

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 7:05 MAR -4 P 2:40

FROM: Santa Barbara County Flood Control District and Water Conservation District

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN: 107-710-022, 107-690-001, 103-530-069

Case No.: NA

Location: Santa Barbara County

Project Title: Mud Lakes stormwater basin sediment removal

Project Description: This Mud Lakes basins are a series of three adjacent stormwater basins near Via Santa Maria and Kenneth Ave in Orcutt, CA. Sediment berms and a concrete drainage structure separate the three basins. The activity by the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District involves removal of the old concrete structure and re-grading the sediment berms, and exporting the material for disposal offsite. Removal of the sediment berms separating the basins will improve stormwater capacity and drainage for the surrounding neighborhoods. The Mud Lakes Basins are an existing flood control facility. The activity would not expand the boundaries or change the use of the facility. The activity is limited to dry areas of sediment and would not involve disturbance of standing water within the northwest sub-basin.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the United States Geological Survey

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Article 19, Categorical Exemption, Section 15301 – Existing Facilities. Class 1 consists of the operation, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The key consideration for Class 1 Exemption 15301 for Existing Facilities is whether the activity involves negligible or no expansion of use. The Mud Lakes Basins are an existing stormwater facility that is regularly managed and maintained for flood control purposes. The activity would not expand the boundaries or change the use of the

facility. Removal of the old concrete structure and sediment berms would improve stormwater drainage and capacity within the existing facility, consistent with existing use.

There are no scenic highways, hazardous waste sites, historical resources, or designated resources of critical concern or officially adopted. There are no unusual circumstances that conclude a reasonable possibility that the activity would have a significant effect or cumulative impact on the environment pursuant to the 15300.2.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Walter Rubalcava Phone #: 805-568-3436

Department/Division Representative: Andrew Raaf  Date: Jan 23, 2025

NOTE: A copy of this document must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

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: Santa Barbara

From: (Public Agency): Santa Barbara County
Flood Control District
130 E Victoria St, Suite 200 Santa Barbara CA 93101
(Address)

Project Title: Mud Lakes stormwater basin sediment removal

Project Applicant: Santa Barbara County Flood Control District

Project Location - Specific:

Mud Lakes stormwater basin nea Via Santa Maria and Kenneth Ave

Project Location - City: Unincorporated Orcutt CA Project Location - County: Santa Barbara

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This Mud Lakes basins are a series of three adjacent stormwater basins. Sediment berms and a concrete drainage structure separate the three drainage areas. The activity involves removal sediment berms and an old concrete drainage structure and exporting the material for disposal offsite. Removal of the sediment berms separating the basins will improve stormwater capacity and drainage. After sediment removal, site cleanup and surface compaction and gradint will be performed to improve drainage. The Mud Lakes Basins are an existing flood control facility. The activity would not expand the boundaries or change the use of the facility. The activity is limited to dry areas of sediment and would not involve disturbance of standing water within the northwest sub-basin.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County Flood Control District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Barbara County Flood Control District

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));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301 Existing Facilites
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

CEQA Article 19, Categorical Exemption, Section 15301 Existing Facilities. Class 1 consists of the operation, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The key consideration for Class 1 Exemption 15301 for Existing Facilities is whether the activity involves negligible or no expansion of use. The Mud Lakes Basins are an existing stormwater facility that is regularly managed and maintained for flood control purposes. The activity would not expand the boundaries or change the use of the facility. Removal of the old concrete structure and sediment berms would improve stormwater drainage and capacity within the existing facility, consistent with existing use. The activity is limited to dry areas of sediment and would not involve disturbance of standing water. There are no scenic highways, hazardous waste sites, historical resources, or designated resources of critical concern or officially adopted. There are no unusual circumstances that conclude a reasonable possibility that the activity would have a significant effect or cumulative impact on the environment pursuant to the 15300.2.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Andrew Raaf Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 805-722-7250

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: Andrew Raaf Date: 1-25-2025 Title: Environmental Manager

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: