

SMGB Exemptions to SMARA – 2008-2016

<p align="center">3/13/08 Caltrans Willits Bypass Project, Mendocino County</p>	<p>Exemption requested by Caltrans for its Willits Bypass Project. Project proposed using Oil Well Hill as a borrow site for the removal of roughly one million cubic yards of material, disturbing roughly 27 acres. Borrow site was initially within boundaries of construction project, however, due to budgetary concerns, the project was revised and shortened leaving Oil Well Hill approximately 2 miles north of project site. Request was supported by the County on the basis that the overall benefits outweigh the potential impacts. Exemption Granted.</p>
<p align="center">12/11/08 Willow Glen Drive Improvement Project, San Diego County</p>	<p>Exemption requested by EnviroMINE, Inc. on behalf of Hester Granite Company (Mine ID #91-37-0020) for the Willow Glen Drive improvement project. Project entails construction of a catchment trench along a portion of Willow Glen Drive as a precautionary effort to prevent boulders from falling onto the roadway due to periodic blasting from the adjacent surface mining operation. Trench would be located outside the existing surface mining footprint for the quarry site, and is planned to be 1,350 feet long, 60 feet wide and 20 feet deep. Area impacted is roughly 3.9 acres, and the total amount of material to be excavated is roughly 100,000 cubic yards. Of this total, 30,000 cubic yards is planned to be used for fill and 70,000 cubic yards is planned for processing and sale at the Hester Granite quarry. Exemption Granted.</p>
<p align="center">11/12/09 Natomas Urban Development Site, Sacramento County</p>	<p>Exemption requested by Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency for removal of borrow material from the Natomas Urban Development Site. Proposed borrow site is located approximately 2000 feet from the relocated Riverside Canal and is essential for specific improvements to the Natomas Levee and to the Riverside Canal. More than 85,000 cubic yards of materials are expected to be extracted from the proposed borrow site encompassing roughly 20 acres. Exemption denied.</p>
<p align="center">3/11/10 California Vision, Inc., Kern County</p>	<p>Exemption requested by California Vision, Inc. for the conduct of geologic testing to determine the commercial viability of a proposed mine in Kern County. The project entailed trenching at five sites and retrieval of representative samples for testing. Total surface disturbance is roughly 4.48 acres, and total volume to be trenched and subsequently replaced is roughly 108,833 cubic yards. This phase of operation would be performed under a Plan of Operation administered by the BLM, and should the testing prove favorable, then a reclamation plan, financial</p>

	<p>assurance and environmental studies will commence pursuant to SMARA.</p> <p>Exemption conditionally granted providing complete compliance with the County of Kern and BLM regulations and requirements.</p>
<p>4/15/10 M & T Ranch, Butte County</p>	<p>Exemption requested by M & T Ranch to remove 150,000 tons of gravel from an existing stockpile to make room for more material which needs to be excavated as soon as possible to protect a water intake and fish screens.</p> <p>Exemption conditionally granted providing that a permit application, reclamation plan, and adequate financial assurance for all future mining are submitted to Butte County for approval consideration by a specific date, and that the stockpiled material is allocated via a competitive bid process.</p>
<p>4/15/10 Ford Construction, Tehama County</p>	<p>Exemption request was received from Ford Construction for excavation of 4,600 cubic yards from one property and hauling material to another property to be used in construction of an easement for PG&E. The properties are adjacent to each other and are not separated by any public roads. The property owner where the material will be excavated will be monetarily compensated for the material. Exemption Granted.</p>
<p>5/13/10 Black Rock Project, Imperial County</p>	<p>Exemption requested by California Energy Commission after clarification that a borrow site is subject to SMARA. The 34-acre borrow site is located roughly 1,000 feet from the project site, and the material exported will be up to 300,000 cubic yards, all of which will be used for the project. The activity will be temporary and applicant will be required to restore the borrow site to its present use (agriculture) immediately after it is no longer needed for preparation of the project. Exemption conditionally granted with the condition that all topsoil be salvaged and replaced as part of reclamation to an agricultural end use. This should be verified upon completion by SMGB staff.</p>
<p>12/09/10 Broome Ranch Project, Ventura County</p>	<p>Exemption requested by Sespe Consulting on behalf of California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) for donation of roughly 100,000 cubic yards of riverbed alluvial material that was previously derived from flooding of the Broome Ranch and subsequently stockpiled on the ranch property. Ranch owner wishes to donate the material with no financial compensation to the CSUCI for road construction purposes. Material is located approximately 3 miles south of the project location and is characterized as a borrow pit. Exemption granted.</p>

<p align="center">02/10/11 Ojai Oil Company Project, Ventura County</p>	<p>Exemption requested for the removal of roughly 5,000 tons of large boulders currently comprising 12 stockpiles from the oil field site. An Agricultural Mining Permit issued in 2004, would have allowed removal of the rocks, but the permit expired prior to the boulders being removed. Ojai Oil Company is now in the process of acquiring another Agricultural Mining Permit to clear an additional seven acres, to plant olive trees. The removal of the boulders, expected to take approximately one year, will allow for the expansion of the existing olive grove.</p> <p>Exemption conditionally granted pending acquisition of new Agricultural Mine Permit and conduct of material extraction activities in a manner in compliance with all requirements and permit conditions set forth by the County.</p>
<p align="center">09/08/11 Regional Beach Sand Project, City of San Diego</p>	<p>Exemption requested by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) for a proposed regional beach nourishment project. The project would place beach quality sand along 11 beach receiver sites in San Diego County. The receiver sites are to be replenished with sand extracted from one of three borrow sites located offshore along the coast. Request is similar to an earlier request which was granted in 2000 by the SMGB. Exemption granted.</p>
<p align="center">03/08/12 Spanish Creek in Meadow Valley Restoration Project, Plumas Co.</p>	<p>Exemption requested by Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Group (FRCRM) as part of a project to reduce excessive sediment load to Spanish Creek. Approximately 4.4 acres are planned to be disturbed, with an estimated 4,600 cubic yards of material relocated within the project reach and an additional 3,900 cubic yard excavated and removed from the project site.</p> <p>Exemption granted pending compliance with all appropriate permit conditions set forth by the County and any other agency with jurisdiction over any aspect of the project.</p>
<p align="center">03/08/12 WSID Main Canal Renovation Project, Stanislaus County</p>	<p>Exemption requested for removal of approximately 5,000 cubic yards of material to be used for foundation and pipe fill for the pumping station situated approximately two miles from the project site. Exemption granted pending compliance with all appropriate permit conditions set forth by County.</p>
<p align="center">05/10/12 Sand Creek Project, Colusa County</p>	<p>Exemption requested to complete removal of accumulated material from Sand Creek to prevent overland flooding and minimize adverse impact on private property used for agricultural purposes. The proposed project includes the removal of approximately 30,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel that has accumulated in Sand Creek. Such accumulations occur about every 4 to 10 years, depending on precipitation, and should the accumulated material remain in place, substantial</p>

	<p>damage to property located immediately downstream also occurs. The sand and gravel is currently but the property owner is prohibited from selling the material without coming under SMARA; property owner has no desire to operate a surface mining operation.</p> <p>Exemption conditionally granted pending compliance with all appropriate permit conditions set forth by the County, and any other agencies that have jurisdiction over any aspects of this project.</p>
<p>06/14/12 East Area I Project, City of Santa Paula, County of Ventura</p>	<p>Exemption requested to complete mass grading associated with development of a 500 acre area and will include offsite exportation of excess material to be used in the local market. About 350 acres will require over-excavation and recompaction for development purposes, with 150 acres of this area containing 20 to 25% rock eight inches or larger in maximum dimension which will need to be removed from the site. The estimated volume of material anticipated to be excavated and removed from the site is on the order of 140,000 to 340,000 tons, out of a total of about 540,000 tons to be generated for the project.</p> <p>Exemption conditionally granted pending that a construction permit for the areas to be mined is obtained prior to conducting surface mining operations, and compliance with any and all permit conditions set forth by the City and County, and any other agencies that have jurisdiction over any aspect of this project.</p>
<p>04/11/13 San Cayatano Orchard Agricultural Mining Project, Ventura County</p>	<p>Exemption requested to remove and mulch approximately 11 acres of existing 75-year old lemon trees, excavate approximately 40,000 cubic yards of material to a depth of eight feet, remove rock larger than eight-inches in diameter, re-contour the slope to control runoff, amend soil, and replant the site with avocados. Exemption Granted.</p>
<p>11/14/13 Mendocino Forest Products Site – Hwy 101, Mendocino County</p>	<p>In 2008, Caltrans requested and was granted an exemption for the Willits Bypass Project, however the request was never implemented. This exemption request is for the removal of approximately 800,000 cubic yards of material from a 22-acre acre to be used for the Willits Bypass project. Exemption Granted.</p>
<p>01/09/14 Barn Construction Project, Mendocino County</p>	<p>Exemption requested for proposed building site grading for an agricultural-exempt barn construction project. The purpose of the proposed project is to create an enclosed pasture and cattle corral by leveling about 21.8 acres of agricultural land. The proposed project would result in the generation of about 902,000 cubic yards of material to be made available for sale and</p>

	<p>subsequently exported offsite. A Grading Permit was acquired for a much reduced scope of activity, since the project is not deemed by the County as an “integral and necessary” element in the construction of structures and land improvements.</p> <p>Exemption denied.</p>
<p>04/09/15 Lower Clear Creek Aquatic Habitat and Mercury Abatement Project, Shasta County</p>	<p>Exemption requested for a restoration project for purposes of improving water quality by removing mercury-laden fine sediments adjacent to Clear Creek; providing a supply of low cost spawning gravel to enhance fish spawning habitat; and expanding the functional floodplain of the creek. The anticipated disturbance is approximately 43.5 acres. A variety of materials will be generated including an estimated 202,800 cubic yards of clean spawning gravel, 333,525 cubic yards of spoils materials comprised of large rocks and boulders, and 330,500 cubic yards of sand. The rocks and boulders are to be used onsite; the sand component will be sold by competitive bid to commercial aggregate companies. Exemption Granted.</p>
<p>11/10/16 Sycamore Road Agricultural Mining Project, Ventura County</p>	<p>Exemption requested to remove and mulch approximately 10 acres of existing avocado and lemon trees, excavate the upper eight-feet of soil and remove rock larger than eight-inches, re-contour the slope to control runoff, amend soil, and replant with avocados. Exemption Granted.</p>