CEQA Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research *For U.S. Mail:* P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 <u>state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov</u>

Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 From: California Department of Fish & Wildlife South Coast Region 3883 Ruffin Road San Diego, CA 92123 858-467-4201



Contact: Joe Stanovich, Phone: (562) 430-7642 joseph.stanovich@wildlife.ca.gov

State Clearinghouse Number: N/A

Project Title: 11 Mail Road Restoration Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2019-0199-R5)

Project Location (include county): The project is located at 11 Mail Road, Lompoc, California, 93436, Santa Barbara County; Latitude 34.616048, Longitude 120.332797; Assessor Parcel Numbers 083-140-008 and 099-200-057.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2019-0199-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Divine Mercy, Inc. as represented by VerLyn Jensen. The project is limited to the restoration of a previous cannabis cultivation site located within the Santa Ynez River riparian corridor. Restoration is proposed in response to a Notice of Violation (NOV) from CDFW. This project proposes to remediate the remaining violations by restoring riparian habitat at two separate areas, which include: 1) the former cannabis cultivation field, which is a 3.17-acre area located on a floodplain terrace; and, 2) a 0.46-acre area associated with the access road and crossing in the Santa Ynez River. Since native plants have already begun to colonize the area, restoration in this 3.17-acrea area will consist primarily of invasive species removal. Additional native species will be planted to create three 'islands' of high plant diversity to attract wildlife for seed dispersal. Plants will be watered by hand from a watering truck. To restore the areas impacted by the crossing, restoration will occur within an approximate 0.46-acre area. Native vegetation will be planted from stakes collected from parent trees/shrubs located in the surrounding areas.

Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 5

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Divine Mercy represented by VerLyn Jensen.

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption.

Categorical Exemption: Type – Class (33); California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15333)

Reasons why project is exempt: Class 33 consists of a project that does not exceed five acres in size to assure maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife. The project consists of restoring riparian habitat at two separate areas, which include: 1) the former cannabis cultivation field, which is a 3.17-acre area located on a floodplain terrace; and, 2) a 0.46-acre area associated with the access road and crossing in the Santa Ynez River.

Signature: Erinn Wilson		Date:	10/26/2020
Erinn Wilson, Environmental Progr	am Manager overnor's Office of Planning & Research	_	
Date received for filing at OPR:	Oct 26 2020		

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