



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Director's Office  
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Sacramento, CA 94244-2090  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

**GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor**  
**CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director**



December 5, 2025

Melanie Parker  
Deputy Director  
County of Sonoma, acting by and through its Regional Parks Department  
400 Aviation Blvd., Suite 100  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

**California Environmental Quality Act Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects –  
Mark West Creek and Wetland Restoration Project (Request No. 21080.56-2025-083-R3)**

Dear Melanie Parker:

I am pleased to inform you as the Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) that I concur with the lead agency determination by the County of Sonoma, acting by and through its Regional Parks Department, that the Mark West Creek and Wetland Restoration Project qualifies as a statutorily exempt restoration project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). (Pub. Resources Code, § 21080.56, subd. (e).) My concurrence as the CDFW Director is based on CDFW's independent review of the County of Sonoma, acting by and through its Regional Parks Department, request for concurrence, which CDFW received on October 22, 2025. In my opinion, informed by the best available science and described in the separate CDFW concurrence, the Mark West Creek and Wetland Restoration Project meets all the qualifying criteria in Public Resources Code section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive.

This concurrence signifies the continued commitment by CDFW and its partners in advancing the "Cutting the Green Tape" initiative, which is a collaborative effort to increase the pace and scale of restoration projects in California in a way that protects the environment and results in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery. CDFW stands ready to continue this effort in coordination with the County of Sonoma, acting by and through its Regional Parks Department.

CDFW's concurrence will be posted on our website as provided by Public Resources Code section 21080.56. If you have any related questions, please contact Brad Henderson, Cutting the Green Tape Program Manager, at (530) 351-5948, or by email at [Brad.Henderson@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Brad.Henderson@wildlife.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Charlton H. Bonham  
Director

Melanie Parker, Deputy Director  
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