



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 94534
(707) 428-2002
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



To:
Office of Planning and Research
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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Drake Rd 2025 Russian River Bank Repair (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SON-57319-R3)

Project Location (Sonoma County): The project is located at the Russian River, in the County of Sonoma, State of California; Latitude 38.50999°, Longitude -122.98287°; 15170 and 15150 Drake Rd, Guerneville, CA, 95446; Assessor's Parcel Number 071-070-017.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SON-57319-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Streamline Engineering.

The project is limited to the biotechnical stabilization and revegetation of an eroding bank along the Russian River. The project will require stabilization of approximately 190 linear feet of the bank of the Russian River using riparian plantings and live vegetated rock deflectors comprised of large boulders and interplanted willow (*Salix* sp.) trees. Four live vegetated rock deflectors will be constructed perpendicular to the streambank, occupying approximately 80 linear feet of the bank in total. The remaining 110 linear feet of the bank within the project area will be graded to a stable slope and planted with native vegetation. Each deflector structure will measure 12 feet wide at the bank and widen to 20 feet wide at the furthest point into the river, approximately 10 feet past the ordinary high-water mark. Each deflector will include a redwood log with branch stubs or root wads to provide fish habitat. The rock deflectors will be interplanted with willow stakes. The streambank and riparian top of bank area within the project site will be planted with a total of 28 native trees and shrubs and 32 willow sprigs. An additional approximately 400 willow poles will be planted within the deflector structures. The project will result in approximately 7,350 square feet (0.17 acres) of temporary impacts to riparian and open channel habitat. Impacts incurred from the use of boulder structures to protect the banks will be offset with the inclusion of large wood root wads for fish habitat, dense interplanting with willows, and additional riparian bank plantings. All disturbed areas within the project site will be treated with a native seed mix and mulch or a biodegradable coir mat to prevent erosion. The project has been designed to

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minimize the removal of live riparian trees, such that only two riparian trees will be removed. Access and staging will occur via existing driveways.

Construction of the rock deflectors will require work in the flowing water of the Russian River. A turbidity curtain will be used to prevent sediment from exiting the site. All equipment will be operated from dry land, but the bucket of an excavator may contact the live stream to place key boulders of the rock deflector structures within surface water of the Russian River.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Eric Austensen
Streamline Engineering
11203 Vellutini Road
Forestville, CA 95436
Streamline@sonic.net

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 33; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333

Reasons why project is exempt: Project consists of restoration and enhancement of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife that does not exceed five acres in size.

CDFW Contact Person: James Hansen (Environmental Scientist), (707) 576-2869, James.Hansen@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:
Signature: Craig J Weightman *Date:* 5/2/2025

Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____