

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 Boulevard
Santa Rosa CA, 95403
Phone 707-576-2220
Fax 707-523-0135
Email: NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov

Project Title: Hotelling Gulch Aquatic Restoration Project

Project Location - Specific: 41.238797° N, 123.277701° W

Project Location - City: Cecilville

Project Location - County: Siskiyou

Description of Project: The project will realign approximately 550 feet of streambed into the western alignment of Hotelling Gulch and concurrently abandon approximately 600 feet of channel in the eastern alignment. Abandonment of the eastern channel will require installing a berm at the point of diversion to the western channel, and partial in-filling of the abandoned channel (up to 550 feet downstream of the point of diversion to the new channel). This is necessary to prevent reoccupation of the eastern channel during a large flood event. The eastern channel alignment will be filled using excess material produced from channel and floodplain reconstruction activities. Channel restoration will result in scour and substrate sorting, creating areas with gravel sized material suitable for spawning by adult salmonids. Woody debris will be obtained from trees removed as part of project construction and will be incorporated into the pools to provide cover for rearing salmonids.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
Ruth D'Amico, U.S. Forest Service, Klamath National Forest

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 15333 Small Habitat Restoration Projects
Statutory Exemptions; State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt: The objective of the project is to improve natural stream function and increase access to low gradient stream habitat for anadromous fish in Hotelling Gulch. The project will reconnect the surface flows of Hotelling Gulch into one channel within the natural valley and upgrade an undersized culvert crossing, which is currently a fish barrier, to a bridge. Further, this project will restore habitat complexity to the lowest reach of Hotelling Gulch and open access to approximately 1.4 miles of habitat for salmonids.

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: 2020.04.30 17:10:45 -07'00'

Signature: Matthias St. John

Date: April 30, 2020

Title: Executive Officer

- [X] Signed by Lead Agency
Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OP&R

MAY 06 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE