



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501
707-445-6493
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGAN HERTEL, Director



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: WWTP Perimeter Creek and Plant Road Culvert Maintenance Project (Project) Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-70104-R1C

Project Location (Mendocino): The Project to be completed is located within the Russian River watershed, within the City of Ukiah, County of Mendocino, State of California. The Project is located in Section 33, T15 N, R12W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the El Roble U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Number 184-100-11; latitude 39.112569 N and longitude 123.192903 W at the first encroachment.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-MEN-70104-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Jason Benson, representing the City of Ukiah.

The Project is limited to two (2) encroachments. Work for these encroachments will include annual removal of up to 475 cubic yards of accumulated gravel and sediment. Additional work includes excavation to re-establish a stream channel and planting native riparian vegetation within and adjacent to the re-established channel. Access and short-term staging will use the adjacent public streets and existing disturbed or paved areas adjacent to Plant Road and the City of Ukiah's waste water treatment plant's perimeter access road. The limits of work and staging areas will be flagged in the field prior to the start of work. The work will be conducted using a mini-excavator, tracked skid steer, backhoe, and hand tools. The existing roadway, utilities, retaining walls, pedestrian bridge, and culverts will not be structurally modified. Any removed gravel not used in the creek re-establishment will be stored at the City's Corporation yard. All work will occur when the creek is dry and has no surface flow. This Agreement relies on the Notification materials and CDFW site visit on August 12, 2026.

Encroachment 1: Plant Road culvert and pedestrian crossing

Work will extend approximately 75-feet upstream of the Great Redwood Trail's pedestrian bridge southward through the 7-foot by 30-foot long double concrete culvert under Plant Road. Work will include the removal of accumulated gravel, sediment, non-

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native vegetation, and debris that obstruct stream flow. The initial gravel and sediment removal of up to 250 cubic yards will be conducted in 2026 with subsequent gravel and sediment removal to be conducted on an annual basis, as needed.

Encroachment 2: Stream channel re-establishment

Work will extend approximately 550 feet south from Plant Road to the City of Ukiah's waste water treatment plant entrance. Work will include the removal up to 225 cubic yards of accumulated gravel and sediment. The work will also include the re-establishment of approximately 520 feet of stream channel. The excavated and re-contoured stream channel will be up to 10-feet wide at the top-of-bank with an approximately 3-foot-wide native cobble bed. Mature native tree and shrub root systems will not be disturbed. Additional work will include the planting native riparian vegetation within and adjacent to the re-established stream channel. Work for this encroachment will be conducted in 2027.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

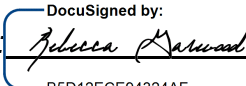
Jason Benson
 City of Ukiah Public Works
 Senior Engineer
 (707) 463-6284
jbenson@cityofukiah.com
 300 Seminary Avenue
 Ukiah, CA 95482

Exempt Status:

☒ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15304) Categorical Exemption; Section 15304, Class 4 minor alterations in the condition of land, and/or vegetation which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

Reasons why project is exempt: There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat pursuant to section 15065. The project will not involve removal of healthy, mature or scenic trees.

Jennifer Garrison, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (707) 477-7792.

Signature:  Date: 10/9/2026
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 Rebecca Garwood, Environmental Program Manager

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Date received for filing at LCI: