

Notice of Determination

To:
Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
North Central Region
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Zach Kearns
(916) 358-1134



Lead Agency:
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000
Jessica Nadolski
(916) 341-5290
Jessica.Nadolski@Waterboards.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2019100230

Project Title: American River Debris Removal Project (Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act–Request for Approval, Request No. 1652-2025-078-001-R2)

Project Location: The Project is located at California State Route (SR) 49 Bridge (Caltrans Bridge No. 19-35) over the North Fork American River, in Placer and El Dorado Counties. The Project is in a portion of the Auburn State Recreation Area (ASRA), which consists of federal lands acquired by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The Project’s approximate center is located at Latitude 38.914913, and Longitude: -121.040980.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has approved Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act–Request for Approval, Request No. 1652-2025-078-001-R2, pursuant to section 1652 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Placer County Department of Public Works, as represented by Cheyenne Toney.

The primary purpose of the Project is to restore the hydraulics and hydrology within the Project area. Current Project area conditions include debris deposited from the former SR 49 Bridge collapse that occurred when the Hell Hole Dam failed. The debris remaining in the North Fork American River includes steel plate girders, reinforced concrete slabs, and part of a concrete bridge pier. The Project will remove the material to restore the river to a more natural hydrologic landscape, which existed prior to the bridge collapse.

This filing is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, executed the above Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act–Request for Approval on the date signed below and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW’s permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.

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2. CDFW considered the environmental impact report prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The final environmental impact report prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of approval of the above Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act-Request for Approval as Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:
Morgan Kilgour
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Signature: _____

Date: 6/3/2025

Morgan Kilgour, PhD, Regional Manager
Region 2: North Central Region