## **Notice of Exemption**

To:

Office of Planning and Research CEQA Submit

## From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife Bay Delta Region 2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100 Fairfield, CA 95434 R3LSA@wildlife.ca.gov



**Project Title:** Pavement Preservation Program 2024 (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SON-48838-R3)

**Project Location (Sonoma County):** The project is located at 40 work locations along 37 road segments at unnamed tributaries to the South Fork Gualala River, Stewarts Creek, the Russian River, Mark West Creek, Dutch Bill Creek, Salmon Creek, and the Laguna de Santa Rosa, throughout unincorporated Sonoma County, State of California.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SON-48838-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Sonoma County Transportation and Public Works.

The project is limited to maintenance of approximately 750 linear feet of existing roadside ditches, and replacement of 16 existing culverts throughout unincorporated Sonoma County as part of a larger pavement rehabilitation project. No work in wetted streams will occur. Removal of nine trees is necessary for four of the culvert replacements.

Replacement of four of the 16 existing culverts will result in approximately 0.08 acres of permanent impacts to riparian habitat. Permanent impacts will result from the installation of new rock slope protection or concrete headwalls at the culvert outlets. Culvert replacement will require the minimum amount of excavation into the roadway for the length and width necessary to remove the existing culvert underneath the road and install the new culvert pipe. The excavation area will be backfilled, compacted, and the roadway surface will be refinished.

Temporary impacts to riparian habitat will result from the in-kind replacement of 16 culverts and maintenance of approximately 750 feet of existing ditches. In-kind culvert replacement will require the minimum amount of excavation into the roadway for a length and width necessary to remove the existing culvert underneath the road and install the new culvert pipe. Existing inlet and outlet protection will be replaced at several locations, without any expansion in area. Ditch maintenance activities will remove accumulated sediment, debris, and overgrown vegetation to reestablish flow lines to baseline conditions. Temporary impacts will total approximately 1,056 linear feet and 0.55 acres of riparian habitat.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Sonoma County Transportation and Public Works

## **Exempt Status:**

Statutory Exemption.	
Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15	301

**Reasons why project is exempt:** Project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

## **Notice of Exemption**

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Craig J Weightman

Signature:

Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date:

Date: