

**Notice of Determination**

**To:**  
Office of Planning and Research  
[CEQA Submit](#)

**From:**  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
South Coast Region  
**3883 Ruffin Road**  
**San Diego, CA 92123**  
Contact: Christian Romberger  
Email: [christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov)  
Phone: (562) 292 6365



Lead Agency  
California Department of Transportation,  
District 5  
**50 Higuera Street**  
**San Luis Obispo, CA 93401**  
Contact: Lara Bertaina  
Phone: (805) 542-4610

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

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2019011050

**Project Title:** REFUGIO BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND FISH PASSAGE PROJECT (Restoration Management Permit No. RMP 2023-0005-R5)

**Project Location:** The Project is located within Canada del Refugio (also referred to as Refugio Creek), just upstream of Refugio State Beach Campground. The extent of the project is from approximately 100 feet downstream of the southbound State Route 101 to approximately 675 feet upstream of northbound State Route 101. The Project is located in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California; Latitude 34°27'57.0"N and Longitude 120°04'09.6"W.

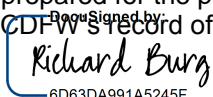
**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Restoration Management Permit (RMP 2023-0005-R5), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a), to the project Permittee, California Department of Transportation, District 5.

Project will improve passage conditions for Covered Species by removing existing concrete-grouted rock slope protection in the creek bed and replacing it with a step pool roughened channel. The Project will also remove invasive vegetation and revegetate with native plant species. The site of the Project is within the known and documented range of the Covered Species, and the site is known to support individuals of the species. Restoration and management activities associated with the Project will replace the existing north and south bound bridges on State Route 101 that cross Refugio creek. The Project plans were designed to meet the physical and hydraulic design criteria for salmonids included in the CDFW Salmonid Stream Restoration manual.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on May 31, 2023 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 EIR 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 a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

**Signature:**  **Date:** 6/2/2023  
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Richard G. Burg, Acting Regional Manager

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