

Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inlands Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764



Project Title: Upper Feeder and Lower Feeder Shutdown (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-RIV-15797-R6)

Project Location (include county): The Upper Feeder and Lower Feeder Shutdown Project (Project) is located at various locations in Riverside County, California. Dewatering discharge locations are located along the Upper Feeder Pipeline at the following locations, Upper Feeder 40+00: Latitude: 33.85882, Longitude: -117.451589; Lower Feeder 80+40: Latitude: 33.84232, Longitude: -117.473787; Lower Feeder 155+55: Latitude: 33.83464, Longitude: -117.496314; Lower Feeder 593+02: Latitude: 33.86751, Longitude: -117.624035

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-RIV-15797-R6, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Project is limited to the stream impacts associated with the one-time dewatering and shutdown of the Upper and Lower Feeder pipelines. Dewatering will begin March 1, 2021 and continue through March 2, 2021. The Project will allow staff to perform inspections and maintenance of the pipeline. Dewatering will occur at the four locations listed above and involves releasing untreated water from either a pipeline blow-off (Lower Feeder 80+40) or a pump well outlet structure (Upper Feeder 40+00, Lower Feeder 155+55, Lower Feeder 593+02) into ephemeral tributaries of the Santa Ana River and the Temescal wash. At blow-off structures, the water will be discharged via gravity through an existing permanent corrugated pipe to the discharge point in a stream channel and any remaining water left in the pipe will be manually pumped out and released. The velocity of the water being released into the channel will be manually controlled at the blow-off structure. At the pump well stations, water will be pumped through a six-inch diameter hose and discharged into a nearby ephemeral wash. Dissipation socks will be used to dissipate flows at two dewatering locations and existing riprap, rock and concrete at the dewatering locations will help dissipate water velocity and decrease erosion potential. Dewatering activities typically involve a 1-2 crew members and staging utility truck equipped with a generator adjacent to a dewatering structure.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15301)
Type-- Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15304)

Reasons why project is exempt: This Project is limited to the repair and maintenance of an existing structures (pipelines) and will result in minor alterations to the land which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

CDFW Contact Person: Alyssa Marquez, Environmental Scientist, (760) 567-0332

DocuSigned by:
Scott Wilson
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2/26/2021

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Scott Wilson, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____