

## Notice of Determination

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**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
[CEQA Submit](#)

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Inland Deserts Region  
3206 Inland Empire Blvd Suite C-220  
Ontario, CA 91764  
Contact: Breanna Machuca  
Email: [breannamachuca@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:breannamachuca@wildlife.ca.gov)  
Phone: 760-636-3487



Lead Agency  
City of Lake Elsinore  
130 South Main Street  
Lake Elsinore, CA 92530  
Contact: Richard J. MacHott  
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**SUBJECT:** Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2021120441

**Project Title:** Murrieta Creek Multi-Use Trail (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-RIV-43632-R6)

**Project Location (Riverside County):** The Murrieta Creek Multi-Use Trail Project (Project) is located northeast of Grand Avenue and northeast of Corydon Road, in the City of Lake Elsinore, County of Riverside, State of California; Latitude 33.630132° N, Longitude -117.315142 ° W; Township 6 South, Range 4 West, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map Lake Elsinore (Exhibit 1). The Project is located within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 371-100-020, 371-100-003, 370-120-001, and 370-120-063.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed and issued a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-RIV-43632-R6), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, City of Lake Elsinore, as represented by Remon Habib.

The Project is limited to construction of a multi-use trail that will be a 10-foot-wide paved trail within the Lake Elsinore Back Basin. Split rail fencing will be mounted on either side of the trail with a 2-foot-wide decomposed granite or native landscape recovery zone between the fence and the asphalt path, for a total permanent impact width of 20 feet.

The proposed Project will also include a single Arizona crossing and a span bridge and the replacement and extension of a pipe culvert to cross four existing ephemeral drainage features that intercept the trail. The Arizona crossing will be located at the northernmost corner of Como Street and Stoneman Street and will consist of a concrete apron and rock splash pad. The approximately 55 feet long span bridge will be located at the terminus of Ontario Way and will be constructed either as cast-in-place concrete abutments spanned by hollow-core precast concrete planks, or an alternate clear span design such as open bottom arch culverts. It will completely span the ephemeral feature, with no footings or other material placed within the feature. It is anticipated that the crossings will require the use of a backhoe and/or mini excavator for the cast-in-place concrete abutments, and an articulated lift to hoist the hollow-core precast concrete planks into position. Impacts from the installation of the crossings will be confined to the permanent and temporary impact footprint. The existing culvert located at the eastern end of the trail will be replaced and extended to accommodate the trail width.

The Project will require a total of approximately 2,765 cubic yards of asphalt (consisting of 655 cubic yards (cy) of hot mix asphalt, 1,850 cy of Class II aggregate base, and 260 cy of DG) imported to the site. Earthwork would include approximately 9,405 cy of cut and 6,375 cy of fill, resulting in export of 8,363cy and import of 5,335 cy. Cut and fill slopes would be a maximum 2:1 gradient.

Temporary steel plate bridges and/or other temporary clear span means required of the contractor would be implemented during construction should any of the avoided features need to be temporarily crossed during construction. Temporary construction access will be provided via existing paved roadways, the Levee Trail, and


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within the temporary impact area. Temporary construction staging areas will also be located onsite within the mapped temporary impact area or off-site within the existing disturbed and developed areas.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on March 4, 2025 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** prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures **were** made a condition of CDFW’s approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Reporting or Monitoring Plan **was** 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 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 a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW’s regional office.

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 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 3/4/2025  
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Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_