

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: Westgard Shoulder Protection (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-INY-15275-R6)

Project Location: The project is located at ten locations along an unnamed tributary to Owens River where it crosses State Route 168, in the County of Inyo, State of California; Drainage System (DS) 1: Latitude 37.31614, Longitude -118.15394; DS 2: Latitude 37.31658, Longitude -118.15363; DS 3: Latitude 37.31742, Longitude -118.15207; DS 4: Latitude 37.31861, Longitude -118.14789; DS 5: Latitude 37.31491, Longitude -118.131494; DS 6: Latitude 37.31346, Longitude -118.13854; DS 7: Latitude 37.31108, Longitude -118.13285; DS 8: Latitude 37.31181, Longitude -118.12913; DS 9: Latitude 37.31209, Longitude -118.127939; DS 10: Latitude 37.31282, Longitude -118.11236.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-INY-15275-R6, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the California Department of Transportation.

The project is limited to the reinforcement of 10 locations along State Route 168 where an unnamed ephemeral drainage crosses the road. The goal of the Project is to prevent further undercutting of the roadway and reduce soil erosion during large storm events. The Project includes, 1) grading of sediment and storm debris from the channels beds to improve flow and accommodate the gabion structures, 2) excavation of the 3-foot by 3-foot by 6-foot area of the streambed adjacent to the existing pavement for placement of rock filled gabions, 3) installation of several 3-foot by 3-foot rock filled gabions constructed of polyethylene or PVC coated mesh, wrapped in rock slope protection geotextile, fabric (Class 8) and topped with a three-inch thick concrete, 4) construction of concreted shoulders adjacent to the existing Edge of Pavement (10 -feet to 25-feet wide), and 5) placement of native material, excavated for installation of gabions, on the downstream side of the ephemeral channel, or 6) installation on concreted rock slope protection that is anchored into the native wash material. The Project locations will be accessed from the paved roadway. Project equipment will include a backhoe, roller, compactor, loader, dump trucks, grader, concrete trucks and concrete pumps.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: The California Department of Transportation

Exempt Status:

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

Reasons why project is exempt: This Project will result in minor (approximately 0.22 acres) alteration in the condition of previously disturbed desert wash along State Route 168. No healthy, mature or scenic trees will be removed.

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

DocuSigned by:
Signature: Alisa Ellsworth *Date:* 6/24/2021
 Alisa Ellsworth, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____