



STATE OF CALIFORNIA • NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

Gavin Newsom, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Charlton H. Bonham, Director

Central Region

1234 East Shaw Avenue | Fresno, California 93710 | (559) 243-4005

August 25, 2023

Chris Schmidt, Senior Associate Planner
City of Monterey Community Development Department
570 Pacific Street
Monterey, California 93940
schmidt@monterey.org



**Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the 2101
North Fremont Hotel Project (Project)
SCH No.: 2022060567**

Dear Chris Schmidt:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a Draft Environmental Impact Report from the City of Monterey Community Development Department for the above referenced Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.¹

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. While the comment period may have ended, CDFW would appreciate if you will still consider our comments.

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 biological resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

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

¹ 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.

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make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, section 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. 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

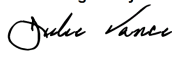
The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the fee is required in order for the underlying Project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, section 753.5; Fish & G. Code, section 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, section 21089.)

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DEIR to assist the City of Monterey Community Development Department in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources.

Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed to Evelyn Barajas-Perez, Environmental Scientist, at (805) 503-5738 or evelyn.barajas-perez@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Julie A. Vance
Regional Manager

ec: State Clearinghouse
Governor's office of Planning and Research
State.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov