

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
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Boulevard,
Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764

Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Aspen Fales Shoulder Widening Project (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2018-0124-R6 Amendment No. 1)

Project Location (include county): The Aspen Fales Shoulder Widening Project is located along U.S. Highway 395, 10.5 miles north of the unincorporated community of Bridgeport, Mono County. Specifically, the project is located along 3.13 miles of highway adjacent to Fales Hot Springs and Hot Creek, tributaries to the West Walker River and Topaz Reservoir. Section 20 North, Range 24 East, Township 6 North of the Fales Hot Springs and Mount Jackson U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle maps.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is amending Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2018-0124-R6, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Permittee, the California Department of Transportation, represented by Ms. Katie Rodriguez. The Amendment to the Agreement authorizes additional temporary impacts to 100 square feet of wet meadow habitat associated with Little Hot Creek and to restore the area by seeding it with a native seed mix (*Juncus* sp.), removing non-native weeds annually. A yearly monitoring report will be submitted to CDFW for three years or until CDFW determines success criteria of 30% native revegetation have been met.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15304)

Reasons why Project is exempt: Class 4, §15304, Minor Alterations to Land- the Project will result in minor public alteration in the condition of 100 square feet of land, water, and/or vegetation for restoration purposes not involving removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. No exception to the exemption applies.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Patricia Moyer, CDFW, (760) 872-1129

Signature: Scott Wilson **Date:** 2/28/2020
Scott Wilson, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____