Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research <u>CEQA Submit</u> From: Department of Fish and Wildlife South Coast Region 3883 Ruffin Road San Diego, CA 92123 Nicole.Leatherman@wildlife.ca.gov

Project Title: Pacoima Arundo Control Program (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-LAN-23034-R5

Project Location (Los Angeles County): The project is located through the Pacoima Wash in the County of Los Angeles, State of California; Latitude 34.35042, Longitude -118.38100; near Pacoima Canyon Road, Sylmar, CA 91342; Assessor's Parcel 2581-005-006.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-LAN-23034-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Council for Watershed Health.

The purpose of this project is to control the invasive species Arundo throughout the Pacoima Wash. The project area is limited to 4.73 acres along Pacoima Creek and the adjacent unnamed tributary. Arundo will be either sprayed with herbicide or cut and chipped in previously disturbed areas, depending on landowner preference. The project area will be surveyed annually to determine if any Arundo has resprouted. Any resprouts will be treated using the same methods described above.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: COUNCIL FOR WATERSHED HEALTH

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304.

Reasons why project is exempt: Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. The control of Arundo will result in a reduction of flood and fire risk and an improvement of native habitat for fish and wildlife resources. No healthy, mature, scenic trees will be removed.

CDFW Contact Person: Nicole Leatherman, Environmental Scientist, (858) 761-8020,

Nicole.Leatherman@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:	
Signature:	

9/12/2022 Date:

Erinn Wilson Olgina Tenvironmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____