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Notice of Determination

To:
Office of Planning and Research
CEQA Submit

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 94534
Contact: Alexis Harrison
Email: Alexis.Harrison@wildlife.ca.gov
Phone: (707) 815-2779

Lead Agency
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street, 4th Floor Planning Dept.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Contact: Matt Johnston
Email: Matt.Johnston@santacruzcounty.us
Phone: (831) 454-5357

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2020120466

Project Title: Watsonville Lee Road Trail Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SCR-15784-R3)

Project Location (Santa Cruz): Project Location 1) Struve Slough Bridge: The Project is located at Struve Slough, a tributary to the Watsonville Slough, accessed along Lee Road, in the City of Watsonville, in the County of Santa Cruz, State of California; Latitude 36.90421, Longitude -121.78456; Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 052-081-39. Project Location 2) Watsonville Slough: The Project is located at the channelized Watsonville Slough, accessed along Lee Road, in the City of Watsonville, in the County of Santa Cruz, State of California; Latitude 36.90166, Longitude -121.78081; APN 018-391-03.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-SCR-15784-R3), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant, City of Watsonville - Public Works & Utilities Department, as represented by Murray Fontes.

The Project is limited to the following activities: 1) construction of a pedestrian/bicycle pathway which includes the installation of 12-foot-wide pedestrian/bicycle bridge over the existing portion of Lee Road submerged by Struve Slough and 2) replacement of a double barrel culvert that conveys channelized Watsonville Slough under Lee Road with a single precast concrete box culvert, 5-feet tall by 10-feet wide by 55 feet long.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on June 25, 2025 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.
2. CDFW considered the **Mitigated Negative Declaration** 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 not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

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Notice of Determination

Signature: DocuSigned by: Craig Weightman 7988E6C4EDC24E2... *Date:* 6/26/2025

Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____