

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Caltrans District 11
4050 Taylor Street, MS 242
San Diego, CA 92110

Project Title: 43304 HQ Project A- Restore TBMPs on various routes in San Diego County

Project Applicant: Caltrans, District 11

Project Location – Specific: Multiple locations off SR-76 and one location off I-5.

Project Location - City: Fallbrook, Carlsbad **Project Location - County:** San Diego

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Caltrans proposes to restore treatment BMPs (bioswales) in San Deigo County along SR-76 to their original as-built condition. There are 72 total locations, and project A contains 11 of the totals. This project got split due to contract timing. This includes removing vegetation, regrading, soil amendments, and re-seeding with a native plant mix. And, along I-5, restore treatment bmp (Austin Sand Filter Vault) to its original as-built condition. This includes removing vegetation and replacing treatment media (silica sand) within the basin.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans, District 11

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans, District 11

Exempt Status (check one):

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. Caltrans is maintaining the pavement with no expansion of use.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Morgan Tusa

Phone number: 858-472-7057

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Signature: Morgan Tusa Date: 1/27/2026 Title: Environmental Scientist

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: 1/27/2026

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.