



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE**  
**CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753.5a (Rev. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: 37-03/04/2026-0200
STATE CLEARING HOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 03/04/2026
--	-------------------	--------------------

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING SAN DIEGO	DOCUMENT NUMBER 37-2026-0200
--	---------------------------------

PROJECT TITLE  
 DRONE SHOW EVENT BY DRONE STUDIOS ON BEHALF OF HILTON SAN DIEGO BAYFRONT AT EMBARCADERO MARINA PARK SOUTH

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME DRONE STUDIOS	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER 707-481-2586
---	-------------------------	------------------------------

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 575 SIXTH AVE UNIT 1202	CITY SAN DIEGO	STATE 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)	\$4,227.50	\$	0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)/(ND)	\$3,043.75	\$	0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,437.25	\$	0.00

- 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	\$	0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$	0.00

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

- Cash   
  Credit   
  Check   
  Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE X <i>ERS</i>	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE San Diego County Clerk, ELVA STOPKE, Deputy
---------------------------	--

Payment Reference #: VITALCHEK: 216807735/014249



**SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLERK  
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET**

**FILED**  
Mar 04, 2026 09:19 AM  
JORDAN Z. MARKS  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLERK  
File # 2026-000218  
State Receipt # 37030420260200

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk

**TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY**

**Project Title**

**DRONE SHOW EVENT BY DRONE STUDIOS ON BEHALF OF HILTON SAN  
DIEGO BAYFRONT AT EMBARCADERO MARINA PARK SOUTH**

**Check Document being Filed:**

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- Other (Please fill in type):

**FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SAN DIEGO  
COUNTY CLERK ON** March 4, 2026  
**Posted** March 4, 2026 **Removed** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Returned to agency on** \_\_\_\_\_  
**DEPUTY** \_\_\_\_\_

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

**Notice of Exemption**

*CEQA Guidelines Appendix E*

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

**From:** ■ San Diego Unified Port District  
Development Services Department  
3165 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Project Title:** Drone Show Event by Drone Studios on behalf of Hilton San Diego Bayfront at Embarcadero Marina Park South

**Project Applicant:** Jeff Stein, Drone Pilot, Drone Studios, 575 Sixth Ave Unit 1202, San Diego, CA 92101 (707) 481-2586

**Project Location – Specific:** 200 Marina Park Way, 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 for an approximately 10-minute drone show on March 27, 2026, by Drone Studios on behalf of Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel at Embarcadero Marina Park South (EMPS) in San Diego, CA. The drones would be deployed from and landed at the southern edge of EMPS and displayed east of the launch site directly over the water. The proposed event would have a duration of one (1) day, including set-up in the afternoon and clean-up in the evening.

A temporary safety perimeter would be established along the southern edge of EMPS along a small section of the waterfront walkway. Pedestrian access within the safety perimeter would be temporarily restricted for approximately 15 minutes using cones, caution tape and enforced by staff during the drone show. A nearby alternative walkway and adjacent park space would remain open at all times. Following the approximately 15-minute period, the walkway and park space would be reopened. No other closures of the walkways are anticipated to occur. The safety perimeter would also include the flight area and the water area over which the drones would be displayed, prior to and during the drone show. The proposed event would be able to be viewed by the public without cost from multiple locations throughout the Embarcadero. Once the drone show concludes and the drones are secured, the safety perimeter would be removed. In the unlikely event a drone descends into the water, a net would be used to collect the drone immediately.

Staging for the proposed event would be within the safety perimeter and consist of approximately 100 drones. The drone show operation would have staff assigned as visual observers. Visual observers are responsible for scanning and monitoring for any and all airborne activity, such as aircraft, failed drones, and activity involving wildlife, and reporting any relevant observations to the District. Event staff would occupy approximately 3 spaces in the nearby EMPS public parking lot. Additionally, the Applicant is required to comply with FAA regulations and obtain any applicable approvals.

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

**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: *Minor Alterations to Land (SG § 15304) (Class 4)***  
 Statutory Exemption. State code number:

**Reason Why Project is Exempt:** The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) and Section 3.a. of the District's Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA because it is for a temporary event that would

have a negligible, or no permanent, effect on the environment, nor would it involve the removal of mature, scenic trees. Section 3.d. of the District's CEQA Guidelines is as follows:

3.d. Minor Alterations to Land (SG § 15304) (Class 4): Includes minor alterations in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation not involving the removal of mature, scenic trees, including, but not limited to:

(6) Minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment.

**Lead Agency Contact Person and Telephone Number:** Betsy Viramontes, 619-686-6409

Signature: Betsy Viramontes Date: 3/4/26 Title: Planner I

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

**Date received for filing at OPR/Clerk:**



San Diego County



Transaction #: 8914454  
Receipt #: 2026084201

JORDAN Z. MARKS

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.gov](http://www.sdarcc.gov)

Cashier Date: 03/04/2026  
Cashier Location: SD

Print Date: 03/04/2026 9:20 am

Payment Summary

Total Fees	\$250.00
Total Payments	\$250.00
Balance:	\$0.00

Payment

VITALCHEK PAYMENT \$250.00

Total Payments \$250.00

Filings

CEQA - NOE FILE #: 2026-000215 Date: 03/04/2026 9:19AM Pages: 3  
State Receipt # 37-03/04/2026-0197

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

CEQA - NOE FILE #: 2026-000216 Date: 03/04/2026 9:19AM Pages: 3  
State Receipt # 37-03/04/2026-0198

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

CEQA - NOE FILE #: 2026-000217 Date: 03/04/2026 9:19AM Pages: 3  
State Receipt # 37-03/04/2026-0199

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

CEQA - NOE FILE #: 2026-000218 Date: 03/04/2026 9:19AM Pages: 3  
State Receipt # 37-03/04/2026-0200

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

CEQA - NOE

FILE #: 2026-000219 Date: 03/04/2026 9:19AM Pages: 3

State Receipt # 37-03/04/2026-0201

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

Grand Total - All Documents: \$250.00