

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: Wadulh Lagoon Tidal Wetland Enhancement Project (Permit for Recovery and Management No. PRAM-2024-0002-R1)

Project Location (Humboldt County): The Project is located within a 78-acre parcel adjacent to the Mad River Slough on Humboldt Bay; approximately 1.25 miles west of the City of Arcata. The Project is located in the County of Humboldt, State of California; Latitude 40.891815 and Longitude -124.139325.

Project Description: On March 10, 2025, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued this Permit for Recovery and Management (PRAM) pursuant to section 2081(a) of the Fish and Game Code to the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District. This Project will restore tidal process and ecosystem function within a diked agricultural pasture adjacent to Mad River Slough. The Project is expected to benefit Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) and Longfin Smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*), referred to as the Covered Species. The Project is estimated to take 100 juvenile Coho Salmon, 50 juvenile Longfin Smelt, and 10 adult Longfin Smelt in the form of catch, capture and relocation; the Project may also result in take of 30 juvenile Coho Salmon, 5 juvenile Longfin Smelt and 1 adult Longfin Smelt in the form of incidental mortality during construction of the Project. Permittee is authorized to relocate the Covered Species out of harm's way. CDFW has determined and expects that the Project will benefit, aid in the conservation of, and assist in the recovery of the Covered Species. This notice is to advise that CDFW issued the above-described PRAM on the date signed below.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Humboldt County Resource Conservation District

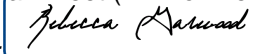
Exempt Status:

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) Humboldt County Resource Conservation District's December 1, 2023, 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 January 17, 2024, concurrence with that Humboldt County Resource Conservation District determination, which is available at wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Cutting-Green-Tape/SERP/Concurrences.

CDFW Contact Person:

Nicholas Van Vleet (Environmental Scientist); Phone: 707-298-4175, Email: Nicholas.VanVleet@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature:  Date: 3/10/2025

Rebecca Garwood, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____