

**Notice of Exemption****- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
*For U.S. Mail:*  
 P.O. Box 3044  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 Region 1 – Northern  
 619 Second Street  
 Eureka, CA 95501

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2024061296**Project Title:** EPIMS-MEN-62518-R1C MEN 101 RIDGEWOOD SAFETY PROJECT, EA 01-0L380**Project Location:** This Project is located in Mendocino County on U.S. Highway 101 between post miles (PMs) 39.8 to 40.4 near Walker Valley.**Project Description:** The purpose of the project is to increase highway shoulder widths, provide maintenance vehicle pullout areas, replace highway median barriers with wildlife passage, install new shoulder rumble strips, and new high friction surface treatment on curves. Work also includes 12 drainage system improvements, of which six were included in the Notification as Fish and Game Code 1602 projects.**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** California Department of Transportation**Exempt Status:**☐ Statutory Exemption.☒ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301**Reasons why project is exempt:** The project improves existing drainage systems. There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, threatened, or rare species or their habitat pursuant to §15065. There are no hazardous materials at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed. The project will not result in impacts that are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.**CDFW Contact Person:** Greg O'Connell (Senior Environmental Scientist), [Gregory.OConnell@Wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Gregory.OConnell@Wildlife.ca.gov)

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**Signature:** 

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**Date:** 1/26/2026

Michal G. van Hattem, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_