

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 County Clerk, County of _____

From: University of California, San Diego
Campus Planning, MC 0074
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla, California 92093-0074

Project Title: South Canyon Restoration Project

Project Location – Scripps Institution of Oceanography, South Canyon (north of Birch Aquarium Parking Lot)

Project Location – City: La Jolla

Project Location – County: San Diego

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project (Project Description): The project proposes to revegetate an approximately 15,250-square-foot (or approximately 0.36-acre) disturbed area within the South Canyon of the UC San Diego Ecological Reserve. The project includes plant and seed installation with a native Diegan coastal sage scrub mix, as well as habitat protection measures including installation of trail barriers to keep trail users on trail, educational signage, rustic stairs, erosion control best management practices, and temporary above-ground irrigation system installation. Existing public access, including ability to utilize the existing trail network and access coastal views, would be maintained. The project is anticipated to take up to 3 months to complete utilizing hand tools (no heavy equipment). Temporary irrigation will remain in place until plants are established.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: University of California San Diego

Parties Undertaking Project: University of California San Diego

Exempt Status:

- 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: Section 15333, Class 33, Small Habitat Restoration Projects
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 20180.35
- General Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3)).

Reason Why Project is Exempt: The project is exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15333, Class 3: Small Habitat Restoration Projects, which includes revegetation projects that do not exceed 5 acres in size. No exceptions to an exemption apply per 15300.2.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Lauren Kahal Lievers

Contact Email: llievers@ucsd.edu

Signature:



Lauren Kahal Lievers

Title:

Principal Environmental Planner, Campus Planning

Date: 7/24/2025

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant