



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
Notice of Exemption

To: ☒ Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Contra Costa County
Department of Conservation and Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

☒ County Clerk, County of Contra Costa

Project Title: Pinehurst Road Culvert Repair, Project# WL084A, Drainage Permit# 402-26 (ED26-00402), CP# 26-16

Project Applicant: Contra Costa County Public Works Department, 255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553, (925) 313-2000, Contact: Sandeep Kajla, (925) 313-2022, sandeep.kajla@pw.cccounty.us

Project Location: 50 Pinehurst Road, Canyon, CA 94516; APN: 257-031-014

Lead Agency: Department of Conservation and Development, 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

Contact Person: Syd Sotoodeh (925) 655-2877 syd.sotoodeh@dcd.cccounty.us

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The purpose of this project is to replace a driveway to a private residence at the location identified above. This driveway provides a single point of access to the permittee's private residence. Additionally, the existing culvert beneath the driveway has failed and needs to be replaced to maintain stormwater conveyance. The replacement culvert will be required, at a minimum, to maintain existing flow capacity or increase flow capacity compared to the existing structure.

The project would replace a failing 72-inch corrugated metal culvert that supports the driveway, where erosion has damaged the upstream bank and driveway. The existing culvert and hardscaped surroundings would be removed and replaced with a bottomless arch culvert (12-foot span, 5-foot rise, full-beveled ends) supported by concrete footings, along with rock armoring to stabilize the creek slopes, thereby reducing the risk of further damage to the driveway. Equipment for the project may include an excavator, backhoe, dump truck, or other similar equipment. All equipment used for the project will be staged on existing paved areas or roadways, on the permittee's private property.

Temporary water diversion and dewatering will be required. Minor removal of riparian vegetation may be necessary for access. Applicable best management practices such as silt fencing and straw wattles will be implemented, and regulatory permits will be obtained before construction. Construction is anticipated to start in the summer of 2026 and is anticipated to take up to 60 days. A Drainage Permit will be issued by the County to the private property owner for this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Contra Costa County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Scott Schalich

Exempt Status:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Ministerial Project (Sec. 21080[b][1]; 15268) | ☒ Categorical Exemption (Sec. 15301(c)) |
| ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080[b][3]; 15269[a]) | ☐ General Rule of Applicability (Sec. 15061[b][3]) |
| ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080[b][4]; 15269[b][c]) | ☐ Other Statutory Exemption (Sec.) |

Reason why project is exempt: The proposed project consists of the replacement of an existing culvert with a bottomless arch culvert and the reconstruction of an existing driveway with negligible expansion of use, pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301(c) of the CEQA Guidelines.

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature:  Title: Senior Planner Date: 6/25/2026

Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Applicant

Contra Costa County
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
Attn: Sandeep Kajla 
Environmental Services Division
(925) 313-2022

Department of Fish and Wildlife Fees Due

- ☐ De Minimis Finding - \$0
- ☒ County Clerk - \$50
- ☐ Conservation and Development - \$25

Total Due: _____ Receipt #: _____

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