

**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION
(SUBSEQUENT ACTION)**

TO: X Recorder/County Clerk
P.O. Box 1750, MS A-33
1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 260
San Diego, CA 92101-2422

FROM: City of San Diego
City Planning Department
202 C Street, MS 413
San Diego, CA 92101

 X Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Number: PRJ-1111938

State Clearinghouse Number: 2017071022

Project Title: County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation -led Emergency and Routine Maintenance Activities at the Pilot 1 and Smuggler's Gulch 1 Channels

Project Location: The Pilot 1 and Smuggler's Gulch 1 channels are located in the Tijuana River Valley Community Plan area in Council District 8. The Smuggler's Gulch channel, which is adjacent to 2040 Monument Road, San Diego, CA 92154, starts at the United States – Mexico border and extends north until its confluence with the Pilot 1 channel (approximately 4,300 feet in length). The portion of the Smuggler's Gulch channel south of Monument Road is approximately 1,400 feet in length and is located on County of San Diego (County) property. The portion of the Smuggler's Gulch channel north of Monument Road is approximately 2,900 feet in length with split ownership on County (approximately 1,600 feet) and City of San Diego (City) (approximately 1,300 feet) properties. The Pilot 1 channel extends in an east to west direction, beginning approximately 100 feet east of the Hollister Street Bridge and ending approximately 5,300 feet west of the bridge, prior to the property line between City ownership and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) ownership, for a total length of approximately 5,400 feet. Both channels are within the City's Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) and Coastal Zone. See Figure 1.

Description of Previous Action: On June 9, 2020, the City of San Diego City Council certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan (MWMP). The Final EIR provided a project-level and program-level analysis for maintenance and repair activities at existing stormwater facilities in order to reduce and manage flood risk. The project-level analysis included potential maintenance and repair activities at the Pilot 1 channel and the Smuggler's Gulch 1 channel (north of Monument Road) in accordance with the Facility Maintenance Plan of each facility.

On October 24, 2023, the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors adopted an addendum to the MWMP EIR for the Tijuana River Valley Dredging Project, which analyzed County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation (County DPR)-led channel maintenance activities within the Smuggler's Gulch channel (north and south of Monument Road) and the Pilot 1 channel.

Description of Subsequent Action: City of San Diego Development Services Department approval of a Substantial Conformance Review (SCR) for County DPR-led maintenance activities at the Pilot 1 and Smuggler's Gulch 1 channels. The project includes: 1) an after-the-fact SCR for emergency maintenance activities at the Pilot 1 and Smuggler's Gulch 1 channels; and 2) future County DPR-performed routine maintenance activities at these two facilities. The project components are discussed below.

Emergency Maintenance Activities

Emergency maintenance activities consisted of the removal of accumulated sediment, vegetation, and debris in order to restore the original design dimensions of the Pilot 1 and Smuggler's Gulch channels.

The emergency work consisted of dredging sediment from the Smuggler's Gulch channel, north of Monument Road, to the Disney Crossing and from the Disney Crossing north towards the Pilot channel. Approximately 1,743 linear feet of the Smuggler's Gulch channel, north of Monument Road, and approximately 2,101 linear feet of the Pilot channel were dredged.

In order to clear the channels to restore them to pre-emergency conditions, heavy machinery such as excavators, metal-tracked dozers, front-end loader, backhoe, trencher, skid steer/bobcat, sweeper/scrubber, and pumps were brought in through existing access roads to the sites. The dredging activities included using tractors to dig and load sediment into dump trucks that removed the sediment and vegetation from the site. The emergency work was conducted within the boundaries of the previously approved and permitted maintenance work areas, including staging areas, access roads and turnarounds, and no mitigation areas were impacted by the emergency maintenance activities. All emergency work activities occurred during the day. The sediment and equipment used during the emergency dredging effort were stored at Staging Areas B and D. The emergency work occurred between March and November 2024.

The emergency maintenance work crew consisted of a qualified biologist from HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc. (HELIX), and Whillock Contracting, Inc. The qualified biologist provided nesting bird surveys, biological construction monitoring, and compliance monitoring support for the duration of the emergency maintenance activities. Biological surveys and construction monitoring were conducted from February to October 2024. Additionally, the qualified biologist flagged the limits of work adjacent to sensitive biological resources including vegetation and trees and monitored all vegetation removal and trimming to ensure no sensitive species were impacted. The qualified biologist also checked that Best Management Practices (BMPs) were installed during work (e.g., drip pans, sandbag berms, etc.), and noise berms and other noise minimization measures were functioning and documented. The location of stockpiling within Staging Areas B and D occurred away from jurisdictional areas in order to avoid runoff or erosional impacts.

Future Maintenance Activities

The project involves one-time routine channel maintenance of the entirety of the Pilot 1 channel and Smuggler's Gulch channel (north and south of Monument Road) utilizing grant funds awarded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The proposed maintenance activities will occur outside of the bird breeding season, during the daytime, and within the boundaries of the previously approved maintenance areas utilizing previous methods and equipment and will not exceed the previously permitted/mitigated footprints of the Pilot 1 and Smuggler's Gulch channels.

Dredging and Sediment Removal Activities

Future routine maintenance activities include routine dredging and sediment removal activities within the approximately 5,400-linear foot Pilot 1 channel and the approximately 4,300-linear foot Smuggler's Gulch channel (north and south of Monument Road) for a total of approximately 9,700 linear feet. The scope of work includes the removal of sediment, vegetation, trash, and debris to increase the flood conveyance capacity within these channels. Maintenance methods will include evacuation, the use of mechanized equipment inside and outside the channels, temporary access/loading, temporary staging, stockpiling, diversions, and hand removal of vegetation. The locations of the maintenance areas and associated maintenance activities are shown on Figure 1 and described below:

- Pilot 1 channel: Dredging would occur within an existing 23-foot-wide corridor (approximately 5 feet deep with a 15-foot-wide channel bottom) for a total length of approximately 5,400 feet. Activities in the channel would include a combination of mechanized dry excavation and bucket fill and dredging. Grading to re-construct the channel bank with compacted soil material may also occur as needed. An existing gabion mattress is located

within the Pilot channel at its confluence with the Smuggler's Gulch channel and may be repaired/maintained as part of the project.

- Smuggler's Gulch channel (north of Monument Road): Dredging would be limited to a footprint approximately 20 feet wide and up to approximately 2,900 feet long and would consist of dry excavation to maintain the channel. Other improvements would include cleaning the existing culverts located under Monument Road and at the Disney Crossing.
- Smuggler's Gulch channel (south of Monument Road): Dredging would be limited to a footprint approximately 20 feet wide and up to approximately 1,400 feet long and would consist of dry excavation.

Construction Access and Turnaround Areas

Construction access would utilize existing paved roads, staging areas, excavation areas, and turnarounds, and three existing off-road routes (Figure 1). One off-road access route runs east from Hollister Road, on the south side of the Hollister Street Bridge, providing access to the southern bank of the Pilot 1 channel, east of Hollister Street. Another route runs parallel to the Smuggler's Gulch channel. The third leads south from an unnamed road that runs in an east-west direction between Hollister Street and Saturn Boulevard. Each of these routes are pre-existing, hard-packed dirt roads and are also used as equestrian trails. The access route along the Smuggler's Gulch channel includes an existing 15-foot-wide access ramp from the east bank that extends approximately 75 feet into the channel, north of the Disney Crossing. Three equipment turnaround areas would be utilized within the Pilot 1 channel, approximately 30 feet by 24 feet.

Material and Equipment Staging

Two existing material and equipment staging areas (Staging Area B and Staging Area D) are proposed in disturbed upland areas for storage of earth-moving equipment during construction, as well as temporary handling of dredged soil materials (Figure 1). Fresh fill and dredge spoils would be stored and transferred to and from staging areas prior to landfill placement. Manual and mechanical separation would also occur to sort sediment, vegetation, debris, trash, and tires. Measures including solarization of all cut biomass removed from the channel areas followed by mulching and subsequent off-site material disposal would also be implemented to prevent the spread of shot hole borer. Staging Area B is located east of the Smuggler's Gulch channel and Staging Area D is located further east of the project site adjacent to the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant. The locations of each staging area are further described below:

- Staging Area B is east of and adjacent to the Smuggler's Gulch channel in disturbed lands previously used for staging. There is a permanent earthen berm between this area and the Smuggler's Gulch channel protecting it from flooding. Permanent gated access is provided from Monument Road. No excavation or grading would be necessary in this area.
- Staging Area D is located adjacent to the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant on previously disturbed slopes and pads along Monument Road and would be used in conjunction with Staging Area B for staging equipment and spoil materials. No excavation or grading would be necessary in this area.

Routine maintenance activities will occur within the boundaries of the past approved maintenance areas and will not exceed the previously permitted/mitigated footprints of the Pilot 1 and Smuggler's Gulch channels. Sensitive plant communities and established mitigation areas will be avoided.


Project Applicant: County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation, 5500 Overland Avenue, Suite 410, San Diego, CA 92123. Contact: Alyssa Del Rosario. Phone: (619) 777-3016. E-mail: Alyssa.delrosario@sdcounty.ca.gov.

This is to advise that on **March 6, 2026**, the City of San Diego Development Services Department approved the above-described project and made the following determinations:

1. The activity in its approved form will not have significant effects on the environment beyond those identified in the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan (Project No. 616992/SCH No. 2017071022) which was prepared by the City of San Diego as the Lead Agency under CEQA and certified by the City of San Diego City Council on June 9, 2020 (Resolution No. R-313080), and the Final Addendum to the EIR No. 616992 for the Tijuana River Valley Dredging Project (SCH No. 2017071022) which was prepared by the County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation as the Lead Agency under CEQA and adopted by the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors on October 24, 2023.
2. Mitigation measures were, were not, made a condition of the approval of the project.
3. (EIR only) Findings were, were not, made pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15091.
4. (EIR only) A Statement of Overriding Considerations was, was not, adopted for this project.
5. A record of the project approval may be examined at the City of San Diego Development Services Department, located at 7650 Mission Valley Rd., San Diego, CA 92108.

Analyst: Elena Pascual, Senior Planner
City of San Diego City Planning Department
202 C Street, MS 413
San Diego, CA 92101

Telephone: (619) 533-5928

Filed by: Alyssa del Rosario  Digitally signed by Alyssa del Rosario
Date: 2026.03.09 12:17:47 -07'00'

Reference: California Public Resources Code, Sections 21108 and 21152.



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2020 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (Rev. 12/10/19) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT
37-2020- 0475
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)
2017071022

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
CITY OF SAN DIEGO PLANNING DEPARTMENT	--	06/25/2020
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER	
San Diego County	*2020-0077*	

PROJECT TITLE
MUNICIPAL WATERWAYS MAINTENANCE PLAN & ASSOCIATED DISCRETIONARY ACTIONS

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
CITY OF SAN DIEGO, TRANSPORTATION AND STORM WATER DEAPRTMENT	-	(619) 527-7507
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE
2781 CAMINITO CHOLLAS	SAN DIEGO	CA
		ZIP CODE
		92105

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency
 School District
 Other Special District
 State Agency
 Private Entity


CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

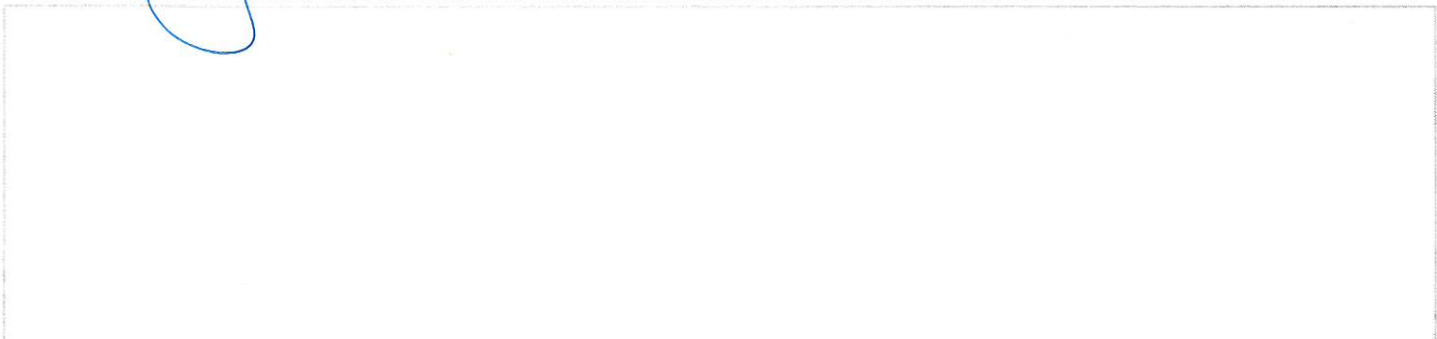
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$3,343.25	\$	\$3,343.25
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,406.75	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program document (CRP)	\$1,136.50	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt from fee			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Exemption (attach)			
<input type="checkbox"/> CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$	

200077

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash
 Credit
 Check
 Other 0001779956
 TOTAL RECEIVED
 \$
 \$3,393.25

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X 	San Diego County K.ORTIZ , Deputy



200077 NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO: X Recorder/County Clerk
P.O. Box 1750, MS A33
1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 260
San Diego, CA 92101-2422

FROM: City of San Diego
Planning Department
9485 Aero Drive, MS 413
San Diego, CA 92123

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

FILED
Ernest J Dronenburg, Jr. Recorder County Clerk

JUN 25 2020

BY K. Ortiz
DEPUTY

Project Number: 616992

State Clearinghouse Number: 2017071022

Permit Numbers: COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT (CDP) No. 2392208
SITE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT (SDP) No. 2392210

Project Title: MUNICIPAL WATERWAYS MAINTENANCE PLAN & ASSOCIATED DISCRETIONARY ACTIONS

Project location: Citywide / City Council Districts 1-9. The City's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) or storm water system is distributed throughout the 342 square-mile metropolitan area. In general, the MS4 conveys storm water runoff from natural and developed areas to receiving waters. The City's MS4 system is an inter-connected system of constructed drains, pipes, and engineered channels that discharge to natural drainages and receiving waters. As a result, the physical characteristics vary with the individual components of the MS4.

Description of Action: CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL of a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) and Site Development Permit (SDP), and an Ordinance for implementation of the Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan to allow for a subsequent approval process not required in the San Diego Municipal Code (SDMC).

The Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan (MWMP) provides the regulatory guidance and parameters for the City of San Diego's (City) Transportation & Storm Water Department (TSW) to maintain and repair existing storm water facilities necessary to reduce and manage flood risk. The MWMP provides both a project-level and program-level analysis for the specific maintenance and repair activities in areas where potential local, state, and federally regulated impacts may be necessary and includes:

- A list of Facility Maintenance Plans (FMPs) that provide project-specific details and requirements for the majority of facilities that are likely to require routine maintenance and repair.
- A range of plan-wide activities that may occur throughout the storm water system where flood risks may arise and that will be conducted in accordance with a regulatory framework identified under the MWMP and associated permits.

Together, these two components provide operational flexibility while also providing specific, detailed analysis for the majority of anticipated maintenance and repair activities.

Project-Level Analysis (Facility Maintenance Plans): The MWMP identifies specific channels, ditches, storm drain structures (outlets/inlets), and basins that may require maintenance in the near future. This list of facilities is included in the MWMP for site-specific evaluation and project-level maintenance. For the project-level evaluation, the MWMP includes 66 FMPs (covering 111 segments and approximately 18 linear miles) that include the following:

- 50 channel/ditch groups – 94 segments
- 6 basins groups – 7 segments
- 10 structure groups covering 10 structures

Program-Level Analysis (Other Activities): The MWMP also includes a program-level analysis and process to handle and address other storm water assets or facilities that are not analyzed at the project-level, as well as certain plan-wide maintenance activities that may also be implemented under the MWMP. The MWMP establishes a process and mitigation framework to address these potential additional related plan-wide programmatic activities, including:

- Minor maintenance activities
- Changed conditions for new or substantially amended FMPs
- Compensatory mitigation sites
- Emergency maintenance or repair

For the plan-wide programmatic evaluation, the following facilities comprise the City's storm water system:

- Approximately 50 miles of channels, ditches, and basins
- 48,561 drainage conveyance facilities (including storm drain pipes and channels)
- 55,334 structures (including inlets, outlets, cleanouts, and connectors)
- 3,724 drainage best management practice (BMP) facilities
- 85 Capital Improvement Program facilities (outlets, BMPs, and stream restoration)

Project Applicant: City of San Diego, Transportation and Storm Water Department, Storm Water Division, 2781 Caminito Chollas, MS 46, San Diego, CA 92105. Contact: Anne Jarque, Senior Planner/Project Manager, (619) 527-7507.

This is to advise that the City of San Diego City Council on 06/09/2020 approved the above described project and made the following determinations: R-313080

1. The project in its approved form X will ___ will not, have a significant effect on the environment.
2. X An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project and certified pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures X were, ___ were not, made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. (EIR only) Findings X were, ___ were not, made pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15091.
5. (EIR only) A Statement of Overriding Considerations X was, ___ was not, adopted for this project.

Record of project approval may be examined at the address above

It is hereby certified that the final environmental report, including comments and responses, is available to the general public at the office of the Planning Department, 9485 Aero Drive, MS 413, San Diego, CA 92123.

Analyst: M. Herrmann

Telephone: (619) 446-5372

Filed by: Stacy Ready
Signature Stacy Ready

Legislative Recorder II
Title

Reference: California Public Resources Code, Sections 21108 and 21152.



San Diego County



Transaction #: 4713930
Receipt #: 2020302703

Ernest J. Dronenburg, Jr.
Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk
1600 Pacific Highway Suite 260
P. O. Box 121750, San Diego, CA 92112-1750
Tel. (619) 237-0502 Fax (619) 557-4155
www.sdarcc.com

Cashier Date: 06/25/2020
Cashier Location: SD

Print Date: 06/25/2020 11:17 am

Payment Summary

Total Fees	\$3,393.25
Total Payments	\$3,393.25
Balance:	\$0.00

Payment

CHECK PAYMENT #0001779956 \$3,393.25

Total Payments \$3,393.25

Miscellaneous Item

FISH & WILDLIFE FEES

Fees:	Fish & Wildlife County Administrative Fee	\$50.00
Fees:	Fish & Wildlife Environmental Impact Report	\$3,343.25
Total Fees Due:		\$3,393.25

Grand Total - All Documents: \$3,393.25