



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: By-Day Creek and Slinkard Creek Beaver Dam Analog and Streambank Repair Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MOO-66314-R6)

Project Location (Mono County): The project is located at By-Day Creek, in the County of Mono, State of California; Latitude 38.27077, Longitude -119.33974; approximately five miles west of Bridgeport within the East Walker River drainage, and at Slinkard Creek in the County of Mono, State of California; Latitude 38.55724, Longitude -119.55865; approximately three miles west of Coleville, in Slinkard Valley.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MOO-66314-R6, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to California Trout.

The project is limited to process-based and technical watershed-scale restoration designed to stabilize streambanks, restore hydrologic connectivity, reestablish natural geomorphic processes, and enhance aquatic and riparian habitat complexity across 1.34 miles of By-Day Creek and Slinkard Creek to improve aquatic habitat for Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (LCT) populations. The project includes installation of 1) up to 150 beaver dam analogs (BDAs); 2) streambank stabilization in two locations; 3) repair of two failed stream-road crossings; 4) culvert removal and gully rehabilitation; and 5) meadow crossing restoration at one location.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Lindsay Britton
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Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Exempt Status:

☒ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 7, 8, and 33; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15307, 15308, and 15333)

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project falls within the Class 7 “Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources” because it involves CDFW’s action to improve By-Day Creek and Slinkard Creek stream function, fish passage, and riparian habitat to benefit the federally-threatened Walker Basin Lahontan Cutthroat Trout.

The Project falls within the Class 8 “Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment” because it involves CDFW’s action to restore habitat and reduce sediment impacts on CDFW-owned lands in By-Day Creek through instream restoration, road-stream crossing repairs, and road drainage improvements.

The Project falls within Class 33 “Small Habitat Restoration Projects” because it involves restoration activities designed to stabilize streambanks, restore hydrologic connectivity, reestablish natural geomorphic processes, and enhance aquatic and riparian habitat complexity; totaling 1.63 acres in size (1.34 stream miles) within By-Day Creek and Slinkard Creek.

CDFW Contact Person: Dana Scott, Environmental Scientist, (760) 644-8056

Dana.Scott@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature:  Date: 7/7/2026

Alisa Ellsworth, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: