

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region
3030 Old Ranch Parkway, Suite 400
Seal Beach, CA 90740
Frederic.Rieman@wildlife.ca.gov



Project Title: Talbert Regional Park at 19th Street Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-ORA-24593-R5).

Project Location (Orange County): The Project is located along 19th Street within Talbert Regional Park, at the Santa Ana River, in the County of Orange, State of California; Latitude 33.643272, Longitude -117.948738; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 114-170-52.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-ORA-24593-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Southern California Edison (SCE) as represented by Hazem Gabr.

The Project involves the maintenance of vegetation to maintain set clearance distances between SCE power lines. The Project will take place along a portion of SCE's 66kV Huntington Beach-Lafayette-Orcogen and 12kV Gehrig circuits. Prior to any Project activities, field surveys will be conducted to collect location, quantity, and species data on any trees or other vegetation that enter the clearance distances. Crews will utilize the crown reduction method to reduce canopy cover of vegetation while leaving the understory intact. Vegetation will be trimmed until the set clearance distance is achieved. Project activities will not remove more than 50% of the canopy of each individual tree. All trimmed material will be hauled out of the Project area to a chipper for processing. Project activities will impact a total of no more than 1.52 acres of the vegetation's canopy from crown reduction. The crew will access the site by foot, or from a bucket truck staged on the existing road. Work will be conducted using hand-operated equipment and may include hand pruners, pruning saws, chainsaws, and weed whackers.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 and Type – Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304

Reasons why Project is exempt: The Project consists of the maintenance of vegetation to maintain set clearance distances with Southern California Edison's power lines. No expansion of use is proposed. The Project is exempt because it involves the maintenance of existing structures and/or facilities and involves fuel management activities within 30 feet of structures to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation.

CDFW Contact Person: Frederic (Fritz) Rieman, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (562) 619-0605, Frederic.Rieman@wildlife.ca.gov

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Signature: _____ Date: 4/19/2023
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Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____