

Notice of Determination

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

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
Contact: Jeremy Pohlman
Phone: (805) 503-2375



Lead Agency:
Kern County
Planning and Natural Resources Department
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301
Contact: Paul Sorenson
Phone: (661) 862-8636

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

State Clearinghouse Numbers: 2011071049 and 2013091022

Project Title: Rising Tree III Stream Crossings Project (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-KER-26647-R4)

Project Location: The Project includes activities in multiple unnamed ephemeral streams within 14 discrete Work Areas within the existing Rising Tree III Wind Facility Project development area, located in southeastern Kern County.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-KER-26647-R4, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Rising Tree Wind Farm III, LLC.

The Project includes activities related to the repair and redesign of culverted crossings and low-water crossings that were originally constructed within the unnamed ephemeral streams present during construction of the existing Rising Tree I, II, and III Wind Facility Projects. Activities include the repair and redesign of the 10 culverted crossings and four low-water crossings, and restoration of the disturbed Work Areas.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above-described project on 7/29/2024 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 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 environmental impact report prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency.

DocuSigned by:
Bob Stafford
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Signature: _____

Date: 7/29/2024

For Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____