

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Los Angeles
12400 East Imperial Highway

Norwalk, CA 90650

From: (Public Agency): City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90405

(Address)

Project Title: Santa Monica Beach Dunes Restoration Project - Phase 3

Project Applicant: The Bay Foundation; City of Santa Monica

Project Location - Specific:

Sana Monica Beach with approximate northern coordinates of 34.026667, -118.5175 to approximate southern coordinates of 33.99611, -118.481944

Project Location - City: Santa Monica Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Project will restore 46 acres of coastal sand dunes with native vegetation, through a checkerboard-type footprint of small polygonal plots ranging from one to two acres in size, forming a complex dune ecosystem with fore and back dunes. The restoration of dunes will conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife, and the habitat upon which they depend and restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife. The project is designed to create coastal dune habitat to benefit the El Segundo blue butterfly, the California legless lizard, the globose dune beetle, the California least tern, and western snowy plover.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Santa Monica

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: The Bay Foundation; City of Santa Monica

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code (PRC) 21080.56

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Phase 3 Dunes Restoration Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080.56 of the PRC, which exempts a project to restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife meeting certain requirements. On August 2, 2024, the CDFW Director concurred with the City's determination that the Project meets the qualifying criteria set forth in PRC Section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive. Specifically, the CDFW Director concurred with the City that the Project meets all of conditions in PRC Section 21080.56 and is statutorily exempt. This concurrence is posted online at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Notices/CEQA>.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Rachel Kwok Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 310 458 8341

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Rachel Kwok Digitally signed by Rachel Kwok
Date: 2024.09.12 15:38:53
-0700' Date: 9/12/24 Title: Environmental Planner

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____