ORANGE COUNTY
CLERK-RECORDER
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

202585001085

FILED

November 12, 2025
HUGH NGUYEN
CLERK - RECORDER
By _____
Deputy clerk

30-11/12/2025-0864

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk-Recorder

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

SANTIAGO CREEK DAM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Check Document being Filed:

- [x] Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- [ ] Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- [ ] Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- [ ] Other (Please fill in type):

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER ON 11/12/2025
Posted 11/12/2025 **Removed** _____
Returned to agency on _____
DEPUTY 428

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office.For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To:

☒ Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail: P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
Street Address: 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113, Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk
☒ County of: Orange
Address: 601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana, California 92701

From:

Public Agency: Irvine Ranch Water District
Address: P.O. Box 57000, Irvine, CA 92619-7000

Contact: Fiona Nye
Phone: (949) 453-5325

Lead Agency (if different from above):

Address:

Contact:
Phone:

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2023050097

Project Title: Santiago Creek Dam Improvement Project

Project Applicant: Irvine Ranch Water District

Project Location (include county): The Project is located at Santiago Creek Dam at the northwest end of Irvine Lake in unincorporated Orange County, California. Santiago Creek Dam impounds Irvine Lake. The Project is located south of State Route 261 and east of State Route 241 and Santiago Canyon Road.

Project Description:

The Project proposes to rehabilitate and replace the Santiago Creek Dam outlet tower and spillway facilities and to modify the embankment to permit operation of the facilities for a long-term water resource benefit. The Project includes construction of a new inlet/outlet works, including an inclined inlet/outlet structure, intake riser pipelines and platforms, bifurcation valve vault, emergency outlet pipeline, and emergency outlet valve vault. The existing spillway would be replaced with a new side-channel spillway, and a portion of the Irvine Lake pipeline would be upsized and relocated to below ground beneath the proposed spillway structure. The Project includes improvements to the dam crest, removing the dam face, installing a filter drain system within new embankment shell material, widening the dam crest, raising the elevation of the dam crest by up to one foot, and installing protective railings. Ancillary site improvements are also proposed for the Project, including a new inlet/outlet access roadway, spillway bridge, dam control building, and emergency access walkway and stairs. The Project also includes raising the spillway by six feet to approximately 797.9 feet, which is two feet higher than the existing maximum water storage elevation with the flashboards installed. Raising the spillway would allow the dam to impound water up to the 797.9-foot elevation contour year-round, which would allow for storage of an additional approximately 1,600 acre-feet of water.

This is to advise that the Irvine Ranch Water District (☒ Lead Agency or ☐ Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on 11/10/2025 (date) and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

1. The project [☒ will ☐ will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☒ An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
   ☐ A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [☒ were ☐ were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [☒ was ☐ was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [☒ was ☐ was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [☒ were ☐ were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

FILED

NOV 12 2025

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: MG DEPUTY

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2011

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

Irvine Ranch Water District, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, California 92618,
http://www.irwd.com/irvinelakeproject

Signature (Public Agency): _____ Title: Director of Water Resources

Date: 11/11/2025 Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

FILED

NOV 12 2025

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: _____ DEPUTY

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2011

State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print | Start over | Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:
30-11/12/2025-0864

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER *(If applicable)*
2023050097

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT		11/12/2025

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER
ORANGE COUNTY	202585001085

PROJECT TITLE

SANTIAGO CREEK DAM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT		(949) 453-5325

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
15600 SAND CANYON AVENUE, PO BOX 57000	IRVINE	CA	92619-7000

PROJECT APPLICANT *(Check appropriate box)*

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

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☒ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	$ 4,123.50	$ 4,123.50
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	$ 2,968.75	$
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	$ 1,401.75	$
☐ Exempt from fee		
☐ Notice of Exemption (attach)		
☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)		
☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)		
☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	$ 850.00	$
☐ County documentary handling fee	$ 50.00	$
☐ Other		$

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☒ Check ☐ Other **TOTAL RECEIVED** $ 4,123.50

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X *Gomez*	Melissa Gomez Deputy Clerk

ORIGINAL - PROJECT APPLICANT | COPY - CDFW/ASB | COPY - LEAD AGENCY | COPY - COUNTY CLERK | DFW 753.5a (Rev. 01012025)