STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
wildlife.ca.gov

To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
CEQA Submit

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Seven Oaks Bridge Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SBR-61708-R6)

Project Location (San Bernardino County): The project is located within the Santa Ana River, tributary to the Pacific Ocean. The project is located within the unincorporated community of Seven Oaks, within the County of San Bernardino, State of California, in the Big Bear Lake U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SBR-61708-R6, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to San Bernardino County Public Works Department.

The project is limited to installing a new bridge, slope protection measures (e.g., rock slope protection), and improving the roadway approaches. The permanent bridge and roadway approach have been designed to handle 100-year flood events. The project will require a temporary detour route to maintain ingress/egress for nearby residents, in water work consisting of installation of temporary culvert extensions to support the temporary road, and rerouting of the Santa Ana River to return the flow to its pre-storm alignment under the new permanent structure (approximately 60 feet to the northwest of the current flow). To minimize impacts to the Santa Ana River, water will continue to flow through the existing culverts that were installed during the emergency repairs. The water will be diverted back into its original alignment as part of the Project.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:
Arlene Chun
San Bernardino County – Public Works Department
909-387-8109
arlene.chun@dpw.sbcounty.gov
825 East Third Street
San Bernardino, California 92415

Exempt Status: On August 14, 2025, San Bernardino County, the Lead Agency, determined that the Project is categorically exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15310 (c); 15302 (c). The Lead Agency determined that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria for the exemption. 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: Julia Charpek, Environmental Scientist, Julia.Charpek@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature: DocuSigned by: Kim Freeburn 84F92FFEEFD24C8... *Date:* 10/1/2026

Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: