



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, California 95501
(707) 441-2075
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGAN HERTEL, Director



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Castro Stream Crossings Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-60684-R1C)

Project Location (Mendocino County): The Project to be completed is located within the Eel River watershed, approximately 8.8 miles east of the town of Covelo, County of Mendocino, State of California. The Project is located in Section 28, T 23N, R 11W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Newhouse Ridge U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Number 032-280-74; latitude 39.8177 N and longitude 123.0855 W at the first stream crossing (SC-1).

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MEN-60684-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Noel Castro.

The Project is limited to three encroachments. One proposed encroachment (SC-1) is to remove an existing culvert and install a rock armored fill crossing. Work for this encroachment will include excavation, removal of the existing culvert, installation of rock armored fill, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion. One proposed encroachment (SC-2) is to upgrade an existing culvert. Work for this encroachment will include excavation, removal of the existing culvert, replacement with new properly sized culvert, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion. The final proposed encroachment (SC-3) is to perform maintenance on an existing culvert. Work for this encroachment will include installing a flared end section at the inlet, rock armoring the fill slopes, removing an existing metal trough from the stream channel below the outlet, and installing a rock armored energy dissipator at the outlet.

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EPIMS-MEN-60684-R1C

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Permittee: Noel Castro

Contact: John Herrera - CDFW Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

619 Second Street

Eureka, CA 95501

707-445-6493

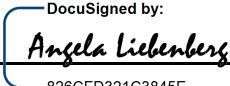
John.Herrera@wildlife.ca.gov

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption. Type – Classes 1, 2, and 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301, 15302, and 15304

Reasons why project is exempt: Castro Stream Crossings Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 1, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 because the project involves minor alteration of existing stream crossings. The project involves negligible or no expansion of the existing use. The Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 2, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15302 because the project involves replacement and reconstruction of existing stream crossing culverts and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structures replaced. The Project meets the criteria for categorical exemption type Class 4, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304 because the project consists of minor private alterations in the condition of land and water which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

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

Signature:  Date: 2/23/2026
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Angela Liebenberg, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

Date received for filing at LCI: