

Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA, 92123



Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Modjeska Canyon Road Embankment Repair and Restoration (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-ORA-16484-R5)

Project Location (include county): The project is located at Santiago Creek, in the County of Orange, State of California; Latitude 33.71035, Longitude -117.62188; Section 28 of Township 5 South, Range 7 West on the Santiago Peak U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle map; Assessor's Parcel Number 105-262-08. The project site is located in the upper Modjeska Canyon near where Modjeska Canyon Road terminates at Cleveland National Forest.

Project Description: The project is limited to the repair and restoration of 224 feet of Santiago Creek adjacent to Modjeska Canyon Road. Currently, the creek banks are nearly vertical and continue to erode, which poses an immediate hazard to Modjeska Canyon Road. Heavy equipment will enter the Creek upstream from a County gate, dig out five feet down into the Creek bed and place riprap as foundation, then backfill with the original bed substrate. At the toe of the bank, riprap will be placed up to 12 feet out from the existing embankment and piled up against the slope. A topsoil layer of a minimum of 6 inches will be set on top of the new slope, which will be hydroseeded with native coastal sage scrub seed on the upper part of the slope. On the lower part of the slope, mulefat and willow stakes local to the area will be planted. On top of the slope, coastal live oak acorn will be planted.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

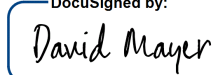
Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Orange County Department of Public Works

Exempt Status:

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

Reasons why project is exempt: Class 1 includes the repair and maintenance of existing public or private structures, facilities, or topographical structures including highways and streets. The proposed project will be reinforcing and restoring Santiago Creek banks to maintain the integrity of Modjeska Canyon Road.

CDFW Contact Person: Jennifer Blackhall, Environmental Scientist, (858) 354-3285

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ *Date:* 12/20/2021
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 David Mayer, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____