



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Rd
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 467-4201
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Santa Barbara Airport Firestone Ditch Vegetation Maintenance (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SBA-55636-R5).

Project Location (Ventura County): The project is located in the City of Santa Barbara, CA and can be located with the following information: Latitude 34.431609, Longitude -119.845773; Assessor's Parcel Number 073-450-003.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SBA-55636-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to City of Santa Barbara as represented by Jessica Metzger.

The project is the maintenance of Firestone Ditch through vegetation trimming, mowing, and channel bottom vegetation trimming. Approximately 1,500 linear feet of riparian/wetland vegetation trimming will occur on the west side of the channel, and 1,250 linear feet of mowing and trimming of non-native vegetation will occur on the east side of the channel. This maintenance is to keep hydraulic function of the channel, clear overgrown vegetation on roads, and allow safe passage for pedestrians and cyclists. Native oaks and willows will be trimmed to a height of 10-12 feet and out of road shoulders and traffic lanes on both Firestone Road and Hollister Avenue. Non-native vegetation, which includes oleander, olives, and Mexican fan palms, will be trimmed to ground level with the root systems remaining intact to avoid erosion concerns. Roadside vegetation trimming will occur once per year, mowing grassy areas will occur four times per year, and trimming vegetation from the channel bottom will occur once every other year.

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
EPIMS-SBA-55636-R5
November 20, 2025

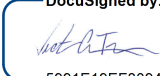
Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Jessica Metzger
City of Santa Barbara
Project Planner
(805) 692-6032
jmetzger@santabarbaraca.gov
630 Garden Street
Santa Barbara CA, 93102

Exempt Status: On February 19, 2025, the City of Santa Barbara, the Lead Agency, determined that the Project is categorically exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, sections 15301 and 15304. The Lead Agency determined that the project meets certain qualifying criteria for the exemption. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.1(a), the Lead Agency is responsible for determining whether the project is exempt from CEQA and that determination shall be final and conclusive on all persons, including Responsible Agencies. As a result, CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, is bound by the Lead Agency's determination that the project is exempt from CEQA.

CDFW Contact Person: Cooper Wall, Environmental Scientist, (562) 619-0433,
Cooper.Wall@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____ *Date:* 11/20/2025
5004E10EF8004C3...

Victoria Tang, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: