

CONFORMED COPY

Copy of Document Recorded on  
02/12/2026 03:02:39 AM  
as 2026-E0008  
Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder

FILING REQUESTED BY  
County of Mendocino  
Department of Transportation  
340 Lake Mendocino Drive  
Ukiah, CA 95482

AND WHEN FILED MAIL TO  
County of Mendocino  
Department of Transportation  
340 Lake Mendocino Drive  
Ukiah, CA 95482

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**Project Title:** Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Plan for Mill Creek Ponds in Mendocino County

**Project Location:** Mill Creek Ponds, Mendocino County

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The purpose of this project is to implement the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Plan for Mill Creek Ponds in Mendocino County, approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on December 9, 2019, in order to prevent the infestation of invasive Quagga and Zebra Mussels in Mill Creek Ponds. Among the key tasks of this project are to continue early detection monitoring for invasive mussels, which consists of Artificial Substrate sampling, Plankton Tows sampling. This project assumes a two-year period, from September 2026 to September 2028. The Mill Creek Ponds discharge water into Mill Creek on a year-round basis. Mill Creek flows into the Russian River between the communities of Ukiah and Talmage. The beneficiaries of this project are the communities in the Russian River Watershed.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** County of Mendocino Water Agency

**Name of Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** County of Mendocino Department of Transportation

**Exempt Status:** (check one)

- Ministerial [§15268]
- Declared Emergency [§21080(b)(3); 15269(a)]
- Emergency Project [§15269(c)]
- Categorical Exemption §15306

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

CEQA Guidelines section 15306 exempts basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The Early Detection Mussel Monitoring of the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Plan for Mill Creek Ponds in Mendocino County involves negligible disturbance to Mill Creek Ponds and its purpose is to determine whether the ponds have been infested by invasive mussels and their level of risk for infestation.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:**

**Title:**

**(Area Code) Telephone No:**

Howard Dashiell

Director of Transportation

(707) 463-4363

2/12/26

Signature

Date

POSTED FROM 2/12/26 TO 3/13/26