

## Notice of Exemption

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**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:** Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority Geotechnical Investigation (Notification of Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-KER-46482-R4)

**Project Location:** The Project will occur within ephemeral streams at 37 sites along the alignment of an approximately 50-mile long future pipeline alignment between California City and Ridgecrest in eastern Kern County; the alignment will follow Redwood Blvd, Neuralia Road, Redrock Randsburg Road, Garlock Road, U.S. Highway 395, and China Lake Boulevard; USGS 7.5-Minute Quads California City South, California City North, Cantil, Saltdale Southeast, Garlock, El Paso Peaks, and Ridgecrest South.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-KER-46482-R4, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the applicant, Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority

The Project includes activities related to geotechnical investigation activities to inform the future installation of a water pipeline. Activities include through the drilling of bore holes (pipe boring), excavating test pits, and placing steel plates or gravel bags and wetland mats to cross streams to access off-site locations.

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

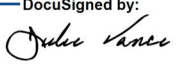
**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 6; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15306

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The Project includes activities to gather geological and soil data to aid in preparation of design and construction of a water pipeline. The Project will not have significant environmental impacts if it is completed under the protective features of Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-KER-46482-R4.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Jim Kitch (Environmental Scientist); (559) 580-3198; [James.Kitch@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:James.Kitch@wildlife.ca.gov).

DocuSigned by:  
  
**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 1/3/2025  
Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager  
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Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_