



Southern California Fires Emergency Work Fact Sheet to Keep People and Wildlife Safe

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

On January 7, 2025, Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency in Los Angeles and Ventura counties due to the Palisades Fire and windstorm conditions. In response to this declaration, the Department of Fish and Wildlife provides the following information for any necessary emergency work in response to this declaration.

SUSPENSION UNDER EO N-13-25

On January 20, 2025, the Governor issued Executive Order EO N-13-25 which suspends, for 90 days, certain statutory and regulatory requirements to expedite completion of cleanup and repair projects related to the fires, and to mitigate risks prior to the start of the rainy season. The suspension applies to projects conducted by federal, state, or local agencies, or individuals or entities performing work at those agencies' direction.

The Executive Order suspends provisions of the Fish and Game Code or its regulations (e.g. the California Endangered Species Act, the requirement to notify of Lake or Streambed Alteration, etc.) that would delay or otherwise inhibit emergency-response activities in the areas impacted by the fires. These activities include but are not limited to debris removal; sediment removal; vegetation management; and the repair or replacement of existing levees, weirs, and other conveyance and flood-control infrastructure. The suspension also applies to activities needed to stabilize or contain upland slopes or hillsides to address the risk of landslides or mudslides.

As such, Fish and Game Code notification is not required for emergency response work by federal, state, or local agencies or their agents conducted in streams, lakes, and rivers pursuant to EO N-13-25.

CDFW has developed a set of best management practices to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife during stabilization activities in and around waterways conducted pursuant to Executive Order N-13-25.

DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

To request the best management practices or for any questions regarding emergency work under the jurisdiction of the Department of Fish and Wildlife related to this state of emergency or completed under EO N-13-25 can be directed to the Department's South Coast Regional Office at **(858) 467-4201** or AskR5@wildlife.ca.gov.