

## Notice of Exemption

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**To:**

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

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Inland Deserts Region 6  
3602 Inland Empire Blvd C-220  
Ontario, CA 91764  
Contact: Lydia Rodriguez



**Project Title:** Santa Ana Watershed Association Watershed Mitigation Restoration Project Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, No. EPIMS-RIV-42336-R6 (1600-2010-0004-R6 Amendment and Extension)

**Project Location (Riverside, San Bernardino):** The project is located within all lakes and streams within the approximately 2,800 square mile drainage area of the Santa Ana River Watershed; bounded to the northeast by Big Bear Lake Reservoir, to the northwest by the San Gabriel Mountains, and to the southeast by the San Jacinto Mountains.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has amended and extended Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-RIV-42336-R6 (1600-2010-0004-R6), pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Santa Ana Watershed Association.

The Permittee's Watershed Mitigation and Restoration Project includes the enhancement, restoration, and conservation of various habitats, native buffers, and other lands within the Santa Ana River Watershed. Project activities will occur on private and public lands, including conservation easements held by the Permittee. Habitat types where project activities will occur include: riparian; wetland; perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams; lakes and ponds; vernal pools; riparian-upland transitional; upland; oak woodland; sage scrub; and grassland. The Permittee proposes to expand the number of enhanced and restored acres of habitat, as well as create new native habitat and conserve existing native habitat, within the watershed by conducting the activities authorized under the Agreement.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** California Department of Fish And Wildlife

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** Santa Ana Watershed Association

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1, §15301(h) and (i), Existing Facilities

**Reasons why project is exempt:** *Class 1, §15301(h) and (i), Existing Facilities:* The project is exempt under Class 1 because it consists of the maintenance of topographical features such as existing landscaping and native growth; wildlife habitat areas; and waterbodies such as stream channels and riparian areas, through habitat restoration, enhancement, and conservation, to protect fish and wildlife resources.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Lydia Rodriguez, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist),  
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*Kim Freeburn*  
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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 5/14/2024

Kim Freeburn,  
Environmental Program Manager

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