

## Notice of Exemption

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

**From:**  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Central Region  
1234 East Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, California 93710  
[R4LSA@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:R4LSA@wildlife.ca.gov)



**Project Title:** Mack, Nicoll, Boone Routine Irrigation Ditch Maintenance (Notification of Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-KER-40539-R4)

**Project Location (Kern County):** The Project will occur in the Boone, Mack, and Nicoll Ditches within the floodplain of the South Fork Kern River, on the CDFW Canebrake Ecological Reserve, adjacent to Highway 178, approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the community of Onyx; Section 8, Township 26 North, Range 35 East, USGS 7.5 Minute Quad Map Onyx, MDB & M; Assessor's Parcel Number 321-030-14.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-KER-40539-R4, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Applicant, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District.

The Project includes routine, reoccurring maintenance activities to facilitate water conveyance through the Nicoll, Mack, and Boone Ditches where they traverse the Canebrake Ecological Reserve. Vegetation and debris will be removed from each ditch by pushing material along the ditch bed using a small dozer operated from within the ditch channel. Material that is removed will be temporarily stockpiled in the ditch and scooped out of the ditch using a backhoe operated from outside the ditch and placed where it cannot reenter the ditch channels, or the piles will be hauled from the property in dump trucks. Alternatively, live vegetation will be trimmed, dead vegetation removed, and trash removed by crews on foot using hand tools.

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

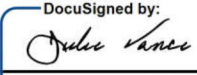
**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District

**Exempt Status:**

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

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The Project includes the continued maintenance of existing water conveyance structures and will not result in an expansion of existing use. The Project will not have significant environmental impacts if it is completed under the protective features of Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-KER-40539-R4.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Jim Kitch (Environmental Scientist); 559-580-3198

DocuSigned by:  
  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 5/24/2024  
 Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

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