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 | StartOver | Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:
42 — 08/25/2025 — 156

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER *(If applicable)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
County of Santa Barbara Public Works	akruzel@countyofsb.org	08/25/2025

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER
Santa Barbara	

PROJECT TITLE

24STM1-3L10 Storm Damage Repairs - Alisal Rd

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
Jesus Hernandez	jehernan@countyofsb.org	(805) 803-8797

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
123 E Anapamu St	Santa Barbara	CA	93101

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	$	0.00
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	$2,968.75	$	0.00
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	$1,401.75	$	0.00

☑ 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	$	0.00
☑ County documentary handling fee		$	50.00
☐ Other		$	

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☑ Other **TOTAL RECEIVED** $ 50.00

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X Katherine Douglas	Katherine Douglas, Deputy Clerk

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

A-32
E

2025 CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St. Room 407 • Santa Barbara • CA • 93101

(805) 568-2240

Complete this form when filing a Notice of Determination (Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report) or Notice of Exemption.

A scanned copy of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Receipt, Transmittal Memorandum and the CEQA filing, including the date/time of posting will be emailed to the Lead Agency and Project Applicant. If you would like a return copy, please submit an extra copy along with a pre-addressed, stamped envelope.

Contact Person	Phone
Ashley Kruzel	8055683064
Lead Agency	**Lead Agency Email**
Dept. of Public Works - Transportation	akruzel@countyofsb.org

Project Title

24STM1-3L10 Storm Damage Repairs - Alisal Rd

Project Applicant	Email	Phone	
Jesus Hernandez	jehernan@countyofsb.org	805 803-8797	
Project Applicant Address	**City**	**State**	**Zip**
123 E Anapamu	Santa Barbara	CA	93101

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

☐ Notice of Determination - Environmental Impact Report (EIR) .....

☐2025 Filing Fee $4,123.50

☐ Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) $0.00

☐ No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... $0.00

Environmental Filing Fees will be collected ***only*** for projects that are approved. The Applicant must attest to the following:

☐ This project has been approved. Date of Approval: Click or tap to enter a date.

☐ Notice of Determination - Negative Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).....

☐2025 Filing Fee $2,968.75

☐ Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) $0.00

☐ No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... $0.00

Environmental Filing Fees will be collected ***only*** for projects that are approved. The Applicant must attest to the following:

☐ This project has been approved. Date of Approval: Click or tap to enter a date.

☐ Notice of Exemption.....$0.00

■ County Administrative Handling Fee (**required for all filings, effective 7/19/18**) $50.00

TOTAL: $ 50.00

PAYMENT METHOD: ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING

☐ Cash ☐ Credit In person only ☐ Check #_____ ☐ Journal Entry #~~0286733~~ 1065382 In FIN send to 'COB CEQA' in CEO Dept

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

RECEIVED
2025 AUG 25 A 8:33
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TO: **Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors**

FROM: **Department of Public Works/Transportation Division**
(Lead Department/Division)

Based on a preliminary review of the project the following activity is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Pub. Res. Code Section 21000 et seq.), as defined in the State CEQA Guidelines and County Revised CEQA Guidelines.

APN(s): 081-020-017 and 081-020-007 **Project No.:** 24STM1-3L10

LOCATION: Alisal Road, Solvang, CA, Third Supervisorial District

PROJECT TITLE: Storm Damage Repairs on Alisal Road about 6.4 miles south of State Highway 246; County Project No. 24STM1-3L10; Third Supervisorial District

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This item is on the agenda to approve the plans and specifications for the Storm Damage Repairs on Alisal Road Project and to award a construction contract to Seamair Construction, Inc. in the amount of $360,476.16.

On Thursday July 3, 2025, the County received 15 construction bids for the Storm Damage Repairs on Alisal Road Project. The bids ranged from $360,476.16 to $564,950.00 with an average bid amount of $437,437.95. The Engineer's estimate was $404,000 which is about 12.1% above the low bid amount. The Department reviewed the bid documents submitted by the lowest bidder, Seamair Construction, Inc., and found their bid to be responsive. In accordance with the Public Contract Code, the award should be made to the lowest responsive bidder.

On February 8, 2024, a significant storm event, down poured throughout the County of Santa Barbara. Alisal Road and the surrounding area experienced intense rainfall. The storm event caused unusually high runoff volumes due to the high precipitation. The increase in stormwater flow exceeded the capacity of the existing 48" CMP culvert and caused it to clog and led to the excess stormwater to overtop onto Alisal Road. This caused localized flooding and created unsafe driving conditions. The event was designated as emergency event "24STM1" and immediate emergency work was required to restore Alisal Road and the natural alignment of Nojoqui Creek.

To prevent or mitigate a future emergency event at Alisal Road, a hydraulic analysis determined that the existing single 48" culvert needs to be replaced with four 48" diameter reinforced concrete pipes to allow the expected stormwater volumes to flow through this area of Nojoqui Creek. Concrete headwalls will be constructed at both the inlet and outlet of the new culvert system, to provide structural support and protect against erosion.

These design improvements will be done by open trench excavation, meaning that Alisal Road will be fully closed during construction. Full closure of the road will allow the construction crew to complete the culvert replacements more efficiently and safely, therefore minimizing the construction duration and long-term disruption to traffic.

Completing new CEQA documentation and obtaining the necessary regulatory permits would likely take approximately five years. Leaving the site in disrepair for that duration would pose significant risks to public health and safety, jeopardized County roadway infrastructure, and threatened the integrity of Nojoqui County Park facilities.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Public Works Transportation Division

Exempt Status:
_____ Ministerial
_____ Statutory Exemption
__X__ Categorical Exemption
__X__ Emergency Project
_____ Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Sections:
Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, § 15301(c) Existing Facilities – "...consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, including but not limited to:...(c) Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety), except where the activity will involve removal of a scenic resource including a stand of trees, a rock outcropping, or an historic building."

Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, § 15269(c): "Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. This does not include long-term projects undertaken for the purpose of preventing or mitigating a situation that has a low probability of occurrence in the short-term, but this exclusion does not apply (i) if the anticipated period of time to conduct an environmental review of such a long-term project would create a risk to public health, safety or welfare, or (ii) if activities (such as fire or catastrophic risk mitigation or modifications to improve facility integrity) are proposed for existing facilities in response to an emergency at a similar existing facility."

Reasons to support exemption findings: Consistent with this exemption, this proposed project involves an activity related to the repair and maintenance activities for an existing road facility near creeks and creek banks. The project allows for a public safety activity designed to maintain a safe working condition of the roadway facilities as they were constructed. Further, there are no unusual circumstances which would create a possibility that there would be a significant effect. Therefore, this project can be found to be categorically exempt from CEQA.

There is no substantial evidence that there are unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

(a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on

the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 is a Class 1 exemption; therefore, this exception does not apply.

(b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The project involves the repair and maintenance to existing facilities to improve public health and safety and prevent or mitigate a future emergency. In addition, there are no other identified projects which would contribute to cumulative impacts. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

(c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

The project involves existing culvert repair and replacement to maintain safe public roadway and to prevent or mitigate a future emergency. The project is planned in two phases and scheduled around both the winter rainy season and the bird nesting season. This approach was developed collaboratively by CDFW, environmental advocates, representatives of the Audubon Society, and County staff. Under the CDFW emergency permit, work was required to begin within one year of the storm event, but project completion was allowed to extend into the second year to minimize environmental impacts during sensitive biological periods (MBTA). The projects will occur during the time of year when there no sensitive resources located at the project sites. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

(d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

The project does not involve a scenic highway or a project which may result in damage to a scenic resource, removal of trees, rock outcropping or similar resource. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

(e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

There are no hazardous wastes site locations in the roadway right of way. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

(f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

The project site location is not identified as a historical resource. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Mostafa Estaji, Deputy Director, Public Works-Transportation Division, Phone: (805) 568-3060

Department/Division Representative: Kalani Durham, Engineering Environmental Planner/Coordinator

Acceptance Date: **August 19, 2025**

Kalani Durham _____ July 29, 2025

Kalani Durham Department Representative Date

NOTE: A copy of this document must be posted with the County's Planning & Development Department at least 6 days prior to consideration of the activity by the decision-makers to comply with County CEQA guidelines and a copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35 day statue of limitations on legal challenges.

Distribution: Date filed with Planning & Development _____.

Distribution: Date Filed by County Clerk: 8-25-2025.