

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, California 95501
Contact: Michael van Hattem
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Lead Agency
Humboldt County Public Works
1106 2nd Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Contact: Andrew Bundschuh
Phone: 707-445-7741

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108
State Clearinghouse Number: 2022120036

Project Title: Lower Bear Creek Habitat Enhancement Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-HUM-55030-R1C)

Project Location: The project to be completed is located within the Mattole River watershed, approximately three miles southwest of the unincorporated town of Petrolia, County of Humboldt, State of California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-HUM-55030-R1C), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant is the Mattole Salmon Group.

This agreement authorizes the Mattole Salmon Group to reroute Bear Creek back within its historical alignment. The newly rerouted Bear Creek will flow under a new bottomless arch culvert on Lighthouse Road and a new single-span bridge on a private driveway. The private driveway and Lighthouse Road will be raised to incorporate the new culvert and bridge. Finally, large wood structures will be placed in the downstream reach of the project area to enhance habitat for aquatic species.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on March 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:

Signature: Michael van Hattem Date: 3/26/2025

Michael G. van Hattem, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____