

Notice of Exemption

Form D

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Blvd, Suite A
Santa Rosa CA, 95403
Phone 707-576-2220
Fax 707-523-0135

Project Title: French Creek Diversion 43 Fish Screen Replacement Project

Project Location - Specific: 41.401136° N, 122.867647° W

Project Location - City: Etna

Project Location - County: Siskiyou County

Description of Project: The purpose of this Project is to prevent fish from entering diversion ditch "Ditch 43" on French Creek by relocating the existing screen closer to French Creek. The current screen is approximately 1,500 feet down ditch from the head gate on French Creek. Coho salmon rear near the existing head gate throughout the irrigation season and frequently get entrained in the ditch, unable to make it to the existing screen and nonfunctional fish bypass pipe to return safely to French Creek. The new fish screen will be 30 feet down ditch from the head gate, and the new fish bypass pipe will be approximately 75 feet in length and will return any fish that enter the ditch back to French Creek just downstream from the head gate.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Trout

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1): (5268):
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)):
Emergency Project (Sec. 21 080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
[X] Categorical Exemption; Section 15302(c) Replacement or Reconstruction
Statutory Exemptions; State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project will replace existing, outdated and failing water diversion infrastructure that, in its current condition, results in entrainment and entrapment of coho salmon.

Lead Agency Contact: Jake Shannon

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 576-2673

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? [] Yes [] No

Digitally signed by Jonathan Warmerdam
Date: 2020.02.18 16:07:07 -08'00'

Signature: Matthias St. John

Date: February 18, 2019

Title: Executive Officer

- [X] Signed by Lead Agency
[] Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: Governor's Office of Planning & Research

FEB 21 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE