

## Notice of Exemption

**To:**

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

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
South Coast Region  
3883 Ruffin Road  
San Diego, CA 92123  
[Angela.Castanon@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Angela.Castanon@wildlife.ca.gov)



**Project Title:** Invasive Plant Removal and Development of Climate Adapted Restoration for the Santa Clara River (Streambed Alteration Agreement, No. EPIMS-VEN-27616-R5).

**Project Location (Ventura County):** The Project is located along the Santa Clara River, 2.24 miles upstream of the Highway 118 bridge, near the unincorporated area of Saticoy in Ventura County, California; Latitude 34.299021N, Longitude -119.112011W; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 090-0-190-490.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement, No. EPIMS-VEN-27616-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Ventura County Resource Conservation District, as represented by Jamie Whiteford.

The Project is limited to the removal of giant reed (*Arundo donax*) within a 9-acre Project site to allow passive restoration of native willow recruitment. Approximately 5 acres of giant reed will be removed from the site from the eastern to western end. Removal of giant reed will be conducted using the cut and daub method with an aquatic-approved herbicide. Following cut and daubing, an herbicide treatment will be applied to rhizome resprouts. Initial removal activities will occur in September to avoid the bird nesting season (February 15 to September 1). Retreatments will occur from October through January over the span of 3 years to which application is expected to decrease with each retreatment. An existing access path will be used to access the Project site. Site monitoring will occur, and new emergent canes will be removed before reaching a height of 3-4 feet in height. No ground disturbance will occur, and areas of ponded water will be avoided.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

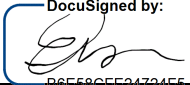
**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** VENTURA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 33; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333

**Reasons why Project is exempt:** The Project is a small habitat restoration project that does not exceed 5 acres in size and is limited to the removal of invasive giant reed for the purposes of passive restoration for native willow species.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Angela Castanon, Environmental Scientist, (562) 513-6308,  
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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 8/25/2023

Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager

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