



SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLERK
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

FILED
Sep 21, 2026 10:32 AM
JORDAN Z. MARKS
SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLERK
File # 2026-000882
State Receipt # 37092120260815

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

DIVERTING DAM DEBRIS AND VEGETATION REMOVAL PROJECT- 2026

Check Document being Filed:

- ☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- ☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- ☒ Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- ☐ Other (Please fill in type):

Posted: 9/21/26

Filed by: ELVA STOPKE

Deputy County Clerk

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

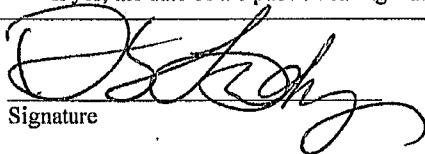
CORRECTED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

This Corrected Notice of Exemption is being filed to correct an administrative omission of page 1 "Project Description" of Exhibit "A" of Document No. 2026-000824, filed on September 3, 2026.

TO:	FROM: Name: Helix Water District (Public Agency) Address: 7811 University Ave La Mesa, CA 91942 Telephone: (619) 667-6268
☐ Office of Planning and Research P. O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044	
☒ Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or County Clerk County of San Diego 1600 Pacific Coast Highway San Diego, CA 92110	

1. Project Title:	Diverting Dam Debris and Vegetation Removal Project- 2026
2. Project Applicant:	Helix Water District 7811 University Ave, La Mesa, CA 91942
3. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):	North of El Capitan Reservoir and south of Boulder Creek, southeast of the unincorporated community of Ramona in San Diego County. N 32°58'12", S 116°44'22" Thomas Bros. Coordinates Page 1194, Grid D-1 Please see attached <u>Exhibit B</u> Vicinity Map.
4. (a) Project Location – City: n/a	(b) Project Location – County of San Diego
5. Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:	See Attached Exhibit "A"
6. Name of Public Agency approving project:	Helix Water District
7. Name of Person or Agency undertaking the project, including any person undertaking an activity that receives financial assistance from the Public Agency as part of the activity or the person receiving a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement of use from the Public Agency as part of the activity:	Helix Water District
8. Exempt status: (check one)	
(a) ☐ Ministerial project.	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines § 15268)
(b) ☐ Not a project.	State CEQA Guidelines 15050(c)(2)-(3)
(c) ☐ Declared Emergency	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(a))
(d) ☐ Emergency Project.	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(b),(c))

(e) ☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:	Class 1, State CEQA Guidelines §15301 (existing facilities); Class 4, State CEQA Guidelines §51304 (Minor Alterations to Land)
(f) ☐ Statutory Exemption. State Code section number:	
(g) ☐ Other. Explanation:	
9. Reason why project was exempt:	The Project is categorically exempt under Class 1 because it consists of (d) restoration and rehabilitation of deteriorated facilities and involves no expansion of use, (l) maintenance of stream channels (clearing of debris) and under Class 4 because it consists of (d) minor alterations to land, water, vegetation which result in improvement of habitat.
10. Lead Agency Contact Person: Telephone:	Manual Barron, Project Manager (619) 596-1320
11. If filed by applicant: Attach Certificate of Determination (Form "B") before filing.	
12. Was a public hearing held by the Lead Agency to consider the exemption? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, the date of the public hearing was:	


Signature

Date: 9-4-2020

Debra Lundy
Name

Title: Senior Right of Way Agent & Environmental Analyst

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

☐ Signed by Applicant

Date Received for Filing:

(Clerk Stamp Here)

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

EXHIBIT "A"

**FORM "B" NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
Diverting Dam Debris and Vegetation Removal Project 2026**

Background:

Upon completion (in 1887) the Cuyamaca and Diverting dams became integral pieces of infrastructure for the San Diego Flume Company (Helix Water District is the successor). Water was stored behind Cuyamaca dam during the rainy season and then transferred via Boulder Creek and the San Diego River to the Diverting dam. Once at the Diverting dam, water was released into the flume, and eventually stored in La Mesa for distribution to its customers. By 1937, the flume was abandoned, due to the construction of El Capitan Dam and Reservoir. The District retains the right to store up to 10,000 acre-feet of water annually in El Capitan Reservoir.

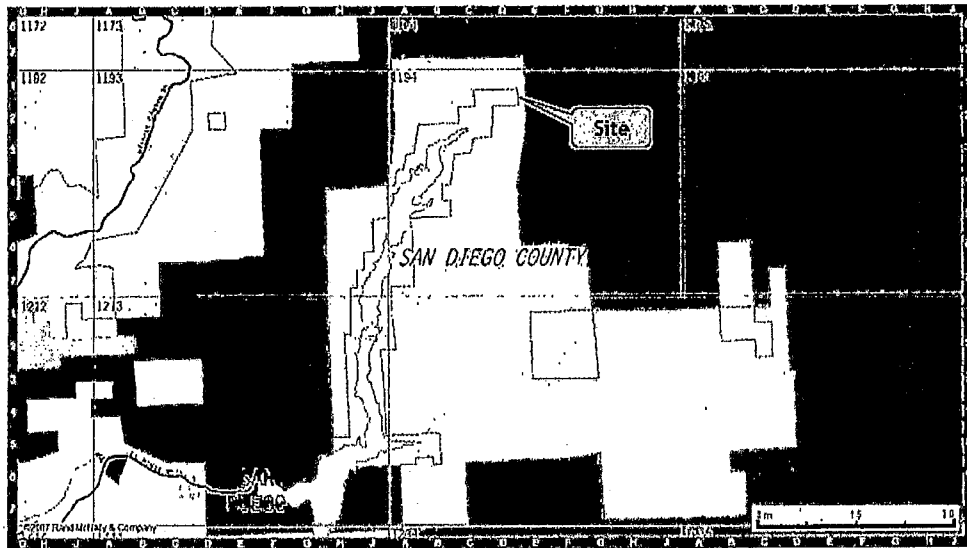
The Diverting Dam continues to be used as a metering station to account for the District's storage rights in El Capitan Reservoir, and will continue to be used in this manner for the foreseeable future. An average of 6,565 acre feet per year flows through this metering station and is ultimately transferred from El Capitan Reservoir to either Lake Jennings, or Helix Water District's R. M. Levy Water Treatment Plant thusly serving as local water supply and helping to reduce the amount of imported water required in the County.

Project:

The District is proposing a maintenance project to remove trash, debris, silt and vegetation that facilitates the inspection and continued safe operation of the dam and metering station.

Since 2003 the district has maintained a Streambed Alteration Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The current agreement is EPIMS-SDO-57397-R5, issued on January 7, 2026. All project work will be in compliance with the SAA; per SSA Section 2.1 (Work Period), no vegetation or sediment removal work will be performed between February 2 and September 15, to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds.

The benefits associated with the proposed project include the ability to transfer local water supply in an efficient manner, reduce the dependence on imported water, and the continued integrity of the dam. Another benefit will be the reestablishment of a small pool of water behind the dam that in the past has been used by wildlife. This will benefit both the customers of Helix Water District as well as the continued safety of downstream properties. Project is slated to begin after September 15th in accordance with the SAA permit and be completed by February 1, 2027.



VICINITY MAP
Diverting Dam Debris and Vegetation Removal Project