

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)
 Region 4 Central
 1234 East Shaw Avenue
 Fresno, CA 93710
 Contact: Steven Hulbert
 Phone: (559) 575-6415

Lead Agency

California Department of Transportation
 2015 Shields Avenue, Suite A-100
 Fresno, CA 93726
 Contact: Dane Dettloff
 Phone: (559) 445-6456

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2020019068

Project Title: State Route 41 Ranchos Rehabilitation Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2021-008-04 (ITP)).

Project Location: The Project involves improvements to a 2.9-mile segment of SR 41, between post mile 6.3 and post mile 9.2 in Madera County.

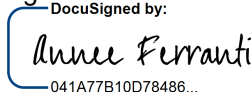
Project Description: Within the 2.9-mile long Project Area, the Project will involve widening and elevating the State Route 41 roadway between post mile 6.5 and post mile 9.0 to correct non-standard shoulder widths, flooding potential, and line of sight issues. Beyond these points and within the 2.9-mile Project Area, the Project will involve repaving the existing roadway.

The Project could result in take of California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) including mortality ("kill"), due to vehicle strikes, destruction of burrows, or temporary disturbance to habitat resulting in the loss of individuals over the three-year term of the ITP. California tiger salamander is listed as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act. Permittee will mitigate through permanent protection and long-term management of 38.3 acres of compensatory habitat for the Covered Species, OR the purchase of 38.3 Covered Species credits from a CDFW-approved mitigation or conservation bank.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on 12/23/2021 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 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 not made/ were 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 IS/MND 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.

Signature

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Date: 12/23/2021

for Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____