

# Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

**Lead Agency:** Humboldt County Department of Public Works  
**Project Title:** Lower Bear Creek Habitat Enhancement  
**Project Location:** Bear Creek & Lighthouse Road, 2 miles southwest of Petrolia, CA  
**Project Applicant:** Mattole Salmon Group

Humboldt County Department of Public Works (County) has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Lower Bear Creek Habitat Enhancement Project. The IS/MND determines that based on conditions of approval, design features, best management practices and mitigation measures, the project will avoid significant impacts to the environment. The County is the Lead Agency and the Mattole Salmon Group is the project applicant. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15072, the County will provide this Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (Notice of Intent) to the public, responsible agencies, trustee agencies and the Humboldt County clerk.

**Project Description:** The County of Humboldt has received an application for the Lower Bear Creek Habitat Enhancement Project which will realign approximately 2,000 feet of Lower Bear Creek (LBC) from its present alignment towards the west. The downstream 500 feet of this reach will be within residual backwater of the Mattole Slough, providing low velocity slough habitat. An additional capture channel and a series of small alcoves will be excavated alongside the realigned LBC channel as a means to collect bank overflow and reroute it back to the channel before crossing under the road. The project will also raise 1,500 feet of the current alignment of Lighthouse Road (LHR) by 2-5 feet as well as relocating and raising 1,000 feet of an existing private drive 2-5 feet. The project will install a culvert crossing on LHR and install a bridge crossing on the private drive. The project will also excavate a sediment capture channel running parallel to LHR and place a minimum of 27 pieces of large wood in the new channel for low-velocity freshwater habitat creation.



1. Location map of project area.

**Public Review Period:** A 30-day public review period for the IS/MND will commence **December 1, 2022** and continue through **January 2, 2023**. Interested individuals and public agencies may submit written comments on the document which must be received by the County no later than 5:00 PM on **January 2, 2023**. Please send comments to:



Andrew Bundschuh, Environmental Permitting and Compliance Manager  
County of Humboldt, Department of Public Works  
1106 Second St  
Eureka, CA 95501  
[abundschuh@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:abundschuh@co.humboldt.ca.us)

The IS/MND will be available online for review at [\[redacted\]](#)