

Notice of Determination

To:

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

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
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Lead Agency
California State Lands Commission
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Sacramento, CA 95825
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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2023080342

Project Title: I-195E L-021A Napa River Pipeline Crossing Replacement Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS- NAP-43108-R3)

Project Location (Napa County): The project is located at the Napa River, Suscol Creek, and an unnamed tributary to the Napa River, in the County of Napa, State of California; Latitude 38.240274°, Longitude - 122.286547°; located downstream of the Highway 12 crossing over the Napa River, at the confluence of the Napa River and Suscol Creek; Assessor's Parcel Number 047-240-025.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS- NAP-43108-R3), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

The project is limited to the removal of three existing 8-inch diameter pipelines where they cross the Napa River, and replacement with one 26-inch diameter pipeline. The project will install a new 26-inch diameter pipeline underneath the Napa River using horizontal directional drilling (HDD) techniques, tie the new crossing into the existing pipeline network, and then decommission and remove the existing pipeline crossings using a Toyo pump suction dredge device with a hood and a barge mounted crane. The project will be conducted in two phases, with Phase 1 including installation of the replacement pipeline using HDD techniques which require bell hole and bore pit excavation located in riparian and adjacent upland areas. As part of the installation of the new pipeline, a prefabricated temporary crossing over an unnamed tributary to the Napa River will be constructed, with the footings of the bridge located above the top of bank, in order to provide access for Phase 1 work. Installation of the new pipeline will result in approximately 4,755 square feet (0.11 acres) of temporary impacts to riparian habitat and less than 1 square foot of permanent impacts to saltmarsh habitat from the installation of a pipeline marker. Phase 2 will include decommissioning of the existing pipeline. Decommissioning will include excavation within riparian habitat and uplands adjacent to Suscol Creek, which will be restored or backfilled once removal of the old pipeline is complete. Decommissioning of the existing pipeline will result in approximately 5,080 square feet (0.12 acres) of temporary impacts to riparian, open water, and saltmarsh habitat. In total, the project will result in 9,835 square feet (0.23 acres) of temporarily disturbed riparian and salt marsh habitat. Access and staging will occur partially via existing roads but will also entail temporary impacts to riparian habitat and upland grassland areas, including in the impact totals above. Access and staging will require vegetation trimming, which is included in the impact totals. No more than three riparian trees will be removed as part of this project.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on July 15, 2024, 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.

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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 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 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.

DocuSigned by:
Craig J Weightman Date: 7/16/2024
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Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____