

Public Notice

Notice of Exemption



To: County of Santa Clara  
Clerk-Recorder's Office  
110 West Tasman Dr, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
San Jose CA 95134

From: Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)  
5750 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose CA 95118-3686  
Telephone (408) 265-2600

**Project Title:** Coyote Canal Drainage Restoration Project

**Project Location - Specific:** The Project is located on Coyote Canal (between station 288+05 and 294+60) on the east side of Highway 101, between Coyote Creek Visitor Center at Anderson Lake and Coyote Creek Golf Club.

Downstream coordinates: 37.177551, -121.677477

Upstream coordinates: 37.176917, -121.676406

**Project Location - City:** N/A – unincorporated

**Project Location - County:** Santa Clara

**Project Purpose:** To repair a levee failure and restore positive drainage in upper Coyote Canal.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)

**Name of Agency or Person Carrying Out Project:** Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)

**Exempt Status:** (*check one*)

- Ministerial [Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268]
- Declared Emergency [Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)] Emergency
- Project [Sec. 21080(b)(c)]
- Categorical Exemption
- Statutory Exemption [**Sec. 21080.61, Routine Maintenance of Stormwater Facilities**].

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The Project would not increase the designed conveyance capacity of Coyote Canal. The Project would be implemented by Valley Water, who has adopted standard Best Management Practices (BMPs) for minimize impacts from construction equipment, sediment, and pollutants. And finally, all work would occur within previously disturbed areas within the footprints of the existing canal and canal maintenance road. The Project would not disturb native soils. Thus, the Project is not likely to result in adverse impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources.

**Description of Project:** The Project would repair a 2017 levee failure and remove sediment from a 285-foot-long open channel section of Coyote Canal. If needed to allow the work areas to dry out, prior to the start of work, Valley Water would install a temporary earthen check dam within 100 feet upstream of the levee failure to detain and infiltrate flow from Coyote Creek Branch A. Valley Water would repair the levee failure using 100 to 150 cubic yards (CY) of clean levee fill. Valley Water would remove an estimated 55 CY of sediment from 285 linear feet of canal using a small excavator and dump truck stationed on the canal maintenance road. Sediment would be temporarily stockpiled along the canal maintenance road or at an offsite staging area and tested prior to be being hauled to an appropriate disposal facility. Valley Water Standard BMPs have been incorporated into the Project and would prevent sedimentation and degradation of water quality in downgradient waterbodies. Construction would take one month to complete.

**Lead Agency:** Santa Clara Valley Water District  
**Contact Person:** Kelly White  
**Title:** Environmental Planner

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension**  
(408) 630-2840

Signed by:  
  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 6/11/2025

Title: Greg Williams  
Deputy Operating Officer,  
Raw Water Division

cc: CEQA Administrative Record