



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 94534
wildlife.ca.gov

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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: City of Novato Routine Maintenance (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MAN-56861-R3)

Project Location (Marin): The project is located at several streams within the City of Novato, including Pacheco Creek, Arroyo Avichi, Novato Creek, Pacheco Creek, Scottsdale Pond, and Unnamed Tributaries to Pacheco Creek, Arroyo Avichi, Novato Creek, Rush Creek, and Miller Creek in the County of Marin, State of California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MAN-56861-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the City of Novato.

The project is limited to routine maintenance activities at 17 locations which are defined as activities that are periodically scheduled and implemented as necessary to maintain the water transport capacity of stream channels and the structural and functional integrity of existing bridges and culverts on or affecting streams.

Maintenance activities considered to be "routine" include:

1. vegetation management including limbing and trimming of tree branches; mowing of stream banks; string line trimming; herbicide use; removal of fallen and dead trees and cattails (*Typha* sp.), tules (*Schoenoplectus* sp.), or other vegetation; and limited removal of live trees; and
2. sediment and debris removal.

Dewatering work areas may be necessary to conduct the activities described above.

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Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Manijeh Larizadeh
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Novato, CA 94945

Exempt Status: On January 27, 2025, the City of Novato, the Lead Agency, determined that the project is categorically exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15301. The Lead Agency determined that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria for the exemption. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.1, subdivision (a), the Lead Agency is responsible for determining whether the Project is exempt from CEQA and that determination shall be final and conclusive on all persons, including Responsible Agencies. As a result, CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, is bound by the Lead Agency's determination that the Project is exempt from CEQA.

CDFW Contact Person: Nick Wagner (Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)), (707) 428-2075, Nicholas.Wagner@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature:  _____ Date: 4/6/2026
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Craig Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: