



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

Bay Delta Region
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To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Hearn Retaining Wall Project (Notification of Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SCR-50539-R3)

Project Location (Santa Cruz County): The Project is located at 1026 Trout Gulch Road in Aptos, County of Santa Cruz, State of California; Latitude 36.98088, Longitude -121.89038; Assessor's Parcel Number 041-081-39.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has amended Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SCR-50539-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Laurie Hearn.

In 2023, heavy storms caused a landslide on the banks of Trout Creek, immediately behind a single-family home. The purpose of the Project is to stabilize the bank adjacent to the creek to protect the property from further erosion. The Project amendment is limited to adding a secondary access route that will require an additional 20 linear feet of temporary shoring to be installed to create a bench for equipment to enter the work area. All work will be conducted from the riverbank. Silt fence will be installed along the banks of Trout Creek, above the wetted channel and below the retaining wall installation area, to capture any loose sediment during construction. Captured sediment will be removed daily with hand tools and disposed of outside of the Project area.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

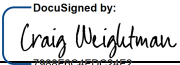
Logan Thompson
County of Santa Cruz

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Resource Planner II
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Exempt Status: On March 13, 2024, the County of Santa Cruz, the Lead Agency, determined that the Project is statutorily exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code section 15269 (b & c). The Lead Agency determined that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria for the exemption. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.1 (a), the Lead Agency is responsible for determining whether the Project is exempt from CEQA and that determination shall be final and conclusive on all persons, including Responsible Agencies. As a result, CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, is bound by the Lead Agency's determination that the Project is exempt from CEQA.

CDFW Contact Person: Alexis Harrison (Environmental Scientist), (707) 815-2779, and Alexis.Harrison@Wildlife.ca.gov

Signature:  Date: 3/13/2026

Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: