

Notice of Determination

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

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite-220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: Jacob Skaggs
Email: jacob.skaggs@wildlife.ca.gov
Phone: 760-218-0320



Lead Agency
Coachella Valley Association of Governments
74199 El Paseo STE 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260
Contact: Peter Satin
Email: psatin@cvag.org
Phone: 760-346-1127

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2000061079

Project Title: Cook Street Slope Lining Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. (EPIMS-RIV-22185-R6))

Project Location (Riverside County): The Cook Street Slope Lining (Project) is located in the City Palm Desert within a section of the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel (WRSC) between Cook Street and Portola Ave in the County of Riverside, California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-RIV-22185-R6), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, Coachella Valley Water District.

The Project consists of impacts to streams associated with the new construction of concrete slope protection on the northern bank of the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel just west of Cook Street. The new slope protection will extend from Cook Street to approximately 2,400-feet upstream, connecting to existing concrete-lined sections. The slope protection will consist of both slope lining along the bank and entrenched scour protection, consisting of grouted riprap, buried along the toe of the slope. Slope protection and scour protection will be buried with on-site excavated soils. Temporary work areas will be used to access portions of the slope. The northern bank will be graded and excavated to install the slope and scour protection.

The following Project activities are included under this Agreement:

- Grading, excavation and re-contouring within the Project's limits of disturbance;
- Concrete slope protection, re-buried with onsite excavated soils;
- Entrenched scour protection, consisting of grouted riprap, buried at the toe of the slope using onsite excavated soils;
- Concrete access road constructed along the top of the slope;
- Temporary impact areas associated with Project construction, restored to prior elevation and topographic conditions at the conclusion of Project construction activities.

The Project will permanently impact 4.17 acres and temporarily impact 2.21 acres of stream bed, bank, and channel, which are the limits of Project impacts authorized under this Agreement.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on October 3, 2024, 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.

Notice of Determination

- 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.

DocuSigned by:
Kim Freeburn
Signature: _____ Date: 10/3/2024
84E92EEEEED24C8

Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____