



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
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Johann Pond Berm Stabilization and Stream Crossings Project
(Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-57418-R1C)

Project Location (Mendocino County): The Project to be completed is located within the Eel River watershed, approximately 7.5 miles north of the town of Redwood Valley, County of Mendocino, State of California. The Project is located in Section 33, T 18N, R 12W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Redwood Valley U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Number 107-054-08; latitude 39.3733 N and longitude 123.2023 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-57418-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Nikki Johann.

The Project is limited to four (4) encroachments. Three proposed encroachments (SC-1, SC-2, and SC-3) are to upgrade existing culverts. Work for these encroachments will include excavation, removal of the existing culverts, replacement with new properly sized culverts, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion. Additional work for SC-2 will include removing an existing half-round downspout culvert from the channel below the culvert and replacing it with approximately 100 feet of 6-inch minus rock armoring as a rock lined swale. Additional work for SC-3 will include installing approximately 35 feet of 6-inch minus rock armoring as a rock lined swale below the outlet to reduce erosion. All work will be completed as specified in the most recent version of the Notification dated April 1, 2026.

The fourth proposed encroachment (Site 4) is to stabilize an existing berm and stream channel for a legacy on-stream pond that no longer impounds water. Work for this encroachment will include excavating the berm to a 2:1 slope, and installing a rock-lined swale with 9-inch minus rock that is 4 feet wide by 1 foot deep by 20 feet long. Native *Salix* plugs will be installed in the swale. Excavated fill will be placed on an existing bench and will be bordered with silt fencing and covered with straw mulch and native seed mix. All work will be completed as specified in the most recent version of the Notification dated April 21, 2026.

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
EPIMS-MEN-57418-R1C
April 21, 2026

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Permittee: Nikki Johann
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: Johann Pond Berm Stabilization and 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 an 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.

DocuSigned by:
Signature: Angela Liebenberg *Date:* 4/21/2026
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Angela Liebenberg, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

Date received for filing at LCI: