



**CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS
and
NOTICE OF APPROVAL**

Project: Sediment Sampling by the San Diego Unified Port District at Driscoll's Wharf
Location: 4918 N Harbor Dr Unit 206, San Diego, CA 92106
Parcel No.: 003-060
Project No.: 2022-124
Applicant: George Liddle, Senior Environmental Specialist, San Diego Unified Port District, 3165 Pacific Hwy, San Diego, CA 92101
Date Approved: Dec 29, 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project would involve sampling of environmental media, conducting a geophysical survey, and conducting a survey of the storm drain system by the District (Applicant) in the city of San Diego, California. Work to specifically complete the proposed project would involve the collection of approximately (30) samples from approximately (20) locations at Driscoll's Wharf. Types of samples that will be taken include but are not limited to groundwater, soil, outfall sediment, and bay sediment samples. The sediment samples will be collected by a hand-held, gravity operated sediment sampler. Sampling footprints will be less than a 1 foot by 1 foot square, and sampling depth will be less than ten feet (10') below grade. Investigation-derived waste will be stored in drums, and transported off site, pending characterization and disposal.

Vehicles and folding tables will be moved between sampling locations within the Driscoll's Wharf leasehold and used for staging.

A non-intrusive, geophysical survey will be conducted to determine if a waste oil underground storage tank (UST) is present. The survey will evaluate the location of the backfilled excavation associated with the UST. The survey will be performed under the supervision of a California-registered Professional Geophysicist and utilizing geophysical equipment to image the subsurface such as ground penetrating radar, metal detectors, and magnetometers.

A survey of the storm drain system will be conducted throughout the site. The purpose of the survey is to evaluate the connectivity between the storm drain inlets and the outfalls and to evaluate the general conditions of the storm drain system. The storm drain survey will include identifying and mapping storm drain inlets, outfalls, and conveyance pipes using non-intrusive geophysical locating methods and by operating a motorized closed-circuit television (CCTV) crawler camera to record video of the conveyance pipes.

The proposed project is anticipated to occur in early 2023 and would take approximately one (1) day to complete. Due to its nature and limited scope, the proposed project would generate a minor amount of vehicle trips and would require limited use of equipment. Therefore, impacts related to air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and transportation and traffic are not anticipated to occur. Furthermore, the Applicant would be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding construction demolition debris, hazards and hazardous materials, and stormwater.

The following categorical determinations are based on the project submittal and all project information known to the District as of the date of this determination.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

Categorical Exemption: SG §15306, Class 6/Section 3.f: Information Collection

- 3.f. Information Collection (SG § 15306) (Class 6): Includes basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which has not yet been approved, adopted

or funded.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines and the Section of the District's *Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA* as identified above. These are appropriate for the proposed project because it is for the purpose of basic data collection activities which would not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The District has determined none of the six exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption apply to this project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2).

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, a 35-day statute of limitations for this CEQA exemption shall apply from the date a Notice of Exemption is posted with the San Diego County Clerk, or a 180-day statute of limitations for this CEQA exemption shall apply if no Notice of Exemption is filed.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT

PORT MASTER PLAN CONSISTENCY

Planning District: 1 - Shelter Island/La Playa (Precise Plan Figure 4)

Land and Water Use Designations: Commercial Fishing and Commercial Fishing Berthing

The proposed project conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it would involve land and water sediment sampling consistent with the existing certified Land and Water use designations. The proposed project would not change the use of the site nor would it interrupt or expand the existing conforming uses of the site.

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

Categorical Exclusion: Section 8.e: Information Collection

8.e. Information Collection: Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major significant disturbance to an environmental resource.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Excluded pursuant to the Section of the District's *Coastal Development Permit Regulations* as identified above. This is appropriate for the proposed project because it would not result in a serious or major significant disturbance to an environmental resource.

Pursuant to California Coastal Act Section 30717, there is a 10-working-day period to appeal this "Coastal Act Categorical Determination of Exclusion" to the California Coastal Commission.

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC TRUST DOCTRINE

The proposed project complies with Section 87.(a)(1) of the Port Act, which allows for all the establishment, improvement, and conduct of a harbor, and for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, and operation of wharves, docks, piers, slips, quays, and all other works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures, and appliances incidental, necessary, or convenient, for the promotion and accommodation of commerce and navigation. The Port Act was enacted by the California Legislature and is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine. Consequently, the proposed project is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine.

JOE STUYVESANT
President/CEO

Determination by:
Abigail Haynam
Assistant Planner
Development Services

Signature: Abigail Haynam
Date: Dec 29, 2022

Deputy/Assistant General Counsel

Signature: Rebecca Harrington
Date: Dec 29, 2022