



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Manzanita Greening and Canyon Health Project (Project) California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Restoration Management Permit Number RMP-2026-0021-R5 (RMP)

Project Location (San Diego County): The Project area is on City of San Diego (City) property and is approximately 8 acres, within a City-right-of-way that runs parallel to Manzanita Drive. The Project is located in the County of San Diego, State of California; approximate coordinates of the Project are 32.740006, -117.102550.

Project Description: On February 27, 2026 CDFW issued the RMP pursuant to section 1670 et seq. of the Fish and Game Code to San Diego Canyonlands. This Project is designed to remove invasive vegetation, re-plant with natives, address streambed and streambank degradation through the installation of instream features, and install an inlet, storm-drain, and culvert to reduce erosion. CDFW has determined that the Project is a Qualifying Restoration Project pursuant to section 1671(d)(1) of the Fish and Game Code, and the Project is expected to result in a substantial, cumulative benefit to California gnatcatcher (*Poliioptila californica californica*) and Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*). This notice is to advise that CDFW issued the above-described RMP on the date signed below.

Public Agency Approving Project:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Clayton Tschudy
Executive Director
5106 Federal Boulevard, Suite 205
(619) 546-7707
clayton@sdcanyonlands.org

Exempt Status: The Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56. Under Public Resources Code section 21080.1, subdivision (a), the lead agency is responsible for determining whether a project is exempt from CEQA, and that determination is final and conclusive

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on all persons, including responsible agencies. Notwithstanding Section 21080.1, subdivision (a), a lead agency's determination that a project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56 is only valid if the exemption determination is made after the Director of CDFW has concurred with the lead agency's preliminary determination that the project meets certain qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive.

On September 18, 2025, the City made a preliminary determination that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive. On November 14, 2025, the Director of CDFW concurred with the City's preliminary determination. On December 11, 2025, the City as CEQA lead agency made a final determination that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, and the City determined that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56. CDFW, now acting as a CEQA responsible agency for the issuance of the RMP on February 27, 2026, is bound by the City's determination on December 11, 2025, that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56.

CDFW Contact Person: Frederic Rieman, Sr. Environmental Scientist (Supervisory), (562) 619-0605

Signature:  *Date:* 2/27/2026

Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Regional Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: