

Notice of Determination

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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:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
 South Coast Region 5
 3883 Ruffin Rd.
 San Diego, CA 92123
 Contact: Baron Barrera
 Phone: (562) 431-8053

**Lead Agency**

United Water Conservation District
 1701 N. Lombard Street, Suite 200
 Oxnard, CA 93030
 Contact: Linda Purpus
 Phone: (805) 525-4431

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2021080524

Project Title: Freeman Diversion Sediment Management Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. VEN_21437-R5).

Project Location (include county): The Project is located immediately upstream of the Vern Freeman Diversion Dam (VFD), on the Santa Clara River (SCR), in Ventura County. The VFD is approximately 2.3 miles east of the unincorporated community of Saticoy, approximately one mile south of State Route (SR)-126, and two miles east of SR-118. The Project is within the Santa Paula, California U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number VEN_21437-R5, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Linda Purpus. A low-flow channel would be established by excavating sediments to shift the river's thalweg to the southern bank of the SCR. The new low-flow channel would be approximately 40 feet wide, 725 feet long, and three feet deep. Excavated sediment would be dispersed immediately north of the low-flow channel and will be compacted to conditions consistent with the surrounding riverbed. Construction is anticipated to take approximately 7 days. The estimated 1.1-acre total impacts include all areas within the river channel that will be potentially affected by Project activities, including equipment travel and site ingress/egress.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described project on 12/13/2021 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project 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. CDFW considered the mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. 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 not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:
 Signature  Date: 12/13/2021
 Erinn Wilson, Director, Environmental Program Manager I

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____