



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](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

**GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor**  
**MEGHAN HERTEL, Director**



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

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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**Project Title:** Ley Stream Crossing and Structure Removal with Stream Restoration Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-58859-R1C)

**Project Location (Mendocino County):** The Project to be completed is located within the Eel River watershed, approximately 3.3 miles east of the town of Covelo, County of Mendocino, State of California. The Project is located in Section 3, T 22N, R 12W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Covelo East U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Number 034-020-24; latitude 39.7889 N and longitude 123.1856 W at the 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-58859-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Hans Ley.

The Project is limited to two encroachments. One proposed encroachment is to upgrade an existing culvert. Work for this encroachment will include excavation, removal of the existing culvert, replacement with a new properly sized culvert, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion.

The second proposed encroachment is to 1) remove a pumping shed and adjacent water tank from a stream channel and 2) restore the stream channel to match the upstream and downstream conditions as best as possible. Work for this encroachment will include manual removal of water tank, deconstruction of the shed, removal of the shed, and use of hand tools to restore the stream channel.

**Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:**

Permittee: Hans Ley  
Contact: John Herrera - CDFW Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)  
619 Second Street  
Eureka, CA 95501  
707-445-6493

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[John.Herrera@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto: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:** Ley Stream Crossing and Structure Removal with Stream Restoration 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 crossing. 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 an existing stream crossing culvert 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](mailto:John.Herrera@wildlife.ca.gov), 707-445-6493.

Signature:  Date: 3/10/2026  
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Angela Liebenberg, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

Date received for filing at LCI: