

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, California 95814

Date: September 11, 2019

From: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, California 95501

Project Title: Issuance of Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2019-0671-R1. HUM 299 PMS 21.86, 27.83, 28.00, 29.00, AND 29.23 BLUE LAKE WIDEN AND RUMBLE PROJECT; EA 01-0F460; HUMBOLDT COUNTY

Project Location (Specific): The proposed projects would occur in unincorporated Humboldt County, between the City of Blue Lake and the unincorporated community of Willow Creek.

Project A (PM 21.86): From US 101, take State Route (SR) 299 east for approximately 22 miles (approximately 1.4 miles east of the intersection of Chezem Road and SR 299).

Project B (PM 27.83): From Project A, take SR 299 east for approximately 6 miles to the intersection of Old 3 Creeks Road and SR 299.

Project C (PM 28.00): Project C is located approximately 680 feet east of Project B.

Project D (PM 29.00 to 29.23): From Project C, take SR 299 east for approximately 1.0 mile. The project is located northeast of the Titlow Hill Road and SR 299 intersection.

Description of Project: Project A: (PM 21.86): RSP Installation

Construction activity includes stabilizing an engineered streambank for road widening. This method was selected to avoid impacting the stream channel. All work would occur above the ordinary high water mark.

Construction activity in sequence involves:

1. Preparation activity.
2. Removing riparian vegetation with hand tools and equipment.
3. With a backhoe or excavator, approximately 10 cubic yards of existing substrate and forming an earthen bench.
4. Compacting the exposed substrate.
5. Placing crushed rock over the bench with a dump truck and backhoe or excavator.
6. Placing approximately 10 cubic yards of RSP on top of the backing.
7. Post widening activity.

Project B (PM 27.83): Ditch Work – Permanent Fill

Construction activity includes filling a vegetated roadside ditch that conveys roadside runoff, upland sheet flow, and state jurisdictional groundwater. The vegetated ditch would be replaced with an inboard ditch composed of HMA. A HMA dike would be installed to direct flow into the inboard ditch. In addition, the associated drop inlet would be replaced.

The approximate sequence of construction activity includes:

1. Preparation activity.
2. Breaking up pavement around the drop inlet with a jackhammer and/or hydraulic breaker

3. Filling the existing roadside ditch with approximately 5.19 cubic yards of soil.
4. Widening the shoulder.
5. Installing a new inlet.
6. Installing an HMA dike and inboard ditch
7. Post-widening activity.

Project C (PM 28.00): Ditch Work -Fill and Relocation

Construction activity includes widening the road shoulder and relocating a vegetated roadside ditch that conveys roadside runoff, upland sheet flow, and intercepted jurisdictional groundwater
Construction activity in sequence work involves:

1. Preparation activity.
2. Grading the westbound shoulder and existing roadside ditch with a motor grader and/or bulldozer.
3. Widening the shoulder and creating a new roadside ditch with a backhoe or excavator.
4. Post-widening activity.

Project D (PM 29.00 to 29.23): Ditch Work and Reshaping

Construction activity includes widening the road shoulder, and grading and reshaping two segments of a vegetated ditch that convey roadside runoff, upland sheet flow, and intercepted jurisdictional groundwater.

Construction activity in sequence involves:

1. Preparation activity – including installing a crossing structure over the roadside ditch at the staging/storage area entrance.
2. Grading and reshaping the existing roadside ditch with a motor grader and/or bulldozer.
3. Removing the crossing.
4. Post-widening activity.

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

Name of Entity Carrying Out Project: Mr. James Van Bonn representing California Department of Transportation

Exempt Status (Guidelines Section and Class): Categorical Exemption: Section 15301, Existing Facilities, Class 1c

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The Project involves repair and maintenance of existing public structures, including measures to protect existing resources during repair, maintenance, and minor alterations of existing facilities on SR-299, and involves no expansion of existing use of highways.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jamie Jackson

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Signature:


Gordon Leppig

Date: 9-19-2019

Title:

Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor, Northern Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Signed by Applicant

SEP 19 2019

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