

**Notice of Determination****- 1 -**

**To:**  
Office of Planning and Research  
*For U.S. Mail:*  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

*Street Address:*  
1400 Tenth Street  
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**From:**  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Central Region  
1234 East Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, California 93710  
Contact: Heather Rodriguez  
Phone: (559) 578-0836



**Lead Agency:**  
California Department of Water Resources  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Contact: Gerald Snow  
Phone: (916) 653-7213

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

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2009091004

**Project Title:** B.F. Sisk Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project (Master Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2021-0005-R4).

**Project Location:** The Project will occur within 11.82 acres of lake (San Luis Reservoir and O'Neill Forebay), stream, and associated wetland area within an approximately 1,800-acre larger activity area. Project areas are located on both the north and south sides of State Route 152, approximately nine miles west of the city of Los Banos, in unincorporated Merced County, California (Exhibit A). Representative coordinates of the Project area center are Latitude 37.05982° and Longitude -121.074380°. All Project areas are located within USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle San Luis Dam.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Master Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2021-0005-R4, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, California Department of Water Resources.

The Project includes activities related to stabilizing the downstream side of the existing B.F. Sisk Dam embankment and increasing the dam crest height to reduce the potential for water to overtop the dam in the event of seismic-induced slumping/failure. The activities include construction, maintenance, restoration, and water drafting actions in lake, stream, and associated wetland areas within the larger 1,800-acre area. An activity location in a lake, stream, or associated wetland may be situated within a larger area of work.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above-described project on 5/6/2022 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the environmental impact report prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were 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.

**Signature:**  **Date:** 5/6/2022  
Valerie Cook, Acting Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_