

CEQA Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research

For U.S. Mail:

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Office of Planning and Research

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife

South Coast Region

3883 Ruffin Road

San Diego, CA 92123

Contact: Chloe Hakim

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Lead Agency

Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

1220 N Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Amber Morris

Phone: (916) 263-0801

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

State Clearinghouse Number: 2016082077

Project Title: Villa Americana Corporation (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SBA-26209-R5)

Project Location (Santa Barbara): The project is located at 125 North Refugio Road (Latitude 34.585996, Longitude -120.105043; Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 141-460-012) in Santa Ynez, California, 93460. Santa Ynez River, a perennial watercourse that connects to the Pacific Ocean and supports southern California steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), runs through the property and is adjacent to the southern end of the cultivation sites.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-SBA-26209-R5), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant, Villa Americana Corporation. The project is the cultivation of cannabis and associated activities on 6.5-acres of a 52-acre parcel. The project, including any maintenance, does not require access to cross any stream. A 150-foot buffer is to be left in its natural state and will be established between the cultivation site and the top of bank of Santa Ynez River. Water for the project will be provided by one on-site well (Well A, 34°35'10.60"N/ 120°6'6.12"W) located in the western part of the parcel adjacent to the existing wine vineyard and approximately 400 lateral feet from Santa Ynez River.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on September 1, 2022, 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 not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

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The final environmental impact report 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:  *Date:* 11/23/2022
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Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____