

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION**

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

FROM: California Department of Fish and Game  
Native Anadromous fish and Watershed Branch  
830 S street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-7023

**SUBJECT:** Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code

**PROJECT TITLE:** The 2003 Fishery Restoration Grants Program

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER:** SCH #2003042032

**LEAD AGENCY:** California Department of Fish and Game  
**CONTACT:** Gene Geary, Environmental Scientist, (707) 944-5573

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Del Norte, Humboldt, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Sonoma Trinity and Ventura counties.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project will use grant funds approved by the California Legislature to initiate activities designed to restore coastal streams and watersheds that historically produced large populations of salmon and steelhead

This is to advise that the California Department of Fish and Game as a Lead Agency approved the project described above on May 19, 2003 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project pursuant to section 15075 .

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.

This is to certify that a copy of the Negative Declaration prepared for this project is available to the general public and may be reviewed at: 7329 Silverado Trail, Napa, California 94558. Please contact the lead agency person specified above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry E. Week, Chief  
Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch

Date Received for Filing: \_\_\_\_\_

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FOR

THE 2003 FISHERY RESTORATION GRANTS PROGRAM  
IN  
DEL NORTE, HUMBOLDT, MARIN, MENDOCINO, MONTEREY, NAPA,  
SAN LUIS OBISPO, SANTA CRUZ, SISKIYOU, SONOMA, TRINITY  
AND VENTURA COUNTIES AND REQUIRED  
AGREEMENT REGARDING PROPOSED STREAM OR LAKE ALTERATION

Prepared By:

Gene Geary  
Environmental Scientist  
Central Coast Region

and

Phil Warner  
Senior Fish Habitat Supervisor  
Northern California-North Coast Region  
Central Coast Region

This Report Has Been Prepared Pursuant to the  
California Environmental Quality Act of 1970  
State of California  
The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game

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INITIAL STUDY  
AND  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR  
THE 2003 FISHERY RESTORATION GRANTS PROGRAM  
IN  
DEL NORTE, HUMBOLDT, MARIN, MENDOCINO, MONTEREY, NAPA,  
SAN LUIS OBISPO, SANTA CRUZ, SISKIYOU, SONOMA, TRINITY  
AND VENTURA COUNTIES AND REQUIRED  
AGREEMENT REGARDING PROPOSED STREAM OR LAKE ALTERATION

**The Project:** This project will use grant funds approved by the California Legislature to initiate activities that are designed to restore salmon and steelhead habitat in coastal streams and watersheds. Years of poor land management and natural events have limited the ability of fish to survive and successfully reproduce in coastal streams that historically produced large populations of salmon and steelhead. This proposed project is designed to increase populations of wild anadromous fish in coastal streams by restoring their habitat.

The project objective is to improve spawning success for adult salmon and steelhead as well as increase survival for eggs, embryos, rearing juveniles, and downstream migrants. Bank stabilization treatments will improve spawning conditions and embryo survival by reducing sediment yield to streams. Upslope road decommissioning or repair will also help address these widespread problems. The replacement of barrier culverts with bridges or natural stream bottom culverts will allow adult and juvenile salmonids access to additional spawning and rearing habitat. The installation of the instream structures will recruit and sort spawning gravel for adult salmon and steelhead, and create summer rearing pool and over-wintering habitat for juveniles.

**The Finding:** Although the project may have the potential to cause minor short-term impacts on soil, vegetation, wildlife, water quality, and aquatic life, the measures that will be incorporated into the project will lessen such impacts to an insignificant level (see initial study and environmental checklist).

**Basis for the Finding:** Based on the initial study, it was determined that there would not be significant adverse environmental effects resulting from implementing the proposed project. In addition, the project is expected to achieve a net benefit to the environment by enhancing and maintaining quality salmonid spawning and rearing habitat in the twelve-county project area.

The Department of Fish and Game finds that implementing the proposed project will have no significant environmental impact.

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measured and interpreted. Biological data, especially anadromous fish data, is more difficult to collect and interpret. Reliable analysis of anadromous salmonid population response to habitat improvement prescriptions generally require many years of trend data.

Complete monitoring specifications are included in the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual including survey protocols and data interpretation. Additional details on monitoring and reporting requirements are presented in Appendix B.

#### REFERENCES:

- California Department of Fish and Game. 1994. A Field Guide to Stream and Lake Alteration Agreements. Environmental Services Division. Calif. Fish Game.
- California Department of Fish and Game. 1997. Guidelines for Assessing the Effects of Proposed Developments on Rare and Endangered Plants and Plant Communities. Environmental Services Division. Calif. Fish Game.
- Flosi, G, S. and F. Reynolds. 1994. California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual. Second Edition. Calif. Fish and Game.
- Flosi, G, S. Downie, J. Hopelain, M. Bird, R. Coey, and B. Collins. 1998. California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual. Third Edition. Calif. Fish and Game. The most current version of the manual is available at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habitats>. A hard copy of the manual may be requested from the California Department of Fish and Game, Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch, attn. Habitat Restoration Coordinator, 1807 13th St., Suite 104 Sacramento, CA 95814.
- Flosi, G, S. Downie, M. Bird, R. Coey, and B. Collins. In Preparation. California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual. Fourth Edition. Calif. Fish and Game. The most current version of the manual is available at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habitats>. A hard copy of the manual may be requested from the California Department of Fish and Game, Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch, attn. Habitat Restoration Coordinator, 1807 13th St., Suite 104 Sacramento, CA 95814.
- Hagans and Weaver. 1994. Handbook for Forest and Ranch Roads. 161 p. Prepared by William E. Weaver, Ph.D. and Danny K. Hagans, Pacific Watershed Associates for the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District, 405 Orchard Ave., Ukiah, CA 95482.

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Alteration Agreements and contracts for each site will be conditioned to avoid impacts to any special status species that could potentially be affected at that site. The Department will ensure that the contractor or responsible party is aware of all specific conditions that apply to their work site. Also, the Department will inspect the work site before, during, and after completion of the action item to ensure compliance with mitigation measures to avoid potential impacts to endangered, rare, or threatened species. Any violation of the specific recommendations will be immediately rectified. Failure or inability to rectify a particular recommendation will cause all work to cease at that site until a remediation plan is developed.

Through careful design, scheduling, and monitoring, any and all potentially significant impacts associated with the major action items will be avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance under CEQA. Additional details regarding implementation of major action items, including required mitigation measures, are detailed in the environmental checklist section below.

#### Monitoring

Project monitoring is considered an important element in the activity development and implementation process. The monitoring process provides performance control during the activity and also provides a measure of the benefits, insight, and guidance for future projects.

Activity monitoring during implementation is geared to ensure that all regulatory environmental issues are strictly addressed including air, water, and avoiding impacts to sensitive plant and animal species. During implementation, activities are carefully monitored to make sure plans are followed by using the correct materials and techniques so that the objectives of the activities are met while still protecting the environment.

Post-activity monitoring begins with information collected immediately after the activity is completed. This information includes documenting the exact location where the activity has occurred with reference points and survey marks. "As-built" descriptions with design drawings and photographs (both before and after the activity) are collected. A complete activity description including the objectives of the activity must be retained.

The next phase of post-activity monitoring should occur within one to three years after an action item is complete. The Department will randomly select ten percent of the action items within each project type for evaluation. This evaluation shall be recorded on standard habitat evaluation forms developed by California Department of Fish Game using procedures developed by the Department and described in the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual, Part VIII, Project Monitoring and Evaluation. Physical features associated with an activity are generally more easily

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### Environmental Assessment Of Each Major Action Item

Each action item is assigned to the appropriate category using the established criteria for each category. The work to be completed for each action item is carefully evaluated to make this determination. Once this evaluation process is completed, the action items described under the Restoration Element - Major Action Items section, are subjected to a systematic environmental analysis. This analysis ultimately prescribes site-specific conditions which must be applied in order to avoid potentially significant negative effects on the environment, including such effects on endangered, rare, or threatened species and their habitat.

First, all major action items listed in Appendix A will comply with Department policies to conduct archaeological and rare plant surveys. A qualified archaeologist(s) will be contracted to complete the surveys using standard protocols. Rare plant surveys will be conducted following the Guidelines for Assessing the Effects of Proposed Developments on Rare and Endangered Plants and Plant Communities (Department of Fish and Game, 2000). A review of the Department's Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDB) for each project located in the entire twelve-county programmatic project area is attached to the statement of work for each major action item listed in Appendix A and indicates which plant species found on a State or Federal special status list that could potentially be affected at the work sites. Archaeology and rare plant surveys will be completed prior to any ground disturbing activities. If any potentially significant impact cannot be avoided, the action item will not be implemented. Any site specific recommendations made by a Department biologist, or other qualified biological consultant, to avoid any potentially significant impacts shall become part of the work plan. The Department will ensure that the contractor or responsible party is aware of, and implements, these site specific conditions. Also, the Department will inspect the work site before, during, and after completion of the action item. Any violation of the specific recommendations will be immediately rectified. Failure, or inability, to rectify a particular recommendation will cause all work to cease until a remediation plan is developed that avoids the potentially significant impact.

Next, a review of the Department's NDDB for the entire twelve-county project location indicated which animal species found on a State or Federal special status list may be present at the work sites. This site specific information is also attached to each statement of work in Appendix A. Mitigation measures to avoid impacts to these species are presented along with other mitigation measures in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. In the absence of site-specific information, species identified as having potential to be affected at a work site will be presumed to be present and mitigation measures to avoid impact to that species will be implemented. Any site-specific surveys to confirm the presence, or absence, of a species at a work site will follow the Guidelines for Conducting Project Specific Endangered, Rare, and Threatened Species Surveys (Appendix C). Streambed

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the stream. All work concerning culvert replacement will be consistent with current Department and NMFS criteria concerning fish passage. Current NMFS fish passage criteria can be found on the web at: <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov>.

Fish screens are constructed within existing irrigation diversions to prevent entrainment of juvenile salmon and steelhead. Fish screens are composed of a concrete foundation and walls. A steel framework supports perforated screen panels with a mechanical cleaning system. A bypass carries the fish back to the stream.

Appendix A contains a list of major action item titles, locations, and descriptions of work that will be implemented at each site. The action item designs are reviewed by the Department and are implemented by contractors utilizing heavy equipment and some hand labor crews. During a pre-project inspection, the contractor and the Department will tour the entire activity area and identify the sites and techniques necessary to carry out the recommendations. The site-specific recommendations will be listed in an inspection report which will be acknowledged by the contractor's signature, as a required element of the activity. The Department will continue to inspect the work site during and after completion of the action item. All road upgrading or decommissioning will be done in accordance with techniques described in the Handbook for Forest and Ranch Roads (Weaver and Hagans, 1994) or other similar protocols. A copy of Handbook for Forest and Ranch Roads may be obtained from the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District, 405 Orchard Avenue, Ukiah, CA 95482 (call (707) 468-9223 for current price). All culvert replacement projects shall be done in accordance with techniques and criteria consistent with current Department and NMFS guidelines concerning fish passage. Implementation of each major action item will be conditioned and controlled to prevent any potentially significant impacts under CEQA.

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Upslope action items in this section will upgrade or decommission roads by implementing all or part of the following tasks: road ripping or decompacting; installing or maintaining rolling dips (critical dips); installing or maintaining waterbars and crossroad drains; replacing, maintaining or cleaning culverts; outsloping roadbeds; revegetating work sites; and excavating stream crossings with spoils stored on site or end-hauled.

Sites which are expected to erode and deliver sediment to the stream are the only locations where work will be authorized under this category. Work will not be authorized to improve aesthetic values only.

Removal of road and skid trails will include retrieving unstable material sidecast during original road construction and excavation of stream crossings and other watercourse fill. Stream crossings will be excavated to original width, depth, and slope to expose natural channel morphology and armor. Side slopes will generally match original contours above and below the road. Culverts that are replaced in fish bearing reaches of streams will be done in a manner to allow for unimpeded upstream and downstream fish passage.

When fill material is placed on road benches for permanent storage, the roadbench will be ripped or decompacted first. The fill will then be placed against the cutbank and shaped to blend with the surrounding topography that existed prior to road construction. Outsloping of the roadbed will occur as needed, to reduce potential sediment delivery to the stream where there is insufficient fill available to recontour the site, or where there is evidence that the overall long-term stability of the site does not justify a full recontour treatment. Where practical, fill will be compacted to the top of the filled cut to reduce the potential for seismically induced landsliding. Spoil material will be stored in stable locations where it will not erode. If stable spoils storage sites are not available within the project area, they will be end-hauled to a stable storage site outside of the project area. Areas chosen for this purpose will be devoid of tree and shrub vegetation. Upon completion of each site, woody debris will be scattered over the surface of the restored area as mulch.

Road crossing removal may involve some removal of vegetation that has grown in sediment that has been deposited upslope of road prisms. Most of this vegetation will be used as coarse wood mulch on bare soils to reduce surface erosion. Some of the material will be transplanted on-site as one component of the restoration action items. In all cases, disruption of existing vegetation will be minimized.

Culvert replacement requires diverting streamflow around the project site and excavating the existing culvert with heavy equipment. Normally concrete footings are constructed to support a new bottomless culvert or bridge. If appropriate, grade control structures are incorporated into the project area to prevent excessive down-cutting of

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Typically, these stream habitat restoration activities use dump trucks to deliver logs, root wads, or quarry rock to staging areas, and front-end loaders to deliver material to restoration sites. Existing stream crossings will be used to access the stream in most cases. If stream crossings do not exist, the least damaging access point will be selected based upon the size, type, and density of riparian vegetation. Where use of such access points is necessary, riparian vegetation can be affected, particularly the upper part of plants may be damaged, with the roots and lower parts receiving minimal damage. Plants damaged in this way will usually re-sprout and recover.

Hydraulic excavators or backhoes may be used to excavate trenches or keyways in streambanks to anchor logs or boulder structures. Excavators are used to place materials, construct instream structures, and stabilize streambanks with boulders and logs. Willow cuttings are usually placed into the keyway trenches around the logs or boulders and then the trench is backfilled with cobble and native soil. This procedure anchors the structure into the stream bank, accelerates the establishment of willows around the structure, and prevents the stream from scouring around the newly placed structure.

Some major action items will stabilize stream banks or small stream-side landslides. These action items will armor and buttress the landslide or stream bank using boulders, logs, root wads, and loose rock revetment. Revetments are designed with logs, root wads, and boulders that project into the stream to provide instream cover and velocity breaks for salmonids. Smooth riprap, however, which accelerates water velocities along the stream bank, is not permitted under this program. When practical, the bank will be sloped back to a minimum 1.5 to 1 slope. A toe trench will be excavated at the toe of the landslide or eroding bank. The excavated trench will be backfilled with boulders at least three feet in diameter and will extend up to the high-water mark. Rock from the toe trench, up to the high-water mark, will be of a size that will withstand normal high flows. Revetment will extend upstream and downstream of the unstable reach and will be keyed into the stable banks.

Runoff from above the slide or eroding banks will be diverted away from the area being stabilized. The slide face will be revegetated using indigenous plants. Willow cuttings will be placed in the toe trenches. Browse protectors will be used on seedlings to prevent predation by browsing animals.

All work, except for the revegetation, will take place during the summer and fall (low flow period) and shall be completed before the first significant seasonal rainfall. Planting of seedlings will take place after December 1, or when sufficient rainfall has occurred, to ensure the best chance of survival of the seedlings, but in no case later than April 1. All habitat improvements will be done in accordance with techniques described in the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual.

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actions. Disturbance of the streambanks will be kept to an absolute minimum. All work will be done with hand tools and riparian vegetation will not be removed. No roads will be constructed to complete action items. All sites are accessible by existing dirt or gravel roads or established trails. Access to restoration activity sites has been identified and will not create bank erosion or cause the removal of riparian trees. Staging areas at the activity sites will be set up on dry streambanks where there will be a minimum, and less than significant, impact to vegetation. Disturbed or bare mineral soils resulting from work activities, which are subject to surface erosion, will be seeded and straw mulched.

These activities are normally classified as categorically exempt according to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301, Class 1(i), and Section 15304, Class 4(d). Because these types of action items have no potential for causing significant negative impacts they will not be discussed further in this document.

#### Restoration Element - Major Action Items

There is a notable difference in the level of activity found under this category. A description of each action item (84 total) in this element is located in Appendix A. Complete site plans and prescriptions for action items located in Del Norte, Humboldt, Siskiyou, Trinity, and portions of Mendocino counties are available for review at the Department of Fish and Game, Northern California-North Coast Region, office of Senior Fish Habitat Supervisor, Phil Warner, 601 Locust Street, Redding, California 96001. Appointments may be made by telephoning (530) 225-2307, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Complete site plans and prescriptions for action items located in Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, and portions of Mendocino counties, are available for review at the Department of Fish and Game, Central Coast Region, office of Environmental Scientist, Gene Geary, 7329 Silverado Trail, Yountville, California 94559. Appointments may be made by telephoning (707) 944-5573, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Complete site plans and prescriptions for the action item located in Ventura County, are available for review at the Department of Fish and Game, South Coast Region, office of Senior Fishery Biologist Specialist, Mary Larson, 4665 Lampson Ave, Suite C, Los Alamedos, California 90720. Appointments may be made by telephoning (562) 342-7186, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

These items require larger size material and increased volumes to be moved by heavy equipment and, in so, doing involve certain limited construction activities. This category uses many of the same instream habitat restoration techniques discussed in the previous element. In addition, upslope earthmoving and culvert replacement activities are also included.

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### Action Items

Action items in this category will include watershed evaluation, assessment, planning, technical training, public education, and habitat acquisition projects. The names of 97 action items in this category are presented in a list in Appendix A, Table A-1. These action items all qualify as either statutory or categorical exemptions under CEQA Guidelines sections 15262 (Feasibility and Planning Studies), 15306 (Information Collection), 15313 (Acquisition of Lands for Wildlife Conservation Purposes), and 15322 (Educational or Training Programs Involving No Physical Changes). These action items have no potential to change any physical conditions including land, air, water, minerals, plants, animals, ambient noise, historic sites, or aesthetics. Based upon these facts, these types of action items will not be discussed further in this document.

### Restoration Element - Minor Action Items

Action items under this category only include small stream habitat restoration activities that improve spawning and rearing habitat for salmon and steelhead trout, without impacting other species. The names of 11 action items in this category are presented in a list in Appendix A, Table A-2. The designs of the action items have been reviewed by the Department and will be implemented by the California Conservation Corps (CCC) and other hand labor crews. These crews and their crew supervisors are trained by Department personnel on life cycle and habitat needs of salmon and steelhead trout. The crews and their supervisors also attend workshops and technical training on salmonid stream habitat restoration techniques. Department personnel closely supervise all stream restoration actions implemented under this restoration element. Department personnel inspect each action item site for compliance at least once before work begins, once during implementation, and once at the end of a restoration activity.

The stream habitat restoration actions include: installation of digger logs, spiderlogs, boulder or log weirs, and boulder or log wing deflectors. Stream bank stabilization may include the use of boulder and cobble armoring of eroding banks, log cribbing, willow mattresses, or willow siltation baffles. Revegetation of riparian habitat normally involves the use of willow sprigs or willow or alder seedlings or transplants. Indigenous stocks (when available) will be used for all planting projects. Several of the action items will only involve maintenance of existing instream structures. The techniques that will be used for these action items have proven successful on many north coast streams and are detailed in the current version of the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual. This manual describes in detail how the work will be performed in the field.

Heavy equipment will not be used for any of the actions listed under this category. CCC and other labor crews will be utilized to implement the proposed

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introduction into the aquatic ecosystem. Permit #22323N allows the Department, contractors, and other individuals and groups to conduct fishery habitat restoration activities using methods described in the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual (Flosi et al 1994, 1998) that have been evaluated by Department biologists. NOAA-Fisheries (formerly NMFS) issued a non-jeopardy biological opinion, with a follow-up road decommission and culvert replacement addendum, that addressed the impacts of the Department's Restoration Program. Permit #22323N originally covered the period through July 24, 2002. On April 2, 2002 the Department also applied to the San Francisco District for an 18-month extension of Permit #22323N, pending issuance of a new or re-authorized regional general permit. On August 12, 2002 an extension was granted extending Permit #22323N through January 24, 2004. All major action items conducted under this permit extension require concurrence from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service that the action items are not likely to adversely affect any federally listed threatened and endangered species. Any major action items not receiving this approval from the Fish and Wildlife Service will not be conducted.

Contractors implementing action items requiring USACE Section 404 certification from the Los Angeles District will be responsible for obtaining separate approvals for each action item. Most restoration action items needing USACE approval may qualify under Nationwide Permits #3 (Maintenance), #13 (Bank Stabilization), #14 (Linear Transportation), or #27 (Stream and Wetland Restoration Activities).

The Section 401 Certification required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board is obtained annually by providing that agency with a description of project work and methods to prevent impacts on water quality.

The Department's lake and stream alteration agreement process (Fish and Game Code Section 1600 et seq.) is an integral part of stream restoration planning and implementation. An agreement is developed for each action item which defines required measures to minimize disturbance to the stream environment. Procedures to accomplish this task are contained in "A Field Guide to Stream and Lake Alteration Agreements" (Department of Fish and Game, Environmental Services Division, 1994). Activities such as installing culverts to provide fish passage, operating equipment in or near streams, and installing bank stabilizing structures are all discussed in the context of minimizing impacts.

All features of this project requiring CEQA review are being provided in sufficient detail to facilitate public review and clearly define the environmental evaluation. In order to achieve this goal, the Restoration Program action items are considered to fall into three categories corresponding to similar activities and requirements for CEQA review. These three categories of action items are as follows:

Public Involvement, Planning, Research, Monitoring, Education and Habitat Acquisition

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often with steep unstable terrain; some inland locations are in valley areas in agricultural use. Most restoration activities are intended to reduce sediment delivery to streams, and provide spawning and rearing habitat in the streams. Streams flowing through valley areas will be treated to stabilize streambanks and increase riparian vegetation.

#### SCHEDULE

The activities carried out in the Restoration Program typically occur during the annual period of dry weather. Stream work is normally confined to the period of July 1 to November 1 (or the first significant fall rainfall). This is to take advantage of low stream flows and is outside the spawning and egg/alevin incubation period of salmon and steelhead.

Generally, upslope work occurs during the same approximate period. Road decommissioning and other sediment reduction activities are dependent on soil moisture content. Equipment access on dirt roads, and the ability of equipment to move soil, is inhibited by wet conditions. The scheduling of upslope work may also be impacted by the avoidance of nesting or breeding seasons of birds and terrestrial animals.

Some activities may continue after November 1, but only where no impact, or less than significant impacts, will result. This will primarily involve hand-planting of tree seedlings, which typically does not begin until December 1, and may continue until the end of March. Planting during the wet season is necessary to ensure the best survival of seedlings.

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Department releases a request for proposals (RFP) on an annual basis for the Restoration Program that solicits proposals for fishery restoration, conservation education, and watershed assessment and planning work throughout California. Following initial review, proposals are sent to appropriate fishery staff for field review, comment, and scoring, using standardized evaluation criteria. The evaluation process requires consideration of benefits to the fishery resources, need for work in particular drainages or sites, benefit for targeted species, project costs, and positive or negative impacts to the environment. Proposals are then evaluated and prioritized by a Department advisory committee. Contracts are written for the approved action items and environmental documents are completed.

Major action items requiring Section 404 certification from the San Francisco District of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will be permitted under either Regional General Permit 1 or Permit #22323N. RGP 1 provides for the renovation or replacement of existing road crossings to improve fish passage and/or reduce sediment

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and reproduce. For example, excessive fine-sediment has reduced egg and fry survival, removal of riparian vegetation has contributed to increased water temperatures, habitat has been impaired by water diversions, and culverts and dams have blocked fish passage. Habitat destruction has been instrumental in drastically reducing native anadromous fish populations. Natural events such as wildfire, drought, and floods have also exacerbated these problems. This has caused extreme financial hardship to a once thriving commercial fishery and drastically reduced, or in some cases eliminated, a very popular sport fishery. Several stocks have been reduced to the point where listing under the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts has become necessary.

The Restoration Program was instituted as the critical need to restore salmon, and steelhead stream habitat was recognized. Guided by the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual (Flosi et al., 1998), hundreds of habitat restoration actions in this Restoration Program have been completed by government agencies and nonprofit groups. Activities have included revegetation with livestock enclosure fencing, riparian planting, barrier removal, bank stabilization and other bank protection structures, and decommissioning of roads and improving drainage systems on existing roads. Instream structures such as boulder clusters, wing deflectors, and log cover have also been used. Culverts that have impeded fish migration have been replaced with bridges or culverts with natural stream bottoms allowing fish access to additional stream reaches. Finally, other watershed improvement activities include installation of fish screens to prevent entrainment of juvenile salmon and steelhead. These actions create spawning and nursery habitat, provide escape cover and prevent fine sediments from entering streams. Project monitoring has shown significant habitat improvements in streams where this work has taken place. A gradual rebuilding of salmon and steelhead populations is expected as this program continues.

#### PROJECT LOCATION

Activities performed in the Restoration Program typically occur in watersheds that have been subjected to significant levels of logging, road building, mining, grazing, and other activities that have reduced the quality and quantity of stream habitat available for native anadromous fish.

Coastal watersheds previously dominated by mature redwood and Douglas fir forest, contain extensive road and skid trail systems from tractor logging. These previous mature, forested areas can now be found in various seral stages of vegetative recovery and are predominate in the coastal Restoration Program region. Action items are implemented within the stream course to improve fish habitat. Upslope restoration actions improve fish habitat by reducing the input of fine sediment to the stream environment.

Inland locations are usually in watersheds dominated by pine and fir forests,

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This initial study and the proposed mitigated negative declaration (MND) analyze the environmental impacts that might result from implementation of the proposed Restoration Program. The initial study and MND also serve to address potential environmental impacts that may occur to the extent an individual restoration activity requires a Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) from the Department (See Fish and Game Code, § 1600 et seq.). Finally, construction of all or a portion of some of the individual restoration activities may actually occur in subsequent years, depending on the terms and contract for each respective individual grant provided by the Department.

#### PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The primary goal of this restoration program is to maintain and restore natural watershed processes that create habitat characteristics favorable to salmonids.

The objectives of the restoration program action items are to enhance the capability of streams to produce wild anadromous salmonids by maintaining, restoring, and improving stream habitat essential to salmonid production.

Finally, it is the Department's objective to implement this project while not causing a significant adverse effect on the environment, or reducing the number or restricting the range of an endangered, rare or threatened species.

#### BACKGROUND

The Department may grant funds for habitat restoration to public and private entities, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes. Sections 1501 and 1501.5 of the Fish and Game Code pertain to activities funded by the Department.

This restoration program was established in 1981 and is administered by the Department. This program was initiated because of the precipitous drop in the population of fish in coastal streams, mainly salmon and steelhead. This program was developed as a mechanism to administer grant funds designated for the restoration of fish populations. Through the past several decades to the present time, funds allocated by the California Legislature have been used in this grant program in an effort to rebuild fish populations (see Fish and Game Code Section 6900 et seq.). Initially, grants were awarded in three categories: stream restoration, fish rearing, and education. In recent years, a more holistic watershed restoration approach has been emphasized that allows restoration throughout the watershed.

There are many factors responsible for the decline of California coastal salmon and steelhead stocks. One important factor is the degradation of stream habitats. Activities in watersheds including logging, mining, road building, livestock grazing, water diversions, and dam construction have seriously impacted the ability of fish to survive

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SAN LUIS OBISPO, SANTA CRUZ, SISKIYOU, SONOMA, TRINITY  
AND VENTURA COUNTIES AND REQUIRED  
AGREEMENT REGARDING PROPOSED STREAM OR LAKE ALTERATION  
INTRODUCTION

The proposed 2003 Fishery Restoration Grants Program, formally known as "The 2003 Fishery Restoration Grants Program in Del Norte, Humboldt, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Trinity And Ventura counties" (Restoration Program), is a "project" subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.). The Restoration Program involves funding, in whole or in part, of 84 habitat restoration action items in the twelve identified counties. These action items, which are set forth in Appendix A, are the principal focus of the environmental analysis set forth below.

The Restoration Program also involves other restoration-related activities, all of which are exempt from CEQA. These other activities fall into two distinct categories. The first category includes 97 action items for which there is no prospect of direct or indirect physical changes to the existing environment. These activities, in particular, involve the award of grants for watershed evaluation, assessment, planning, technical training, and public education. (See generally *Id.*, § 21102; Cal. Code Regs., title 14, § 15262.) Each of these action items are identified in Appendix A.

The second category of Restoration Program action items not discussed in detail in the environmental analysis that follows involve small-scale salmonid habitat improvement projects implemented solely with hand labor. These 11 minor action items, all of which identified in Appendix A, have no potential to adversely affect existing environmental conditions. The actions, in turn, fall within a class of activities that are exempt from CEQA pursuant to a finding by the Secretary of the Resources Agency that the activities pose no risk of potentially significant environmental impacts. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21084; Cal. Code Regs., title 14, §§ 15300, 15306, 15307.) These individual action items are also identified in Appendix A.

### Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

Therefore, this mitigated negative declaration is filed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21080 (c2). This proposed mitigated negative declaration consists of all of the following:

- Detailed Project Description and Background Information
- Initial Study Environmental Checklist Form
- Explanation of Response to Initial Study Environmental Checklist Form
- Appendix A. Project Action Items
- Appendix B. Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program For the 2003 Fishery Restoration Grants Program
- Appendix C. Guidelines for Conducting Project Specific Endangered, Rare and Threatened Species Surveys

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

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**3/23/03**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

1. Project Title: The 2003 Fishery Restoration Grants Program in Del Norte, Humboldt, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Trinity and Ventura Counties

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

California Department of Fish and Game  
Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch  
830 S Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-7023

3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

Gene Geary  
(707) 944-5573  
Central Coast Region  
Post Office Box 47  
Yountville, CA 94599

Phil Warner  
(530) 225-2307  
Northern California-  
North Coast Region  
601 Locust Street  
Redding, CA 96001

Mary Larson  
(562) 342-7186  
South Coast Region  
4665 Lampson Avenue  
Los Alamedos, CA 90720

4. Project Location: Various sites in Del Norte, Humboldt, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Trinity and Ventura counties (Appendix A).

5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

California Department of Fish and Game  
Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch  
830 S Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-7023

6. General Plan Designation: Various

7. Zoning: Various

8. Description of Project: Implementation of 84 major action items for restoration of anadromous salmonid habitat (Appendix A). These action items include measures to improve anadromous fish passage, reduce erosion and sedimentation, enhance instream habitat, improve water quality and improve juvenile survival.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings: Primarily forest lands used for timber production. Some action items will be located in agricultural lands.

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required: U.S Army Corps of Engineers, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Bay Area Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

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ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

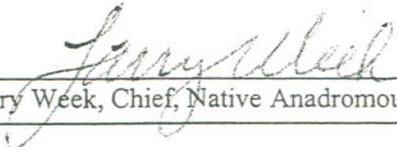
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

	Aesthetics		Agriculture Resources		Air Quality
	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology /Soils
	Hazards & Hazardous Materials		Hydrology / Water Quality		Land Use / Planning
	Mineral Resources		Noise		Population / Housing
	Public Services		Recreation		Transportation/Traffic
	Utilities / Service Systems		Mandatory Findings of Significance		

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
X	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a A potentially significant impact@ or A potentially significant unless mitigated@ impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Larry Week, Chief, Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch

3/26/03  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				X
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X
See attached explanations.				
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?				X
See attached explanations.				

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

III. AIR QUALITY -- Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?			X	
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?			X	
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				X
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				X
See attached explanations.				

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				X

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (continued):				
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?			X	
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				X
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X
See attached explanations.				
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in '15064.5?				X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to '15064.5?				X
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				X
See attached explanations.				

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS -- Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				X
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				X
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?			X	
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				X
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				X
See attached explanations.				

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS B Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X	
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			X	
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?			X	
See attached explanations.				

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY -- Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			X	
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?				X
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				X
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				X
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?			X	
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				X
See attached explanations.				

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				X
See attached explanations.				
X. MINERAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X
See attached explanations.				
XI. NOISE B Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				X
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				X
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				X
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?		X		

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
See attached explanations.				
XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING -- Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
See attached explanations.				
XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?			X	
Police protection?			X	
Schools?			X	
Parks?			X	
Other public facilities?			X	
See attached explanations.				

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

XIV. RECREATION --				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X
See attached explanations.				
XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC -- Would the project:				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?				X
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				X
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?				X
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X
See attached explanations.				

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				X
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				X
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project=s projected demand in addition to the provider=s existing commitments?				X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project=s solid waste disposal needs?				X
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X
See attached explanations.				

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE --				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			X	
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				X
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				X
See attached explanations.				

## Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

### EXPLANATION OF RESPONSES TO INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

#### I. AESTHETICS

- a) The project will not have an adverse effect on a scenic vista. Such an impact will not occur because the project will stabilize, restore, and revegetate damaged and eroded sites to produce a more natural and esthetically pleasing appearance.
- b) The project will not damage scenic resources such as trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not disturb large trees or other scenic features in the process of restoring damaged sites.
- c) The project will not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the work sites and their surroundings. Such an impact will not occur because in most cases the restoration project will restore the natural character of disturbed sites. Where non-natural structures (such as fish screens) are constructed, they will be of small size and compatible with the appearance of with their surroundings.
- d) The project will not create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area of the worksites. Such an impact will not occur because none of the restoration project action items require installation of artificial lighting.

#### II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES

- a) The project will not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use. Such an impact will not occur because most project worksites are located away from FMMP designated farmland. Project actions associated with farmland (such as fish screens) are designed to allow continued use of farmland with reduced impacts to anadromous salmonids.
- b) The project will not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract. Fish habitat restoration actions will not change existing land use.
- c) The project will not involve other changes in the existing environment, which due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use. Fish habitat restoration actions are either away from, or are compatible with, existing agricultural uses.

## Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

### III. AIR QUALITY

- a) The project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan. Such an impact will not occur because implementation of the project does not create any features that would be a source of air pollution. Use of vehicles and heavy equipment during construction will be on a limited scope and a short duration and is not expected to adversely affect air quality.
- b) The project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. Such an impact will not occur because of the limited scope of construction activities and the fact that work sites are located in rural areas that are in overall attainment of air quality standards.
- c) The project will not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable Federal or State ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors). Such an impact will not occur because the project involves no ongoing sources of air pollution.
- d) The project will not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not significantly increase pollutant concentrations.
- e) The project will not create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Project actions are designed to restore natural habitat conditions for salmonids, and will not create any stagnant water that might produce objectionable odors.

### IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- a) The project will not have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Such an impact will not occur because project activities are designed to improve and restore stream habitat, to provide a long-term benefit to both anadromous salmonids and other fish and wildlife. The project will be implemented in a manner that will avoid short-term adverse impacts to rare plants and animals and cultural resources during construction; the mitigation measures that will be implemented to avoid short-term impacts to rare plants and animals and cultural resources are described in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.

### Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

- b) The project will not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans, policies and regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Such an impact will not occur because the project actions are designed to correct past habitat degradation and restore and enhance riparian habitat and associated upland habitats.
- c) The project will not have a substantial adverse effect on Federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. The project actions will have either no effect on wetlands or will be beneficial to wetlands.
- d) The project will not substantially interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. The project will enhance the movement of anadromous fish by the replacement or removal of culverts and bridges that are barriers to fish migration.
- e) The project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. Such an impact will not occur because project actions are designed to restore and enhance biological resources. Some minor disturbance of grasses and shrubs will occur where stream structures are keyed into the streambanks. Care will be taken not to disturb any mature trees. Riparian vegetation will be reestablished where construction activities disturb existing plants, and additional native plants will be planted to enhance the riparian vegetation.
- f) The project will not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan. Such a conflict will not occur because the project restoration actions will not have a significant adverse impact on any species or habitat. Project actions are designed to restore the natural character of the fish and wildlife habitat at the project work sites. The project specifically supports the California Salmon, Steelhead Trout and Anadromous Fisheries Program Act (Fish and Game Code Section 6900 et. seq.)

### V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

- a) The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. While ground disturbance will be required to implement the project at some work sites that have the potential to affect historical resources, this potential impact will be avoided through implementation of the protective measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program.

### Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

Resources identified during site-specific surveys will be protected before ground-disturbing activities are permitted at a site. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.

- b) The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. While ground disturbance will be required to implement the project at some work sites that have the potential to affect archaeological resources, this potential impact will be avoided through implementation of the protective measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. Resources identified during site-specific surveys will be protected before ground-disturbing activities are permitted at a site. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- c) The project will not directly or indirectly destroy any unique paleontological resources or sites, or unique geologic features. While ground disturbance to implement the project at some work sites has the potential to affect these resources, this potential impact will be avoided through implementation of the protective measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. Resources identified during site-specific surveys will be protected before ground-disturbing activities are permitted at a site. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- d) The project will not disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. While ground disturbance will be required to implement the project at some work sites that have the potential to affect these resources, this potential impact will be avoided through implementation of the protective measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. Resources identified during site-specific surveys will be protected before ground-disturbing activities are permitted at a site. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.

### VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- a i) The project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area, or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault. Such an impact will not occur because the project does not create any structures for human habitation.

### Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

- a ii) The project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking. Such an impact will not occur because the project does not create any structures for human habitation.
- a iii) The project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. Such an impact will not occur because the project does not create any structures for human habitation.
- a iv) The project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. Such an impact will not occur because the project does not create any structures for human habitation.
- b) The project will not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Such an impact will not occur because implementation of the restoration project is designed to contribute to an overall reduction in erosion and sedimentation. Existing roads will be used to access work sites. Ground disturbance at most work sites will be minimal, except for road improvements or decommissioning. Road improvements and decommissioning will involve moving large quantities of soil from road fills and stream crossings to restore historic land surface profiles and prevent chronic erosion and sediment delivery to streams. The potential for substantial soil loss associated with road improvement and decommissioning will be avoided through implementation of the mitigation measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- c) Some project worksites are on unstable soils; however, the project will not increase the risk of landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. The project actions are designed to stabilize conditions at these sites in order to reduce sediment delivery to salmonid habitat. Actions implemented to stabilize sites may not be successful in all cases, but site instability will not be increased when compared to existing conditions.
- d) Some project work sites will be located on expansive soil; however, the project will not create substantial risks to life or property. Such an impact will not occur because the project will create no habitations, and the majority of the restoration actions will not create rigid structures that could be damaged by expansive soils. The few rigid structures to be created by the project (such as fish screens) will be engineered to withstand expansive soils, if they are present.

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- e) The project will not create any sources of waste water requiring a septic system.

#### VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- a) The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Any potential significant hazard associated with the accidental release of coolant and petroleum products used with equipment during construction will be avoided through implementation of the mitigation measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- b) The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. At work sites requiring the use of heavy equipment, there is a small risk of an accident upsetting the machine and releasing fuel, oil, and coolant. The potential for accidental release will be reduced to a less than significant level through implementation of the mitigation measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- c) The project will not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. Such impact is avoided because the project will not create any feature that will emit hazardous substances.
- d) The project worksites are not located on any site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.
- e) No project work site is located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport.
- f) No project work site is located within the vicinity of a private airstrip.
- g) The project will not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Except for the case of road decommissioning, the project has no effect on access. The planned decommissioning of selected unused wildland roads will not have a significant impact on emergency vehicle access.

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- h) The project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. At work sites requiring the use of heavy equipment, there is a small risk of an accidental spark from equipment igniting a fire. The potential for accidental fire will be reduced to a less than significant level through implementation of the mitigation measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.

#### VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

- a) The project will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. There is the potential for minor short-term increase in turbidity during installation of instream structures or culvert removal, however the mitigation measures described in Appendix B Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting will assure that the project actions are in compliance with water quality standards. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant short-term impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- b) The project will not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge. Upslope restoration activities will return drainage to historic patterns thereby decreasing surface runoff and increasing infiltration to the ground water.
- c) The project will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the work sites in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site. Such an impact will not occur because the project actions are designed to produce decreased erosion overall. Instream habitat structures, such as boulder weirs or flow deflectors, will produce local redistribution of sediments. These structures will produce a local redistribution of bedload, facilitating the deposition of spawning gravel in riffles, and improving scour to maintain pools for juvenile fish habitat. This local redistribution of bedload will not produce a net increase of erosion.
- d) The project will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the work sites, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site. The project will decrease the risk of flooding through upslope restoration activities that will return drainage to historic patterns, thereby increasing infiltration and decreasing surface runoff.
- e) The project will not create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems, or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Such an impact will not occur because upslope restoration activities will stabilize slopes and return drainage

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to historic patterns, thereby decreasing surface runoff and decreasing the silt load delivered to streams in the area of the project.

- f) The project will not substantially degrade water quality. During placement of stream habitat structures and culvert replacement, some minor turbidity may be generated. The potential for degradation of water quality will be reduced to a less than significant level through implementation of the mitigation measures presented in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. Some short-term minor increase in turbidity may also occur as the streambed around instream structures adjusts during the first high stream flow following activity completion. However, this is not expected to produce a significant increase over background turbidity. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant short-term impacts to water quality are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- g) The project will not place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on any flood hazard delineation map. No housing will be created as part of this project.
- h) The project will not place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would significantly impede or redirect flood flows. Culvert removal and replacement to be done as part of the project will remove existing impediments to flood flows. Instream habitat structures, such as boulder weirs, deflectors, and bank armor, are built to change the direction and velocity of stream flow. However, these structures are small (sized to affect conditions in the low flow channel) and will not impede flood flows.
- i) The project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam. Such an impact will be avoided because all instream structures to be created are small and will not significantly impede flood flows.
- j) The project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. Such an impact will not occur because project actions are designed to improve or stabilize conditions at the work sites. Upslope restoration actions will reduce the chance of mudflow by stabilizing disturbed areas, and restoring natural drainage patterns. Project work sites are not located in areas at risk to inundation by seiche or tsunami.

#### IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING

- a) The project will not physically divide an established community. This impact will not occur because no culvert removal or road decommissioning is proposed in any established community.
- b) The restoration activities that comprise this project do not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over

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the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. Such an impact will not occur because the project's restoration activities are designed to be compatible with local land use plans and ordinances.

- c) The project will not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans. Such an impact will not occur because project actions are designed to improve aquatic habitat conditions without adversely affecting any other species or their habitats

#### X. MINERAL RESOURCES

- a) The project will not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. Such an impact will not occur because project actions are only designed to stabilize and restore habitat and soils within the actions area.
- b) The project will not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. Such an impact will not occur because no mineral resource recovery sites occur at the project work sites.

#### XI. NOISE

- a) The project will not result in exposure of persons to, or generation of noise levels in excess of, standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. There may be a minor temporary increase in noise levels at those work sites requiring the use of heavy equipment. While such short-term increase in noise will not produce a significant increase in the noise level in the general environment, there is a potential for equipment noise to affect workers in close proximity to equipment producing noise levels  $\geq 85$  db, such as chainsaws or back-hoes. However, such an impact will not occur because personnel operating noisy equipment will be required to wear hearing protection. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant noise impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- b) The project will not result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Such an impact will not occur because only minor amounts of groundborne vibration or noise will be generated short-term at those work sites requiring the use of heavy equipment.
- c) The project will not result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project. Such an impact will not occur because most project structures are passive (i.e., contain no moving parts). The only exceptions are the proposed fish screens, which

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will contain moving brushes to clean the screens. These brushes are driven by slow speed (10-15 RPM) water wheels and will not substantially increase ambient noise levels where installed.

- d) The project will not result in a substantial temporary, or periodic, increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project. Such an impact will not occur because only minor amounts of noise will be generated temporarily at those work sites requiring the use of heavy equipment. At those sites near nesting or breeding sites for listed species, heavy equipment will only be used outside the sensitive periods for nesting or breeding, as described in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. As a result, mitigation measures will ensure that any potentially significant noise impacts are avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance.
- e) None of the project work sites are located within two miles of a public airport or public use airport.
- f) None of the project work sites are located within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

#### XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING

- a) The project will not induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not construct any new homes, businesses, roads, or other human infrastructure.
- b) The project will not displace any existing housing and will not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.
- c) The project will not displace any people and will not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

#### XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES

- a) The project will not have any significant environmental impacts associated with new or physically altered governmental facilities. Issuance of restoration grants to government agencies could, in some cases, lead to minor increases in staffing to complete projects. Such increases will not lead to any significant adverse impacts, because the increases are short term, and no significant construction will be required to accommodate additional staff.

#### XIV. RECREATION

- a) The project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks, or other recreational facilities. Such an impact will not occur because the project actions will restore anadromous fish habitat and do not significantly alter human use or facilities at existing parks or recreational facilities. Overall, the Restoration Program is expected to increase recreation opportunities by assisting in restoring populations of anadromous fish.

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- b) The project does not include recreational facilities and does not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

#### XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

- a) The project will not cause a substantial increase of traffic, in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system. Such an impact will not occur because the project will result in only minor temporary increases in traffic to primarily wildland sites during implementation of habitat improvement measures.
- b) The project will not exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways. Such an impact will not occur because the habitat improvement actions will not generate a significant amount of traffic at each individual work site and because the work sites are dispersed throughout the coastal counties.
- c) The project will not result in any change in air traffic patterns.
- d) The project will not alter roads in any way that will substantially increase hazards to transportation. The proposed project will reduce hazards to transportation, because the proposed project will correct and reduce landslide and erosion damage on the selected rural roads.
- e) The project will not result in inadequate emergency access. Such an impact will not occur because during replacement of small road crossings, an alternate route for traffic will be provided around the construction.
- f) The project will not significantly affect parking capacity or demand for parking.
- g) The project will not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation.

#### XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

- a) The project will not produce wastewater.
- b) The project will not require, or result in the construction of, new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not produce wastewater.
- c) The project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects associated with the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities.
- d) The project will have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources.

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- e) The project will not produce wastewater.
- f) The project will not generate solid waste requiring disposal in a landfill.

#### XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

- a) The project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Such a potential does not exist because the project will be implemented in a manner that will avoid short-term adverse impacts to rare plants and animals, and cultural resources during construction; the mitigation measures that will be implemented to avoid short-term impacts to rare plants and animals, and cultural resources are described in Appendix B, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring and Reporting Program. The Project activities will provide a long-term benefit to both anadromous salmonids and other fish and wildlife.
- b) The project does not have adverse impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable. Cumulative adverse impacts will not occur because potential adverse impacts of the project are only minor and temporary in nature. It is the goal of the project that the beneficial effects of habitat enhancement actions will be cumulative over time and contribute to the recovery of listed anadromous salmonids.
- c) The project does not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. The habitat enhancement measures implemented as part of this project will contribute to improved water quality, increased soil stability, and the recovery of listed salmonids, all of which will be beneficial to human beings.

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## APPENDIX A

### ACTION ITEMS PROPOSED FOR FUNDING

Table A-1. Exempt Project List

Proj #	Type*	Project Title	Grant Recipient
36	AC	AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards - Member Match	CCC
4	ED	Scott River Restoration/Education Project	Etna Elementary School District
7	ED	Salmon Trout Education Project for the Restoration	Monterey Bay Salmon & Trout Project
43	ED	2003-2004 Adopt-A-Watershed Leadership Inst.	Adopt-A-Watershed
57	ED	Mattole Ecol. Educ. Prog. Watershed Week	Mattole Restoration Council
73	ED	Eel R. Salmon Rest. Proj. Educ. Coordinator	Eel River Salmon Restoration Project
139	ED	Salmonid/Riparian Habitat Education Project	Trinity County RCD
150	ED	CCSE Education Programs	Central Coast Salmon Enhancement
172	ED	Creek Days, Eel River Environ. Education Fair	ERWIG
184	ED	Salmon River Watershed Educ. Program	Salmon River Restoration Council
352	ED	Siskiyou Co. Riparian Rest. Aquarium Incubator	Siskiyou County Office of Education
218	HA	Creekside Farm Riparian Habitat/Floodplain	Land Conservancy/San Luis Obispo Co.
356	HA	Anderson Creek Watershed Project	Sanctuary Forest, Inc.
244	HB	Quiota Cr. Fish Passage Enhancement	Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board
245	HB	Salsipuedes Cr. At Jalama Rd. Fish Passage	Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board
247	HR	Gene Marshall-Piedra Blanca Nat'l. Rec. Trail	Concerned Resource & Environmental Workers
56	MD	Central Coast Coho Salmon & Steelhead Program	DFG-Reg.3 Cent.Coast Salmon/Stlhd. Prog.
199	MD	No.Coast CA Coho Salmon Reg. Presence/Absence	DFG-NCNCR
216	MD	Scott River Water Balance-Precipitation Gauging	Siskiyou RCD
261	MD	Presence/Absence Surveys of Juvenile Coho Salmon	HSU; No.Carolina State Univ.
290	MD	Mill Creek Fisheries Monitoring Program	Rowdy Cr. Fish Hatchery, Inc.
335	MD	Restoration Monitoring Protocol Development	DFG
336	MD	Coastal Restoration Monitor/Evaluation Project	DFG
358	MD	Mattole Salmonid Population Trend Monitoring	Mattole Salmon Group
132	MO	SB271 Road Decommissioning Effectiveness Mon.	Pacific Watershed Associates
34	OR	Lower Eel Basin Watershed O & S Project	Humboldt County RCD
49	OR	NGO Participation in Coho Protect & Restoration	Smith River Alliance
60	OR	San Pedro Cr. Watershed Coalition	San Pedro Cr. Watershed Coalition
66	OR	Russian R. Watershed Council Organization Develop	Mendocino County RCD
79	OR	Watershed Outreach, Education, & Technical	Santa Cruz County RCD
89	OR	Alameda Cr. Fisheries Restoration Workgroup	Center for Ecosystem Mgmt. & Restoration
92	OR	Smith River Watershed Coordinator	Del Norte County
153	OR	Jacoby Cr. Land Trust Organization Support	Jacoby Cr. Land Trust
168	OR	ERWIG Support & Assistance Proposal	ERWIG
177	OR	Projects of BRRRC	Bear River Regional Resources Conservancy
209	OR	Tomales Bay Watershed Council O & S	Marin County RCD
212	OR	Scott River Watershed Council	Siskiyou RCD
250	OR	Salmon River Watershed Organizational Support	Salmon River Restoration Council
278	OR	Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition Org. Support	Community Environmental Council
288	OR	Steelhead Coalition Outreach-Landowner	Steelhead & Stream Recovery Coalition
297	OR	Shasta Valley RCD/Shasta River CRMP Coordination	Shasta Valley RCD
307	OR	MERG Assist. & Support Proposal	ABC Community Ctr., Mainstem Eel River Grp.
337	OR	Humboldt Bay Watershed Coordinator Support	Redwood Community Action Agency
338	OR	Garapata Cr. Watershed Hab. Rest. Project #1	Garrapata Creek Watershed Council
346	OR	Watershed Festival of Events	Valley Women's Club
82	PI	Fish Habitat Specialists	CCC
88	PI	FishNet 4C-Fishery Network of Cent. CA Coast	FishNet 4C-Marin County
118	PI	Protecting Watersheds on Private Lands	Northcoast Regional Land Trust
157	PI	Five Counties Salmonid Conserv. Program	Trinity County Planning Dept.
174	PI	Soquel Creek Watershed Assessment	Santa Cruz County RCD
213	PI	District Capacity Building Program	Siskiyou RCD
234	PI	Promoting Sound Resource Mgmt. Practices	The Buckeye Conservancy
3	PL	Archeological & Rare Plant Surveys	DFG
20	PL	Road Assess./Restor. Planning-Lower SF Trinity	Tyler Ledwith
29	PL	Canoe Cr. Watershed Rehabilitation Plan	California State Parks

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38	PL	Old Cr. Road Crossing Replacement	Ventura County, Public Works Agency
40	PL	Fishery Restoration Grants Program EIR, 02	DFG
46	PL	Upper Mark West Cr. Sediment Source Assessment	Sotoyome RCD
61	PL	Coast Rd. Watershed Erosion & Restoration Project	Monterey County Public Works
75	PL	Diamond R & Grandy Ranch Plans	Northwest Resource
77	PL	Lower Eel Road Assessment	Northwest Resource
83	PL	Central Napa River Watershed Plan	Napa County RCD
94	PL	Cuddeback Cr. Erosion Assessment Project	ERWIG
99	PL	Salmon Cr. Watershed Assess. & Rest. Plan	Gold Ridge RCD
106	PL	Overland Subdivision/Dean Cr. Watershed Eros.	ERWIG
120	PL	Morro Bay Watershed GIS Basin Planning	CCC
125	PL	Fish Creek Subdivision Upslope Survey	ERWIG
133	PL	Woodman Cr. Watershed Assess. & Restor.	Pacific Watershed Associates
136	PL	Salmon Cr. Wtrshd Assess. 2003-PL	Jack Monschke Watershed Mgmt.
164	PL	Butte Cr. Erosion Assessment Project	ERWIG
169	PL	Lower Freshwater Cr. Estuary Rehab. Project	McBain & Trush
183	PL	Five Counties Road Erosion Inventory & Assessment	Trinity County Planning Dept.
189	PL	California Coastal Salmonid Monitoring Plan	DFG, NMFS, Santa Cruz Lab, NOAA Fisheries
215	PL	Implem. Of Scott R. Water Trust Program	Siskiyou RCD
227	PL	Maple Cr./Big Lagoon Watershed Inv./Rest.	PCFWWRA
229	PL	Rd. Xing Inv./Fish Pass. Eval. San Luis Obispo Co.	Greenspace The Cambria Land Trust
272	PL	Cent. Coast Reg. So. Dist. Basin Planning	Foundation of CA St. Univ. Monterey Bay
273	PL	County Wide Fish Passage Barriers Assessment	San Mateo County, Dept. of Public Works
274	PL	Ph. II - San Lorenzo R. Rd. - related Erosion Assess.	Santa Cruz County, Dept. of Public Works
279	PL	San Mateo State Parks Road-Related Erosion Prev.	California State Parks - Bay Area District
304	PL	Forsythe Cr. Wtrshd. Assessment	Mendocino County RCD
317	PL	Santa Monica Mtns. Steelhead Habitat Assess.	California Trout, Inc.
318	PL	Arroyo Grande Cr. Watershed Management Plan	Central Coast Salmon Enhancement
327	PL	Strm. Xing Inv. & Fish Pass. Eval. of County	Ross Taylor & Assoc.
332	PL	Santa Cruz Park Dist Rd-Related Erosion Prevention	California State Parks - Santa Cruz District
343	PL	City of Ojai Urban Wtrshd. Assess. & Rest. Plan	City of Ojai Public Works Dept.
350	PL	Jack London St. Hist. Pk. Wtrshd. Assess./Plan	Sonoma Ecology Center
113	PM	AhPah Cr. Fish Passage Enhancement Project	CCC-Klamath
32	TE	Fish Passage & Culvert Design Workshops	Pacif Salm Wtrshd Fund/4 Sake of Salmon
53	TE	Educ. & Interp. Plan; Warm Springs Dam	Sotoyome RCD
69	TE	Upper Mattole Water Cons. Thru Educ. & Incent.	Mattole Restoration Council
70	TE	2004 Salmonid Restoration Conference	Salmonid Restoration Federation
155	TE	Calif. Salmonid Strm Habitat Rest. Man. Printing	DFG
161	TE	Bringing Sediment Red. Tools to Watershed	Institute for Sustainable Forestry
175	TE	Upslope Assess. & Rds. Restoration Trng. Prog.	Santa Cruz County RCD
178	TE	Field Schl-Culvert & Rd. Drn - Cent. Coast Reg.	Salmonid Restoration Federation
201	TE	Community Involvement/Public Education Program	Coastal Stream Restoration Group

- \* Project Type
- AC AmeriCorps Program Only
  - ED Education
  - HR Riparian Restoration
  - Monitoring Projects that Provide Baseline and/or Trend
  - MD Data
  - OR Watershed Organization Support
  - PI Public Involvement and Capacity Building
  - PL Watershed Evaluation, Assessment, and Planning
  - TE Technical Training

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Table A-2. Minor Action Items

Proj #	Proj.. Type*	Project Title	Grant Recipient
208	HR	Lower Wilson Cr. Riparian Restoration Project	CCC-Klamath
296	HR	Shasta River Riparian Tree Planting-RY Ranch	Shasta Valley RCD
170	HR	Shasta River Riparian Tree Planting - Kuck Ranch	Resources Mgmt/Shasta River CRMP
324	HR	Shasta River Riparian Fence - Freeman Ranch	Resources Mgmt/Shasta River CRMP
342	HR	Shasta River Riparian Fence - H. Terry Ranch	Resources Mgmt/Shasta River CRMP
26	HR	Alder Springs Ranch Fencing Project	VanderHorst Forestry, Inc.
193	HR	N.F. Eel River Livestock Exclusion	Eel River Watershed Improvement Group
243	HR	Walters Creek Riparian Restoration Project	Morro Bay National Estuary Program
CCC	HB	Jacoby Creek - Bank Stabilization Project	CCC
Adaptive	HI	Little River LWD	CCC
Adaptive	HB	Peters Creek log jam modification	CCC

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Table A-3

Del Norte

Blue Creek Watershed Upslope Implementation Program  
Lower Hunter Creek Stream Corridor Enhancement

Humboldt

4-Mile & Sholes Creek Upslope Sediment Treatment  
AhPah Creek Fish Passage Enhancement Project  
Ambrosini Hay Field and Coyote Hill - Bear River  
Bartleson Prop, Bear River, Upslope Erosion Control #1  
Bear River McBride Slide Stabilization Project  
Bull Creek Riparian Revegetation & Salmon Habitat Restoration  
Conley Creek Project #1  
Crystal Creek '03 Riparian Project  
Dobbyn Creek Slides Project  
EBSF Eel/Reed Mtn. Watershed Implementation  
Four-Mile Creek Riparian Enhancement Project  
Ft. Seward Ranch Prop.-Watershed Improvement Project #1  
Gibson Creek Culvert Replacement  
Howe Creek '03 Project  
Howe Creek Confluence Project  
Jacoby Creek Trib Fish Passage Improvement Project  
Little Larabee Creek Livestock Exclusion Project  
Lower Bear River Channel Restoration Project (includes#117)  
Lower North Fork Mad River Riparian Corridor Enhancement  
Mattole Estuary Habitat Improvement  
Middle Mattole Streambank Stabilization Project  
Miller Creek Sediment Reduction & Monitoring Project  
Moon Creek Barrier Modification & Habitat Enhancement Project  
NF Mattole River Bank Stabilization Project  
North Line Gulch Project  
Panther Creek Barrier Modification & Habitat Enhancement  
Price Creek Bank Stabilization Project  
Price Creek Channel Stabilization & Cover Enhancement  
Redwood Creek Watershed Improvement Project  
Salmon Creek-Pine Drive Bridge Bank Stabilization  
Salmon Creek Watershed Bank Stabilization Project  
Salmon Creek Watershed Improvement Project III  
Salmon Creek Watershed Upslope Restoration Project  
Salmon Creek Watershed-Riparian Restoration  
Saunders Creek Culvert Replacement  
Shively Creek Erosion Control Project  
Silva Bridge Project  
Stanley Creek Culvert Replacement

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Stansberry Creek Culvert Replacement  
Tom Long Tributary Restoration - Phase 2  
Williams Creek Erosion Control Project  
Wood Creek Fish Habitat Structure & Barrier Modification

Marin

Devil's Gulch Culvert Modification

Mendocino

Alder Creek Enhancement Project  
Alder Springs Ranch Stream Bank Stabilization  
Booth Bank Stabilization Project  
Bradford Ranch Upslope Sediment Reduction  
Colombini Bank Stabilization Project  
Dago Creek Barrier Modification Project  
Dago Creek Road Project  
Edridge Creek Watershed Restoration Implementation Project  
Feliz Creek Enhancement Project  
Hollow Tree Creek Watershed Restoration  
Little North Fork Ten Mile Watershed Restoration  
Mill Creek Channel Restoration  
Mill Creek Instream Restoration Project  
Pudding Creek Watershed Restoration Project  
South Fork Cottaneva Creek Fish Passage Improvement  
South Branch Robinson Creek Riparian Restoration Project  
Streeter/Ten Mile Creeks  
Trailer Park Bank Stabilization Project  
Walker Creek Bioengineering Project

Monterey

Sycamore Flats-Arroyo Seco River Fish Passage

Napa

Chase Creek Restoration Project  
Heath Canyon Creek Fish Barrier Removal & Rest.  
Napa River @ Napa Valley Wine Co. River Restoration

San Luis Obispo

Andrews Property Riparian Habitat Improvement Project  
Upper LosOsos Creek Riparian Habitat Restoration Project

Santa Cruz

Old Lompico Pool Fish Passage Improvement

Siskiyou

Cottonwood Creek Diversion Improvement Program  
Kelly Gulch Migration Barrier Removal Project  
Moffet Creek Road Abandonment & Decommission

Sonoma

Green Valley Riparian 2002  
Harrison Bank Stabilization Project

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Mark West Creek Instream Restoration Project  
Pole Mtn. Creek Large Woody Debris (LWD)  
Santa Rosa Creek Watershed Erosion Control  
Tyrone Road Bridge at Tyrone Gulch  
Ward Creek, Russian Gulch, Gualala River Watershed

Trinity

Price Creek Fish Screen Removal Project  
Salt Creek Livestock Exclusionary Fence Project

Ventura

Santa Paula Creek Restoration

EXHIBIT A  
Saunders Creek Culvert Replacement  
STATEMENT OF WORK

Under direction of the Grantor, and under the following conditions and terms, the Grantee will:

1. Improve fish passage and open up approximately 3600' of potential anadromous fish habitat on Saunders Creek, tributary to Mattole River in Humboldt County, CA. The project site is located on Mattole Road at milemarker 4.5 in T2S, R1W, Section 33 of the Buckeye Mountain USGS 7.5' Quadrangle at 40° 15' 6.48" north latitude and 124° 10' 54.63" west longitude. See Exhibit C, which is attached and made part of this agreement by this reference.
2. The Grantee will improve fish passage and open up 3600' of potential anadromous fish habitat by replacing an existing, flat bottom, concrete arch culvert with a 16' diameter arch culvert with a naturalized flow line. The new culvert will allow access for adult and juvenile salmonids, providing unimpeded passage to spawning, rearing, and refuge habitat. The culvert replacement will take place in several steps as follows:
  - A. The existing structure will be removed and the new excavation for the replacement structure will be made.
  - B. The footings for the new culvert will be formed and poured.
  - C. A metal structural plate culvert will be mounted on top of the concrete base and backfilled with gravels.
  - D. The road surface will then be paved to match the existing roadway grade.
  - E. Rock slope protection will be placed at both the inlet and outlet of the new culvert.
3. The project will follow the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS 2001) *Guidelines for Salmonid Passage at Stream Crossings*.
4. All stream work shall take place between July 1 and October 31 or before the first significant seasonal rainfall. Tree planting and sprigging will take place after December 1 or when sufficient rainfall has occurred to insure the best chance of survival of the seedlings, but in no case later than March 1.
5. Within the impact area native plant species will be salvaged, held, and replanted following construction. Revegetation of the project site will be supplemented by applying a seed mix of native riparian plant species suitable for the area, followed by an application of mulch.

Exhibit 3: Mitigated Negative Declaration

6. The new bottomless arch culvert will be maintained by Humboldt County Public Works. During the storm season the culvert will be inspected in a timely manner and debris will be removed as necessary.
7. The Grantee will acknowledge the participation of the Department of Fish and Game, >ENTER FUNDING SOURCE< funds on any signs, flyers, or other types of written communication or notice to advertise or explain the Saunders Creek Culvert Replacement.