

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Anne Almy, Planning & Development

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: 081-230-036 et.al. **Case No.:** 17EMP-00000-00001

Location: 11560 Calle Real, Gaviota

Project Title: El Capitan Canyon Grading

Project Applicant: Roger Himovitz

Project Description:

The project involves adequate excavation to create positive flow in the El Capitan Creek which has been obstructed by debris and boulders from the storm of January 20, 2017. The emergency work is required to avoid damage from any additional flooding, and includes removal of debris and boulders from the lower creek area depicted on the attached map, (Exhibit 1), in an area approximately from the existing El Capitan Creek culvert at Highway 101 to the coastal zone boundary. Boulders removed from the creek will be placed and temporarily stored in the general area of the maintenance, shop, and lower parking area west of the creek. No structural development or deposition of any material is proposed within the creek bed or banks.

The structures at immediate risk of future damage include the Canyon Market, check-in facility, kiosk and group sales, and restaurant, which are essential to the restoration and operation of the business. The event of January 20 resulted in substantial mud, boulders and debris in these facilities.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Roger Himovitz, El Capitan Canyon Campground

Exempt Status: (Check one)

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

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section 15269(c) – Emergency Projects, specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

Reasons to support exemption findings: This section allows for emergency actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency, in this case, grading to achieve positive flow through El Capitan Canyon Creek to the ocean, thereby preventing further flooding and damage that could endanger people and property in the vicinity.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Anne Almy

Phone #: 805-568-2053

Department/Division Representative: _____

Date: _____

Acceptance Date: _____

distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____.