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County of Riverside
Peter Aldana
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder
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Removed: By: Deputy

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: County Clerk
County of Riverside
2720 Gateway Drive
Riverside, CA 92507

Office of Land use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District
4500 Glenwood Drive, Bldg. A
Riverside, CA 92501
Phone: (951) 683-7691

1. **Project Title:** California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) Weed Management Area Invasive/Noxious Weed Control

2. **Project Location:** Santa Ana River Watershed and Orange County. See Attachment A.

3. **Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:** On December 9, 2025, the Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District ("District") approved the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) Weed Management Area Invasive/Noxious Weed Control project ("Project"). This Project works to coordinate with Weed Management Area partners, which the District is one, to work towards local eradications of 19 species of weed for protection of the mapped environment. This will include mapping, monitoring and treatments. Weeds will be removed following integrated pest management practices ("IPM") outlined in UC IPM, UC IPM's WeedCut, OC Parks Invasive Plant Control Guidelines, relevant Cal-IPC publications, and/or local expertise if more information is necessary. Depending on the population size, species encountered, and biology of the species, removal methods may include hand removal, mechanical removal with both powered and hand tools, and chemical techniques including individual plant, spot and broadcast treatments with backpack or power sprayers.

5. **Name of Public Agency approving Project:** RCRCD.

6. **Name of Person or Public Agency carrying out Project:** RCRCD

7. **Exempt status:**
   (a) ____ Ministerial Action.
   (b) ____ Not a Project.
   (c) ____ Emergency Project.
   (d) __X__ Class 7, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources; Class 8, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment
   (e) ____ Declared Emergency.
   (f) ____ Statutory Exemption.
   (g) ____ Other. State CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3) (it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment).

8. Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project is exempt from environmental review under CEQA pursuant to a Class 7 CEQA exemption. (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15307.) The Class 7 CEQA exemption involves actions taken by regulatory agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of a natural resource where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Here, the Project includes certain weed control measures to assure the maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of the mapped environment, including the Santa Ana Watershed.

Alternatively, the Project is also exempt from environmental review under CEQA pursuant to a Class 8 CEQA exemption. (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15308.) The Class 8 CEQA exemption applies to actions taken by regulatory agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Again, the Project includes certain weed control measures to assure the maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of the mapped environment, including Orange County.

None of the exceptions found in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 would apply to the Project.

9. Contact Person: Kerwin Russell, District Manager
Telephone: Phone: (951) 683-7691

Date Received for Filing: 12-11-2025

Kerwin Russell, District Manager, RCRCD

Attachment A

Santa Ana River and Orange County Weed Management Area

Covering the Santa Ana River watershed and Orange County

