

## 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: Mindy Trask  
Phone: (559) 939-0282



Lead Agency  
California Department of Transportation, District 5  
50 Higuera Street  
San Luis Obispo, California 93401  
Contact: Matt Fowler  
Email: [matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov](mailto:matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov)  
Phone: (805) 779-0793

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

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 1999111063

**Project Title:** State Route 156 Castroville Boulevard Interchange Project (05-31601) (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-MON-15904-R4)

**Project Location:** The Project will occur over two discreet work areas involving two unnamed tributaries to Moro Cojo Slough in Monterey County. One of the work areas is located near the intersection of State Route 156 and Castroville Boulevard in Monterey County, and is centered at about latitude 36.770167, longitude -121.738779 and the other work area is located within the Elkhorn Highlands Reserve near the intersection of Desmond Road and Roc Road in Monterey County, and is centered at about latitude 36.804002, longitude -121.690724.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-MON-15904-R4), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

The Project will replace the existing at-grade intersection on SR 156 West at Castroville Boulevard with a new grade-separated interchange, an alignment shift, roundabouts, bike lanes, and frontage roads. The Project includes offsite mitigation for wetland impacts associated with Castroville Boulevard Interchange Project.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the Project described above on 4/10/2024, 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 Final 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. CDFW's record of project approval as a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:  
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie A. Vance".  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
FA83F09FE00945A...

Date: 4/10/2024

Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_