

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
CEQASubmit.lci.ca.gov
 County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk
Attn: Fish and Wildlife Notices
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260, MS A-33
San Diego, CA 92101

FROM: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
Environmental Services Unit
Attn: Anissa Busch
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 410, MS O-332
San Diego, CA 92123

SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21108 OR 21152

Project Name: California Stream Improvement Program (CalSIP) Stream Gage Improvements to ALERT Flood Warning System
Project Location: Multiple locations throughout the County
Project Applicant: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
Project Description: Automatic Local Evaluation in Real-Time (ALERT) flood warning system reactivation of two gages on the San Luis Rey River and San Felipe Creek and installation of four new stream gages on Pine Valley Creek, Pala Creek, Padre Barona Creek, and Santa Maria Creek.
Agency Approving Project: County of San Diego
County Contact Person: Kelsey Dix Telephone: (619) 373-2156
Date Form Completed: February 26, 2026

This is to advise that the County of San Diego Board of Directors, Flood Control District (County decision-making body) has approved the above described project on April 23, 2025 (#01) and found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

Exempt status and applicable section of the CEQA ("C") and/or State CEQA Guidelines ("G"): (check only one)

- Categorical Exemption:** Sec. G 15301 - Existing Facilities; Section 15303 - New Construction Conversion of Small Structures
- Declared Emergency:** Sec. C 21080(b)(3); Sec. G 15269(a)
- Emergency Project:** Sec. C 21080(b)(4); Sec. G 15269(b)(c)
- General:** Sec. C.
- Ministerial:** Sec. C 21080(b)(1); G 15268
- Preliminary Review:** Sec. G
- Statutory Exemption:** Sec. G

Statement of reasons why project is exempt: This project qualifies for a CEQA Categorical Exemption under Sections 15301, Existing Facilities and 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures. Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines exempts from CEQA review the "operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use" and Section 15303 exempts the "construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures". The proposed project consists of installing and upgrading stream gage equipment at existing monitoring locations as part of the District's ALERT flood warning system. Work would occur within previously disturbed areas, County Right of Way, and/or County easements, and would involve minor site preparation, equipment replacement, and installation activities. The project would maintain the same functional purpose of real-time hydrologic data collection for flood forecasting and emergency response, and is therefore, exempt from CEQA in accordance with Sections 15301 and 15303.

The following is to be completed only upon formal project approval by the appropriate County of San Diego decision-making body.

Signature: Kelsey Dix Telephone: (619) 373-2156

Name (Print): Kelsey Dix Title: Environmental Planner III

This Notice of Exemption has been signed and filed by the County of San Diego.

This notice must be filed with the Recorder/County Clerk as soon as possible after project approval by the decision-making body. The Recorder/County Clerk must post this notice within 24 hours of receipt and for a period of not less than 30 days. At the termination of the posting period, the Recorder/County Clerk must return this notice to the Department address listed above along with evidence of the posting period. The originating Department must then retain the returned notice for a period of not less than nine months. Reference: CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.