



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
wildlife.ca.gov

To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Altman Nursery/Landscape Maintenance District Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-SDO-51928-R5)

Project Location (San Diego County): The project is located at an unnamed tributary to Reidy Creek, in the City of Escondido, State of California; latitude 33.168827, longitude -117.081069; Assessor's Parcel Number 224-981-39-00. The site is bound to the north by Cleveland Avenue, to the east by Altman Nursery, to the south by Briarwood Place, and to the west by Lake Forest Street.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-SDO-51928-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Kim Silva, City of Escondido.

The Project is limited to the enhancement of a tributary to Reidy Creek where unauthorized grading and vegetation removal occurred, as noted by Notice of Violation letter 1600-2024-0010-R5. Approximately 15 Mexican fan palms will be removed from the site. The fan palms will be cut down and hauled off-site. The site will be re-seeded with a native wetland seed palette prior to the rainy season.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:

Kim Silva
City of Escondido
Utility Environmental Program Manager
(760) 839-6290
ksilva@escondido.org
201 N. Broadway
Escondido, CA, 92025

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10/23/26

Exempt Status: On October 13, 2026, the City of Escondido, the Lead Agency, determined that the Project is categorically exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15333. 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: Helena Candaele (Environmental Scientist), (858) 527-8482, and Helena.Candaele@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:
Melanie Burlaza
Signature: 3D01B6DE84234EE Date: 10/23/2026

Melanie Burlaza
Acting Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: