

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:

Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
 Inland Deserts Region
 3602 Inland Empire Blvd, Suite C-220
 Ontario, CA 91764
 Contact: Julia Karo
 Phone: (909) 278-2950

Lead Agency:

San Bernardino County
 385 N. ARROWHEAD AVENUE
 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415
 Contact: Reuben Arceo, Contract Planner
 Phone: (909) 387-4374
Reuben.arceo@lus.sbcounty.gov

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2013061020

Project Title: White Knob/White Ridge Quarry Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2023-067-06 (ITP))

Project Location The White Knob/White Ridge Quarry Project (Project) is located 5.8 miles southwest of the community of Lucerne Valley within San Bernardino County. The Project is located within the San Bernardino Mountains approximately 8.5 miles north of the City of Big Bear Lake just north of the San Bernardino National Forest at approximately 34.3635506, -117.006652. The Project site is bounded by mountainous undeveloped National Forest lands to the south, and unpatented placer mining claims on public lands managed by the BLM to the west, north, and east.

Project Description: This proposed project involves the development of 40.1 acres of undeveloped land into a mining quarry. Project activities include grubbing and grading of the entire Project site, continued mining operation such as topsoil stripping, topsoil stockpiling, backfilling, mining, reclamation, tree removal, and other activities

The Project will result in impacts to and removal of 31.3 acres and impact to 33 acres of Western Joshua Tree (*Yucca brevifolia*) habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of Western Joshua Tree, which is/are designated as a candidate 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.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on April 8, 2025 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.
- Responsible Agency statement: The EIR prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFW's administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

Notice of Determination

Signature  DocuSigned by:
CAEE479B63E4A3... _____ *Date:* 4/8/2025 _____
Heidi Calvert, *Regional Manager*

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____