



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Central Region  
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Fresno, California 93710  
(559) 243-4005  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor  
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



August 31, 2023

George Gonzalez, MPA, Senior Planner  
City of Clovis  
Department of Planning and Development Services  
1033 Fifth Street  
Clovis, California 93612  
[georgeg@cityofclovis.com](mailto:georgeg@cityofclovis.com)

**Subject: Shepherd North Project (Project)  
Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)  
State Clearinghouse Number (SCH): 2022050180**

Dear George Gonzalez:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) from the City of Clovis for the above-referenced Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.<sup>1</sup>

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, CDFW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under Fish and Game Code.

After reviewing the provided CEQA document, CDFW has determined that the mitigation measures as currently documented in the DEIR are sufficient for mitigation of impacts to listed species. Please keep in mind that certain measures such as, relocation of listed species and erecting exclusion fencing among others, can result in inadvertent take of listed species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) should an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for those species not be acquired. If mitigation measures are proposed that may result in take of any species listed under CESA, it is recommended to consult with CDFW at least one year prior construction of the Project. If take cannot be avoided, take authorization through the issuance of an ITP, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b) is necessary to comply with CESA.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent

<sup>1</sup> CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

George Gonzalez, MPA, Senior Planner  
City of Clovis  
August 31, 2023  
Page 2

or supplemental environmental determinations (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e)). Accordingly, please report any special-status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB). The CNDDDB field survey form can be found at the following link: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Submitting-Data>. The completed form can be mailed electronically to CNDDDB at the following email address: [CNDDDB@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:CNDDDB@wildlife.ca.gov). The types of information reported to CNDDDB can be found at the following link: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Plants-and-Animals>.

## FILING FEES

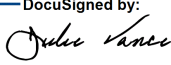
If it is determined that the Project has the potential to impact biological resources, an assessment of filing fees will be necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089).

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Project to assist the City of Clovis in identifying and mitigating the Project's impacts on biological resources.

More information on survey and monitoring protocols for sensitive species can be found at CDFW's website (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Survey-Protocols>).

If you have any questions, please contact Kelley Nelson, Environmental Scientist, at the address provided on this letterhead, or by electronic mail at [Kelley.Nelson@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Kelley.Nelson@wildlife.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Julie A. Vance  
Regional Manager

ec: Krista Tomlinson, Environmental Program Manager  
Larry Bonner, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor  
Kelley Nelson, Environmental Scientist  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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