



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: Gibson Creek Sediment and Debris Removal School Street to Pedestrian Bridge East of State Street Project (Project) Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-MEN-70092-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 20, T15 N, R12 W, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian; in the Ukiah U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 002-184-10-00, 002-184-10-00, and 002-186-20-00; latitude 39.15272 N and longitude 123.20931 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-70092-R1C, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Jason Benson representing the City of Ukiah.

The Project is limited to three (3) encroachments for annual gravel extraction at three locations within Gibson Creek between School Street and State Street to restore flow capacity and reduce the potential for flooding. The total annual gravel extraction quantity shall not exceed 400 cubic yards. Access and short-term staging will use the adjacent public streets and existing disturbed or paved areas adjacent School Street and State Street. The limits of work and staging areas will be flagged in the field prior to the start of work. Work for these encroachments will include excavation using hand tools and a small excavator and includes the installation of erosion control measures after the gravel extraction is complete each season. The existing roadway, utilities, retaining walls, and culverts will not be structurally modified. The stream bank will not be widened and mature native tree and shrub root systems will not be disturbed. The removed gravel will be stored at the City's Corporation yard. All work will occur only between June 1 and October 31 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.

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October 9, 2026

Encroachment 1: Gibson Creek at School Street

This encroachment extends approximately 50-feet upstream of School Street and through the 40-foot-long double concrete culvert under School Street. The City will remove up to 30-cubic yards of accumulated gravel, sediment, leaf litter, tree limbs, and trash from both culvert openings and the immediate inlet and outlet approaches.

Encroachment 2: Gibson Creek Between School and State Street

This encroachment extends approximately 285 feet between School Street and State Street. The City will remove up to 250-cubic yards of accumulated gravel, sediment, leaf litter, non-native vegetation, tree limbs, and trash from both culvert openings and the immediate inlet and outlet approaches. A narrow, continuous low-flow path will be re-established along the existing thalweg.

Encroachment 3: Gibson Creek at North State Street

This encroachment extends from the 60-foot-long double concrete culvert beneath North State Street to approximately 70-feet downstream to an existing pedestrian bridge. The work will remove up to 120-cubic yards of accumulated gravel, sediment, leaf litter, tree limbs, and trash.

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.

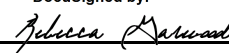
Reasons why project is exempt: There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat pursuant to section 15065. The project will not involve removal of healthy, mature or scenic trees.

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

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October 9, 2026

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

Date received for filing at LCI: