

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Room 2
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
Bishop Field Office
787 N. Main Street, Suite 220
Bishop, CA 93514

Project Title: Green Creek Meadow Protection Fence

Project Location: The project will be located on the 720-acre Green Creek Unit of the Green Creek Wildlife Area (Wildlife Area) in Mono County, State of California; the Project is located in Section 18, Township 3 North, Range 25 East MDBM, USGS Dunderberg Peak Quadrangle map.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife ("CDFW") proposes to install 350 feet of wooden log and block fence along the western boundary of the Wildlife Area to protect sensitive wet mountain meadow and riparian habitats from unauthorized vehicular access. The wet meadow is part of the Green Creek flood plain and vehicle use from the nearest Forest Service road has been observed regularly, resulting in potential degradation of meadow habitat and water quality, soil compaction, and crushing of native plants and animal burrows. The fence will extend along the property boundary in a north-south direction from the forest edge to the vicinity of Green Creek Road to prevent vehicular traffic while permitting continued pedestrian public access. The log and block fence panels will be constructed from lodgepole pine logs set on rock or cinderblock footings, stacked vertically on lodgepole cross blocks, and secured with vertical rebar. Lodgepole pine will be cut on-site from dead and overcrowded stands nearby. Healthy, mature trees will not be taken. The work on the Wildlife Area will be completed using hand tools, chainsaws, and chippers, and completed by CDFW staff with assistance from California Conservation Corps (CCC) corpsmembers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Agency Carrying out Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial:
- Declared Emergency:
- Emergency Project:
- Categorical Exemption: 14 CCR, Section 15304 and 15333

Reasons why Project is exempt:

The project is *Class 4, §15304* (Minor Alterations to Land) Exempt; the Project is a minor alteration to the condition of land, water and vegetation on an existing officially designated wildlife management area (Wildlife Area) which will result in the improvement of habitat for fish and wildlife resources.

The project is *Class 33, §15333* (Small Habitat Restoration Projects) Exempt; the Project is less than five acres in size and designed to restore, enhance and protect habitat for fish, plants, and wildlife.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Alisa Ellsworth, CDFW, (760) 872-1173

Signature: 
Chris Hayes, Environmental Program Manager

Date: 3/29/2019 ~~Office of Planning & Research~~

APR 05 2019

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPP:

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE