

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
 Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
 Central Region
 1234 East Shaw Avenue
 Fresno, California 93710
 Contact: Shaelyn Latronica
 Phone: (559) 246-2584

Lead Agency

Kern County Planning and Community Development
 2700 M Street, Suite 100
 Bakersfield, California 93301
 Contact: Lorelei Oviatt
 Phone: (661) 862-8866

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2013081079

Project Title: Shideler Oil Exploratory Drilling Project (Minor Amendment No. 1, California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2019-009-04 (ITP))

Project Location: The Shideler Exploratory Drilling Project (Project) is located within the existing California Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources Administrative Boundaries of North Belridge Oil Field in the unincorporated portion of western Kern County. The Project is approx. 9.4 miles southwest of Lost Hills and approx. 1.35 miles from State Route (SR) 33 in Township 27 South, Range 20 East, Section 28.

Project Description: The originally approved Project consists of an amendment to Title 19 Kern County Zoning Ordinance, with focus on Ch. 19.98 (Oil and Gas Production), to include new site development standards for all oil and gas exploration, extraction, operations, and production activities in unincorporated Kern County. CDFW, as the Responsible Agency, issued an ITP for the Project, which consists of the following: Valley Resources, LLC constructed one drilling pad with two roadway access points (1.995-acre Project Site) to drill one initial exploratory oil well followed by drilling two additional oil producing wells within two years if the exploratory well is successful.

The Project will result in permanent impacts to 1.995 acres of San Joaquin antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*) and San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*) habitat. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of San Joaquin antelope squirrel and San Joaquin kit fox which are designated as a threatened species 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.

Minor Amendment No. 1 updates the principal officer, contact person, mailing address, extends the expiration date of the ITP from September 30, 2023, to April 2, 2026, and extends the date in which compensatory mitigation obligations are to be completed from within 18 months of the effective date of this ITP to within 72 months of the effective date of this ITP. The Project impacts are unchanged with respect to the changes made in Minor Amendment No. 1.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on 11/21/2023 and made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

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. [An environmental impact report / A negative declaration] was prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
3. Additional 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 Public Resources Code § 21081(a).
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4 (check one):
 - Payment is submitted with this notice.
 - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.

