

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

RECEIVED

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

2025 SEP 16 P 3: 23

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: NA

Case No.: NA

Location: Santa Barbara County

Project Title: USGS Cooperative Stream and Groundwater 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 wells 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 wells and gaging stations necessary for the study have been previously installed or are pre-existing. 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: Alex Doran Phone #: 805 568-3440

Department/Division Representative:  Date: 8/13/2025
Andrew Raaf

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.

one
COUNTY
AMERICA'S LEADER IN DELIVERING REAL ESTATE SOLUTIONS
one
CULTURE

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

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

(805) 568-2240

A scanned copy of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Receipt, Transmittal Memorandum and the CEQA filing, 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	Andrew Raaf		Phone	805-568-3775	
Lead Agency	Santa Barbara County Flood Control & Water Conservation District			Lead Agency Email	asraaf@countyofsb.org
Project Title	USGS Cooperative Stream Gauge Monitoring Program FY 2025-26				
Project Applicant	Alex Doran	Email	ADoran@countyofsb.org		Phone
					805-568-3442
Project Applicant Address	130 E. Victoria Ave, STE 200	City	Santa Barbara		State
					CA
					Zip
					93101

☐ Notice of Determination - Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	
☐ 2025 Filing Fee	\$4,123.50
☐ Previously Paid (must attach receipt)	\$0.00
☐ No Effect Determination (must be attached)	\$0.00

Environmental Filing Fees will be collected *only* for projects that are approved. The Applicant must attest to the following:

☐ This project has been approved. Date of Approval: Click or tap to enter a date.

☐ Notice of Determination - Negative Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).....	
☐ 2025 Filing Fee	\$2,968.75
☐ Previously Paid (must attach receipt)	\$0.00
☐ No Effect Determination (must be attached).....	\$0.00

Environmental Filing Fees will be collected *only* for projects that are approved. The Applicant must attest to the following:

☐ This project has been approved. Date of Approval: Click or tap to enter a date.

■ 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 ☐ Check # _____ ☒ Journal Entry # _____
In person only In FIN send to 'COB CEQA' in CEO Dept



View Accounting Journal

Journal JE-1065205 - County of Santa Barbara California - 08/13/2025 - CEQA FEE FOR USGS COOPERATIVE STREAM GAUGE MONITORING PROG FY 25-26																	
Journal Number	JE-1065205																
Status	Reserved																
Event In Progress	Accounting Journal																
Budget Check Status	Pass																
Journal Entry Information																	
Originated by	CINDY GONZALEZ																
Accounting Date	08/13/2025																
Currency	USD																
Period	Aug-FY 2025-26 Actuals (County of Santa Barbara California)																
Ledger	County of Santa Barbara California : Actuals																
Journal Source	Manual Journal																
Balancing Fund	FD-2400 Flood Ctrl/Wtr Cons Dst Mt																
Book Code																	
Journal Entry Details																	
Memo	CEQA FEE FOR USGS COOPERATIVE STREAM GAUGE MONITORING PROG FY 25-26																
External Reference ID																	
Adjustment Journal	No																
Create Reversal	No																
Balanced	Yes																
Total As-Entered Ledger Debits	50.00																
Total As-Entered Ledger Credits	50.00																
As Entered																	
Journal Entry Lines																	
Journal Line	Company	Ledger Account	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Memo	External Reference ID	Spend Category	Revenue Category	Grant	Project Task	Program	Cost Center	*Fund	Additional Worktags	Interworking Affiliate	Budget Date	Exceptions
Accounting Journal: County of Santa Barbara California - 08/13/2025, 6300;Charges for Services, Debit:0, Credit:50 As Entered for Intercompany	County of Santa Barbara California	6300;Charges for Services		50.00	CEQA FEE FOR USGS COOPERATIVE STREAM GAUGE MONITORING PROG FY 25-26			RC-5746 Administrative Revenue			PG-0124020 Clerk of the Board	CC-12000 County Executive	FD-0001 General			08/13/2025	



View Accounting Journal

04:46 PM
08/13/2025
Page 2 of 4

Journal Line	Company	Ledger Account	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Memo	External Reference ID	Spend Category	Revenue Category	Grant	Project Task	Program	Cost Center	*Fund	Additional Worktags	Interworktag Affiliate	Budget Date	Exceptions
Accounting Journal: County of Santa Barbara California - 08/13/2025, 7020:Services and Supplies, Debit:50, Credit:0 As Entered for Intercompany	County of Santa Barbara California	7020:Services and Supplies	50.00		CEQA FEE FOR USGS COOPERATIVE STREAM GAUGE MONITORING PROG FY 25-26		SC-7650 Special Departmental Expense				PG-0543006 Water Resources Hydrology	CC-54410 Public Works- Flood Control Cons Dst Mt	FD-2400 Flood CirtWtr Cons Dst Mt			08/13/2025	

Journal Lines

Journal Line	Company	Ledger Account	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Memo	External Reference ID	Budget Date	Spend Category	Revenue Category	Grant	Project Task	Program	Cost Center	*Fund	Additional Worktags	Interworktag Affiliates	Exceptions
Accounting Journal: County of Santa Barbara California - 08/13/2025, 1000:Cash in Treasury, Debit:50, Credit:0 Activity	County of Santa Barbara California	1000:Cash in Treasury	50.00	0.00										FD-0001 General	Bank Account: 2, Claim on Cash	Fund Affiliate: FD- 2400 Flood CirtWtr Cons Dst Mt	
Accounting Journal: County of Santa Barbara California - 08/13/2025, 7020:Services and Supplies, Debit:50, Credit:0 Activity	County of Santa Barbara California	7020:Services and Supplies	50.00	0.00	CEQA FEE FOR USGS COOPERATIVE STREAM GAUGE MONITORING PROG FY 25-26		08/13/2025	SC-7650 Special Departmental Expense				PG-0543006 Water Resources Hydrology	CC-54410 Public Works-Flood Control Cons Dst Mt	FD-2400 Flood CirtWtr Cons Dst Mt			
Accounting Journal: County of Santa Barbara California - 08/13/2025, 1000:Cash in Treasury, Debit:0, Credit:50 Activity	County of Santa Barbara California	1000:Cash in Treasury	0.00	50.00											Bank Account: 2, Claim on Cash	Fund Affiliate: FD- 0001 General	
Accounting Journal: County of Santa Barbara California - 08/13/2025, 6300:Charges for Services, Debit:0, Credit:50 Activity	County of Santa Barbara California	6300:Charges for Services	0.00	50.00	CEQA FEE FOR USGS COOPERATIVE STREAM GAUGE MONITORING PROG FY 25-26		08/13/2025		RC-5746 Administrative Revenue			PG-0124020 Clerk of the Board	CC-12000 County Executive	FD-0001 General			

Status History

Status	Entered On	Workday Account
Created	08/13/2025 04:12:58.252 PM	cgonzalez@countyofsb.org / CINDY GONZALEZ
In Progress	08/13/2025 04:43:06.891 PM	cgonzalez@countyofsb.org / CINDY GONZALEZ
Reserved	08/13/2025 04:43:10.316 PM	wd-support
Created	08/13/2025 04:45:35.008 PM	cgonzalez@countyofsb.org / CINDY GONZALEZ



View Accounting Journal

04:46 PM
08/13/2025
Page 3 of 4

Status		Entered On	Workday Account
In Progress	Reserved	08/13/2025 04:45:35, 100 PM 08/13/2025 04:45:36, 389 PM	cgonzalez@countycsfb.org / CINDY GONZALEZ

USGS Program FC, NOE, 2025-Signed.pdf

File Name
USGS Program FC, NOE, 2025-Signed.pdf
Content Type
application/pdf
Updated By
CINDY GONZALEZ
Upload Date
08/13/2025 04:36:51 PM
Comment

CEQA USGS Stream Gauge 8.13.25_JE-1065205.pdf

File Name
CEQA USGS Stream Gauge 8.13.25_JE-1065205.pdf
Content Type
application/pdf
Updated By
CINDY GONZALEZ
Upload Date
08/13/2025 04:45:35 PM
Comment

Process History

Process		Step	Status	Completed On	Due Date	Person (Up to 5)	All Persons	Comment	
Accounting Journal Event	Accounting Journal Event	Accounting Journal Event	Step Completed	08/13/2025 04:43:06 PM	08/15/2025	CINDY GONZALEZ	1		
Accounting Journal Event	Review Journal	Review Journal	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Check Budget (Financial)	Check Budget (Financial)	Automatic Complete	08/13/2025 04:43:06 PM	08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Batch/Job: Run Budget Check	Batch/Job: Run Budget Check	Step Completed	08/13/2025 04:43:10 PM			0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Review Budget Check	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Review Budget Check	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Review Budget Check	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Override Budget Check	Override Budget Check	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Service: Reserve Budget in Budget Check	Service: Reserve Budget in Budget Check	Step Completed	08/13/2025 04:43:10 PM	08/15/2025		Workday Service	1	
Accounting Journal Event	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Withdrawn					0	
Accounting Journal Event	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Withdrawn				0		
Accounting Journal Event	Accounting Journal Event	Accounting Journal Event	Submitted	08/13/2025 04:45:35 PM	08/15/2025	CINDY GONZALEZ	1		
Accounting Journal Event	Review Journal	Review Journal	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Check Budget (Financial)	Check Budget (Financial)	Automatic Complete	08/13/2025 04:45:35 PM	08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Batch/Job: Run Budget Check	Batch/Job: Run Budget Check	Step Completed	08/13/2025 04:45:36 PM			0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Review Budget Check	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Review Budget Check	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Review Budget Check	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		
Check Budget (Financial)	Override Budget Check	Override Budget Check	Not Required		08/15/2025		0		



View Accounting Journal

Process	Step	Status	Completed On	Due Date	Person (Up to 5)		All Persons	Comment
					Workday Service			
Check Budget (Financial)	Service: Reserve Budget in Budget Check	Step Completed	08/13/2025 04:45:36 PM	08/15/2025	Workday Service		1	
Accounting Journal Event	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Awaiting Action			DAWN HOLDEN (Cost Center Manager) {}		2	
					STEVEN YEE (Cost Center Manager) {}			
Accounting Journal Event	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Awaiting Action			KIMBERLY RUIZ (Cost Center Manager) {}		1	



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print

StartOver

Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:

42 — 09/16/2025 — 171

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY

County of Santa Barbara Flood Control & Water Conservation Dist.

LEAD AGENCY EMAIL

asraaf@countyofsb.org

DATE

09/16/2025

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING

Santa Barbara

DOCUMENT NUMBER

PROJECT TITLE

USGS Cooperative Stream Gauge Monitoring Program FY 2025-26

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME

Alex Doran

PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL

ADoran@countyofsb.org

PHONE NUMBER

(805) 568-3442

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS

130 E. Victoria Ave, Suite 200

CITY

Santa Barbara

STATE

CA

ZIP CODE

93101

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

☒ Local Public Agency

☐ School District

☐ Other Special District

☐ State Agency

☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

\$4,123.50 \$ 0.00

☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)

\$2,968.75 \$ 0.00

☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW

\$1,401.75 \$ 0.00

☒ Exempt from fee

☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)

☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)

\$850.00 \$ 0.00

☒ County documentary handling fee

\$ 50.00

☐ Other

\$

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash

☐ Credit

☐ Check

☒ Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE

X Katherine Douglas

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

Katherine Douglas, Deputy Clerk