

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: Santa Clara River at Santa Paula Airport (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-VEN-24590-R5).

Project Location (Ventura County): The Project is located within the Santa Clara River, in the County of Ventura, State of California; Latitude 34.348614°, Longitude -119.052619°; Latitude 34.362030°, Longitude -119.00862°; Latitude 34.361197°, Longitude -119.001310°.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-VEN-24590-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 16kV Petit, 220kV Moorpark-Santa Clara No. 1 & 2, and 16kV Balcom 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 and need to be trimmed or removed. Project activities will impact a total of no more 17.05 acres of Fremont cottonwood forest and woodland. Staging areas will be located on established access roads. All trimmed material will be hauled out of the Project area to a chipper for processing. The crew will access the site by foot, or from a bucket truck staged on the existing road or shoulder. 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

Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____