

## Notice of Exemption

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**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  
1701 Nimbus Road  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670



**Project Title:** Lake County Water Resources – Routine Maintenance (Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2021-0012-R2)

**Project Location:** The project is located throughout the boundaries of Lake County including but not limited to Clear Lake, Scotts Creek, Lyons Creek, Middle Creek, Poge Creek, Schindler Creek, Forbes Creek, Morrison Creek, Robinson Creek, Kelsey Creek, Manning Creek, Alley Creek, Clover Creek, Cole Creek, McGaugh Slough, Rumsey Slough, Rumsey Slough, Thompson Creek, Highland Creek, Hill Creek, Adobe Creek, Putah Creek, Saint Helena Creek, and Dry Creek.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2021-0012-R2, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Lake County Water Resources, as represented by Scott De Leon.

The project is limited to multiple routine maintenance projects that the entity will complete at different time periods during the project term and a description of a procedure the entity must follow for any covered maintenance projects. Authorized maintenance activities include debris or obstruction removal, beaver dam removal, silt, sand, or sediment removal, vegetation control in channels or on banks, minor erosion control work, road and trail maintenance, channel alignment maintenance, repair of facilities, boat ramp and dock maintenance, geotechnical sample, bridge washing, minor bridge maintenance, anthropogenic clean-ups, invasive species removal, and small habitat restorations.

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

**Person or Public Agency Carrying out Project:** Sacramento County Regional Parks

**Exempt Status:**

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class (1), (4), and (33); California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301, 15304, and 15333.

**Reasons why project is exempt:** Class 1 because the project includes only includes maintenance at existing facilities and involves no expansion of the existing use. Class 4 because it includes minor alterations to land. Class 33 because the project includes small habitat restoration not exceeding a total of 5 acres in size that will not have a significant adverse impact to special status species, disturb or remove hazardous materials, or be significant when viewed in connection with past, current, or probable future projects.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Zach Kearns, Environmental Scientist at 916-358-1134

DocuSigned by:  
*Kelley Barker*  
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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kelley Barker, Environmental Program Manager

Date: 3/29/2022



California Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
North Central Region  
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-4599  
916-358-2900  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

**GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor**  
**CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director**



**ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**  
**Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Between State of California, Department of Fish and Wildlife and Lake County Water Resources – Routine Maintenance**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), by and through its Environmental Program Manager, has taken final action to execute the Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Between State of California, Department of Fish and Wildlife and Lake County Water Resources – Routine Maintenance. In taking its final agency action for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), CDFW executed this Agreement relying on the categorical exemption for “Existing Facilities,” “Minor Alterations to Land,” and “Small Habitat Restoration Projects” contained in CEQA Guidelines section 15301, 15304, and 15333, respectively. The project involves routine maintenance of watercourses within Lake County. Such activities generally include debris or obstruction removal, boat ramp maintenance, trail maintenance, and small habitat restorations or enhancements.

The Class 1 categorical exemption applies to the operation and maintenance of existing facilities. Specifically, a project is exempt from further review under CEQA if the project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. CDFW finds the execution of the Agreement with Lake County to be exempt pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15301, the "existing facilities" exemption. This exemption is applicable because the project includes maintenance at existing facilities and involves no expansion of the existing use.

The Class 4 categorical exemption applies to minor alterations to land. Specifically, a project is exempt from further review under CEQA if the project consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. CDFW finds the execution of the Agreement with Lake County Water Resources to be exempt pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15304, the "minor alterations to land" exemption. This exemption is applicable because the project includes activities that do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees.

The Class 33 categorical exemption applies to small habitat restoration projects. Specifically, a project is exempt from further review under CEQA if the project does not exceed five acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife. CDFW finds the execution of the Agreement with Lake County Water Resources to be exempt pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15333, the "small habitat restoration projects" exemption. This exemption is applicable because the project includes small habitat restoration and would not include a significant adverse impact to special-status species, disturbing or removal of hazardous materials, and would not be significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.