



ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION FORM 77B
COMPLETED BY O&M ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BRANCH



<p><u>TO:</u> Rebecca Barron Project Manager</p> <p><u>FROM:</u> Sara Paiva-Lowry Environmental Coordinator</p> <p><u>FIELD DIVISION/HQ:</u> Southern Field Division</p>	<p><u>CLEARANCE BEGIN DATE:</u> 4 December 2023</p> <p><u>CLEARANCE END DATE:</u> 31 December 2023</p> <p><u>PROJECT TITLE:</u> DC2AB Wasteway Outlet Gate Exercise (OM-SFD-2023-009)</p>	
<p><u>LOCATION OF PROJECT SITE</u></p> <p><u>SWP FACILITY:</u> Devil Canyon Second Afterbay (DC2AB)</p> <p><u>COUNTY:</u> San Bernardino</p>	<p><u>COORDINATES:</u></p> <p><u>LAT:</u> 34°11'57.70"N</p> <p><u>LONG:</u> 117°20'14.09"W</p> <p><u>CROSS STREETS:</u> Devil Canyon Rd & Memory Lane</p>	
<p><u>DESCRIPTION OF WORK:</u></p> <p>Southern Field Division (SFD) staff will dewater the Devil Canyon Second Afterbay to perform an inspection of the wasteway gates as part of the Department of Water Resources (DWR), Division of Safety of Dams annual inspection for Devil Canyon. The Metropolitan Water District will perform the primary dewatering of the Second Afterbay through the Inland Feeder pipeline, Rialto pipeline, or the Santa Ana pipeline. The remaining water in the afterbay below 1901 feet will be released using the afterbay's wasteway gate outlet. This water will be released below a maximum flow of 400 cfs in order to reduce erosion downstream. Water released from the wasteway gates will flow into the Devil Canyon channel and into the Sweetwater Percolation Basin (Devil Canyon Percolation Basin). Approximately 5 acre-feet will be released into the natural flood channel and will require approximately 1 hour of sustained flow.</p> <p>If the water contractors have an issue with the water quality, the estimated water to be released into the natural flood channel is 118 acre-feet for approximately 3 hrs. and 52 minutes.</p> <p>SFD staff will monitor key points along the flood route to ensure minimal impact to surrounding areas and public safety. All work is within DWR right of way.</p>		
<p><u>RESTRICTIONS ON WORK:</u> Refer to attached Form 77B environmental commitment matrix.</p>		
<p><u>PERMITS REQUIRED:</u> None</p>		
<p><u>ISSUED BY:</u></p> <p align="center"><i>Sara Paiva-Lowry</i></p>	<p><u>DATE:</u></p> <p align="center">10/25/2023</p>	<p><u>TELEPHONE NUMBER:</u></p> <p align="center">(916) 902-7709</p>

Environmental Commitment Type	Environmental Commitment Description	Reference	Responsible Branch / Staff	Timing / Phase	Action Taken to Comply with Task	Date Task Completed
Best Management Practices	1. All workers at the project site must be aware of the restrictions on work contained within this clearance, and a copy of this clearance must be held by the supervisor on site at all times.	BMP	SFD	before work		
Best Management Practices	2. No vehicles or equipment shall be operated outside the designated worksite and staging area.	BMP	SFD	during work		
Best Management Practices	3. Wildlife encountered within the worksite must be allowed to leave on its own.	BMP	SFD	during work		
Best Management Practices	4. Monitors shall be placed along the drainage path to watch for biological resources, erosion, and to ensure public safety.	BMP	SFD	during work		
Best Management Practices	5. All trash and debris must be removed at the end of the project. Equipment must be kept in good working order; any petroleum spills must be cleaned up immediately and reported to the designated environmental scientist.	BMP	SFD	during work		
Best Management Practices	6. All fuel powered/holding equipment must have secondary containment.	BMP	SFD	during work		
Best Management Practices	7. No trees shall be removed or damaged without notifying the resident Environmental Scientist.	BMP	SFD	during work		
Best Management Practices	8. If previously unidentified cultural materials are revealed during project-related activities, work shall be halted in the immediate vicinity until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find. Additional archaeological survey may be required if the project limits expand beyond the area reviewed for cultural resources. If human remains are uncovered, all work must stop immediately and the County coroner must be contacted pursuant to California Health and Human Safety Code 7050.5(b).	BMP	SFD	during work		
CONTACTS:						
Full Name	Title	Office Phone	Cell Phone	Email	Remarks	
Rebecca Barron	Section Manager	(916) 653-0344	(916) 820-8128	Rebecca.Barron@water.ca.gov		
Joseph Salazar	Sr. Environmental Scientist (Spec)	(661) 944-8449		Joseph.Salazar@water.ca.gov		
Lauren Miles	Environmental Scientist	(661) 944-8416	(661) 337-1982	Lauren.Miles@water.ca.gov		
Russell Sweet	Senior Biologist	(661) 859-9445		Russell.Sweet@water.ca.gov		

TO BE COMPLETED BY ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST		
Survey Date: 10/16/2023	Surveyors: Lauren Miles	Temperature: 83°F-88°F Wind: 2-3 mph
Location: Devil Canyon Second Afterbay Wasteway Gates to Devil Canyon natural channel		
Project Description		
<p>Southern Field Division (SFD) staff will dewater the Devil Canyon Second Afterbay (Figure 1) to perform an inspection of the wasteway gates as part of the California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) Annual Inspection for Devil Canyon. Metropolitan Water District (MWD) will perform the primary dewatering of the Second Afterbay through the Inland Feeder pipeline, Rialto pipeline, or the Santa Ana pipeline. The remaining water in the afterbay below 1901 feet will be released using the afterbay’s wasteway gate outlet (Figure 2). This water will be released below a maximum flow of 400 cfs in order to reduce erosion downstream. Water released from the wasteway gates will flow into the Devil Canyon channel and into the Sweetwater Percolation Basin (Devil Canyon Percolation Basin.) It is estimated that 5 acre-feet will be released into the natural flood channel and will require approximately 1 hour of sustained flow.</p> <p>Note: If the water contractors have an issue with the water quality, the estimated water to be released into the natural flood channel is 118 acre-feet with approximately 3 hrs. and 52 minutes. This most likely will not happen as DWR will be using Inland Feeder to dewater 2AB to elevation 1890-feet.</p> <p>Southern Field Division staff will monitor key points along the flood route to ensure minimal impact to surrounding areas and public safety.</p>		
Biological Description & Species Observed during survey		
<p>Habitat is a mix of disturbed/development, rip-rap drainage channel, and shrubland.</p> <p>Species observed include:</p> <p>Greater Roadrunner(<i>Geococcyx californianus</i>) California Scrub Jay(<i>Alphelocoma californica</i>) Western Side Blotch Lizard(<i>Uta stansburiana</i>) California Towhee(<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>) Coyote(<i>Canis latrans</i>)</p>		
Vegetation Present		
<p>Wild Oat(<i>Avena Fatua</i>) California Sagebrush(<i>Artemisia californica</i>) California Buckwheat(<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>) Scale Broom(<i>Lepidospartum squamatum</i>) White Sage(<i>Salvia apiana</i>)</p>		

Known and Potential Sensitive Resources

A 9 quad search on rarefind (CNDDDB) identifies the following potential sensitive resources in the project area:

San Bernardino Kangaroo rat

Least Bell's vireo

Costal California gnatcatcher

Bald Eagle

As the work is scheduled for December, outside of nesting bird season, nesting are not considered as a known or potential sensitive resource for this clearance.

Environmental Impact Evaluation

The walking pedestrian survey for the 2023 Devil Canyon Second Afterbay Gate Exercise was completed on October 16th, 2023, by Southern Field Division Environmental Scientist Lauren Miles.

The survey began at 0955 at the gated area surrounding the wasteway gates. The temperature was 83°F with 2 to 3 mile per hour winds. The walking survey was conducted on the left downstream embankment of the drainage area, with binoculars used to survey the drainage area and surrounding areas. The survey concluded at 1147 at the convergence of the Devil Canyon Wasteway gate drainage path and the Devil Canyon natural channel with a temperature of 88°F and 2 to 3 mile per hour winds.

Species observed during the survey include Greater Roadrunner, Scrub Jay, Western Side-Blotch Lizard, Coyote(scats), and California Towhee. Vegetation observed along or in the drainage path includes Wild Oat, California Sagebrush, California Buckwheat, Scale Broom, and White Sage.

With an estimated 5 acre-feet of water with 1 hour of sustained flow, and through following best management practices and project mitigations, the Devil Canyon Second Afterbay Gate exercise is unlikely to result in adverse environmental impacts or impacts to any threatened, endangered, or sensitive resources in the region.

Should the project require the release of 118 acre-feet into the drainage path over approximately 4 hours, special attention should be paid to the drainage path to watch for biological resources and downstream erosion that could impact biological resources as a result of the increased flow.

Restrictions on Work:

All workers on site must be aware of the restrictions on work within the clearance, and a copy must be held by the supervisor on site at all times.

No vehicles or equipment shall be operated outside the designated worksite and staging area.

Wildlife encountered within the worksite must be allowed to leave on its own.

Monitors shall be placed along the drainage path to watch for biological resources, erosion, and to ensure public safety.

All trash and debris must be removed at the end of the project. Equipment must be kept in good working order; any petroleum spills must be cleaned up immediately and reported to the designated environmental scientist.

All fuel powered/holding equipment must have secondary containment.

No trees shall be removed or damaged without notifying the resident Environmental Scientist.

If previously unidentified cultural materials are revealed during project related activities, work shall be halted in the immediate vicinity until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find. Additional archaeological survey may be required if the project limits expand beyond the area reviewed for cultural resources. If human remains are uncovered, all work must stop immediately, and the County coroner must be contacted pursuant to California Health and Human Safety Code 7050.5(b).

Notification must be sent at least 5 days before draining to region 8 of the California Regional Water Quality Control Boards in compliance with DWR's R8-2020-0006-012 permit. Water quality monitoring and reporting must also be completed in compliance with guidelines outlined in the permit.



IMG 1: Rip-rap and vegetation along wasteway gates drainage path.



IMG 2: Wasteway drainage path convergence with Devil Canyon natural channel



IMG 3: Devil Canyon Wasteway gates and drainage path.



IMG 4: Vegetation and rip-rap along Devil Canyon Wasteway drainage path

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan Consistency Determination

For projects using only Department of Water Resources staff and equipment

This form is to be used by DWR project managers to document a DWR CEQA project's consistency with the DWR Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan (GGERP). This form is to be used only when DWR is the Lead Agency and only when DWR staff and equipment are used to implement the project.

Additional Guidance on filling out this form can be found at:

<https://cawater.sharepoint.com/teams/prog/icc/SitePages/ClimateActionPlan.aspx>

The DWR Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan can be accessed at:

<https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/All-Programs/Climate-Change-Program/Climate-Action-Plan/Files/CAP-I-GGERP-Update-2020.pdf>

Project Name:	Devil Canyon Second Afterbay Wasteway Outlet Gate Exercise
Environmental Document Type:	NOE
Project Manager's Name:	Sara Paiva-Lowry
Project Manager's E-mail:	Sara.Paiva-Lowry@water.ca.gov
Division:	Operations and Maintenance
Office, Branch, or Field Division:	Environmental Assessment Branch

Short Project Description:

Southern Field Division (SFD) staff will dewater the Devil Canyon Second Afterbay to perform an inspection of the wasteway gates as part of the California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) Annual Inspection for Devil Canyon. Metropolitan Water District (MWD) will perform the primary dewatering of the Second Afterbay through the Inland Feeder pipeline, Rialto pipeline, or the Santa Ana pipeline. The remaining water in the afterbay below 1901 feet will be released using the afterbay's wasteway gate outlet. This water will be released below a maximum flow of 400 cfs in order to reduce erosion downstream. Water released from the wasteway gates will flow into the Devil Canyon channel and into the Sweetwater Percolation Basin (Devil Canyon Percolation Basin.) It is estimated that 5 acre-feet will be released into the natural flood channel and will require approximately 1 hour of sustained flow.

Staging and access will be on existing roadways and parking lots. All work is within DWR right-of-way.

Project Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Summary:

- All emissions from the project will occur as ongoing operational, maintenance, or business activity emissions and therefore have already been accounted for and analyzed in the GGERP. (This box must be checked if you are using this form. If you cannot check this box you must use a different form).

Project GHG Reduction Plan Checklist

All Project Level GHG Emissions Reduction Measures have been incorporated into the design or implementation plan for the project ([Project Level GHG Emissions Reduction Measures](#))

Or

All feasible Project Level GHG Emissions Reduction Measures have been incorporated into the design or implementation plan for the project and Measures not incorporated have been listed and determined not to apply to the proposed project (include as an attachment).

Project does not conflict with any of the Specific Action GHG Emissions Reduction Measures ([Specific Action GHG Emissions Reduction Measures](#))

Would implementation of the project result in additional energy demands on the SWP system of 15 GWh/yr or greater?

YES NO

If you answered Yes, attach a Renewable Power Procurement Plan update approval letter from the DWR SWP Power and Risk Office

Is there substantial evidence that the effects of the proposed project may be cumulatively considerable notwithstanding the proposed project's compliance with the requirements of the DWR GGERP?

YES NO

If you answered Yes, the project is not eligible for streamlined analysis of GHG emissions using the DWR GGERP. (See CEQA Guidelines, section 15183.5, subdivision (b)(2).)

Project Manager Signature: Sara Paine-Lowry Date: 10/25/2023

After the Project Manager has reviewed and signed above please use DocuSign to forward this form to the DWR Climate Change Program at ceqaclimatechange@water.ca.gov for final approval.

Based on the information provided above and information provided in associated environmental documentation completed pursuant to the above referenced project, the DWR Climate Change Program has determined that the proposed project is consistent with the DWR Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan and the greenhouse gases emitted by the project are covered by the plan's analysis.

Climate Change Approval Signature: _____ Date: _____

Attachments:

- List and Explanation of excluded Project Level GHG Emissions Reduction Measures
- Plan to update Renewable Energy Procurement Plan from DWR SWP Power and Risk Office

Links:
<https://cawater.sharepoint.com/teams/prog/icc/SitePages/ClimateActionPlan.aspx>
<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/Climate-Change-Program>

Notice of Exemption

Form D

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) Department of Water Resources
Division of Operations and Maintenance
715 P Street, Sacramento CA 95814

County Clerk
County of _____

(Address)

Project Title: Devil Canyon Second Afterbay Wasteway Outlet Gate Exercise (OM-SFD-2023-009)

Project Location - Specific:

Coordinates: 34°11'57.70"N, 117°20'14.09"W. Cross Streets: Devil Canyon Rd and Memory Lane. SWP Facility: Devil Canyon Second Afterbay (DC2AB).

Project Location – City: San Bernardino Project Location – County: San Bernardino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

DWR staff will dewater the Devil Canyon Second Afterbay to perform an inspection of the wasteway gates. Water in the afterbay will be released using the afterbay’s wasteway gate outlet. The water will flow into the Devil Canyon channel and into the Sweetwater Percolation Basin. It is estimated that 5 acre-feet will be released into the natural flood channel and will require approximately 1 hour of sustained flow. Staging and access will be on existing roadways and parking lots. All work is within DWR right-of-way.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Department of Water Resources

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));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1, Existing Facilities, Section No. 15301(b)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The State Water Project provides significant and critical services to many Californians. This project is exempt because it involves routine maintenance activities. This project will not result in impacts to special status species or habitat. The Categorical Exemption Class 1 will be used for CEQA compliance as this activity will be implemented without any environmental impacts.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Sara Paiva-Lowry Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 902-7709

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: Sara Paiva-Lowry Date: 10/25/2023 Title: Environmental Program Manager, DWR

- Signed by Lead Agency Date received for filing at OPR: _____
- Signed by Applicant

Revised 2005