

## Notice of Exemption

<b>To:</b> Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95814  <b>County Clerk (County of):</b> N/A	<b>From:</b> Department of Fish and Wildlife <b>Wildlife Conservation Board</b> P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 99244-2090  <b>Attention:</b> Aaron N.K. Haiman
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**Project Title:** French Creek Water Rights Dedication

**Project Applicant:** Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

**Project Location – Specific: APN(s)**  
 Miners Creek Ranch: 5932 Miners Creek Road, Etna, CA 96027  
 Marble Peaks Ranch: 7530 Miners Creek Road, Etna, CA 96027

**Project Location – City:** Etna

**Project Location – County:** Siskiyou

**CEQA Region:** N. CA

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:**  
 This project will permanently dedicate ~3 cubic feet per second of water rights located in the French Creek watershed of the Scott River. This dedication of water rights from two properties, using California Water Code § 1707, will potentially triple the amount of summer base flow that is otherwise available to support rearing habitat for state and federally listed coho salmon in the French Creek watershed. French Creek and its tributaries are some of the State's most prolific coho bearing streams, and the stream reaches that will benefit from this dedication of water harbor the highest spawning densities in the Scott River watershed. These permanent dedications of flow will complement efforts to restore riparian and floodplain habitats along approximately 5 miles of both French and Miners Creeks [Proposition 1, Water Code Section 79733]. WCB Project Tracker ID 2024066.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** Department of Fish and Wildlife, WCB

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project:** Rebecca J. Fris, Deputy Executive Director, WCB

**Exempt Status: (Check One)**

Ministerial (Sec. 15268):

Declared Emergency [Sec. 15269 (a)]:

Emergency Project [Sec. 15269 (b) and (c)]:

Categorical Exemption. State Section number and type: Sec 15304, Minor Alterations to Land and Water

Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:

Other:

**Reasons why this project is exempt:**  
 This project will include a minor alteration to water rights to dedicate water to instream use for fish and wildlife preservation and enhancement of habitat.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Rebecca J. Fris

**Area Code/Telephone Extension:** (916) 212-5637

**If filed by applicant:** 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.  
 2. Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes, (by this notice)  No

**Signature:** DocuSigned by:  
Rebecca J. Fris **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 11/22/2024

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21108, 21152, 21152.1, Public Resources Code	<b>SCH #:</b> <b>Posted Date:</b> <b>Date Received for Filing at OPR:</b>
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ec: WCB Project Tracker  
 WCB Board Meeting Folder