

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

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

County Clerk
County of: Kern
Address: 1115 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301-4639

FROM:

Public Agency: Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage
Address: 849 Allen Road, Bakersfield CA 93314
Contact: Dan Bartel
Phone: (661) 589-6045
Lead Agency (if different from above): Same as above
Address:
Contact:
Phone:

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2018021061

Project Title: Onyx Ranch South Fork Valley Water Project

Project Location (include county): The project site consists of approximately 4,109 acres, including the Onyx Ranch and the Smith Ranch, situated on either side of the South Fork of the Kern River, located within the South Fork Valley, in the Kern River Valley area of unincorporated northeastern Kern County. Located in and around the communities of Weldon and Onyx, the project site is approximately five miles from the eastern boundary of the Isabella Reservoir.

Project Description: The Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (RRBWSD) proposes to change the points of diversion and place of use for the pre-1914 appropriative water rights associated with the parcels on the project site so that the water can be delivered in the RRBWSD service area on the San Joaquin Valley floor and used for irrigation and groundwater recharge. The RRBWSD proposes to reduce the diversion and use of surface water on the project site by converting irrigated fields to non-irrigated pasture or native vegetation. With the proposed project, surface water that is diverted under the existing condition would remain in the South Fork of the Kern River and flow downstream. The net increase in the South Fork would flow downstream to the Isabella Reservoir, be released through the Isabella Dam, and flow downstream in the Lower Kern River until the water is diverted at the RRBWSD diversion points. From there, the RRBWSD would deliver the water to recharge basins and channels within and near its service area, west of the City of Bakersfield. The increased water supplies to the RRBWSD's service area would mitigate the shortages in the RRBWSD's contracted SWP water supply from the State of California, which has been steadily reduced due to environmental constraints impacting exports in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta.

This is to advise that the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District has approved the above described project on (X Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)

January 12, 2021 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described projects. (Date)

- 1. The project [] will [X] will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. [X] An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. [] A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [X] were [] were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [X] was [] was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [] was [X] was not] adopted for this project.

6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the Negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District web site: www.rrbwsd.com

Signature (Public Agency) *RRBWD* Title: *District Engineer*

Date: *1/12/21* Date Received filing at OPR: _____