

Notice of Determination

To:

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

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Ste C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: Breanna Machuca
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Lead Agency

City of Temecula
41000 Main Street
Temecula, CA 92590
Contact: William Becerra
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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2022020289

Project Title: Santa Gertrudis Creek Trail Phase II Undercrossing at Margarita Road Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. (EPIMS-RIV-28811-R6)

Project Location (County of Riverside): The Santa Gertrudis Creek Trail Phase II Undercrossing at Margarita Road Project (Project) is located along the Santa Gertrudis Creek Trail, partially within the east channel bank of the Santa Gertrudis Creek, at its intersection with Margarita Road, in the City of Temecula, County of Riverside, State of California; Latitude 33.532514 Longitude -117.153753; Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 916-560-009, 920-090-004.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-RIV-28811-R6), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant, William Becerra of the City of Temecula.

The Project proposes to impact the Santa Gertrudis Creek as part of overall construction of a bicycle/multi-use trail undercrossing for the existing Santa Gertrudis Creek Trail (SGCT). The proposed Project consists of a total of approximately 610 feet of shared bicycle/trail undercrossing beneath the overpass of Margarita Road. The proposed paved undercrossing will begin where the existing grade of the SGCT ramps begin to elevate to meet the grade of the overcrossing of Margarita Road at the east and west sides. The proposed Project will involve grading and replacement of a portion of the east bank, with the proposed pedestrian/bicycle trail relocation and new retaining wall. In addition, a portion of the east bank. (i.e., articulated concrete blocks) that extends into the bed of the creek will be replaced with Armor flex, an interlocking matrix of concrete blocks. Project activities are further described below:

1. Remove existing ramp segments where trail rises to street (overpass) elevation:
 - a. Demolition of existing SGCT along the eastern and western sides of Margarita Road
 - b. Removal of existing pavements and soils to bring the proposed SCGT to five percent grade. Compaction of existing soils.
 - c. Remove existing retaining wall, channel slope paving, and cut-off wall
 - d. Remove existing Armor flex on channel slope
2. Construct new trail bridge along Santa Gertrudis Creek beneath Margarita Road directly north of the existing overcrossing. The proposed undercrossing will be 610 feet long and 12 feet wide:
 - a. Construct 4–6-inch pavement along trail
 - b. Construct retaining wall where the trail would encroach into the cut slopes of Santa Gertrudis Creek along the northern length of the existing SGCT
 - c. Install 4-foot high, chain-link fence along retaining wall
 - d. Along the southern length of the proposed bicycle/multi-use trail, a tieback wall would be constructed to prevent erosion of the existing slopes

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3. Protect in place existing pier wall near the Santa Gertrudis Creek, Flood Control facilities, and posts beneath the Margarita Road overpass:
 - a. Reconstruct existing Armor flex with geotextile underlay in place
 - b. Repave channel slope paving

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on November 4, 2022, 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: 11/4/2022

Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____