

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, California 95501
Contact: John Herrera



Phone: 707-445-6493

Project Title: Amato Rancho Feliz Water Diversion Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-57640-R1C)

Project Location (Mendocino): Russian River watershed, approximately 2.8 miles west of the town of Hopland, County of Mendocino, State of California. The Project is located in Section 15, T 13N, R 12W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Yorkville U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Number 047-050-31 and 047-080-31 at the place of use and 047-080-34 at the point of diversion (POD); latitude 38.9845 N and longitude 123.1659 W at the POD.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MEN-57640-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Steven Amato.

The Project is limited to one encroachment. The encroachment is for water diversion from an infiltration well on the bank of Feliz Creek. Water is directly diverted for irrigation under licensed water right A013633 from May 1 to October 31 each year. Water is diverted to storage for frost protection and irrigation under Small Irrigation Use Registration H032131 from December 15 of one year to March 31 of the following year. The instantaneous water diversion rate shall not exceed 160 gallons per minute. Work for the water diversion will include use and maintenance of the water diversion infrastructure.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Steven Amato

Exempt Status:

- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1 and 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 and 15304

Reasons why project is exempt: Amato Rancho Feliz Water Diversion Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 1, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 because the project involves the use of an existing facility and negligible or no expansion of the existing use. The Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 4, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304 because the project does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

CDFW Contact Person: John Herrera, Environmental Scientist, (707) 445-6493, john.herrera@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature: Angela Liebenberg Date: 7/23/2025

Angela Liebenberg, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

Date received for filing at OPR: _____