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State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 94534
(707) 428-2002
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: Pond A4 Resilient Habitat Restoration Project (Restoration Management Permit No. RMP-2025-0010-R3)

Project Location: The 40-acre Project is located within the 300-acre Pond A4 along the shoreline of the City of Sunnyvale, adjacent to the Pond A8 Complex and parallel to East Caribbean Drive. Pond A4 is west of Guadalupe Slough and east of Moffett Channel. The Project is located in the County of Santa Clara, State of California; Latitude 37.419306 and Longitude -122.006967. The majority of the Project footprint is located in the Mountain View, California 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle, while a small portion of the eastern side is located within the Milpitas, California 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle.

Project Description: On December 19, 2025, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued this Restoration Management Permit (RMP) pursuant to section 1670 of the Fish and Game Code to the Santa Clara Valley Water District. This Project includes management or propagation activities intended to benefit native fish, wildlife, plants, or their habitat, or a combination thereof. The Project is expected to increase shallow water foraging habitat for a variety of shorebird species, contribute to the reduction in sediment deficit within the South San Francisco Bay, and provide climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery in San Francisco baylands. To achieve these goals, the Project includes placement of beneficially reused sediment within an enclosed open-water pond to construct a non-tidal mudflat habitat bench with a gentle slope to benefit a range of foraging shorebird species. 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 native wildlife, plants, or their habitat, or any combination thereof. 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:
John Bourgeois
Santa Clara Valley Water District
Deputy Operating Officer, Watersheds Stewardship and Planning Division

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RMP-2025-0010-R3
December 19, 2025

(408) 630-2990
JBourgeois@valleywater.org
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118

Exempt Status:

☒ Statutory Exemption. Public Resources Code section 21080.56 (Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects)

Reasons why project is exempt: On February 7, 2024, the Santa Clara Valley Water District, the Lead Agency, determined that the Project is statutorily exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56. 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: Tami Schane, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (415) 710-0711, Tami.Schane@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature: DocuSigned by: Erin Chappell B77E9A0211EF480... *Date:* 12/19/2025

Erin Chappell, Regional Manager