

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region 6
3602 Inland Empire Blvd.
Suite. C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: John Dempsey



Project Title: Bluff Lake Reserve Habitat Restoration Plan (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SBR-51617-R6)

Project Location (San Bernardino County): The project is located within and adjacent to an ephemeral stream, Siberia Creek, and Bluff Lake, located at Bluff Lake Reserve, a headwater of the Santa Ana River watershed, in the San Bernardino Mountains in the County of San Bernardino, State of California; Latitude 34.217070, Longitude -116.966869, specifically Bluff Lake Rd, Big Bear Lake, CA 92305. APN 0306-191-05-0000.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SBR-51617-R6, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to The Wildlands Conservancy represented by Jennifer Francis.

The Project is limited to the restoration, management, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of drainage, hydrological conditions, and habitat of both surface and groundwater for Siberia Creek, covering the associated meadow, and extending throughout the approximately 60-acre Bluff Lake Reserve (BLR). The Project includes restoration to the hydrology of Bluff Lake meadow and lacustrine ecosystems to their natural condition through multiple project activities.

Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: The Wildlands Conservancy represented by Tim Krantz

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption.

Categorical Exemption. Type – – Class 1, §15301(h) and (i), Existing Facilities Classes 7 & 8; California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15321 and 15333.

Reasons why project is exempt: CDFW is issuing a streambed alteration agreement that includes improvements, protection, restoration, monitoring and reporting plan located at APN 0306-191-05-0000.

Class 1, §15301(h) and (i), Existing Facilities: The project is exempt under Class 1 because it consists of the maintenance of topographical features such as existing landscaping and native growth; wildlife habitat areas; and waterbodies such as stream channels and riparian areas, through habitat restoration, enhancement, and conservation, to protect fish and wildlife resources.

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CDFW Contact Person: John Dempsey, Senior Environmental Scientist Specialist,
john.dempsey@wildlife.ca.gov



DocuSigned by:
Kim Freeburn
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Signature: _____

Date: _____

12/6/2024

Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____