

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
Contact: John Herrera



Phone: 707-653-3710

Project Title: Knight Water Diversion, Stream Restoration, and Stream Crossings Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-50806-R1C)

Project Location (Mendocino): Russian River watershed, approximately 7.3 miles south of the town of Potter Valley, County of Mendocino, State of California. The Project is located in Sections 21 and 28, T 16N, R 11W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Cow Mountain U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 177-250-06, 177-250-07, and 188-230-02; latitude 39.2197 N and longitude 123.0791 W at the point of diversion (POD-1).

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MEN-50806-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to William Knight.

The Project is limited to 9 (nine) encroachments. One encroachment (POD-1) is for water diversion from an unnamed tributary to Cold Creek. Water is diverted for domestic use. Work for the water diversion will include use and maintenance of the water diversion infrastructure.

Three proposed encroachments (Crossing-1, Crossing-4, and Crossing-5) are to upgrade existing culverts. Work for these encroachments will include excavation, removal of the existing culverts, replacement with new properly sized culverts, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion.

One proposed encroachment (Crossing-2) is to decommission and remove an existing stream crossing culvert and to implement stream restoration and revegetation of the disturbed area. Stream banks will be laid back to 2:1 slopes or flatter. Work for this encroachment will include excavation, removal of the existing culvert, recontouring of the slopes, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion.

Two proposed encroachments (Crossing-3 and Crossing-6) are to improve existing rock ford crossings. Work for these encroachments will include, excavation, installation of appropriately sized rock within the crossing, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion.

Two proposed encroachments (Crossing-7 and Crossing-8) are to replace existing unimproved low water crossings with new culverts. Work for these encroachments will include excavation, placement of new properly sized culverts, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: William Knight

Exempt Status:

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Categorical Exemption. Type – Classes 1, 2, and 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15301, 15302, and 15304

Reasons why project is exempt: This project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 1, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 because the project involves improvements and upgrades to stream crossings in existing locations. The project involves negligible or no expansion of the existing use. The Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 2, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15302 because the project consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced. The Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 4, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304 because the project includes minor alteration of land and does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

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Signature: *Angela Liebenberg* Date: 4/2/2025
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Angela Liebenberg, Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor

Date received for filing at OPR: _____