

Notice of Determination

To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Contact: David Manthorne
Email: David.manthorne@wildlife.ca.gov
Phone: 707-741-1211



Lead Agency
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
1001 I Street 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
Contact: Gabriel Edwards
Email: Gabriel.edwards@waterboards.ca.gov
Phone: 916-449-5990

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2022070069

Project Title: Palomino Estates Water System Improvements (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-HUM-58666-R1)

Project Location (Humboldt County): The project is located at East Branch South Fork Eel River, in the County of Humboldt, State of California; Latitude 40.0684, Longitude -123.7624, Section 32, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map Garberville, Humboldt base and meridian; Assessor's Parcel Number 033-291-008 at the Point of Diversion.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-HUM-58666-R1), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant, Steven Michelle representing Palomino Estates Mutual Water Company.

The project is limited to one encroachment. The encroachment is to replace the water diversion pump at an existing streamside cistern and to divert water from the East Branch South Fork Eel River for domestic use in the Palomino Estates Mutual Water Company (PEMWC) service area. The water pump replacement is a component of a larger project to replace and upgrade the PEMWC water treatment and distribution system.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on April 27, 2026, 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** 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.

Signature: Adam McKannay Date: 4/28/2026
DocuSigned by: BE359DC694B14AE...

Notice of Determination

Adam McKannay, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at LCI: