



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

Region 1 - Northern
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001
(530) 225-2300
wildlife.ca.gov

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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Big Springs Youth and Community Days

Project Location (Siskiyou): The project is located at 4415 East Louie Road near Montague on the Shasta River, a tributary of Klamath River; Latitude 41.594720 decimal degrees, Longitude -122.445133 decimal degrees; Assessor's Parcel Number 020-020-070-000.

Project Description: California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), California Trout (CalTrout), and community partners are sponsoring a 8-day event called the Big Springs Youth and Community Days. The objective will be to engage the Greater Klamath Basin community by increasing access to fall-run Chinook salmon spawning grounds for educational programming that builds community interest and commitment in conservation.

During the weekdays of the event, we will invite teachers to bring their middle school classrooms from across Siskiyou County for structured educational programming. Saturday will be a public day where we invite the greater community to join us on a rolling basis for a less structured day of viewing spawning Chinook, educational talks, and information tables.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Klamath Watershed Program
(530) 225-2300
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

CDFW - NOE

Big Springs Youth & Community Days

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Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption.

Categorical Exemption. Type – **Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304.** Minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forest or agriculture purposes.

Reasons why project is exempt: There will be no removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees as a result of this project. The project will have no significant effect on the environment.

CDFW Contact Person: Janae Scruggs, Senior Environmental Scientist, Specialist; (530) 945-9458, janae.scruggs@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:
Michael Harris
Signature: AA601B4C4B11422... Date: 5/6/2026

Michael Harris, Regional Manager

Date received for filing at LCI:



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
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May 6, 2026

ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF EXEMPTION Big Springs Youth and Community Days

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), through its Northern Region's Klamath Watershed Program has approved Big Springs Youth and Community Days for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) that includes a conservation and environmental education event (collectively, the Project). CDFW, California Trout (CalTrout) and community partners are sponsoring an 8-day event called the Big Springs Youth and Community Days to engage the Greater Klamath Basin community by increasing access to fall-run Chinook salmon spawning grounds for educational programming that builds community interest and commitment in conservation. CDFW approved the Project with an Event Plan including a Right of Entry Agreement with CalTrout, relying on the Class 4 Categorical Exemption, respectively. (CEQA Guidelines, §§ section 15304.) Each exemption relevant to the Project is discussed below.

Class 4 Categorical Exemption

CDFW finds the Project to be exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15304, the exemption for "Minor Alterations to Land". Class 4, as relevant here, consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forest or agriculture purposes. The Project falls within the class because it involves minimal disturbance to land without any significant effect on the environment.

CDFW and CalTrout have completed an Event Plan including yet not limited to details involving the schedule of events, site preparation, environmental protection, transportation, waste management, emergency and evacuation plan. The Project will require sensitive areas restricted from access, vehicular traffic restricted to already disturbed areas, access to Shata River is not permitted, and wildlife will be allowed to leave on their own volition.