

Notice of Determination**- 1 -**

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
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Contact: Alyssa Marquez
Phone: (760) 567-0332



Lead Agency
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
111 N. Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Contact: Julie Van Wagner
Phone: (213) 367-5295

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2010021063

Project Title: Completion of the Owens Gorge Flow Restoration Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-MOO-21908-R6)

Project Location: The Project is located in the Owens River Gorge, a tributary to Owens Lake, in the Counties of Inyo and Mono, State of California; Section 10, Township 6S, Range 31E, United States Geological Survey (USGS) map Rovana; Section 5 & 16, Township 5S, Range 31E, USGS Casa Diablo Quadrangle.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-MOO-21908-R6 (Agreement), pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Project Applicant, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

The Project is limited to the release of water to the Owens River below the court-ordered average managed base-flows between the Upper Gorge Power Plant and the Control Gorge Power Plant. Flows will be reduced to seepage flows (from Long Valley Reservoir) between the Upper Gorge Power Plant and Control Gorge Power Plant in accordance with Measure 2.1 of the Agreement. The flows will be reduced to seepage flows during a temporary outage of Tunnel 1 and the associated penstock, so that the Permittee may repair the Upper Gorge Power Plant turbine shut-off valve. The repair work entails disassembling, cleaning, inspecting, testing, refurbishing, and replacing the turbine shut-off valve system components.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described Project on January 26, 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 / 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:
Alisa Ellsworth 1/26/2022
Signature _____ Date: _____
Alisa Ellsworth, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____