

Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

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

From: Dept. of Water Resources
San Luis Field Division 31770
Gonzaga Rd., Gustine, CA 95322

Lead Agency: California Department of Water Resources

Project Title: Sediment Removal in the Cantua Creek Channel and Harlan Drain Inlet

Project Location City & County: Fresno County

Project Location – Specific: Work will be on the right side (R) of the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct) milepost (MP) 132.70R near Cerini Avenue and south to MP 134.25R, approximately 11 miles northwest of the unincorporated community of Five Points.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The project consists of routine maintenance in the area between the terminus of Cantua Creek and the Aqueduct; this area allows floodwater and sediment to flow onto flood easements and enter the Aqueduct in a controlled manner and will return the area to design specifications. Without maintenance, sediment and vegetation will accumulate and cause floodwater to threaten the integrity of the Aqueduct. The project involves annually removing up to 7,500 cubic yards of sediment; any vegetation growing in the channel under four inches diameter at breast height will also be removed. In addition, the project will remove an unauthorized berm approximately 1,300 feet long and consisting of 4,800 cubic yards of sediment. Approximately 370 cubic yards of the sediment removed from the Creek channel or from the existing berm, will be used to create an approximately 100 feet long diversion berm, the remaining sediment will be placed in an existing spoil area south of MP 133.81R. This work benefits the State Water Project.

Exempt/Suspend Status:


- Ministerial (§21080[b][1]; 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to Drought)
- Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080[b][4]; California Code of Regulations §15269[c])
- Categorical Exemption: 15301 (Existing Facilities)
- Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons Why Project Is Exempt: Work will take place in an existing DWR area used to route flood water and protect the integrity of the Aqueduct. The work will return the area to design specifications and will not increase the use or capacity of channel or drain inlet.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources

Contact Person: Frank Ruiz

Telephone: (209) 827-5134

Signature:  Date: 9/3/20 Title: UC Supervisor

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Sep 03 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE