



## Notice of Exemption

**To:**  Office of Planning and Research  
Submitted electronically / online

**From:** ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY  
100 North Canyons Parkway  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-454-5000

**To:**  County Clerk  
County of Alameda  
1106 Madison Street  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Date:** August 25, 2023

**Project Title:** Arroyo Mocho Stanley Reach Sedimentation Basin Maintenance

**Project Location – Specific:** Arroyo Mocho flood channel, adjacent to Stanley Blvd. and Isabel Ave. in Livermore

**Project Location – County:** Alameda County

### Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Zone 7 Water Agency (Zone 7) owns and maintains approximately 37 miles of engineered, modified, and natural channels throughout the Livermore-Amador Valley. The channels also play an integral role in local groundwater management and water supply. Zone 7's maintenance program includes routine maintenance of, and repairs to, the flood protection facilities.

As designed, the sedimentation basin on Arroyo Mocho adjacent to Isabel Avenue (Hwy 84) needs periodic maintenance (removal of accumulated materials) to remain effective. It was last maintained in 2021 as part of a larger stabilization project. The multiple atmospheric rivers of January 2023 brought in significant amounts of sediment from upstream, and the sedimentation basin is currently exceedingly full and due for maintenance ahead of the next rainy season.

In summer months, the water in Arroyo Mocho typically consists of releases of imported water from the South Bay Aqueduct for the purposes of artificial recharge of the groundwater basin. For this maintenance work, Zone 7 will pause the releases to Arroyo Mocho during the work window. As a matter of increase precaution, coffer dams will be installed such that any unplanned water in Arroyo Mocho will flow only through the low flow channel that circumvents the construction area.

The site is generally accessible to Stanley Boulevard, a major thoroughfare that leads to the nearby Livermore quarries, and to Isabel Avenue (Hwy. 84). More specifically, the site is accessible on both ends, via Rockrose St. on the west and Murrieta Boulevard on the east. The Rockrose entrance is expected to be most heavily used for this project. Equipment will likely stay onsite overnight, on Zone 7 property and outside of the channel.

Approximately 850 truck trips will be required to off haul all materials to Zone 7 property near Cope Lake (El Charro Rd). It is expected that as much as possible of the material will be re-purposed by Zone 7 within our service area for future upland repairs or maintenance, like spreading on maintenance access roads. Construction is expected to take about 3 weeks.

**Name of Public Agency Approving and Carrying Out Project:** Zone 7 Water Agency

**Exempt Status:** *(check one)*

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption. CEQA Guidelines Section
- Statutory Exemptions

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

The project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines as follows:

- The work is required a result of a declared state and federal emergency (#DR-4683-CA, December 27, 2022 - January 31, 2023).

None of the conditions noted under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines 15300.2 (as revised) will occur. Furthermore, this project will not result in potential for significant environmental impacts because:

- The project site will look and function the same (or nearly) as it has in the past.
- Work will be limited to the smallest footprint practicable, and within any set limits in applicable regulatory permits.
- There will be no or minimal native ground disturbance.
- Work is within Zone 7's property and will have minimal construction-related nuisances to local residents, businesses, or recreational areas, such as disruptions to traffic and increased noise, etc.

- Best Management Practices will be employed during construction to reduce the potential for localized erosion or impact to water quality.
- No impacts to sensitive habitat or wildlife are expected.
- Pre-construction biological surveys will be performed.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project could result in a significant impact.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Elke Rank    **Area Code/Telephone/Ext:** 925-454-5005  
**Lead Agency Project Manager:** Mike Miller    **Area Code/Telephone/Ext:** 925-454-xxxx

<b>Signature:</b> <i>Elke Rank</i>
<b>Title</b> Associate Water Resources Planner Zone 7 Water Agency

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Date received for filing at County Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location

