

# Notice of Exemption

To:  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: San Bernardino County  
Department of Public Works  
Environmental Management Division  
825 E. Third Street, Room 123  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0835

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of San Bernardino  
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Second Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0130

## Project Description

**Project Title:** National Trails Highway (Nth) Bridge 29 Bud Ditch – Sediment Removal and Abutment Reinforcement  
**Project Location:** Bridge 29 is located along the National Trails Highway (NTH), a historic roadway that runs parallel to Interstate 40, in the Mojave Desert region of San Bernardino County, California. The project site is approximately 3 miles east of Crucero Road.  
**Project Description:** The San Bernardino County Flood Control District (District) is proposing sediment removal and abutment reinforcement at National Trails Highway Bridge 29, located at Bud Ditch, approximately 3 miles east of Crucero Road in San Bernardino County. This project is necessary to restore natural water flow and enhance structural integrity by addressing sediment accumulation and reinforcing the east abutment wall, which has experienced structural wear over time. The project will involve the removal of approximately 250 cubic yards of sediment from beneath the bridge and its flow line outlet, restoring the natural drainage path. Additionally, wood reinforcements will be installed to strengthen the east abutment wall and prevent further deterioration. Construction will utilize heavy machinery, including a rubber track skid steer and a rubber tire loader, with work expected to last approximately 6 days (weather permitting). The project will be confined to the existing 40-foot width and 300-foot length of the bridge area, with excavation depths reaching up to 2.5 feet. Given the limited duration and localized nature of the work, no vegetation removal or structural impacts beyond the bridge abutment are anticipated. This project is critical to ensuring continued safe passage along National Trails Highway, mitigating the risk of further structural degradation, and maintaining the hydraulic efficiency of Bud Ditch beneath Bridge 29.

Ayida Smith

Lead Agency Contact Person

(909) 387-8109

## Applicant

San Bernardino County Dept. of Public Works

825 E. Third Street

Address

San Bernardino, CA 92415-0835

(909) 387-8109

Phone

## Representative

Arlene B. Chun, M.S., P.E.

Name

Same as Applicant

Address

Same as Applicant

Phone

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)];  
 Categorical Exemption. State type and section: 15301 Existing Facilities and 15304 Minor Alterations to Land  
 Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Exemption: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt: The project falls under Class 1 - Existing Facilities (Section 15301), which applies to routine maintenance and minor repairs to existing public infrastructure with no expansion of use. The sediment removal and abutment reinforcement are considered standard maintenance activities that will not significantly alter environmental conditions. Additionally, the project qualifies under Class 4 - Minor Alterations to Land (Section 15304), as it involves minor excavation, specifically the removal of sediment from beneath Bridge 29 and its flow line.

Signature Anthony Pham, P.E.

On behalf of Arlene B. Chun, M.S., P.E.

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Engineering Manager, Environmental Mgmt. Div.

Title

2/19/25  
Date

Date received for filing at OPR: N/A