

## Notice of Exemption

<b>To:</b> Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95814	<b>From:</b> Department of Fish and Wildlife <b>Wildlife Conservation Board</b> P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
<b>County Clerk (County of):</b> N/A	<b>Contact:</b> Aaron N.K. Haiman <b>Phone:</b> (916) 926-8835
	<b>Lead Agency:</b> California Department of Fish and Wildlife <b>Contact:</b> Megan Rooney, Environmental Scientist <b>Phone:</b> (559) 203-2792

**State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted by State Clearinghouse)** 2022110483

**Project Title:** Basso/La Grange Reach Floodplain and Spawning Habitat Restoration Project

**Project Location:** City: La Grange; County: Stanislaus; APNs: 008042004, 008016033, 008016034

**CEQA Region:** N. CA

**Project Description:**

The project is designed to primarily benefit Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) via the restoration and enhancement of approximately 65 acres of floodplain rearing habitat and eight spawning riffles within the lower Tuolumne River. This restored habitat will support improved productivity of salmonid populations on the lower Tuolumne River. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2025023.

This is to advise that the Wildlife Conservation Board has approved the above-described project on 2/26/26 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project.

**Lead Agency**      **Responsible Agency**

**Exempt Status: (Check One)**

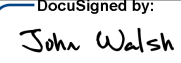
Ministerial (Sec. 15268):  
 Declared Emergency [Sec. 15269 (b) and (c)]:  
 Emergency Project [Sec. 15269 (b) and (c)]:  
 Categorical Exemption, State Section Number and type:  
 **Statutory Exemptions, State Code Number and type:** Public Resources Code Section 21080.56

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, as lead agency, determined that the project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to the Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP), Public Resources Code section 21080.56, as a project that meets all of the following conditions: (1) the Project is exclusively to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife, and the habitat upon which they depend; or is exclusively to restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife; (2) the Project may have public benefits incidental to the Project's fundamental purpose; (3) the Project will result in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery; and includes procedures and ongoing management for the protection of the environment; and (4) Project construction activities are solely related to habitat restoration.

**If filed by applicant:**

- Attach certified document of exemption finding.
- Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  
 **Yes (by this notice)**      **No**

**Signature:**  for Rebecca Friis **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 3/2/2026

**SCH#:** **Posted Date:**  
**Date Received for Filing at OPR:**