

## Notice of Exemption

**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
[CEQA Submit](#)

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Northern Region  
619 Second Street  
Eureka, California 95501  
Contact: Jessica Ryan



Phone: 707-445-6493

**Project Title:** Young Water Diversion Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-21763-R1C)

**Project Location (Mendocino):** The project to be completed is located within the East Fork Russian River watershed, approximately 3.5 miles south of the town of Potter Valley, County of Mendocino, State of California. The project is located in Section 4, Township 16N, Range 11W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Potter Valley U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Number 177-090-04-00; latitude 39.2679 N and longitude 123.0872 W at the point of diversion (POD).

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MEN-21763-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Craig Young.

The project is limited to one (1) encroachment for water diversion from Mewhinney Creek. Water is diverted to irrigate alfalfa pasture for Tule Elk (*Cervus canadensis nannodes*) under the R-R Ranch Private Lands Wildlife Management (PLM) Plan. From December 15 to March 31 of each year, water shall be diverted at a rate not to exceed 900 gallons per minute (gpm), provided that Permittee is in compliance with Measure 2.5, Protective Streamflow Levels. All stream flow shall be bypassed from April 1 to December 14 of each year. Work for the water diversion will include use and maintenance of the water diversion infrastructure, and modifications as needed to comply with the terms of this Agreement.

No other projects subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602 were disclosed.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** Craig Young

**Exempt Status:**

Categorical Exemption. Types – Class 1 and Class 2; California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15301 and 15302

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The Young Water Diversion Project (Project) meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 because it consists of the permitting and maintenance of an existing private structure involving no expansion of existing or formal use. The Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 2; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15302 because it may involve the replacement or reconstruction of an existing structure where the new structure will be located on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the replaced structure.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Jessica Ryan, Environmental Scientist, 707-798-7390, [jessica.ryan@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:jessica.ryan@wildlife.ca.gov)

Signature: Angela Liebenberg Date: 4/7/2025  
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Angela Liebenberg, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_