



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Peyton Slough Remediation Project - 2025 (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-CCA-49807-R3).

Project Location (Contra Costa): The Project is located at multiple locations near Peyton Slough and unnamed channels, in the County of Contra Costa, State of California; overall site's approximate midpoint: Latitude [38.032756], Longitude [-122.111469].

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-CCA-49807-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Eco Services Operations Corp. as represented by Neil Baranik.

The Project is limited to remediation activities to protect the integrity of a soil cap (cap) over the former location of Peyton Slough, while preventing the release of legacy copper and zinc contaminants into the environment, including the current Peyton Slough, Carquinez Strait, and salt marsh wetlands. The Project will use excavators to place clean Bay mud to restore areas of unequal settlement due to ponding that could compromise the cap. Sheet pile walls will be made of polyvinyl chloride (PVC), measuring approximately six feet long, will be installed using push or vibratory methods using an excavator.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Neil Baranik
Eco Services Operation Corporation

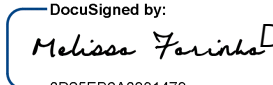
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100 Mococo Road
Martinez, CA 94553

Exempt Status: On April 30, 2025, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Lead Agency, determined that the Project is categorically exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15330. The Lead Agency determined that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria for the exemption. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.1(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: Mia Bianchi, Senior Environmental Scientist Specialist, (707) 815-8722;
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Signature:  Date: 8/11/2026
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Melissa Farinha, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: