

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

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



Project Title: Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District Restoration Project Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, No. EPIMS-RIV-50012-R6 (1600-2007-088-R6 Amendment and Extension)

Project Location (Riverside, San Bernardino): The Project is located within several lakes and streams and associated habitats within the Santa Ana River Watershed within Permittee's service area boundaries in the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, within the following State of California USGS Quadrangles: Riverside East, Riverside West, Fontana, Sunnymead, Corona North, Corona South, Blackstar Canyon, Estella Mountain, Alberhill, Lake Matthews, San Bernardino South, Elsinore, Prado Dam, Steel Peak, and Santiago Peak.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has amended and extended Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-RIV-50012-R6 (1600-2007-088-R6), pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD) (Permittee).

The Permittee's Regional Habitat Enhancement, Restoration, Creation, and Conservation Project includes the enhancement, restoration, creation 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. Native buffers include habitat types that protect sensitive habitat types such as riparian or wetland from disturbances associated with adjacent land uses such as urban development. The Permittee proposes to continue activities and expand the number of enhanced and restored sites, 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: Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD)

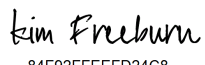
Exempt Status:

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

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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), lydia.rodriguez@wildlife.ca.gov

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Signature: _____ **Date:** 12/17/2024
Kim Freeburn,
Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____