

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: Brandy Wood
Phone: (909) 483-6319



Lead Agency
California Department of Transportation, District 9
500 South Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514
Contact: Katie Rodriguez
Phone: (760)920-3127

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2010091023

Project Title: Olancha Cartago Four Lane Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit (ITP) No. 2081-2018-055-06 Minor Amendment)

Project Location: The Olancha Cartago Four Lane Project (Project) is located along U.S. Highway 395 from Post Mile (PM) 29.2 to PM 41.8 in Inyo County, California near the communities of Olancha and Cartago.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed an amendment for Incidental Take Permit 2081-2018-055-06, to the project Applicant, California Department of Transportation, District 9. The minor amendment involves the removal of the requirement for an Authorized Biologist to need a Memorandum of Understanding. The project is expected to result in incidental take of western Joshua tree, desert tortoise and Mohave ground squirrel, which are listed under the California Endangered Species Act. The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above-described project on July 8, 2022, 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 sections 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 environmental impact report prepared for the project is available to the general public on the Lead Agency's website. CDFW's record of project approval as Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:

Heidi Calvert

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Signature

Date: 7/11/2022

Heidi Calvert, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____