

Notice of Exemption

2019098007

To:

Office of Planning and Research,
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of Ventura

From:

State of California Department of Water
Resources
770 Fairmont Ave
Glendale, CA 91203-1035

Project Title: Installation of Oxnard Subbasin Nested Monitoring Wells – Revlon Slough

Project Applicant: State of California Department of Water Resources

Projection Location – City: City of Camarillo

Project Location – County: Ventura

Project Location - Specific: The proposed nested monitoring wells would be located on the east embankment of Revlon Slough, a backwater which first drains into Calleguas Creek, then into Mugu Lagoon, and ultimately the Pacific Ocean. The proposed wells would be installed between the Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) access road and the fence line of the neighboring farmland just east of the road. The first well would be placed approximately 0.25 mile north of the intersection of Revlon Slough and Etting Road, and the second well would be placed another 0.25 mile north of that.

According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' quadrangle, the legal description is Township 1N, Range 21W (34° 9'52.02"N 119° 5'29.63"W).

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The California Department of Water Resources (DWR), through the Technical Support Services Program, proposes to install six nested monitoring wells within two borings (three three-inch diameter schedule 80 PVC casings in each of the two borings) in the Oxnard Subbasin of the Pleasant Valley groundwater basin on behalf of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA). The nested (multi-completion) monitoring wells would fill identified gaps in the existing groundwater monitoring network within the Pleasant Valley groundwater basin.

The proposed wells would be located within an existing VCWPD facility. The wells would be drilled using mud rotary technique to a maximum of 950 feet. Pilot holes would be drilled first and logged using geophysical methods. The resultant logs would be used to determine casing lengths, screen lengths, zones to be sealed, and filter pack zones. The holes would be reamed to obtain the final hole diameter. Well completion includes a flush mounted traffic-rated well box that is set to a road-finished-grade. All excavated materials would be removed from the site and properly disposed of at the VCWPD facility at Adolfo Road in Camarillo.

The proposed project would take approximately 40 working days to complete and would begin after September 15, 2019. Groundwater level and quality monitoring, as well as well head and vault inspections would be performed quarterly by FCGMA staff or the City of Camarillo. Well maintenance would be conducted as needed by FCGMA staff.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: State of California Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: State of California Department of Water Resources

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption: Existing Facility. Class 1, 15301, Title 14 CCR

Categorical Exemption: Information Collection. Class 6, 15306, Title 14 CCR

Reason why project is exempt: The proposed project is categorically exempt under Class 1, Section 15301 because it involves the minor alteration of an existing public flood control facility within the facility footprint. The proposed alteration involves no expansion of the facility and would be constructed for monitoring purposes only. The proposed project is also categorically exempt under Class 6, Section 15306 because it consists of basic data collection and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a significant impact to an environmental resource

A list of special status plant and wildlife species with the potential to occur within the project area has been compiled based on a literature search and California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB). Field surveys were conducted to identify potential biological resources within the project vicinity. Although no special status species were surveyed, DWR would not start the proposed project until after migratory bird nesting period (September 15) due to identification of nearby potential habitat for several special status bird species

Due to the proximity of the project to Revlon Slough, DWR will install straw swaddles and silt fences to minimize erosion and sediment runoff into any bodies of water.

The proposed project location does not raise exigent concerns of cultural resources. The proposed location has been heavily modified over the years as agricultural farmland and most recently maintained as an access road. No surface resources were surveyed at the time. In the event that during drilling, any potential cultural resources are identified, all work would cease immediately, and the onsite supervisor would contact the local cultural resources specialists.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Potential to occur
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	Endangered	Endangered	Not surveyed in the field, however suitable habitat is identified nearby.
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	Least Bell’s Vireo	Endangered	Endangered	Not surveyed in the field, however suitable habitat is identified nearby.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Potential to occur
<i>Polioptila californica californica</i>	California Coastal Gnatcatcher	Threatened	None	Not surveyed in the field, however suitable habitat is identified nearby.
<i>Euphilotes battoides allyni</i>	El Segundo Blue Butterfly	Endangered	Endangered	Not surveyed in the field.
<i>Astragalus brauntonii</i>	Braunton's Milk-Vetch	Endangered	Endangered	Not surveyed in the field.
<i>Dudleya verityi</i>	Verity's Dudleya	Endangered	Endangered	Not surveyed in the field.

Best Management Practices:

1. No vegetation, aside from invasive plant species, would be removed as part of the project.
2. Construction activities will take place outside of migratory bird nesting period, February 1 to September 15
3. Straw swaddles would be installed around potential areas of runoff and erosion.
4. Silt fencing would be installed to prevent runoff and sediment deposition into nearby bodies of water.
5. Identification of any potential cultural resources would immediately stop all work and the onsite supervisor would contact the local cultural resources specialists.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Albert Lu

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (818) 549-2330

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving this project? Yes No

Signature: Vic Nguyen **Date:** 9/8/2019 **Title:** Chief, Southern Region Office

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority Cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

SEP 09 2019

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