

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
 P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Imperial
 940 W. Main Street, Suite 202
 El Centro, CA 92243

From: (Public Agency): California Natural Resources Agency
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

(Address)

Project Title: Bombay Beach Wetland Enhancement Project

Project Applicant: California Department of Water Resources

Project Location - Specific:

Shoreline of Salton Sea, east of Bombay Beach: lat 33.354901; long -115.697146

Project Location - City: Bombay Beach Project Location - County: Imperial

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

CNRA is working to implement a wetland enhancement project at a site near Bombay Beach. The Project would encompass an area of 817 acres, to be constructed in two Phases: Phase 1 is located on approximately 581 acres of exposed lakebed with large areas of existing emergent wetlands and scrub-shrub wetlands, and open water habitats (drainages and ponds). Phase 2 would be sited on the remaining 236 acres downgradient (seaward) of Phase 1 lands and above the 2025 sea level. The Project is part of the Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP) 10-Year Plan.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Natural Resources Agency, Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Water Resources

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Restoration Project, Section 21080.56; CDFW Concurrence No 21080.56-2022-014-R6


Reasons why project is exempt:

In 2022, CDFW made a Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP) determination for this project. CDFW's concurrence is required for CNRA to approve the Project, relying on PRC Section 21080.56 of CEQA. This exemption is to confirm that CNRA concurs that the SERP filed by CDFW applies to this project. The project provides habitat and results in long term net benefits to biodiversity and includes ongoing management for the protection of the environment.

Lead Agency
 Contact Person: Mario Llanos, Deputy Asst. Secretary Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-695-0034

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature:  Date: 4/28/2025 Title: Deputy Director

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
 Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____