

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: San Joaquin

44 N. San Joaquin Street #260

Stockton, CA 95202

From: (Public Agency): San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency

22 E Weber Ave # 301

Stockton, CA 95202

(Address)

Project Title: Lower San Joaquin River Project Reach TS 30 L Geotechnical Borings for Borrow Project

Project Applicant: SJAFCA

Project Location - Specific:

6700 E Copperopolis Road (APN 101-040-23 & 24)

Project Location - City: Stockton

Project Location - County: San Joaquin

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed Project is to perform geotechnical sampling, including eight soil borings and 18 test pits (and/or hand auguring) with the option to perform an additional soil borings/test pits/hand auguring as necessary. Geotechnical sampling is to conduct exploratory surveys to determine the suitability and quantity of borrow material available for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' TS_30_L levee Improvement Project.

The boring/test pit equipment and work would be spending approximately two weeks per site with exceptions for weather delays, such as rain. Soil borings and test pits may be performed at designated locations at 6700 E. Copperopolis Road, Stockton, CA using a rubber tire John Deere 710 backhoe (or equivalent) for the test pits and CME-55 truck mounted drill rig (or equivalent) for the soil borings. The approximate soil boring and test pit locations were field checked for sensitive resources to prevent impacting protected plant and animal species by United States Army Corps of Engineers Environmental Managers on October 29, 2020. In addition, an Environmental Science Associate biologist conducted a biological resource site visit on April 6, 2021.

Assuming workdays will consist of 8-hour days, soil explorations are anticipated to require approximately 8 days for completion. Additionally, it is anticipated that one boring and 2-3 test pits will be completed per day. Considering this rate of production, the soil boring equipment (CME-55 Truck mounted drill rig, water truck and support vehicle) will be at each soil boring location up to 8 hours at a time and the test pit equipment (rubber tire John Deere 710 backhoe) will be at each test pit location between 3 to 4 hours. Currently, explorations are anticipated to begin at the borrow site near the end of May or beginning of June 2021.

Upon the completion of work, all soil borings and test pits would be backfilled to match original topography. Additionally, the work areas would be cleared of all excess soil from sampling and materials used for sampling

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: United States Corps of Engineers

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declaration Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land and 15306 – Information Collection
- Statutory Exemption. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed Project consists of geotechnical samplings that will not result in a major disturbance to the environment. State and federally listed species, cultural/historical resources, and water quality will not be impacted. Sampling locations will be back filled upon completion and sites will be restored to pre-project conditions. No mitigation is required.

Lead Agency

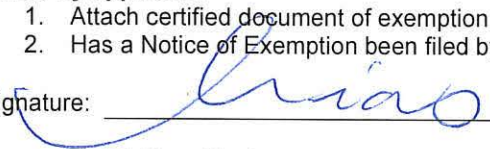
Contact Person: Chris Elias

Area Code/

Telephone/Extension: 209-937-8866

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: 4/19/21 Title: Executive 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: _____