

Notice of Determination**- 1 -****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

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
 Bay Delta Region
 2825 Cordelia Road Unit 100, Fairfield, CA 94534
 Contact: Jason Faridi
 Phone: 707-339-1332

Lead Agency

California Department of Transportation, District 5
 50 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
 Contact: Alexandra Thiel
 Email: Alexandra.Thiel@dot.ca.gov

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2019059101

Project Title: Soquel Creek Bridge Scour Project (EA-1H480) (California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Incidental Take Permit (ITP) No. 2081-2021-003-03), Major Amendment 1

Project Location: The Soquel Creek Bridge Scour Project (Project) is located at the Soquel Creek Bridge (Bridge No.38-0013) on State Route 1 (SR-1) at Post-Mile (PM) 13.31, in the County of Santa Cruz, State of California. Latitude, 36.98304, -121.95951.

Project Description: This major amendment to the Project is to update the off-site mitigation requirement outlined in Condition #9 of the ITP. The language of this condition is the ITP calls out the installation of root-wad structures at an off-site location to enhance Covered Species habitat. Caltrans established the funding and conceptual plan to achieve this condition, however due to severe winter storms of 2023, the root-wads are no longer needed. Caltrans is proposing an alternative off-site restoration project to comply with the mitigation requirement to enhance Covered Species habitat at an off-site location. Therefore, an amendment to the language of this condition is required.

This amendment to the Project will result in no permanent impacts to Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) and foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*) habitat. The Project is not expected to result in additional incidental take of Coho salmon or foothill yellow-legged frog, which is designated as an endangered species under CESA. 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 Major Amendment on 6/24/2024 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 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 EIR 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.

DocuSigned by:

Erin Chappell

Signature

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Date: 6/24/2024

Erin Chappell, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____