

TO: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

FROM: Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board)
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 170
Sacramento, CA 95821
Jennifer Calles, (916) 837-3683
Jennifer.Calles@cvflood.ca.gov

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

State Clearinghouse Number (SCH No.): 2022010622

Project Title: Permit No. 19776 – Merced River Agricultural Diversion and Fish Habitat Enhancement Project: Cowell 2 (Diversion 6) Diversion Site

Project Applicant: Merced Irrigation District

Lead Agency/Address: Merced Irrigation District, 744 West 20th Street, Merced, CA 95344

Lead Agency Contact Person: Michael Morris, (209) 354-2882; mmorris@mercedid.org

Project Location/City/County: This project spans from approximately 3.6 miles to 6.3 miles upstream of the Oakdale Road crossing over Merced River in Merced County, California.

Project Description: Approval of Permit No. 19776, under California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Article 3, Section 6, for work within an adopted plan of flood control: The purpose of the project is to restore and enhance the main channel, side channel, and riparian ecosystem processes critical for juvenile and adult salmonid populations. Project activities include creating in stream engineered riffle and new side channels, enhancing an anabranched channel, grading and placing channel fill of various gradations, installing a new 72-inch welded High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) diversion pipe and connecting it to an existing inlet structure, installing two new cone fish screens, planting vegetated bank protection, removing existing concrete weir, gabion structure, pumps, pipes, fence and gates, installing a total of three 6-foot-by-8-foot precast concrete box culverts, and placing coarse 6-inch rock as scour protection at either end of each culvert.

This is to advise that the Board, as the **Responsible Agency**, approved the above-described project on May 17, 2024 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 the Board’s permitting jurisdiction as a responsible agency).
2. [An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) / A Mitigated Negative Declaration] was prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
3. Additional mitigation measures [were / were not] made a condition of the Board’s approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan [was / was not] adopted by the Board for this project
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [was / was not] adopted by the Board for this project.
6. Findings [were / were not] made by the Board pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

Responsible Agency Statement: The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, prepared by the lead agency for the project, is available to the general public at the lead agency’s office listed above. The Board’s administrative record related to the encroachment permit is available for public review at the Board’s office.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

May 17, 2024

Signature Chris Lief, Executive Officer

Date

Date Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21100-21174, Public Resources Code.