

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research
 For U.S. Mail:
 P.O. Box 3044
 Sacramento, California 95812-3044

Street Address:
 1400 Tenth Street
 Sacramento, California 95814

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
 Central Region
 1234 East Shaw Avenue
 Fresno, California 93710
 Contact: Shaelyn Latronica
 Phone: (559) 246-2584

Lead Agency:
 Mojave Public Utility District
 15844 K Street
 Mojave, California 93501
 Contact: Bee Coy, Jr.
 Phone: (661) 824-4161

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2019099019

Project Title: Cache Creek Water Pipeline Replacement Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2023-043-04 (ITP))

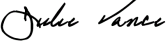
Project Location: The Project is located south and north of the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way and State Highway 58, between the City of Tehachapi and the community of Cache Creek in Kern County, California. The Project will be contained within portions of Sections 34, 35, and 36 of Township 32 South, Range 34 East, M.D.M., and portions of Sections 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32 of Township 32 South, Range 35 East, M.D.M.

Project Description: The Project involves installation of approximately 6 miles of new combination 8-inch to 10-inch diameter potable water pipeline.

The Project will permanently remove up to 20 Bakersfield cacti (*Opuntia basilaris* var. *treleasei*) and up to 279 western Joshua trees (*Yucca brevifolia*). The Project is expected to result in incidental take of Bakersfield cactus, which is designated as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and western Joshua tree, which is designated as a candidate 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 on 3/14/2025 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 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.

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Signature

Date: 3/14/2025

Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____