

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Santa Barbara County Flood Control District and Water Conservation District

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: N/A

Case No.: NA

Location: Santa Barbara County

Project Title: Beach Sediment Management and Resilience Tactics (BeachSMART) Project

Project Description: The Beach Sediment Management and Resilience Tactics (BeachSMART) Project focuses on research, data analysis, public engagement, and feasibility studies for management of sediment from Flood Control District facilities. The BeachSMART Project is limited to feasibility and planning, data collection, research, and resource evaluation. The actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Article 18, Statutory Exemption Section 15262 [Feasibility and Planning Studies] and CEQA Article 19, Categorical Exemption Section 15306 [Basic data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activities].

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.

Exempt Status: (Check one)

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

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Article 18, Statutory Exemption Section 15262 Feasibility and Planning Studies and CEQA Article 19, Categorical Exemption Section 15306 Basic data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activities.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The BeachSMART project is a data- and information-gathering project in support of developing a planning strategy for sediment management. The Board has not approved, funded, or adopted any future actions as this Project is for planning and feasibility and resource evaluation purposes only.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Walter Rubalcava Phone #: 805-568-3436

Department/Division Representative: Andrew Raaf  Date: April 24, 2025

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.