

Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
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From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, California 95501

Phone: 707-445-6493



Project Title: Serres Water Diversion and Stream Crossings Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-29598-R1C)

Project Location (Mendocino): The project to be completed is located within the Eel River watershed, approximately 3.5 miles north of Laytonville, County of Mendocino, State of California. The project is located in Section 26, Township (T) 22N, Range (R) 15W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Cahto Peak U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor’s Parcel Numbers 013-710-10-00 and 013-570-55-00; latitude 39.73530 N and longitude 123.50473 W at the point of diversion (POD).

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MEN-29598-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to John Serres.

The project is limited to three (3) encroachments. One encroachment is for water diversion from unnamed tributaries to Tenmile Creek. Water is diverted for irrigation and may be used for fire suppression, recreation, and wildlife habitat. Work for the water diversion will include operation and maintenance of the water diversion infrastructure, as well as gravel augmentation in the stream below.

The other two (2) proposed encroachments are to upgrade existing stream crossings. Crossing 1 will include replacement of an existing culvert with a vented ford at the top of the reservoir. Work for the vented ford will include excavation, removal of the existing culvert, replacement with a new properly sized culvert, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion.

Crossing 2 will include replacement of a double-barrel culvert with a bridge spanning the stream below the reservoir. Work for the bridge will include excavation, removal of the existing culvert, installation of concrete abutments and footings, and rock armoring the banks.

CDFW field reviewed the proposed projects on June 16, 2022, and April 30, 2024.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: John Serres

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301

Reasons why project is exempt: The Formoso Seasonal Low Water Crossing Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 1; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301 because the project consists of the operation, maintenance, and minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. There will be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare, or threatened species, or their habitat pursuant to Section 15065.

CDFW Contact Person: Jessica Ryan, Environmental Scientist, 707-798-7390, jessica.ryan@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature:  **Date:** 2/6/2025

Rebecca Garwood, Environmental Program Manager

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Date received for filing at OPR: _____

