

Notice of Determination

To: Office of Planning and Research

U.S. Mail:

P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street, Room 113

Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

CA Regional Water Quality Control Board,
San Diego Region

2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100

San Diego, CA 92108

Contact: Darren Bradford

Phone: 619-521-3356

Lead Agency (if different from above):

San Diego County

5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310

San Diego, CA 92123

Contact: Robert Hingtgen

Phone: 619-323-8701

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2022010063

Project Title: Santa Margarita River Bridge Replacement and Fish Passage Barrier Removal

Project Applicant: California Trout

Project Location (include county):

160 feet southwest of the intersection of Rock Mountain Drive and Sandia Creek Drive where Sandia Creek Drive crosses the Santa Margarita River (APN 102-250-24-00) in the Fallbrook Community Planning Area of unincorporated San Diego County.

Project Description: The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification (Certification No. R9-2022-0081) to the Project Applicant to replace the existing, deteriorated Sandia Creek Drive concrete-box culvert low-flow river crossing with a new span bridge over the Santa Margarita River. The existing crossing is not only a significant impediment for the federally-endangered Southern California steelhead, but it is also a hazardous pedestrian and vehicular crossing during significant rain events.

This is to advise that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, a Responsible Agency, has approved the above-described project on May 18, 2022, and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project.

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted for this project.
6. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This to certify that the Mitigated Negative Declaration is available to the general public at: the office of the Lead Agency listed above. The record associated with the San Diego RWQCB's decision is available at 2375 Northside Drive, Ste. 100, San Diego CA 92108, ph. 619-521-1990 (Electronic File No./PIN 880609).

Signature (Public Agency) of David W. Gibson, Executive Officer: Kelly Dorsey for

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resource Code.

Reference Sections 210000-21174, Public Resource Code.