

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

RECEIVED

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

2022 SEP 14 P 4: 14

FROM: Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN: NA

Case No.: NA

Location: Santa Barbara County

Project Title: USGS Cooperative Stream Monitoring Program

Project Description: This Joint Funding program between the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) provides for a cooperative and cost sharing water resources data collecting program in Santa Barbara County. Streamflow measurements throughout the County are monitored in accordance with this program which has been in effect for decades. The data collected is used for a myriad of purposes including facilities design, flood warning, climate studies, hydrologic modeling and reservoir operations studies among other purposes.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the United States Geological Survey

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Article 19, Categorical Exemption, Section 15306 (Class 6) Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The USGS Cooperative Monitoring Program provides information and data regarding surface water throughout the County. Such data may be used to protect natural resources and the environment. The program results in no recommendations regarding future actions or policies and the County has not approved, adopted, or funded any future actions as a result of the program. The

program does not result in a serious or major disturbance to any environmental resource. Therefore, the above listed exemption applies to this action.

There is no substantial evidence that there are unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

- (a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.**

The program utilizes gages previously installed or existing stream flow monitoring stations. Therefore, the program results in no physical disturbance to the environment. The installation of monitoring stations by the USGS is categorically exempt from CEQA requirements as defined by Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15306 which addresses basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

- (b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.**

There are no significant incremental or measurable cumulative impacts for the Cooperative Monitoring Program. Therefore, this exception to the Categorical Exemption is not applicable to the proposed project.

- (c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.**

The Cooperative Monitoring Program is for informational purposes only and will have no significant effect on the environment. All gaging stations necessary for the study have been previously installed. Therefore, there is no reasonable possibility that the program will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

- (d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources,**

within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

The Cooperative Monitoring Program does not result in the installation of any facilities that are viewable from any scenic highway area. Therefore, this exception to the Categorical Exemption is not applicable.

- (e) **Hazardous Waste Sites.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

The Cooperative Monitoring Program is not located on a Hazardous Waste site. Therefore, this exception to the Categorical Exemption is not applicable to the proposed project.

- (f) **Historical Resources.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

The Cooperative Monitoring Program will not result in any structural or physical changes that would impact any historical resources. Therefore, this exception to the exemption does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Shawn Johnson Phone #: 805 568-3440

Department/Division Representative: Andrew Raaf Date: 7/18/2022


NOTE: A copy of this document must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.



2022 CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St. Room 407 ♦ Santa Barbara ♦ CA ♦ 93101

(805) 568-2240

Complete this form when filing a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report or Notice of Exemption.

You will need to submit one original for posting plus one copy for the Department of Fish & Wildlife. A scanned copy including the date/time of posting will be emailed to the Lead Agency and Project Applicant. If you would like a return copy, please submit an extra copy along with a pre-addressed, stamped envelope.

Contact Person Shawn Johnson		Phone (805) 568-3452	
Lead Agency Santa Barbara County Flood Control & Water Conservation District		Lead Agency Email sjohnso@countyofsb.org	
Project Title Joint Funding Agreement w/USGS for the Cooperative Stream Gauging Program			
Project Applicant Shawn Johnson	Email sjohnso@countyofsb.org	Phone (805) 568-3452	
Project Applicant Address 130 E. Victoria Street, STE 200	City Santa Barbara	State CA	Zip 93101

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
 - 2022 Filing Fee\$3,539.25
 - Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) \$0.00
 - No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... \$0.00

- Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration
 - 2022 Filing Fee\$2,548.00
 - Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) \$0.00
 - No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... \$0.00

- Notice of Exemption \$0.00

- County Administrative Handling Fee (**required for all filings, effective 7/19/18**) \$50.00

TOTAL: **\$ 50.00**

PAYMENT METHOD: ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING

- Cash Credit Card Check # _____ Journal Entry # _____
- (in person only)

Journal Entry

Document Number: JE - 0238081
 Document Description: CEQA FEE-JOINT FUNDING AGR
 Post On: 8/1/2022

Batch ID: 2685903
 Created On: 8/1/2022 12:06:05 PM
 Processed On:
 Processed By: Cindy Gonzalez

References

Audit Trail: Cash Type: I - Interfund

Accounting

Fund	Dept	GL Acct	LI Acct	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Prog	OUnit	Proj	Act	Area	Equip	Depositor	Description
2400	054	2810	7546	50.00		3006							CEQA FEE-JOINT FUNDING AGR W/USGS FOR STREAM GAUGI
2400		0110			50.00								CEQA FEE-JOINT FUNDING AGR W/USGS FOR STREAM GAUGI
0001		0110		50.00									CEQA FEE-JOINT FUNDING AGR W/USGS FOR STREAM GAUGI
0001	012	2710	5746		50.00	4020							CEQA FEE-JOINT FUNDING AGR W/USGS FOR STREAM GAUGI
				Total	100.00								
					100.00								

Signatures

Signed By: Cindy Gonzalez
 Approval Level: Department/Agency-Fund Group
 Department/Agency-Fund Group: 054-Public Works
 Signed On: 8/1/2022 12:10:04 PM
 Valid: Y





State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2022 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/22) Previously DFG 753.5a

NOTICE

Each project applicant shall remit to the county clerk the environmental filing fee before or at the time of filing a Notice of Determination (Pub. Resources Code, § 21152; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4, subdivision (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5). Without the appropriate fee, statutory or categorical exemption, or a valid No Effect Determination issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Notice of Determination is not operative, vested, or final, and shall not be accepted by the county clerk.

COUNTY DOCUMENTARY HANDLING FEE

The county clerk may charge a documentary handling fee of fifty dollars (\$50) per filing in addition to the environmental filing fee (Fish & G. Code, § 711.4, subd. (e); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5, subd. (g)(1)). A county board of supervisors shall have the authority to increase or decrease the fee or charge, that is otherwise authorized to be levied by another provision of law, in the amount reasonably necessary to recover the cost of providing any product or service or the cost of enforcing any regulation for which the fee or charge is levied (Gov. Code, § 54985, subd. (a)).

COLLECTION PROCEDURES FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

Filing Notice of Determination (NOD):

- Collect environmental filing fee or copy of previously issued cash receipt. *(Do not collect fee if project applicant presents a No Effect Determination signed by CDFW. An additional fee is required for each separate environmental document. An addendum is not considered a separate environmental document. Checks should be made payable to the county.)*
- Issue cash receipt to project applicant.
- Attach copy of cash receipt and, if applicable, previously issued cash receipt, to NOD.
- Mail filing fees for **CRP** document to CDFW prior to filing the NOD or equivalent final approval (Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14, § 753.5 (b)(5)). The CRP should request receipt from CDFW to show proof of payment for filing the NOD or equivalent approval. Please mail payment to address below made attention to the Cash Receipts Unit of the Accounting Services Branch.

If the project applicant presents a **No Effect Determination** signed by CDFW, also:

- Attach No Effect Determination to NOD *(no environmental filing fee is due).*

Filing Notice of Exemption (NOE) (Statutorily or categorically exempt project (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15260-15285, 15300-15333))

- Issue cash receipt to project applicant.
- Attach copy of cash receipt to NOE *(no environmental filing fee is due).*

Within 30 days after the end of each month in which the environmental filing fees are collected, each county shall summarize and record the amount collected on the monthly State of California Form No. CA25 (TC31) and remit the amount collected to the State Treasurer. Identify the remittance on Form No. CA25 as "Environmental Document Filing Fees" per Fish and Game Code section 711.4.

The county clerk shall mail the following documents to CDFW on a monthly basis:

- ✓ A photocopy of the monthly State of California Form No. CA25 (TC31)
- ✓ CDFW/ASB copies of all cash receipts (including all voided receipts)
- ✓ A copy of all CDFW No Effect Determinations filed in lieu of fee payment
- ✓ A copy of all NODs filed with the county during the preceding month
- ✓ A list of the name, address and telephone number of all project applicants for which an NOD has been filed. If this information is contained on the cash receipt filed with CDFW under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 753.5, subdivision (e)(6), no additional information is required.

DOCUMENT RETENTION

The county shall retain two copies of the cash receipt (for lead agency and county clerk) and a copy of all documents described above for at least 12 months.

RECEIPT NUMBER

- # The first two digits automatically populate by making the appropriate selection in the County/State Agency of Filing drop down menu.
- # The next eight digits automatically populate when a date is entered.
- # The last three digits correspond with the sequential order of issuance for each calendar year. For example, the first receipt number issued on January 1 should end in 001. If a county issued 252 receipts for the year ending on December 31, the last receipt number should end in 252. CDFW recommends that counties and state agencies 1) save a local copy of this form, and 2) track receipt numbers on a spreadsheet tabbed by month to ensure accuracy.

DO NOT COMBINE THE ENVIRONMENTAL FEES WITH THE STATE SHARE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE FEES.

Mail to:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Accounting Services Branch
 P.O. Box 944209
 Sacramento, California 94244-2090