

**ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE REQUEST FORM 77a**

REQUEST DATE:

5/18/20

COST OBJECT #:

75000230680



| TO BE COMPLETED BY REQUESTOR   |   |
|--|---|
| <p><u>TO:</u> Juan Arellano<br/>Environmental Scientist, SJFD</p> <p><u>FROM:</u> Jimmy Watson<br/>UCW Supervisor</p> <p><u>FIELD DIVISION/HQ:</u> SJFD</p>  | <p><u>REQUESTED DATE FOR ENV. COMPLIANCE:</u><br/>5/25/20</p> <p><u>ENV. CLEARANCE NUMBER:</u> (O&amp;M-FD-YR-EC#) O&amp;M-SJFD-2020-008</p> <p><u>PROJECT TITLE:</u><br/>Erosion Repairs Reach 14A</p> |
| <p><u>LOCATION OF PROJECT SITE</u></p> <p><u>SWP FACILITY:</u> CA Aqueduct primary and secondary rd.</p> <p><u>MILE MARKER(S):</u> 253.8 to 254.5</p> <p><u>COUNTY/CITY:</u> Kern/ Taft</p>  | <p><u>LATITUDE:</u> <input type="text"/></p> <p><u>LONGITUDE:</u> <input type="text"/></p> <p><u>CROSS STREETS:</u> Gardener Field Rd. and Cadet Rd.</p>  |
| <p><u>DESCRIPTION OF WORK:</u><br/>Repair erosion with backhoe and hand tools at various locations along the CA aqueduct.<br/>Install drains at some locations to prevent future erosion.</p>  |   |
| <p><u>ANTICIPATED DURATION OF PROPOSED PROJECT:</u><br/>Describe how long construction will last, and what time of year, or dates, for the proposed work<br/>2 weeks</p>   |   |
| <p><u>PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE:</u><br/>Describe why work is necessary (e.g., DSRB recommendation to avoid disaster, FERC license, annual maintenance)<br/>Erosion is threatening and undermining the aqueduct access roads.</p>   |   |
| <p><u>DWR O&amp;M STAFF UNDERTAKING WORK [Y/N]:</u> Y<br/>List mechanized equipment (used by either contractor or DWR staff) so impacts can be assessed.<br/><br/>Dump truck and Backhoe to transport fill material, on pavement only. A backhoe to fill and a sheep foot to compact dirt.</p> |   |

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR SITE VISIT:**

Please note any other information that is "good to know" when out in the field doing investigations (i.e., locked gates, feral dogs, irate landowners, quicksand, etc):

\_\_\_\_\_

**PRELIMINARY DESIGN INFORMATION:**

Check appropriate boxes and delineate on attached Project Footprint map, plan, or layout:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge Work              | <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage/Culverts             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Disturbance      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cut/Fill                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance Dewatering        | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation Removal      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction Access Road | <input type="checkbox"/> Right-of-Way Acquisition      | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Removal            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disposal Borrow Site(s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Easements           | <input type="checkbox"/> In Water Work           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Staging        | <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Relocations/Crossings | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

**TO BE COMPLETED BY ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT STAFF****TECHNICAL STUDIES REQUESTED? [Y/N]: Y**

Check specialist studies to be initiated

- ☒ Biological Resources Evaluation
- ☐ Cultural Resources Evaluation
- ☐ Visual/Aesthetics
- ☐ Hydrology/Water Quality
- ☐ Wetland Delineation
- ☐ Geological/Geotechnical
- ☐ Hazardous Waste/Materials
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS REQUESTED? [Y/N]: Y**

Describe which CEQA/NEPA documents are anticipated, and should be initiated  
NOE and Environmental Clearance

**PERMITS OR CONSULTATION ANTICIPATED? [Y/N]: N**

Describe which permits, and/ or associated resources agencies who will need to be consulted

\_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL RIGHT-OF-WAY REQUESTED OR PERMISSION TO ENTER NEEDED? [Y/N]: N**

Number of Parcels Impacted \_\_\_\_\_

Temporary Entry Permit (TEP) requested by: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated date for receipt of TEP: \_\_\_\_\_

**DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:****OR EXPECTED DATE AVAILABLE:**

- ☒ Exhibit A: Project Location Map (REQUIRED)
- ☐ Exhibit B: Preliminary Plans/Layout (REQUIRED)
- ☐ Typical Cross Section
- ☒ Photos/Video
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Insert Exhibit A – Project Vicinity and Location Map**







ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION FORM 77B

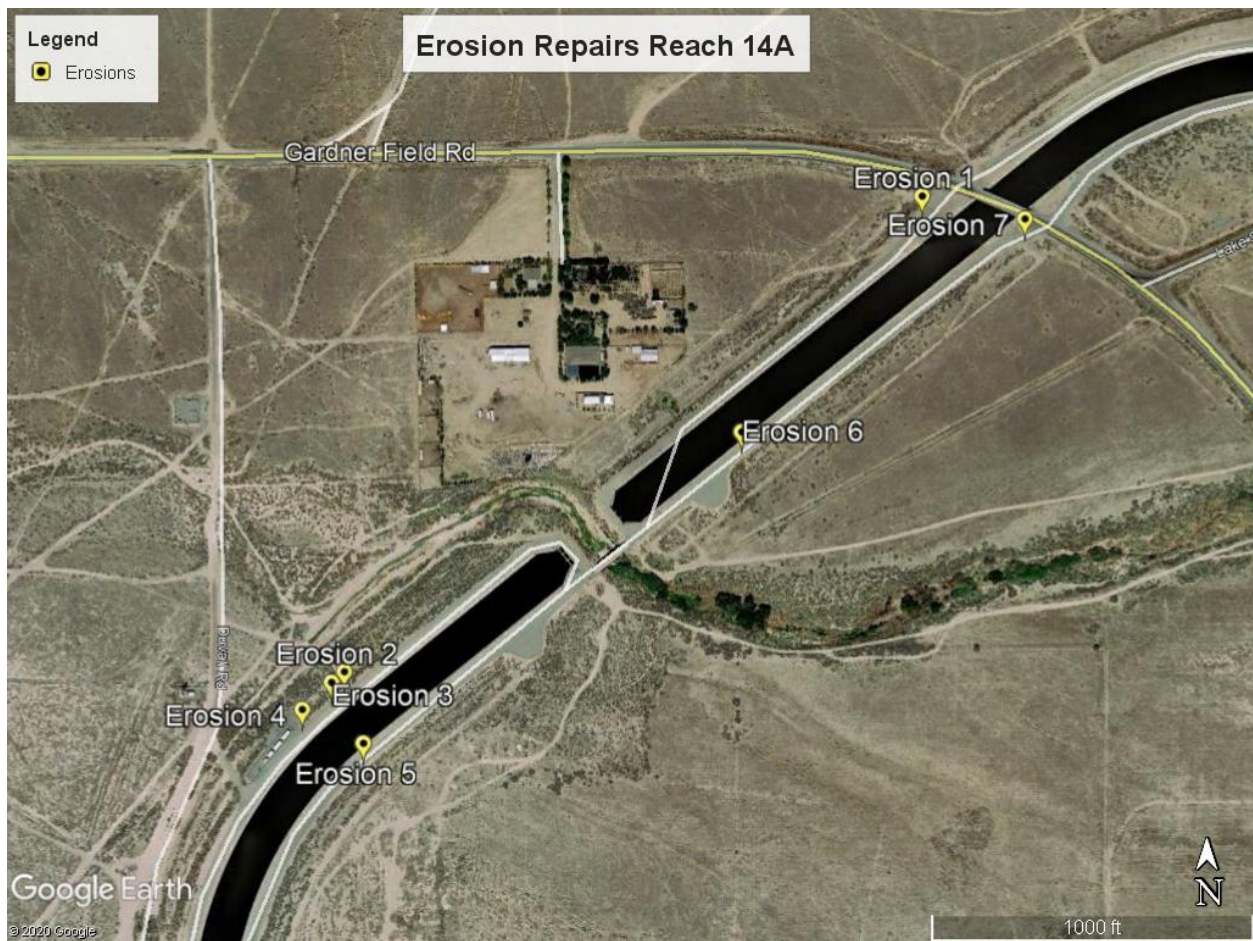


| TO BE COMPLETED BY O&M ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BRANCH   |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| <u>TO:</u> Jimmy Watson<br>UCW Supervisor<br><u>FROM:</u> Elizabeth Maldonado<br>Environmental Scientist, SJFD<br><u>FIELD DIVISION/HQ:</u> SJFD   |                         | <u>CLEARANCE BEGIN DATE:</u><br>5/25/20<br><u>CLEARANCE END DATE:</u><br>7/31/20<br><u>PROJECT TITLE:</u><br>Erosion Repairs Reach 14A |
| <u>LOCATION OF PROJECT SITE</u><br><u>SWP FACILITY:</u> CA Aqueduct primary and secondary rd.<br><u>MILE MARKER(S):</u> 253.8 to 254.5<br><u>COUNTY/CITY:</u> Kern/ Taft   |                         | <u>LATITUDE:</u><br><u>LONGITUDE:</u><br><u>CROSS STREETS:</u> Gardener Field Rd. and Cadet Rd.  |
| <u>DESCRIPTION OF WORK:</u><br>Erosion has occurred on both the primary and secondary roads of the aqueduct and needs to be filled. Fill material will consist of Class II Aggregate Base and/or native soil. All work will be done directly from the paved road. Hand tools and backhoe will be used to complete the work. Drains will be installed in some locations to prevent future erosion.<br><br>The 7 erosion sites were surveyed by SJFD environmental scientist Elizabeth Maldonado on 05/20/20. At erosion site 4, two San Joaquin antelope squirrels were spotted 200ft southwest of the erosion. At erosion site 7, three San Joaquin antelope squirrels were spotted within 50ft of the erosion. One antelope squirrel was 1ft southwest from the erosion. No other sensitive species were found. All erosion footprints were free of vegetation. Burrows were spotted within 50 feet of all erosion sites. <b>All work will require an environmental monitor.</b> Based on the description of the work, and if all avoidance measures are followed (listed on attached 77b-MMRP), direct impact to sensitive environmental resources can be avoided. |                         |  |
| <u>RESTRICTIONS ON WORK:</u><br>Refer to attached Form 77b environmental commitment matrix.  |                         |  |
| <u>PERMITS REQUIRED:</u><br>NOE  |                         |  |
| <u>ISSUED BY:</u><br>Elizabeth Maldonado, SJFD Environmental Scientist   | <u>DATE:</u><br>5/20/20 | <u>TELEPHONE NUMBER:</u><br>661-858-5662   |

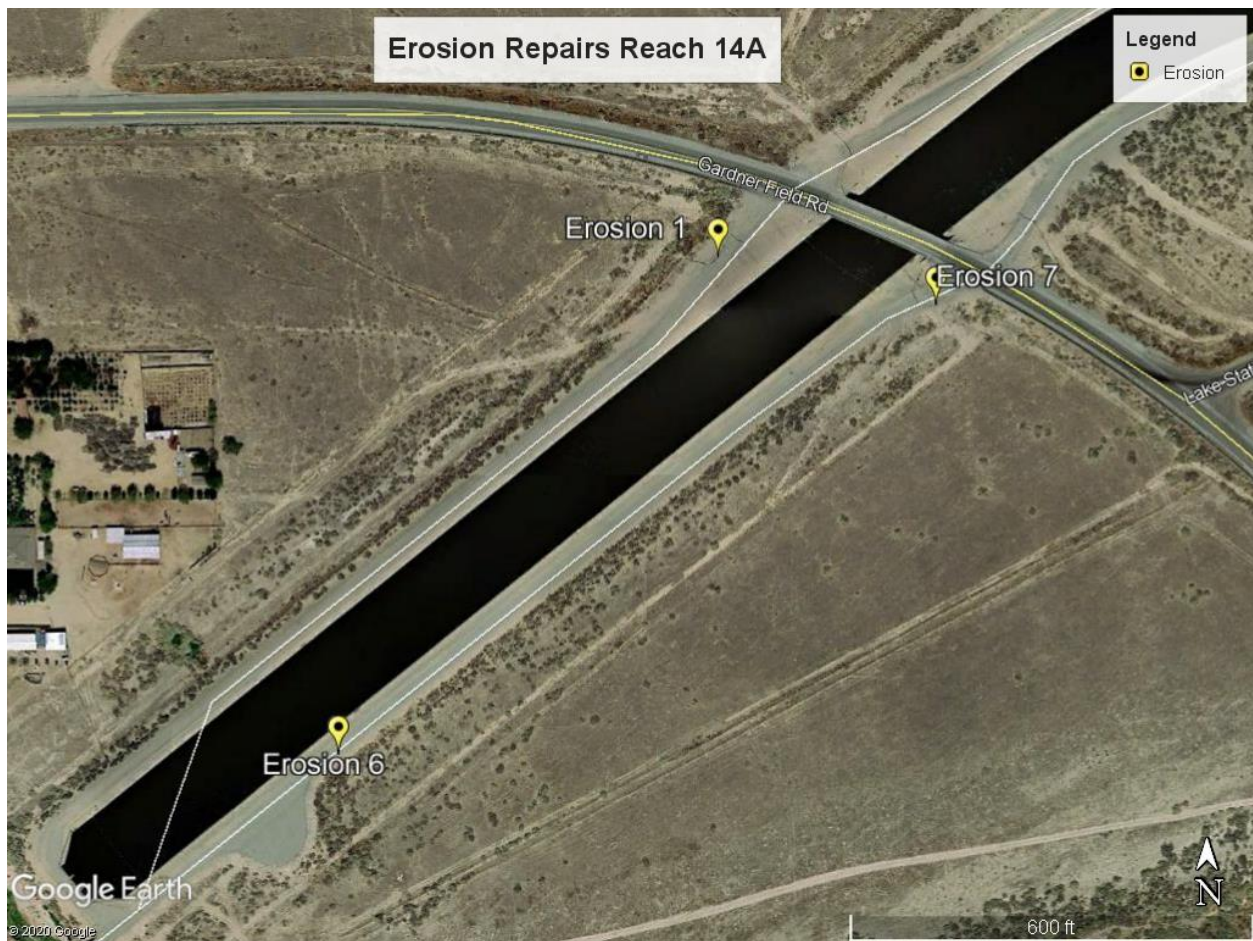
A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Elizabeth Maldonado", is written over the bottom left portion of the form.



**Map1.**

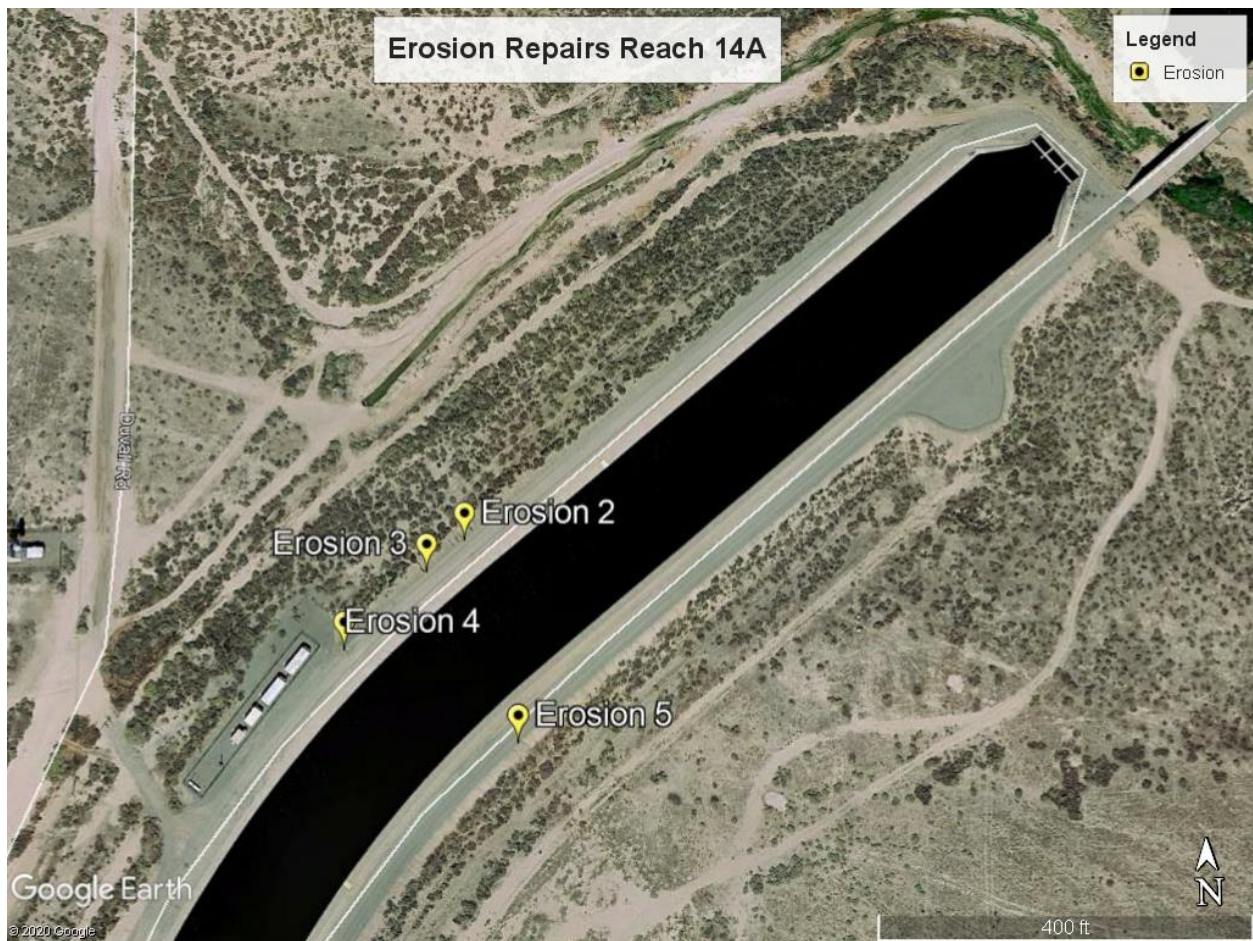


Map 2.





Map 3.





**Photolog:**

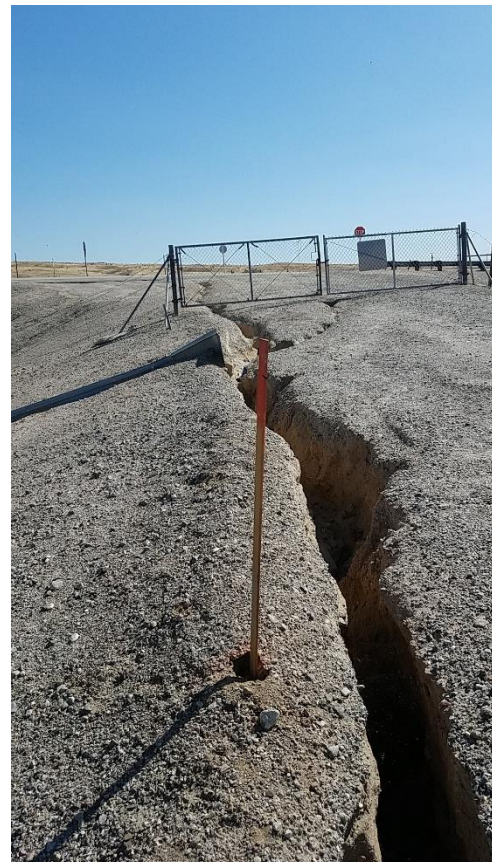
**Erosion 1.**



Full view



Southwest view



Northeast view



**Erosion 2.**



**Erosion 3.**





**Erosion 4.**



San Joaquin Antelope Squirrels  
spotted 200ft southwest of  
erosion.



**Erosion 5.**



**Erosion 6.**





**Erosion 7.**



San Joaquin Antelope Squirrels  
spotted within 50ft of erosion.

Date: 05/22/2020  
Project Manager: Jimmy Watson

FORM 77b - Environmental Commitments

Project Name: Erosion\_Reach\_14A  
Location: MM253.8 to 254.5  
Field Division: SJFD

| Environmental Commitment Type                          | Environmental Commitment Description  | Reference    | Responsible Branch / Staff | Timing / Phase   | Action Taken to Comply with Task | Date Task Completed |
|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Best Management Practices or Special Provisions</u> |   |              |                            |  |                                  |                     |
|  | 1. All workers at the project site must be aware of the restrictions on work contained within this clearance, and a copy of this clearance must be held by the supervisor on site at all times.   | BMP          | SJFD                       | during/before work   |                                  |                     |
|  | 2. Site must be kept free of all trash and debris. Equipment must be kept in good working order, and any petroleum spills must be cleaned up immediately and reported to the lead Environmental Scientist.  | BMP          | SJFD                       | during work  |                                  |                     |
|  | 3. If any wildlife is observed within the construction area, stop all work immediately and allow the wildlife to move out of the area on its own.   | BMP          | SJFD                       | during work  |                                  |                     |
|  | 4. Contact Juan Arellano or Elizabeth Maldonado at least 2 days prior to project start. A biological monitor will be required. Any change to the scope of work is not authorized until a SJFD environmental scientist has been notified and provides environmental clearance. | BMP          | SJFD                       | before work  |                                  |                     |
|  | 5. No excavation or vegetation clearance is allowed. Erosions will only be filled and compacted.  | BMP          | SJFD                       | during work  |                                  |                     |
|  | 6. All work will be conducted during daylight hours.  | BMP          | SJFD                       | during work  |                                  |                     |
|  |   |              |                            |  |                                  |                     |
| <b>CONTACTS:</b>                                       |   |              |                            |  |                                  |                     |
| Full Name  | Title   | Office Phone | Cell Phone                 | Email  | Remarks                          |                     |
| Juan Arellano  | SR Environmental Scientist (Specialist)   | 661-858-5664 | 661-316-8535               | <a href="mailto:Juanluiz.Arellano@water.ca.gov">Juanluiz.Arellano@water.ca.gov</a>     |                                  |                     |
| Elizabeth Maldonado                                    | Environmental Scientist   | 661-858-5662 | 661-369-0360               | <a href="mailto:elizabeth.maldonado@water.ca.gov">elizabeth.maldonado@water.ca.gov</a> |                                  |                     |
| Jimmy Watson   | UCW Supervisor  | 661-858-5541 | 661-316-8539               | <a href="mailto:James.E.Watson@water.ca.gov">James.E.Watson@water.ca.gov</a>           |                                  |                     |
|  |   |              |                            |  |                                  |                     |



## Notice of Exemption

## Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Department of Water  
Resources, San Joaquin Field  
Division  
4201 Sabodan Street, Bakersfield, CA 93313

County Clerk

County of: \_\_\_\_\_

(Address)

Project Title: Erosion Repairs Reach 14-A

Project Applicant: Department of Water Resources, San Joaquin Field Division

Project Location – Specific:

7 locations along the California Aqueduct from Gardner Field Rd (MP 253.8) to Cadet Rd (MP 256.11).

4 of the sites are on the secondary road and 3 are on the primary.

Project Location – City: Taft

Project Location –  
County: \_\_\_\_\_

Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

DWR San Joaquin Field Division (SJFD) plans to perform routine maintenance along the California Aqueduct in order to ensure safety along access roads. SJFD will restore and compact eroded areas along and adjacent to the access roads. Class II base or native soil will be used to repair any cracks, fissures, or potentially hazardous deterioration along the road. This maintenance is needed to ensure water deliveries throughout the State Water Project.

Name of Public Agency Approving  
Project: \_\_\_\_\_

California Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out  
Project: \_\_\_\_\_

DWR - San Joaquin Field Division

Exempt Status: **(check one)**:

- ☐ 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. State type and section

15301 (b)

number:

- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code

number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project consists of maintenance activities that support the function of the California Aqueduct and water delivery within the State Water Project.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Elizabeth Maldonado Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 661.858.5662

If filed by applicant:

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

Signature:  Date: 05/26/20 Title: Env. Scientist

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

# Greenhouse Gas(GHG)Emissions Reduction Plan Consistency Determination

## For Projects Using Only Department of Water Resources(DWR) staff and Equipment

This form is to be used by DWR project managers to document a DWR CEQA project's consistency with the DWR Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan. This form is to be used only when DWR is the Lead Agency and when only DWR staff and equipment are used to implement the project.

Additional Guidance on filling out this form can be found at:

[http://dwrclimatechange.water.ca.gov/guidance\\_resources.cfm](http://dwrclimatechange.water.ca.gov/guidance_resources.cfm)

The DWR Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan can be accessed at:

<https://www.water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/Climate-Change-Program/Climate-Action-Plan>

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| <b>Project Name:</b>                      | Erosion Reach 14-A         |
| <b>Environmental Document Type:</b>       | NOE                        |
| <b>Manager's Name:</b>                    | Jean Hostler               |
| <b>Manager's E-mail:</b>                  | jean.hostler@water.ca.gov  |
| <b>Division:</b>                          | O&M                        |
| <b>Office, Branch, or Field Division:</b> | San Joaquin Field Division |

### Short Project Description:

DWR San Joaquin Field Division (SJFD) plans to perform routine maintenance along the California Aqueduct in order to ensure safety along access roads. SJFD will restore and compact eroded areas along and adjacent to the access roads. Class II base or native soil will be used to repair any cracks, fissures, or potentially hazardous deterioration along the road. A backhoe will fill and compact all erosions. A dump truck will be used to haul in the fill material and the backhoe will spread and compact the material.

### Project GHG Emissions Summary:

- ☒ All emissions from the project will occur as ongoing operational, maintenance, or business activity emissions and therefore have already been accounted for and analyzed in the GGERP. (This box must be checked if you are using this form. If you cannot check this box you must use a different form).



**Project GHG Reduction Plan Checklist**

- ☐ All Project Level GHG Emissions Reduction Measures have been incorporated into the design or implementation plan for the project ([Project Level GHG Emissions Reduction Measures](#))

Or

- ☐ All feasible Project Level GHG Emissions Reduction Measures have been incorporated into the design or implementation plan for the project and Measures not incorporated have been listed and determined not to be apply to the proposed project (include as an attachment)

Project does not conflict with any of the Specific Action GHG Emissions Reduction Measures ([Specific Action GHG Emissions Reduction Measures](#))

Would implementation of the project result in additional energy demands on the SWP system of 15 GWh/yr or greater?

☐ YES ☒ NO

If you answered Yes, attach a Renewable Power Procurement Plan update approval letter from the DWR SWP Power and Risk Office

Is there substantial evidence that the effects of the proposed project may be cumulatively considerable notwithstanding the proposed project's compliance with the requirements of the DWR GHG Reduction Plan?

☐ YES ☒ NO

If you answered Yes, the project is not eligible for streamlined analysis of GHG emissions using the DWR GHG Emissions Reduction Plan. (See CEQA Guidelines, section 15183.5, subdivision (b)(2).)

Based on the information provided above and information provided in associated environmental documentation completed pursuant to the above referenced project, the DWR CEQA Climate Change Committee has determined that the proposed project is consistent with the DWR Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan and the greenhouse gasses emitted by the project are covered by the plan's analysis.

Project Manager Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

C4 Approval Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attachments:**

- ☐ List and Explanation of excluded Project Level GHG Emissions Reduction Measures
- ☐ Plan to update Renewable Energy Procurement Plan from DWR SWP Power and Risk Office

**Links:**

<https://current.water.ca.gov/programs/icc/SitePages/Home.aspx>  
<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/Climate-Change-Program>