

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Use Permit for the Lower Stotenburg Creek Fish Passage Project

Lead Agency: Del Norte County

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Project Location: Crescent City
City

Del Norte
County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Stotenburg Creek flows parallel to Fred Haight Drive and enters the mainstem Smith River approximately 0.8 miles upstream from the Del Norte County boat ramp and approximately 5.9 miles upstream of the mouth of the Smith River in Del Norte County, CA. The project will restore habitat by: 1) Removing the four crossings, two of which will be replaced and upgraded; 2) installing an engineered log jam, 400' of willow baffles, 5 large wood structures, and 5 beaver dam analogs to increase channel complexity and connectivity; 3) recontouring the channel to enhance connection to the Smith River and to establish floodplain connectivity; and, 4) controlling invasive and enhancing native riparian vegetation and installing cattle exclusion fencing throughout the 0.5-mile project area. The four undersized stream crossings in the project reach limit fish passage and interfere with the natural conveyance of water, sediment, and wood. Consequently, the channel lacks complexity and depth and increases gravel deposition at the confluence, causing a lack of connectivity between the creek and the river even during low winter flows. The crossings also impede fish passage and cause fish strandings when the creek seasonally dries.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Biological Resources:

All workers performing construction activities shall receive training regarding the environmental sensitivity of the site and the need to minimize impacts. Training regarding sensitive habitats, special-status species, laws and regulations, permit conditions, elk encounters, BMPs, safety, and trash removal shall be covered. See BIO-1.

If direct impacts can't be avoided, the applicant shall prepare a plan for minimizing the impacts by one or more of the following methods: 1. Salvage and replant plants at the same location following construction; and, 2. Collect seeds or other propagules for reintroduction to the site at a ratio of 3 plants installed for each 1 special species individual disturbed. See BIO-2.

If vegetation removal can't be avoided during the nesting season (March 15- August 15 for most species), a qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey in the project construction and staging areas for nesting birds and verify the presence or absence of nesting birds no more than 14 calendar days prior to construction activities or after any construction breaks of 14 calendar days or more. Surveys shall be performed for the project construction and staging areas. See BIO-3.

Cultural Resources:

An inadvertent discovery condition shall be added to the permit stating that in the event of archeological or cultural resources are encountered during construction, work shall be temporarily halted and more. See CULT-1.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

None to report.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers