

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region 5
3883 Ruffin Rd.
San Diego, CA 92123
Angela.Castanon@wildlife.ca.gov



Project Title: Medea Creek Palm Tree Removal Project (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-VEN-27762-R5)

Project Location (Ventura County): The project is located at 5600 Hollytree Drive, Oak Park, Ventura County, State of California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has amended Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-VEN-27762-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District as represented by Wayne Nakaoka.

The Project consists of the removal of 72 invasive palm trees (16 small, 16 medium and 40 large) from within and around a stretch of Medea Creek in Oak Canyon Community Park in Oak Park, CA. The target species for removal is Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*). The total area colonized by non-native palm trees is 0.15 acres (6,721 sf) and 739 linear feet within the project reach. The Project has been amended to include work in/near ponded water with the utilization of additional protocols for southwestern pond turtle. A pond turtle exclusion and relocation plan has been composed by the Permittee and approved by CDFW for the remaining palm removal activities near ponded water along Madea Creek.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

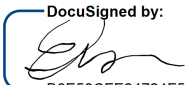
Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption. State code number

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 33; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333 Small Habitat Restoration Projects

Reasons why project is exempt: This project is less than five acres, will not significantly impact any sensitive resources, and will remove non-native vegetation from the area.

CDFW Contact Person: Angela Castanon, Environmental Scientist, Angela.Castanon@wildlife.ca.gov or at (626) 513-6308.

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ Date: 9/19/2023
Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____