

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 C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: Alyssa Marquez
Phone: 760-567-0332



Lead Agency
California Department of Transportation
500 South Main Street
Bishop Ca, 93514
Contact: Katie Rodriguez
Phone: 760-872-5204

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2010091023

Project Title: Frontier Utility Relocation (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-INY-12890-R6)

Project Location (include county): The project is located at six (6) unnamed tributaries and at Cartago Creek, all tributaries to Owens Lake, in the County of Inyo, State of California; Lat: 36.31591, Long: -118.027196, Lat: 36.31718; Long: -118.027162; Lat: 36.32800, Long: -118.024343; Lat: 36.22937, Long: -117.984171; Lat: 36.31441, Long: -118.027132; Lat: 36.31510, Long: -118.027133; Lat: 36.31764, Long: -118.027151.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-INY-12890-R6, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, the California Department of Transportation.

The project is limited to excavating a trench, immediately west of U.S. Route 395, for the relocation and installation of an underground fiber-optic cable. The fiber-optic cable trench will impact the bed, bank and channel at seven (7) locations subject to Fish and Game Code 1602 resources. Excavators, loaders/skidsteers, ditch-witch and pickup trucks will be utilized to excavate the trenches. Access to the Project site will be from U.S. Route 395 or from existing dirt roads. Trenching activities will require vegetation removal within areas subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602, but no woody vegetation ≥ 4-inches diameter at breast height will be removed. This Project is not the whole Project and is associated with the larger Caltrans Olancha-Cartago Four-Lane Project (1600-2020-0008-R6).

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described project on January 15, 2021 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. 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 / 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.

DocuSigned by:
Scott Wilson
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1/15/2021

Signature

Date:

Scott Wilson, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____