

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
Contact:
Amida.Verhey@wildlife.ca.gov



Project Title: Valido Trail Repair (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-ORA-31551-R5)

Project Location (Orange): The project is located at an unnamed tributary to the Pacific Ocean, State of California; Latitude 33.50801, Longitude -117.74199; Section 5, Township 8 south, Range 8 west, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map San Juan Capistrano 7.5-minute quadrangle; Assessor’s Parcel Number #658-191-01. The project site is located along the Valido Trail within Aliso and Woods Canyon Wilderness Park.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-ORA-31551-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Orange County – Parks as represented by Tuan Richardson.

The project is limited to the repair of a 65-foot length of eroded segment of Valido Trail from its current two-foot width to its as-built four-foot width through the installation of a BioWall structure into the eroded slope below the trail. The BioWall structure will be composed of vertical layers of gravel between geotextiles with biodegradable bags of pre-seeded topsoil behind concrete caps on the face of the wall. The project site will be prepared by trimming the willows and laurel sumac covering the slope, removing the remaining non-native vegetation on the slope, and lowering the existing trail grade. The BioWall will then be installed approximately seven feet below the trail grade and will extend seven feet down. Fill will be placed and packed on top of the BioWall structure and up to the trail to create more width for the trail. The face of the slope above the BioWall will be hydroseeded with a mix of riparian and coastal sage scrub species and the toe of the BioWall will be staked with willows. A skid steer will be used to grade the trail and will only work from the top of the trail. Equipment and materials will be staged at the County-owned dirt parking lot at the head of the trail. Access to the project site will be on the existing public trail. Public access to the trail will be closed for the duration of construction. Construction is anticipated to take approximately 2 weeks.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE


Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Orange County - Parks

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project is limited to the repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or formal use.

CDFW Contact Person: Amida Verhey, Environmental Scientist, Amida.Verhey@wildlife.ca.gov

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Signature: _____ Date: 1/22/2024

Victoria Tang
Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____