

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO: V	Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814	FROM: Responsible Agency: Antelope Valley - East Kern Water Agency ("AVEK", "AVEK Water Agency") 6500 West Avenue N Palmdale, CA 93551 Phone: (661) 943-3201
	Alameda County Clerk 1106 Madison Street Oakland, CA 94607	
	Contra Costa County Clerk 555 Escobar Street Martinez, CA 94553	
	Sacramento County Clerk 3636 American River Drive, Suite 110 Sacramento, CA 95864	
	San Joaquin County Clerk 44 North San Joaquin Street Second Floor, Suite 260 Stockton, CA 95202	
	Solano County Clerk 675 Texas Street, Suite 2700 Fairfield, CA 94533	
	Yolo County Clerk 625 Court Street, Room B-01 Woodland, CA 95695	

Lead Agency:	California Department of Water Resources ("DWR") 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 Contact: Katherine Marquez Phone: (916) 651-7011
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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number:	2020010227
Project Title:	Delta Conveyance Project
Lead Agency and Project Applicant:	Department of Water Resources ("DWR") 1516 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 Contact: Marcus Yee Phone: (916) 699-8405


Responsible Agency:	Antelope Valley - East Kern Water Agency ("AVEK") Contact: Matthew Knudson Phone: (661) 943-3201
Project Location:	Pre-Construction Work for the Delta Conveyance Project will occur within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ("Delta") in Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento, Solano, San Joaquin, and Yolo Counties. See Attachment 1 and Figure 1.
Project Description:	<p>On December 21, 2023, DWR certified the environmental impact report ("EIR") for, and approved, the Delta Conveyance Project. (State Clearinghouse No. 2020010227). The Delta Conveyance Project consists of the construction, operation, and maintenance of new State Water Project ("SWP") water diversion and conveyance facilities in the Delta that would be operated in coordination with existing SWP facilities.</p> <p>The Delta Conveyance Project includes the following key components and actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two intake facilities along the Sacramento River in the north Delta near the community of Hood with on-bank intake structures that would include fish screens. • A concrete-lined tunnel, and associated vertical tunnel shafts, to convey flow from the intakes about 45 miles to the south of the Bethany Reservoir Pumping Plant and Surge Basin at a location south of the existing SWP Clifton Court Forebay. • A Bethany Reservoir Pumping Plant to lift the water from inside the tunnel below ground into the Bethany Reservoir Aqueduct for conveyance to the Bethany Reservoir Discharge Structure and into the existing Bethany Reservoir. • Other ancillary facilities to support construction and operation of the conveyance facilities including, but not limited to, access roads, concrete batch plants, fuel stations, and power transmission and/or distribution lines. • Efforts to identify geotechnical, hydrogeologic, agronomic, and other field conditions that will guide appropriate construction methods and monitoring programs for final engineering design and construction data collection and field work investigations, including ground-disturbing geotechnical work, water quality and hydrogeologic investigations, agronomic testing, the installation of monitoring equipment, construction test projects, pre-construction design work, and engineering work ("Pre-Construction Work") <p>AVEK Water Agency, as a responsible agency, has issued a limited approval relating to additional funding for Pre-Construction Work for the Delta Conveyance Project. Apart from funding for the Pre-Construction Work, AVEK is not approving the broader Delta Conveyance Project with this current filing.</p>

Person or entity undertaking the project pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21065	DWR is undertaking the Delta Conveyance Project.
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This is to advise that, on 3/18/2025, AVEK Water Agency, as a Responsible Agency, considered the EIR certified for the Delta Conveyance Project (State Clearinghouse No. 2020010227); made CEQA Findings of Fact pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines sections 15091 and 15096 for the Delta Conveyance Project; adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations specific to Pre-Construction Work pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15093; approved a resolution authorizing AVEK Water Agency's General Manager to effectuate providing funding for Pre-Construction Work for the Calendar Years 2026-2027 in an amount not to exceed \$11,860,000.00; and made the following determinations regarding the Pre-Construction Work:

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| 1. | The Pre-Construction Work will have a significant effect on the environment. |
| 2. | An EIR was previously prepared and certified by DWR for the Delta Conveyance Project, which included an analysis of the Pre-Construction, pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. |
| 3. | Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the Delta Conveyance Project, including the Pre-Construction Work, by DWR. |
| 4. | A mitigation monitoring or reporting plan was adopted by DWR. |
| 5. | Findings were made pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15091 and the provisions of CEQA for the Delta Conveyance Project. |
| 6. | A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the Pre-Construction Work. |

This is to certify that the above-referenced EIR and the record of proceedings relating to the Antelope Valley - East Kern Water Agency's above-described action is available to the General Public at the following location: 6500 West Avenue N Palmdale, CA 93551

Date: <u>3/20/2025</u>	 Matthew Knudson, General Manager
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Date Received for Filing: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Attachment 1 Project Location

The project area consists of the construction footprint of the project facilities. The physical footprint of the Project would lie primarily within the boundaries of the statutorily defined Delta. Additionally, certain facilities that would be constructed under the Project would be located southeast of the statutory Delta (see Figure 1, Project Location).

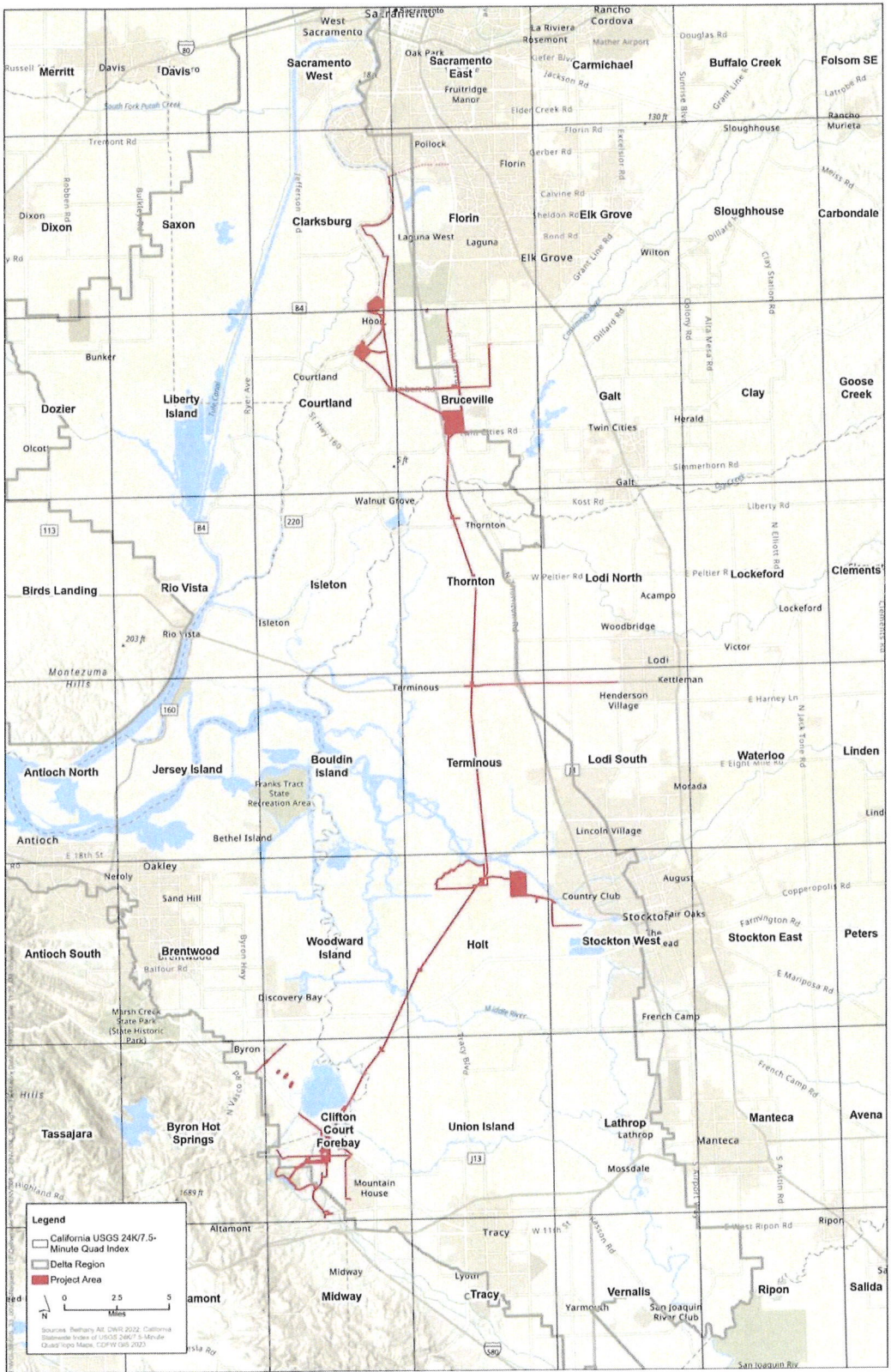


Figure 1. Project Location