

**Notice of Exemption****To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
 For U.S. Mail:  
 P.O. Box 3044  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 Central Region  
 1234 East Shaw Avenue  
 Fresno, California 93710

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**State Clearinghouse Number:** N/A

**Project Title:** Steelhead Monitoring Plan and Chinook Salmon Collections and Transportation (Amendment No. 4 and Extension to Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2012-0187-R4)

**Project Location (include county):** The study and monitoring will take place in multiple areas of the San Joaquin River, Restoration Area between Friant Dam and the Merced River confluence. The spawning location monitoring activities will take place between Friant Bridge (Road 206) to the Highway 99 overpass, and the trap and haul and steelhead monitoring activities will take place in the following areas:

- Friant Dam at Latitude 36.9999 N, Longitude -119.706747 W and in Township 11S and Range 21E within Millerton Lake West USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN 300-021-64T and 051-200-06.
- Sack Dam at Latitude 36.983855 N, Longitude -120.500187 W and in Township 11S and Range 13E within Poso Farm USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 001-210-03;
- Wolfsen Road, Salt Slough at Latitude 37.159276 N, Longitude -120.812575 W within Stevenson USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 073-030-013;
- Elk Refuge, Salt Slough at Latitude 37.173069 N., Longitude -120.813700 W within Stevenson USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 073-020-002;
- Van Clief Rd. at Latitude 37.281995 N, Longitude -120.833372 W and in Township 7S and Range 10E within Stevenson USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 055-260-002, 055-260-003, 054-200-001;
- Salt Slough at Latitude 37.294135 N, Longitude -120.895679 W, within Gustine USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 054-170-003;
- Highway 140 Bridge at Latitude 37.307191 N, Longitude -120.925752 W and in Township 7S and Range 09E within Gustine USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 055-050-005;
- Mud Slough Bridge at Latitude 37.322754 N, Longitude -120.949324W within Gustine USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 054-030-001;
- Mud Slough at Latitude 37.330034 N, Longitude -120.952032 W within Gustine USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 054-030-001;
- Newman Wasteway at Latitude 37.336129 N, Longitude -120.973194 W within Gustine USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 054-210-001;
- China Island at Latitude 37.335039 N, Longitude -1210.9643310 W within Gustine USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN; 054-020-004;
- Casey Property at Latitude 37.344176 N, Longitude -120.976154 W within Gustine USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 049-037-004, 049-037-005, and 049-200-001;
- Hills Ferry Barrier at Latitude 37.347039 N, Longitude -120.9749890 W within Gustine USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, MDB&M; APN: 049-044-001.

**Project Location (City and County):** San Joaquin River in Fresno, Madera, Stanislaus, and Merced Counties.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing Amendment No. 4 to the Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600 2012-0187-R4 issued to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, San Joaquin River Restoration Program. The Project consists of the Trap and Haul study, involving the active collection of fall-run Chinook salmon (*Onchorhynchus tshawytscha*) to be actively spawned or be tagged with a visible tag (some will receive an additional acoustic tag) and transported and released back into the San Joaquin River upstream near the State Route 99 bridge crossing; the Steelhead Monitoring Program, involving the capture of steelhead (*Oncoryhnchus mykiss*), collection of data measurements, and releasing the fish back into the river immediately after processing; and the Spawning Location Monitoring study, involving the monitoring of natural and artificial redds. The Amendment No. 4 increases the duration of trap and haul activities, acoustic emergence trap activities, and redd grate study activities. The extension extends the Agreement expiration date to November 2, 2022.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

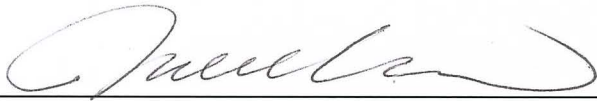
**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 6; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15306

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The Project includes studies to evaluate the success of trap and haul methods and to evaluate spawning locations selected by Chinook salmon. No significant environmental impacts will result if the Project is completed under the protective features included in Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2012-0187-R4, as amended.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Jim Kitch (Environmental Scientist), (559) 243-4014 extension 233

**Signature:**  **Date:** 10/25/19

---

Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

**OCT 28 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**