State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA, 95501
(707) 445-6493
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
VALERIE TERMINI, Acting Director

To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
CEQA Submit

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: East Commercial Street Water Line Replacement Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-60918-R1C)

Project Location (Mendocino): The Project to be completed is located within the Eel River watershed, within the City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California. The Project is located in Section 18, T18N, R13W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Ukiah U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Number 007-020-11; latitude 39.41257 N and longitude 123.34774 W at the bridge.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MEN-60918-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Scott Herman, representing the City of Willits.

The Project is limited to one encroachment for the removal and replacement of existing 6-inch water line and the annual extraction of up to forty (40) cubic yards of accumulated gravel under the East Commercial Street bridge on Broaddus Creek. Gravel extraction is intended to restore flow capacity beneath the bridge, and reduce the potential for flooding. No vegetation will be removed during project activities. The water line work will be primarily conducted from the bridge deck or adjacent creek embankments. Work to remove and replace existing pipe hangers on the bridge will be conducted within the dry creek bed, using hand tools. Additional work to connect the water line on either side of the bridge will include excavation, backfilling, and compaction of fill and pouring of new concrete sidewalks. The gravel extraction will be performed using a small, walk-behind skid steer with a bucket to remove gravels from the eastern most bridge bay when the creek is dry. A vacuum truck will then remove the gravel and deposit it in the City's public works yard, which is adjacent to the Project site.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
EPIMS-MEN-60918-R1C

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:
Scott Herman
City of Willits
Utilities Superintendent
111 East Commercial Street
Willits, California 95490
(707) 459-7129
sherman@cityofwillits.org

Exempt Status:

☒ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15304) Categorical Exemption; Section 15304, Class 4 minor alterations in the condition of land, and/or vegetation which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

Reasons why project is exempt: There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat pursuant to section 15065. The project will not involve removal of healthy, mature or scenic trees.

CDFW Contact Person: Jennifer Garrison, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (707) 477-7792, and Jennifer.Garrison@wildlife.ca.gov.

Signature: DocuSigned by: Angela Liebenberg 826CFD321C3845E... *Date:* 1/20/2026

Angela Liebenberg, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

Date received for filing at LCI: