

Notice of Determination**- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research

[CEQA Submit](#)**From:**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

Inland Deserts Region

3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220

Ontario, CA 91764

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California Department of Transportation District 8

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San Bernardino, CA 92401

Contact: Adam Compton

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2019059099

Project Title: Interstate 10 Repaving Project (Post Mile 104.90 – 134.00) (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit (ITP) No. 2081-2019-032-06 Major Amendment No. 2).

Project Location (include county): The Interstate 10 (I-10) Repaving Project Post Mile (PM)104.90 – 134.00 (08-1C082) (Project) is located 9 miles west of the city of Blythe, in an unincorporated portion of Riverside County. The project is within the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series Desert Center, Corn Spring, Sidewinder Well, Ford Dry Lake, East of Aztec Mines, and Hopkins Well, California, topographic quadrangles in Township 5S and 6S.

Project Description: This proposed project involves repaving the roadbeds, and upgrade guardrails, bridge rails, and drainage facilities. This project will construct temporary detour lanes and crossover lanes in the existing median for traffic handling during construction. All existing bridges and/or drainage crossings, on the eastbound and westbound direction, will be widened towards the median. After the completion of construction, the median will be hydroseeded for erosion control and vegetation restoration. The Project will result in permanent impacts to 560.1 acres of Agassiz's desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) habitat. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of Agassiz's desert tortoise, which is designated as a threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act. The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on 4/29/2024 and made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project [will / 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. An environmental impact report / A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
 3. Additional mitigation measures [were / were not] made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
 4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
 5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
 6. Findings were / were not made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081(a). CDFW did, however, adopt findings to document its compliance with CEQA.
 7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4 (check one):
 - Payment is submitted with this notice.
 - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.
- Responsible Agency statement: The Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFW's administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

Notice of Determination

DocuSigned by:

Heidi Calvert

4/29/2024

Signature

Date:

Heidi Calvert, *Regional Manager*

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____