

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Community Services Department

The projects or activities identified below are 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(s): N/A

Case No.: N/A

Location: Cachuma Lake, Highway 154, Santa Barbara, CA

Project Title: Revisions to the Cachuma Lake Recreation Area Mandatory Vessel Inspection Program and Boat Launch Protocol

Project Description: The County of Santa Barbara Parks Division will revise the mandatory vessel inspection program and boat launch protocol at Cachuma Lake to require 30 day quarantine on all trailered vessels entering Cachuma Lake, which is an extension of the current 14 day quarantine period. The County has been conducting Aquatic Invasive Species inspections on vessels being launched at Cachuma Lake since 2008. In December 2013, the operator at Lake Piru in Ventura County notified the State of California Department of Fish and Wildlife that Quagga Mussels appeared to be present in Lake Piru; further testing and evaluation have proven that the mussels are present in Lake Piru. This is a significant finding because it is the first lake infected by the Quagga Mussel that is not fed by the Colorado River system. As a result, it is necessary for the County of Santa Barbara Parks Division to re-evaluate and strengthen the inspection and quarantine protocols.

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect [§15061(b,3)]
- Other

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Sections: 15307 (Actions by Regulatory Agencies for the Protection of Natural Resources) and 15308 (Actions by Regulatory Agencies for the Protection of the Environment)

Reasons to support exemption findings (attach additional material, if necessary):

CEQA Guideline Section 15307 Class 7 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration or enhancement of natural resource(s) where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. CEQA Guideline Section 15308 Class 8 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Construction activities are not included in either exemption. As extending the quarantine period of boat launching activities by 16 days involves ordinance activity, does not involve construction activity, and supports protection of the municipal and industrial water supply system from ecosystem damage.

Department/Division Representative



Jill Van Wie

Date March 24, 2014

Note: A copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval and posted by the Clerk of the Board for a period of 30 days.

Copies to: File

Date File of Counter Clerks