

**Notice of Exemption**

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

**From:**  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Central Region  
1234 East Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, California 93710



**Project Title:** Middle Mile Broadband Network Project Master Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-MMBN-43890-R4 (Broadband MSA)

**Project Location:** The Broadband MSA issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will cover 3,770 miles of existing State highway right-of-way where it intersects with streams within CDFW's Central Region, which includes Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne Counties.

**Project Description:** On 12/13/2023, CDFW executed the Broadband MSA pursuant to Fish and Game Code 1600 et seq., the project authorized by the Broadband MSA will be carried out by the California Department of Technology. The Broadband MSA authorizes activities related to installation of the state-owned Middle Mile Broadband Network, within CDFW's Central Region. Activities authorized under the Agreement include the following: geotechnical investigations, site preparation (clearing and grubbing), trenching, subsurface drilling, trenchless conduit/cable installation, and backfilling of excavated areas. The Broadband MSA includes conditions governing authorized activities such as necessary reasonable measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife resources.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

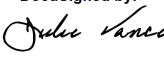
**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** California Department of Technology

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption. California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15269, subdivision (b); Public Resources Code, section 21080.51;

**Reasons why project is exempt:** CDFW has concluded that the issuance of the Broadband MSA meets the qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.51, subdivision (a)(1 – 5.). CDFW's conclusion is supported by the activities authorized by and the conditions described in the Broadband MSA.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Adam Thompson, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) - [adam.thompson@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:adam.thompson@wildlife.ca.gov).

DocuSigned by:  
  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12/13/2023  
FA83F09FE08945A...  
Julie A. Vance  
Regional Manager, Central Region