

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

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



Project Title: LACFCD’s Concrete-Lined Channel Maintenance Program (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2004-0433-R5)

Project Location (Los Angeles County): The project is located within 297 concrete-lined flood control channels located in multiple watersheds within Los Angeles County. The channels are tributaries to the Los Angeles River, San Gabriel River, Santa Monica Bay, Dominguez Channel, and Santa Clara River. The concrete-lined channels are engineered, reinforced concrete flood control structures consisting of either rectangular sections with vertical walls and concrete bottoms, or trapezoidal sections with sloped walls and concrete bottoms.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has amended Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2004-0433-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District). The District proposes to continue activities and protocols related to channel maintenance. This does not involve any new activity or construction project, but rather reflects longstanding and ongoing maintenance activities required to protect downstream residences, businesses, and infrastructure from potential damage caused by floodwaters and debris. These activities include the use of backhoes, loaders, dump trucks, and other mechanical equipment to remove sediment, debris, trash, algae, and vegetation from the channel invert. Additional routine maintenance activities include conducting repairs and restorations to damaged invert access ramps and access roads, damaged low-flow diverters, curbs, channel inverts, spalling concrete, cracks, and joints; clearing of debris and sediment from inverts, sub drains, outlets, and lines; repairing or replacing vault lids and flap gates; repairing, restoring, and/or replacing channel wall fences, access roads, invert access ramps, gates, and ladder rungs; and clearing weep holes. The amendment involved the addition of 13 concrete-lined channel reaches to the list of maintained reaches and updating information on reaches already included in the Agreement.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Exempt Status:

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

Reasons why project is exempt: *Class 1, Section 15301;* This project consists of the operation, repair, and maintenance of existing public structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, and topographical features involving no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the Lead Agency’s determination.

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DocuSigned by:
Signature:  Date: 2/15/2023

Erinn Wilson-Ortiz, Environmental Program Manager
Region 5: South Coast

Date received for filing at OPR: _____