

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research

For U.S. Mail:

P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Inland Deserts Region

3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C2-220

Ontario, CA 91764

Contact: Breanna Machuca

Phone: (760) 636-3487



Lead Agency

March Joint Powers Authority

253555 Meyer Drive

Riverside, CA 92518

Contact: Dan Fairbanks

Phone: (951) 656-7000

SUBJECT: *Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108*

State Clearinghouse Number: 2002071089

Project Title: Meridian Conservation Easement NOV Restoration (Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. RIV-19057-R6)

Project Location (include county): The Meridian Conservation Easement Restoration Project (Project) is located in the City of Riverside near the intersection of Van Buren Boulevard and Coyote Bush Road, approximately 2.06 miles south of Interstate 215 (Exhibit 1A). The project is in the in the County of Riverside, State of California; Latitude 33.887357 °N, Longitude 117.305488 °W; Assessor's Parcel Number 294-100-032.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification Number EPIMS-RIV-19057-R6, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Meridian Park, LLC as represented by Timothy Reeves.

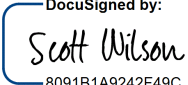
The Project is in response to a Notice of Violation (NOV) issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Inland Deserts Region on April 19, 2021, and October 1, 2021. The NOV was issued for unauthorized impacts to a stream habitat within NOV Area 1, 2, 5, and 10 of the Meridian Conservation Easement (Exhibit 1B). Impacts in Area 1 and 10 resulted from the creation of an unplanned access roadway through a streambed for access to a construction area located south of the intersection of Van Buren Boulevard and Orange Terrace Parkway. The unplanned access roadway was used by small vehicles (i.e., mid-size cars and trucks) and scrapers between April and August 2020. Impacts from Area 2 resulted from unplanned grubbing/grading of a streambed during the installation of an adjacent drainage infrastructure for the widening of Van Buren Boulevard in the southwest corner of Van Buren Boulevard and Village West Drive. Impacts from Area 5 resulted from the creation of an unplanned dirt road through a streambed during the construction of an adjacent off-site water quality basin. Permanent impacts on the stream habitat are approximately 0.12 acre, which includes 0.02 acre (817 sq. ft.) of impacted stream habitat in Area 1, 0.04 acre (1,556 sq. ft.) of impacted stream habitat in Area 2, 0.05 acre (2,294 sq. ft.) of impacted stream habitat in Area 5, and 0.01 acre (246 sq. ft.) of impacted stream habitat in Area 10.

The project consists of the restoration and monitoring of the impacted stream habitat within NOV Area 1, 2, 5, and 10 in accordance with the Meridian Conservation Easement Restoration Plan. Restoration activities include site preparation, container planting, hydroseeding, and the installation and maintenance of an irrigation system and Best Management Practices (BMPs). The Restoration Plan will also require quantitative and qualitative monitoring and annual reporting to ensure the impacted streambed is restored to equal or better habitat prior to impacts.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, executed the above Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement on the date signed below and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

- 1. The project will / will not have a significant effect on the environment.
- 2. An environmental impact report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provision of CEQA.
- 3. Mitigation measures were / were not made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
- 4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
- 5. A statement of overriding considerations was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
- 6. Findings were / were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The final environmental impact report prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

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Signature: _____ **Date:** 5/31/2022
Scott Wilson, Environmental Program Manager