

Notice of Determination

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

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
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Fairfield, CA 94534
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Lead Agency
Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
36 Brennan Street
Watsonville, CA 95076
Contact: Brian Lockwood
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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2017112063

Project Title: College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SCR-31348-R3)

Project Location (Santa Cruz): The project is located at College Lake, an on-channel lake of Salsipuedes Creek, a tributary to the Pajaro River, in Watsonville and unincorporated Santa Cruz County, State of California; Latitude 36.94615, Longitude -121.74755, Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 051-441-24 and 051-441-28. The project is also located at Pinto Creek, a tributary to Salsipuedes Creek; Latitude 36.93891, Longitude -121.74834; APN 051-101-47 and Salsipuedes Creek, a tributary to the Pajaro River, near the intersection of State Route 129 and Bridge; Latitude 36.91282, Longitude -121.74509; APN 017-221-17.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-SCR-31348-R3), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency.

The purpose of the project is to store water in and divert water from College Lake for treatment, transmission, and distribution for agricultural irrigation in order to reduce groundwater production. The project consists of demolition of an existing weir structure and pump station; construction and operation of a proposed new weir structure and intake pump station, water treatment plant (outside of the bed, bank, or channel), and 6-mile-long pipeline to convey water from College Lake and the water treatment plant to agricultural users along the Permittee's Coastal Distribution System where use of the water will offset an equal amount of groundwater production.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on May 1, 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: DocuSigned by:
Craig Weightman
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Date: 5/1/2023

Craig Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____