

Notice of Exemption**- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research
 For U.S. Mail:
 P.O. Box 3044
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Region 1 – Coastal
 619 Second Street
 Eureka, CA 95501

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

State Clearinghouse Number: N/A

Project Title: Rice Ranch PG&E Access Road Maintenance Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-HUM-66415-R1)

Project Location: The Project is located within the Van Duzen River watershed, near the town of Bridgeville, County of Humboldt, State of California. The Project is located in Sections 14 and 15, T1N, R3E, Humboldt Base and Meridian; in the Bridgeville U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 207-182-006 and 207-181-011.

Project Description: The Project is limited to three encroachments to upgrade existing stream crossings. Work for these encroachments will follow treatment plans developed by Pacific Watershed Associates Inc. (PWA), and outlined in *Road Maintenance Plan, Rice Ranch PG&E Access Road Humboldt County California (PWA Report No. 2410582401)*. The Project will repair existing road damage and reduce future erosion. Work needed to repair the crossings includes excavation, removal of existing fill/infrastructure/debris, replacement with properly designed armored fill crossings, backfilling and compaction of fill, and rock armoring as necessary to minimize erosion.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Katie Webber, representing Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

Exempt Status:

☐ Statutory Exemption.

☒ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 2; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15302

Reasons why project is exempt: The project replaces an existing structure where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced. There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, threatened, or rare species or their habitat pursuant to §15065. There are no hazardous materials at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed. The project will not result in impacts that are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.

CDFW Contact Person: Jonathan Hollis (Environmental Scientist), (707) 601-7237

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 Signature: Michael van Hattem
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Date: 9/15/2026

Michael van Hattem, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Date received for filing at OPR: _____