

Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
[CEQA Submit](#)

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



Project Title: Box Springs Feeder Shutdown Dewatering (Streambed Alteration Agreement, Notification No. EPIMS-RIV-24310-R6)

Project Location (Riverside County): The Project is located within Sycamore Canyon Creek in Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park, in the County of Riverside, State of California. The Project is located east of the Henry Mills Water Treatment Plant in the City of Riverside, California. Latitude and Longitude coordinates of the dewatering discharge location: 33.925292, -117.307714

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-RIV-24310-R6, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Project Applicant, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, as represented by Jennifer Harriger.

The Project is limited to impacts to streams associated with two dewatering discharge events at Box Springs Feeder Station 88+40 (Exhibit C) in 2022 and 2023. The Box Springs Feeder shutdown involves lowering the water level in the Box Springs Feeder to allow repairs to the connected Santa Ana Valley Pipeline, which is owned and operated by California Department of Water Resources. The two dewatering discharge events are scheduled for the 2022-2023 season and anticipated in November 2022 and March 2023. Water will be discharged from a single location at Station 88+40, directly into Sycamore Canyon Creek. Each dewatering event will discharge water at a maximum rate of up to 8 cubic feet per second through an existing 36-inch diameter concrete culvert with existing riprap energy dissipation. Approximately 2.25 miles downstream of the discharge site, Sycamore Canyon Creek reaches Canyon Crest Golf Course, where it flows for an additional 1 mile through a maintained drainage and spreads into a vegetated detention basin. Flow from the discharge is anticipated to reach the detention basin and percolate/infiltrate.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE


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

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 (c), Maintenance of existing public facility (water pipeline) involving negligible or no expansion of existing use.

Reasons why project is exempt: The proposed project consists of the dewatering of a public facility (water pipeline) involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

CDFW Contact Person: Jacob Skaggs, Environmental Scientist, jacob.skaggs@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 11/23/2022
Kimberly Freeburn
Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____