



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Bay Delta Region
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director



To:

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

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
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Lead Agency (if different than CDFW)
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NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code

State Clearinghouse Number: 2012082037

Project Title: Watmaugh Road Bridge Over Sonoma Creek Replacement Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2023-006-03 (ITP))

Project Location (Sonoma County): The Project is located where Watmaugh Road crosses Sonoma Creek, south of the City of Sonoma, in an unincorporated area of the County of Sonoma. The Project is located approximately 0.3 miles west of the intersection of Watmaugh Road and State Route 12/Broadway at approximately 38.26573°N, -122.46735°W. Sonoma Creek runs from north to south at the Project site. The Project site is bounded by residential development to the east and active agricultural land to the west. The Project is located within the Sonoma U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 Minute topographic quadrangle map and in Section 24 of Township 5 North, Range 6 West.

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

2081-2023-006-03

February 11, 2026

Page 2

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has issued an ITP (No. 2081-2023-006-03), pursuant to Section 2081 (b) of the Fish and Game Code to Sonoma Public Infrastructure.

The Project includes demolition of the existing three-span bridge over Sonoma Creek and replacement with a new three-span pre-stressed concrete bridge in the same location and alignment that will measure 180 feet long and 32 feet wide. Cast in Drilled Hole (CIDH) concrete piles will be drilled at the top of banks of the creek at the location of the new abutments, and within the channel of Sonoma Creek at the new pier locations. The new bridge structure will consist of a concrete box girder. A new concrete bridge deck will be cast in place. Approximately 0.08 acres of new rock slope protection will be added to protect abutments on the upper banks of Sonoma Creek and outside of the wetted channel. Access will be from the northeast side of the bridge and require grading a temporary access road from the top of the bank down to the creek bed.

A temporary gravel work pad within the creek channel will be needed to construct the necessary false work and dismantle the existing bridge. The temporary gravel work pad will be constructed across the channel of Sonoma Creek and cover approximately 0.10 acres. To isolate the work area prior to construction of the temporary gravel work pad, the creek will be temporarily dewatered and diverted into culverts for the Project duration. Construction within the dewatered portion of Sonoma Creek will be completed within one season from June 15 through October 15.

The Project will result in impacts to 120 linear feet (0.08 acres) of California freshwater shrimp (*Syncaris pacifica*) habitat including temporary impacts to 120 linear feet (0.08 acres) from dewatering; the Project will permanently remove 112 square feet of aquatic habitat for California freshwater shrimp from installation of new pier footings within Sonoma Creek, however removal of 250 square feet of existing pier footings from aquatic habitat within Sonoma Creek will result in a net decrease of 138 square feet of permanent impacts to aquatic habitat for California freshwater shrimp. The Project will also result in temporary impacts to 0.06 acres of overhanging riparian habitat for California freshwater shrimp located above the wetted portion of Sonoma Creek during Project construction, within the same length of stream that will be dewatered. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of California freshwater shrimp, which is designated as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on 2/24/2026 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project **will not** have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. An environmental impact report **was** prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
3. Additional mitigation measures **were** made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Reporting or Monitoring Plan **was** adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations **was not** adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings **were** made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081(a).
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4: **A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.**

The environmental impact report prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFW's administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:
Erin Chappell
Signature: _____ Date: 2/24/2026
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Erin Chappell, Regional Manager