) through (d), inclusive; and (2) pursuant to Section 21080.56, subdivision (e), the CDFW Director's June 19, 2024, concurrence with that Humboldt County Planning and Building Department determination, which is available at wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Cutting-Green-Tape/SERP/Concurrences.

CDFW Contact Person: Nicholas Van Vleet, Environmental Scientist, Nicholas.VanVleet@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:
Michael van Hattem 7/18/2024
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Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Michael van Hattem, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Date received for filing at OPR: _____