

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

Office of Planning and Research
[CEQA Submit](#)
 For U.S. Mail:
 P.O. Box 3044
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Central Region
 1234 East Shaw Avenue, Fresno, CA 93710
 Contact: Mindy Trask
 Phone: (559) 939-0282

**Lead Agency:**

California Department of Transportation
 2015 East Shields Avenue, Suite 100, Fresno, CA 93726
 Contact: Jeannie Wiley
 Email: Jeannie.Wiley@dot.ca.gov
 Phone: (559) 978-3234

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2020039062

Project Title: Fresno 198 Culvert Rehabilitation Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2022-057-04 (ITP) Major Amendment No. 1)

Project Location: The Fresno 198 Culvert Rehabilitation Project (Project) includes repairing and replacing culverts on State Route 198 in Fresno County between post mile 0.51 and post mile 19.50. The western end of the Project is at the Monterey/Fresno County line and the eastern end of the Project is located southwest of the City of Coalinga.

Project Description: The Project will repair, replace, or clean 82 culverts at various locations along State Route 198 in Fresno County to maintain proper drainage, prevent flooding, and prevent further pavement deterioration in those areas. Work will include relining and replacing culverts, installing or repairing headwalls, installing flared end sections, placing rock slope protection, and restoring temporarily disturbed areas with seeding and plantings. Up to 200 days of night work is anticipated.

Major Amendment No. 1 modifies the requirements for flagging, mapping, and excavation of potential Covered Species burrows and crevices, as well as installation of Covered Species exclusionary fencing (if used), such that these measures are required in Project work areas that are accessible and located within 1,844 feet of known or potential breeding habitat.

The Project will result in impacts to 11.75 acres of California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) habitat including temporary impacts to 11.61 acres; the Project will permanently remove 0.14 acres of California tiger salamander habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of California tiger salamander, which is designated as a threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act. The ITP and Major Amendment No 1 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 1/27/2025 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.


Notice of Determination

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 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: 1/27/2025

Julie A. Vance, *Regional Manager*

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____