

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research
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From:

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



Lead Agency
City of Indio
100 Civic Center Mall
Indio, CA 92201
Contact: Juan Raya
Email: jraya@indio.org

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2017031021

Project Title: Avenue 44 Low-Flow Crossing Replacement Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2020-0056-R6)

Project Location (Riverside): The Project is located at the Avenue 44 crossing of the Whitewater River/Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (CVSC) tributary to the Salton Sea, in the City of Indio, in the County of Riverside, State of California; Latitude 33.729640 N, Longitude 116.20860 W (Figure 1). Sections 13 and 24, Township 5 South, Range 7 East, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map Indio, San Bernardino Meridian.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has amended Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (1600-2020-0056-R6), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant, City of Indio.

The Project is limited to the removal of the existing low-flow crossing and associated culvert system and replacement of the crossing with a newly-constructed 518-foot long and 78-foot wide, four lane bridge with sidewalks on both sides spanning from channel bank to channel bank (figure 2). The new bridge will be supported by four bridge pilings, new abutments, and channel slope protection, and a grade control structure and concrete access roads and associated concrete slope protection will also be constructed as part of the Project. Temporary water diversion structures will be installed, if needed, to convey stream flow during construction and removed post-construction.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, amended the project described above on March 7, 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 Mitigated Negative Declaration 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 not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration 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.

Notice of Determination

DocuSigned by:

Kim Freeburn

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Signature: _____

Date: 3/7/2024

Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____