

Notice of Exemption
Appendix E

CEQA Guidelines

To: ■ Office of Planning and Research
 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
 Sacramento, CA 95814

■ San Diego County Recorder/County Clerk
 1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260
 San Diego, CA 92101-2480

From: (Public Agency)
 San Diego Unified Port District
 Planning & Green Port
 3165 Pacific Highway
 San Diego, CA 92101

FILED

Ernest J. Dronenburg, Jr. Recorder County Clerk

OCT 24 2019

C. Teran

BY **DEPUTY**

Project Title: EConcrete: Interlocking Tidal Pool System
Project Location – Specific: Harbor Island, San Diego, CA 92101
Project location – City: San Diego
Project Location – County: San Diego

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed project is a three-year pilot project that would replace portions of existing rip-rap at three installation sites on Harbor Island with biologically-enhanced concrete units interlocking into a tidal pool system (tidal pool system). The installation sites would include Harbor Island Park, Spanish Landing Park East, and the western tip of Harbor Island. The tidal pool systems are designed to create water retaining elements which are absent in most urban waterfronts. The tide pools would provide shoreline stabilization while simultaneously creating a well-defined local ecosystem that mimics natural rock pools typical to rocky coasts, as well as increase local biodiversity and biological productivity. Each site would consist of the replacement of approximately 15 feet wide by 42 feet long area of rip-rap, for a total square footage of 630 square feet per site. A five-foot buffer in each direction of the installation site, for total project area of 3,900 square feet spread amongst the three installation sites. Each installation site is positioned to be intermittently submerged by the tide and therefore, will not encroach into public park space.

The production of the precast tidal pool units would be completed off-site at a local concrete manufacturer. Installation of the tidal pool systems would occur over a three-week period (one week for each installation site) and work would occur five days per week and would require approximately 7 construction workers. Staging locations would be located within parking lots upland adjacent to each installation site and would be marked off with yellow tape and construction cones. Approximately 15 spaces would be temporarily occupied during construction staging; this includes spaces for construction worker parking and tidal pool system layout.

The existing revetment stones within the footprint of the three installation sites would be removed by excavator to create a smooth and stable surface for the foundation and support of the tidal pool system. The existing revetment stones would be carried offsite via dump truck to an approximately 6,200 square-foot fenced area that would be used as a storage area for the removed rip-rap located on east Harbor Island, south of the Harbor Police Administrative Building. Upon removal of the existing rip-rap, the tidal pool systems would be placed at each site with the use of a lifting crane and would ultimately be kept in place in part due to the heavy weight of each unit (approximately 3,500 pounds), as the units greatly outweigh the surrounding revetment stones that have remained stable since the revetment's original installation. Additionally, the tide pool system is designed in a way that makes each unit interlocking, which further contributes to stability. It is expected that the delivery of the units would require a total of six separate deliveries (2 for each site). Ecological and structural stability monitoring would take place every six months

no change of benefit

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post deployment for two years in order to evaluate the viability of the tidal pool systems as ecological armoring replacement to traditional rip-rap. If monitoring efforts show the tidal pool system to be a viable replacement to traditional rip-rap, the system may remain for their design life, which is at a minimum 50 years. In the event that monitoring efforts conclude that the tidal pool system has not been successful, the units would be removed by the Applicant and replaced with the preexisting revetment stones that were stored on east Harbor Island during the project duration. Removal and installation will be conducted in a similar method to the initial tidal pool system installation.

The project would require a Tideland Use and Occupancy Permit (TUOP) to EConcrete Inc. for the use of approximately 3,900 square feet of tidelands area located at the water's edge at three locations on Harbor Island and 6,200 square-feet of fenced area located on east Harbor Island, south of the Harbor Police Administrative Building. It is anticipated that the TUOP would have a total term of three years, commencing in Spring 2020. The TUOP may be terminated by the Executive Director of the Port District or their duly authorized representative, or Tenant as a matter of right and without cause at any time upon the giving of thirty days' notice in writing to other party of such termination. A "Blue Economy Agreement" by and between the District and EConcrete Inc. is also proposed, and other similar agreements may also be required.

The pilot project requires a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pre-certified Nationwide Permit #13 Bank Stabilization, and a Regional Water Quality Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification as part of the entitlement process, which would be obtained prior to the proposed project start date. Furthermore, the applicant would be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regulating construction demolition debris, noise, and stormwater. No eelgrass resources are known to occur within the project area.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: *San Diego Unified Port District (SDUPD)*

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Philippe Leblanc, Aquaculture & Blue Tech, San Diego Unified Port District, 3165 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101, (619) 686-6516

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☒ Categorical Exemption
- ☐ Statutory Exemption

Signature: Maggie Leblanc **Date:** 10-24-19 **Title:** Senior Planner

- ☒ Signed by Lead Agency
- ☐ Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR/Clerk:

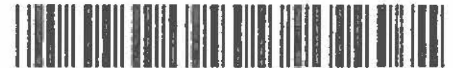
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

OCT 24 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE



San Diego County



Transaction #: 4095195
Receipt #: 2019510340

Ernest J. Dronenburg, Jr.
Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk
1600 Pacific Highway Suite 260
P. O. Box 121750, San Diego, CA 92112-1750
Tel. (619) 237-0502 Fax (619) 557-4155
www.sdarcc.com

Cashier Date: 10/24/2019
Cashier Location: SD

Print Date: 10/24/2019 2:09 pm

Payment Summary

Total Fees	\$50.00
Total Payments	\$50.00
Balance:	\$0.00

Payment

VITALCHEK PAYMENT	\$50.00
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Total Payments	\$50.00
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Miscellaneous Item

FISH & WILDLIFE FEES

Fees:	Fish & Wildlife County Administrative Fee	\$50.00
Total Fees Due:		\$50.00

Grand Total - All Documents:	\$50.00
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State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2019 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (Rev. 2/7/19) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER:

37-2019- 0883

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT PLANNING & GREEN PORT	---	10/24/2019
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER	
San Diego County	2019 - 0883	

PROJECT TITLE

ECONCRETE: INTERLOCKING TIDAL POOL SYSTEM

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT AQUACULTURE & BLUETECH	---	619-686-6516
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE
3165 PACIFIC HIGHWAY	SAN DIEGO	CA
		ZIP CODE
		92101

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

☒ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$3,271.00	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,354.75	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program document (CRP)	\$1,112.00	\$	_____

☐ Exempt from fee☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$	_____

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☒ Credit ☐ Check ☐ Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ \$50.00

SIGNATURE

X

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

San Diego County

C.TERAN

, Deputy