Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research CEQA Submit

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife Bay Delta Region 2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100 Contact: Serena Stumpf

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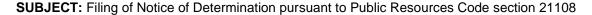
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Phone: (707) 337-1364

Lead Agency Santa Cruz County Contact: Juliette Robinson

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State Clearinghouse Number: 2004112063

Project Title: Lewis Circle Eucalyptus Removal and Restoration Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SCR-40480-R3; Project)

Project Location (Santa Cruz County): The Project is located at Rodeo Creek Gulch, accessed from 1046 Lewis Circle in the City of Santa Cruz, County of Santa Cruz, State of California; Latitude 36.96698, Longitude - 121.97520; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 028-031-70.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-SCR-37835-R3), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District as represented by Matt Abernathy (Permittee).

The Project is limited to processing downed Eucalyptus tree materials within the riparian corridor along Rodeo Creek Gulch. The Project will restore declining native riparian vegetation, promote habitat for wildlife species, and mitigate wildfire danger through clearing invasive plants. Thirty-one (31) Eucalyptus trees, ranging from 12 to 44 inches diameter at breast height, will be removed from the upland slope of Rodeo Gulch.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the Project described above on October 16, 2023, and has made the following determinations regarding the Project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

- 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. CDFW considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the Lead Agency for this Project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
- 3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of CDFW's approval of the Project.
- A Mitigation Reporting or Monitoring Plan was not adopted by CDFW for this Project.
- 5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted by CDFW for this Project.
- Findings were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of Project approval as a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

Signature: Craig Weightman	Date: 10/16/2023
Craig Weightman, Environmental Program Manager	
Date Received for filing at OPR:	<u></u>