

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Region
1234 E Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710



Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Project Title: Johnson Ranch Riparian Restoration Project (Project)
(Request No. 1652-2024-071-001-R4)

Project Applicant: Lucia Pohlman, City of San Luis Obispo

Project Location: The Project is located within an unnamed tributary to San Luis Obispo Creek, in the Johnson Ranch Open Space, San Luis Obispo County, California; centered at coordinates 35.22572, -120.69490; Section 00 and 16, Township 31 South, Range 12 East; U.S. Geological Survey Map Pismo Beach; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 076-114-012, 076-114-022, and 076-121-019.

Project Description: Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1652, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has approved the Project submitted by City of San Luis Obispo, represented by Lucia Pohlman.

The primary purposes of the Project are habitat improvement, native plant restoration, sediment control, and large wood material enhancement. The Project includes the construction of approximately 30 beaver dam analogs (BDA), removal of invasive vegetation within a 75-foot buffer from the stream, and revegetation with 360 plantings and hand-collected native seed. A temporary irrigation system will be installed on the ground surface to support the establishment of plantings. BDAs will be adaptively maintained as needed throughout the Project term to achieve Project goals. The Project is expected to reduce sedimentation into the receiving watershed, thus improving water quality to the benefit of aquatic species. The accumulation of sediment at each BDA location will reduce water velocity and increase the persistence of surface flow. Revegetation will support habitat complexity, which will foster species diversity and abundance.

Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: City of San Luis Obispo

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 33 California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333

Reasons why project is exempt: Class 33 consists of small projects not to exceed 5 acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

CDFW Contact Person: Megan Rooney (Environmental Scientist), (559) 203-2792 or megan.rooney@wildlife.ca.gov.

DocuSigned by:
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie A. Vance".

Signature: Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager
Central Region

Date: 7/3/2024

Date received for filing at OPR: _____