



# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department

2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
(707) 565-1900 Fax (707) 565-1103

Sonoma County proposes to carry out the following project. Pursuant to Section 23A of the Sonoma County Code, it has been determined that this project is statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

**Project Title:**

Russian River Floodplain Restoration; File No. PLP23-0014

**Public Agency:** Sonoma County

**Project Applicant:** Endangered Habitats Conservancy

**Applicant Address:** PO Box 22438  
San Diego, CA 92192

**Project Location:** 9245 Eastside Road,  
Healdsburg, CA 95448

**Date of Determination:** April 22, 2025

**To:**

County Clerk- Recorder Office  
County of Sonoma

585 Fiscal Drive, Room 103  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Office of Planning and  
Research

P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

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**DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE AND BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROJECT:**

The Russian River Floodplain Restoration Project proposes to restore a functional floodplain at a former gravel quarry of approximately 358-acres along the middle reach Russian River near Windsor, CA. The proposed natural process-based project design will improve the functions and values of the Russian River for ecological benefit, flood management, improved water quality and public enjoyment. The proposal also includes limited public access including public parking off Eastside Road, trail system, and small boat-in/walk-in campground. The project proposes removal of Mineral Resources (MR) combining zone from APNS 066-300-049, 066-300-011, 066-300-027, 066-290-049, and APN 110-110-016 and change in General Plan land use and base zoning from Land Intensive Agriculture (LIA) to Land Extensive Agriculture (LEA) for APNs 066-300-011, 110-110-015, and APN 110-110-016.

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

Statutory Exemption(s). Sec 23. Section 21080.56 Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects.

**REASON WHY THIS PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**

As lead agency, Sonoma County has determined that the Project is exclusively a project to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife, and the habitat upon which they depend, and a project to restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife. The Project enhances connectivity between the Russian River and floodplain, restoring riverine processes to benefit native species including Central California Coast (CCC) coho salmon, CCC steelhead, and California Coastal (CC) Chinook salmon. The Project includes incidental public benefits with public access through a multi-use trail and boat-in campground. The Project results in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery; and includes procedures for ongoing management for the protection of the environment. A concurrence letter signed by the Director of CDFW was posted on CDFW's website on May 28, 2024, and was thereafter sent to and received by the County of Sonoma by email on June 6, 2024 (CDFW CONCURRENCE NO. 21080.56-2024-052-R3). In reliance on the CDFW letter and the facts stated herein, the County hereby determines the project is exempt.

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This Notice of Exemption is filed pursuant to the provisions of Section 15062 of the State CEQA Guidelines. This notice will be provided within 48 hours to the Office of Planning and Research.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Handwritten signature of Robert Pennington.

Robert Pennington, Professional Geologist  
Permit and Resource Management Department  
Natural Resources Division  
(707) 565-1352

Deva Marie Proto, County Clerk

BY: Handwritten signature of Bryant Hill.  
Bryant Hill, Deputy Clerk

This notice was posted on 04/23/2025  
and will remain posted for a period of thirty days  
through 05/24/2025

**Doc No.49-04232025-140**



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE**  
**CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: 49-04232025-140
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

**SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.**

LEAD AGENCY SONOMA COUNTY PRMD	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 04/23/2025
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING SONOMA	DOCUMENT NUMBER 25-0423-04	

PROJECT TITLE  
RUSSIAN RIVER FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION; FILE NO. PLP23-0014

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME ENDANGERED HABITATS CONSERVANCY	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (707) 565-1352
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS PO BOX 22438	CITY SAN DIEGO	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 92192

**PROJECT APPLICANT** (Check appropriate box)

- Local Public Agency    
  School District    
  Other Special District    
  State Agency    
  Private Entity

**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**

- |   |            |          |
|---|------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)  | \$4,123.50 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)                                   | \$2,968.75 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW | \$1,401.75 | \$ _____ |

- Exempt from fee  
      Notice of Exemption (attach)  
      CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)  
 Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

- |   |          |                 |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) | \$850.00 | \$ _____        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee   |          | \$ <u>50.00</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |          | \$ _____        |

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

- Cash    
  Credit    
  Check    
  Other

**TOTAL RECEIVED** \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE <b>X</b> <i>Bryant Hill</i>	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Bryant Hill, Deputy County Clerk-Recorder
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