

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: COUNTY CLERK
 COUNTY OF VENTURA

FROM: VCPWA-WATERSHED PROTECTION
 DIRECTOR

Project Title: Coastal Watershed Flood Risk Reduction Grant Prairie Pacific Habitat Enhancement Project
Project Location: City of Santa Paula, California, along the north bank of the Santa Clara River upstream and downstream of the 12 th Street Bridge
Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of the Project - Watershed Protection (WP) will collaborate with the Nature Conservancy (TNC) to remove non-native, invasive plants, including giant reed (<i>Arundo donax</i>), from at least 40 acres of TNC's Prairie Pacific land holding within the Santa Clara River. Methodologies may involve mastication of mature biomass with follow-up foliar and cut-and-daub application of herbicide approved for aquatic use and would comply with the Ventura County Application Protocol for Pesticides, Fertilizers, and Herbicides. Other activities may include removal of trash and debris and planting of native flora. Qualified biologists would conduct surveys before and during anticipated non-native vegetation removal to ensure protection of native fish and wildlife during work activities. The work will occur on land on which no habitat restoration activities have previously occurred.
CDFW has issued Concurrence No. 21080.56-2023-038-R5 certifying that the proposed habitat enhancement complies with Public Resources Code section 21080.56 on November 21, 2023.
Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Ventura County Public Works Agency-Watershed Protection
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Glenn Shephard, Director

Exempt Status: (Check One)

Categorical Exemption.

Statutory Exemption. Public Resources Code No. 21080.56

Reasons why project is exempt: The proposed project is statutorily exempt under Public Resources Code 21080.56 because it would enhance native habitat values in the Santa Clara River for California native fish and wildlife, provide incidental public benefits, improve climate resiliency and biodiversity, and would not involve any construction activities except those that solely relate to habitat restoration (subsections a-d).		
Contact Person:	Area Code	Telephone
Glenn Shephard, Director	(805)	654-2040

Date Received for Filing



Director

12/5/2023

Date

