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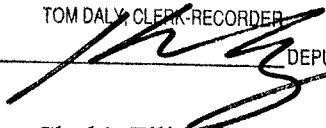
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Exempt per Gov't Code 6103

RETURN TO: Christian Kessler
Lead Agency / Irvine Ranch Water District
Applicant P.O. Box 57000
15600 Sand Canyon Ave
Irvine, CA 92619-7000

FILED

FEB 02 2012

TOM DALY, CLERK-RECORDER
By  DEPUTY


County Clerk's Filing Stamp

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
(State Guidelines §15062)

TO: County Clerk
Laguna Hills Civic Center
24031 El Toro Road
Suite 150
Laguna Hills, CA 92653

POSTED

FEB 02 2012

TOM DALY, CLERK-RECORDER
By  DEPUTY

FROM: Irvine Ranch Water District
(Applicant/Lead Agency)
P.O. Box 57000
15600 Sand Canyon Ave
Irvine, CA 92619-7000

Project Name: Portola Zone 9 Reservoir Access Road Repairs
Whiting Spur Road & Whiting Road - Located off Santiago Canyon Road, 1200 ft north of Modjeska Grade Rd
Project Location: Orange County, Ca. 92676 (Figure 1- Project Vicinity)
County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) owns and operates the Portola Zone 9 Reservoir which is located in the foothills approximately 1000 feet south of Santiago Canyon Rd. Unsurfaced access roads (Whiting Spur Road and Whiting Road) serving the Portola Zone 9 Reservoir have been closed due to safety concerns related to slope failure and landslides. IRWD proposes to conduct geotechnical exploration (soil bore testing) to assess the extent of the damage and aid in road repair design. The work will include boring activities at the areas noted as slope failure area of Whiting Spur Road and the landslide area of Whiting Road on the attached Figure 1-Project Vicinity. The work will be contained to the footprint of the access roads and shall take approximately one week to complete. This Notice of Exemption (NOE) only applies to geotechnical exploration

activities, and additional California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance will be conducted prior to implementation of the actual repairs.

Exempt Status:

X Categorical Exemption (State Guidelines §§15306)

The project is exempt from CEQA through the following Categorical Exemption:

15306. Information Collection

Class 6 consists of 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 strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

Reasons why project is exempt:

The work will include typical geotechnical activities (boring for soil samples) to assess soil conditions and aid in the design of repairs. These are activities exempt under Categorical Exemption 15306 which provides exemption for data collection activities.

Submission of this form is optional. Local agencies may file this form with the county clerk pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). The filing of the notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on court challenges to the approval of the project under Public Resources Code Section 21167(d). Failure to file the notice results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

Name of Public Agency Approving and Carrying out this Project:

Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD)

Contact Person: Christian Kessler, Assistant Engineer/Planner

Area Code 949

Phone 453-5441

If filed by applicant (and applicant is other than Irvine Ranch Water District):

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project:
Yes _____ No _____

FILED

FEB 02 2012

TOM DALY, CLERK-RECORDER

By

DEPUTY

Christian Kessler

Staff Member Responsible for Preparation

Leslie Bonkowski

District Secretary

Date

2/2/2012

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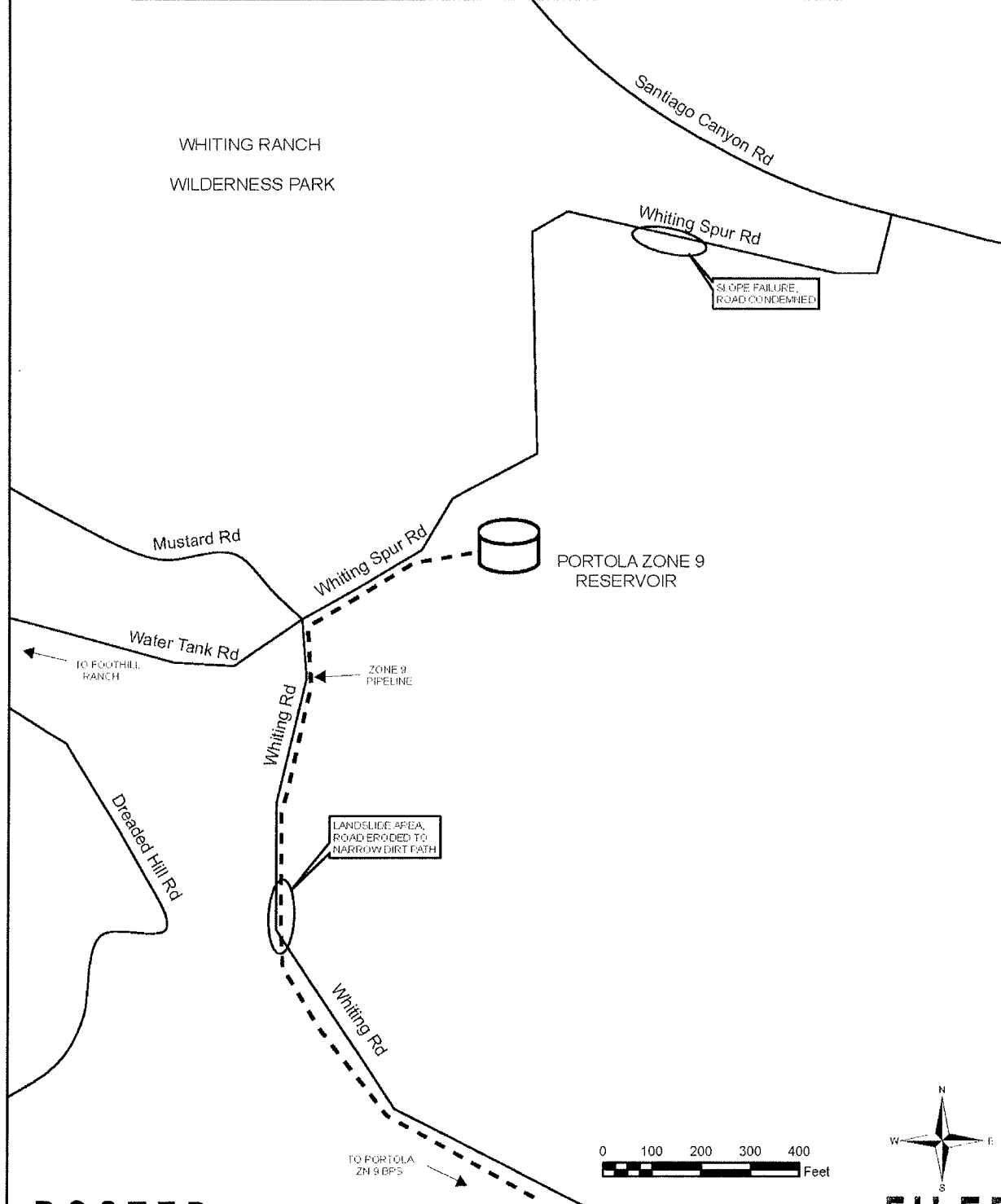
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Portola Zone 9 Reservoir Access Road



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Figure 1 Project Vicinity

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