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Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
CEQA Submit

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 95434
AskBDR@wildlife.ca.gov

Project Title: Upper Struve Slough Enhancement Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SCR-40014-R3)

Project Location (Santa Cruz County): The Upper Struve Slough Enhancement Project (Project) is located at Upper Struve Slough, a tributary to Watsonville Slough and a tributary to the Pajaro River, in the County of Santa Cruz, State of California; Latitude 36.93189, Longitude -121.77461. The site is accessed between Green Valley Road and Landis Avenue; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 016-231-16.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SCR-40014-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to City of Watsonville, as represented by Jackie McCloud.

The Project is limited to 1) channel reconfiguration and restoration planting; 2) bank stabilization; 3) inlet channel reconfiguration from Landis Ave; and 4) manhole modifications on a 2.03-acre, undeveloped property that supports an urban storm drain, underground sanitary sewer lines, and overhead utility line. The purpose of the Project is to stabilize an eroding bank, improve conveyance of urban runoff, restore native wetland and riparian habitat, alleviate flooding to residential areas, roads and public infrastructure, and provide a public demonstration of urban run-off and watershed restoration best practices.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Watsonville

Exempt Status:

☐ Statutory Exemption.

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

Reasons why project is exempt: This The Project is less than 5 acres in size, and will restore and/or enhance 4.5 acres of impaired wetland habitat for the benefit of fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW Contact Person: Serge Glushkoff (Senior Environmental Scientist – Specialist), (707) 339-6191, and Serge.Glushkoff@wildlife.ca.gov.

Signature: DocuSigned by: Craig Weightman 7988F6C4FDC24F2... *Date:* 8/20/2024

Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____