



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
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April 10, 2025

Gus Cicala, Senior Civil Engineer
 East Bay Municipal Utility District
 375 11th Street, M/S 704
 Oakland, CA 94607
Gus.Cicala@ebmud.com

Subject: EBMUD Miller Road Trench Soil Management Project, SCH No. 2025030937,
 Draft Initial Study Mitigated Negative Declaration, Alameda County

Dear Gus Cicala:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed East Bay Municipal Utility District's (Lead Agency) Draft Initial Study Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) EBMUD Miller Road Trench Soil Management Project (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 fish and wildlife resources of the State. Please be advised, by law, CDFW may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW is providing the East Bay Municipal Utility District, as the Lead Agency, with specific detail about the scope and content of the environmental information related to CDFW's area of statutory responsibility that must be included in the MND (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15082, subd. (b)).

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's **Trustee Agency** for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State. (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a).) CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species. (*Id.*, § 1802.) For purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a **Responsible Agency** under CEQA. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381.) CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority over the Project pursuant to the Fish and Game Code. For example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) regulatory authority, if the Project impacts the bed, channel or bank of any river, stream or lake within the State (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.). Likewise, to the extent the Project may result in "take" as defined by State law of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), the project proponent may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

California Endangered Species Act

A CESA Incidental Take Permit (ITP) must be obtained from CDFW if the Project has the potential to result in "take" of plants or animals listed under CESA, either during

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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construction or over the life of the Project. Under CESA, “take” means “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill.” (Fish & G. Code, § 86.) CDFW’s issuance of an ITP is subject to CEQA and to facilitate permit issuance, any project modifications and mitigation measures must be incorporated into the CEQA document analysis, discussion, and mitigation monitoring and reporting program. If the Project will impact CESA listed species, early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to the Project and mitigation measures may be required in order to obtain a CESA Permit.

CEQA requires a mandatory finding of significance if a project is likely to substantially impact threatened or endangered species. Pub. Resources Code, §§ 21001, subd. (c) & 21083; CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15380, 15064 & 15065.) In addition, pursuant to CEQA, the Lead Agency cannot approve a project unless all impacts to the environment are avoided or mitigated to less-than-significant levels, or the Lead Agency makes and supports Findings Of Overriding Consideration (FOC) for impacts that remain significant despite the implementation of all feasible mitigation. FOC under CEQA, however, do not eliminate the Project proponent’s obligation to comply with the Fish and Game Code.

Lake and Streambed Alteration

CDFW requires an LSA Notification, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq., for Project activities affecting river, lakes or streams and associated riparian habitat. Notification is required for any activity that may substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow; change or use material from the bed, channel, or bank (including associated riparian or wetland resources); or deposit or dispose of material where it may pass into a river, lake, or stream. Work within ephemeral streams, drainage ditches, washes, watercourses with a subsurface flow, and floodplains is generally subject to notification requirements. In addition, infrastructure installed beneath such aquatic features, such as through hydraulic directional drilling, is also generally subject to notification requirements. Therefore, any impact to the mainstems, tributaries, or floodplains or associated riparian habitat caused by the proposed Project will likely require an LSA Notification. CDFW may not execute a final LSA Agreement until it has considered the final MND and complied with its responsibilities as a responsible agency under CEQA.

Migratory Birds and Raptors

CDFW has authority over actions that may result in the disturbance or destruction of active bird nest sites or the unauthorized take of birds. Fish and Game Code sections protecting birds, their eggs, and nests include section 3503 (regarding unlawful take, possession, or needless destruction of the nests or eggs of any bird), section 3503.5 (regarding the take, possession, or destruction of any birds-of-prey or their nests or eggs), and section 3513 (regarding unlawful take of any migratory nongame bird). Migratory birds are also protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION SUMMARY

Proponent: East Bay Municipal Utility District

Objective: EBMUD’s Miller Road Trench Soil Management Program (Program) involves the continued operation of the Miller Road trench soil stockpile and rock and sand stockpile sites; this includes the import, temporary storage, and periodic removal (off-haul events) of clean soil, rock, and sand to support the replacement of aging pipelines.

Based on projected pipeline improvements required to address EBMUD’s aging infrastructure, EBMUD estimates annual pipeline replacement will increase from 20 to 25 miles per year to approximately 30 miles per year by 2030. There is a need to increase the stockpiling and storage of materials to support this increase in pipeline replacement needs.

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This program involves the continued operation of the Miller Road stockpile site, including import, temporary storage, and periodic removal of trench soil. The program also includes continued operation of the rock and sand stockpile site approximately one mile south of the Miller Road soil stockpile site on EBMUD-owned property within the project site. Materials from the rock and sand stockpile site are used to backfill trenches from the pipeline construction and maintenance activities. Continued operation of the rock and sand stockpile site includes import, temporary storage, and removal of these backfill materials. The program includes a gradual increase in the volume of trench soil stockpiled at the Miller Road site, routine removal of stockpiled trench soil (referred to as off-haul events), and an increase in the import and off-haul of backfill materials to and from the rock and sand stockpile site. The Project includes three primary components: 1) an increase in import of trench soil to the Miller Road stockpile site; 2) an increase in the import and off-haul of backfill materials at the rock and sand stockpile site; and 3) implementation of smaller off-haul events at regular intervals (estimated at every five years with the potential of off-hauls every one to two years to respond to opportunities for beneficial soil reuse in the area to remove stockpiled soils at the Miller Road stockpile site.

Location: County of Alameda.

Timeframe: 2025 - 2030

CDFW COMMENTS

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the Lead Agency in adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources. Editorial comments or other suggestions may also be included to improve the document.

COMMENT 1: Project Design and Coordination

The draft IS/MND does not provide detailed design plans to show where the additional 4,000 cubic yards (CY) of soil will be stored and the controls that would be in place to provide stability in the existing footprint. The current soil stockpile is kept at a 3H:1V, which is the maximum slope recommended under the 1998 geotechnical investigation report.

Based on generation rate estimation methods and current and projected pipeline replacement rates, the current average annual import of trench soil of approximately 7,000 CY is anticipated to increase to approximately 11,000 CY by 2030. The draft IS/MND notes that the footprint is not expected to increase. The draft IS/MND should provide more details on design characteristics of the stockpile that will continue to provide soil stabilization while volume increases by as much as 57 percent annually.

The draft IS/MND notes that Project activities at the Miller Road stockpile site would occur approximately 50 feet from the San Leandro Creek and associated riparian zone, however there is an approximately 3-foot-tall earthen berm separating the creek from the stockpile site to prevent potential runoff into the creek. Based on current aerial photography, the project currently encroaches into the riparian zone even with the three-foot berm, and bare soil exists on the streamside of the berm, indicating erosion. Additional soil and truck traffic could result in additional impacts to San Leandro Creek and its wildlife. However, the draft IS/MND does not indicate that a LSA Agreement will be sought.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #1: Design Coordination

Early coordination with CDFW's Habitat Conservation Program and Conservation Engineering Branch is recommended to provide review and analysis of any Project elements with the potential to impact fish and wildlife resources. CDFW's Conservation

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Engineering Branch should be provided engineered drawings and design specification planning sheets during the initial design process, prior to design selection and re-initiating design consultation at 30 percent design at minimum and through the permitting process for review.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #2: Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement

CDFW requires a LSA Notification, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq., for Project activities affecting river, lakes or streams and associated riparian habitat. Notification is required for any activity that may substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow; change or use material from the bed, channel, or bank (including associated riparian or wetland resources); or deposit or dispose of material where it may pass into a river, lake, or stream. Any impact to the mainstems, tributaries, or floodplains or associated riparian habitat caused by the proposed Project will likely require an LSA Notification.

COMMENT 2: Alameda Whipsnake

The Project area contains habitat features (scrub intermixed with woodland and small patches of grassland) in close proximity to Alameda whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*) sightings. Additionally, Alameda whipsnake can move substantial distances within home ranges which have been reported to encompass between at least 1.9-8.7 hectares depending on sex and length of tracking (Swaim 1994; USFWS 2002).

Furthermore, throughout the year, Alameda whipsnake may be present but difficult to detect in a given area due to their secretive behavior. During their inactive season (roughly November through February/March, dependent on weather conditions), Alameda whipsnakes will use rodent burrows or crevices in rock outcrops for brumation (Hammerson 1979; Swaim 1994; USFWS 2002). During their active season (roughly February/March through October, dependent on weather conditions; Swaim 1994; USFWS 2002; Alvarez et al. 2021), Alameda whipsnake will utilize rodent burrows and other refugia (e.g., rocks, rock outcrops, logs, vegetation piles, or cracks between cement foundation and native substrate) to oviposit, thermoregulate, estivate and/or evade potential threats including people.

Alameda whipsnakes will also use vegetation structure (e.g., shrubs or other similar vegetation), rocks and open soil to bask on the ground or within the shrub layer (Swaim and McGinnis 1992; Swaim 1994; Miller and Alvarez 2016; Alvarez and Murphy 2022). Alameda whipsnake have also been observed on a few documented occasions in trees (e.g. 15 feet up, Shafer and Hein 2005 in Alvarez and Murphy 2022).

Analysis of existing data has found that a minimum of 30-days focused drift-fence funnel trapping during peak activity (typically April-May, though dependent on weather conditions) may be necessary to assess presence/ absence of this species (Richmond et al. 2015). For these reasons, single-day visual surveys are not adequate to detect or determine absence from a location for this species.

Take of Alameda whipsnake at the site may occur directly or indirectly through being injured or killed from increased truck traffic, through soil and rock moving activities and due to erosion control materials. Non-native plant species may be introduced through transport of seeds inadvertently in contaminated dirt or erosion control materials (e.g., straw), disturbance to the ground which can favor germination and colonization by opportunistic non-native invasive species, or directly by introduction of horticultural varieties during construction and operation.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #3: Habitat Assessment and Buffers

A detailed habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified biologist knowledgeable of the life history and ecological requirements of Alameda whipsnake.

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The habitat assessment shall be used to determine ecologically appropriate avoidance buffers. The habitat assessment shall include all suitable basking, burrowing, dispersal, overwintering, and foraging habitats within the Project area and surrounding areas. This can include but is not limited to burrows and other refugia (e.g., rocks, rock outcrops, logs, vegetation piles, or cracks between cement foundation and native substrate).

Recommended Mitigation Measure #4: Clearance Surveys

No more than 24 hours prior to the date of initial ground disturbance and vegetation clearing, a CDFW-approved biologist with experience in the identification of the Alameda whipsnake will conduct clearance surveys and monitoring within 100 feet of the project site. The biologist will investigate all areas that could be used by Alameda whipsnakes for sheltering, movement, and other essential behaviors. This includes an adequate examination of rock outcroppings and mammal burrows. Safety permitting, the approved biologist will investigate areas of disturbed soil for signs of the listed species within 30 minutes following the initial disturbance of that given area. The biologist will conduct clearance surveys at the beginning of each day and regularly throughout the workday when construction activities are occurring that may result in take of Alameda whipsnake.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #5: Compensatory Mitigation

The draft IS/MND should include effective and feasible compensatory mitigation measures to offset all permanent and temporary impacts of the Project on Alameda whipsnake and its habitat. To ensure impacts to Alameda whipsnake are mitigated to less-than-significant levels, CDFW recommends inclusion of compensatory mitigation at a minimum of a 3:1 mitigation ratio (conservation to loss) for permanent impacts to habitat, and a 1:1 ratio for temporary impacts to the species' habitats. CDFW recommends that priority for conserved lands be given to on-site locations. Conservation lands should be placed under a conservation easement, an endowment should be funded for managing the lands for the benefit of the conserved species in perpetuity, and a long-term management plan should be prepared and implemented by a land manager. The Grantee of the conservation easement should be an entity that has gone through the due diligence process for approval by CDFW to hold or manage conservation lands.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #6: Take Permit

CDFW recommends that the Project applicant consult with CDFW on the necessity to obtain an ITP pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(b) prior to Project implementation. The Project Proponent should apply for an ITP to cover impacts of the Project to Alameda whipsnake. Through the ITP, CDFW will work with the Project Proponent to develop adequate measures to minimize and mitigate potential for take of this species due to Project activities

COMMENT 3: Crotch's Bumble Bee

Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) are candidate species under CESA (CEQA Guidelines, §15380, subds. (c)(1)). The draft IS/MND does not adequately address whether the proposed Project could result in impacts to Crotch's bumble bee. Crotch's bumble bee occurrences have been documented within Alameda County to the east and west of the Project area. The Project location is within the Crotch's bumble bee range (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/CESA>) and grassland within and adjacent to the Project area may contain potential habitat for Crotch's bumble bee.

The proposed Project includes earth moving and truck traffic that will occur within and adjacent to ruderal grass and herbaceous vegetation that may be potential Crotch's bumble bee nesting and foraging habitat.

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Direct mortality through crushing or filling of active bee colonies and hibernating bee cavities, reduced reproductive success, loss of suitable breeding and foraging habitats, loss of native vegetation that may support essential foraging habitat.

Bumble bees are critically important because they pollinate a wide range of plants over the lifecycles of their colonies, which typically live longer than most native solitary bee species. As a candidate species, unauthorized take of this species pursuant to CESA is a violation of California Fish and Game Code section 2080 et seq.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #7: Habitat Assessment

A habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified entomologist knowledgeable with the life history and ecological requirements of Crotch's bumble bee. The habitat assessment shall include all suitable nesting, overwintering, and foraging habitats within the Project area and surrounding areas. Potential nest habitat (February through October) could include that of other *Bombus* species such as bare ground, thatched grasses, abandoned rodent burrows or bird nests, brush piles, rock piles, and fallen logs. Overwintering habitat (November through January) could include that of other *Bombus* species such as soft and disturbed soil or under leaf litter or other debris. The habitat assessment shall be conducted during peak bloom period for floral resources on which Crotch's bumble bee feed. Further guidance on habitat surveys can be found within *Survey Considerations for California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Candidate Bumble Bee Species* (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/CESA>).

Recommended Mitigation Measure #8: Survey Plan

If Crotch's bumble bee habitat is present within the Project area, the Project should include a pre-construction survey plan as a mitigation measure. The survey plan should be submitted to CDFW for review. Surveys should be conducted by a qualified entomologist familiar with the behavior and life history of Crotch's bumble bee. If CESA candidate bumble bee will be captured or handled, surveyors should obtain a 2081(a) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from CDFW.

Surveys should be conducted during the colony active period (i.e. April through August) and when floral resources are in peak bloom. Bumble bees move nests sites each year, therefore, surveys should be conducted each year that Project work activities will occur. Further guidance on presence surveys can be found within *Survey Considerations for CESA Candidate Bumble Bee Species* (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/CESA>).

Recommended Mitigation Measure #9: Crotch's Bumble Bee Avoidance or Take Authorization

If Crotch's bumble bee are detected during pre-construction surveys, a Crotch's bumble bee avoidance plan should be developed and provided to CDFW for review prior to work activities involving ground disturbance or vegetation removal.

If full take avoidance is not feasible, CDFW strongly recommends that the draft IS/MND state that the Project proponent will apply to CDFW for take authorization under an ITP.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #10: Herbicide Application

To minimize impacts to bumble bees, avoid the bloom periods for herbicide application and mowing activities. If this is not possible, CDFW recommends that the Project obtain take authorization under an ITP, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b).

Recommended Mitigation Measure #11: Compensatory Mitigation

CDFW recommends that the draft IS/MND include compensatory mitigation for the loss of all suitable Crotch's bumble bee habitat. Bumble bee floral resources should be mitigated at a 3:1 ratio for permanent impacts in the absence of information regarding

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the compensatory mitigation site. Floral resources should be replaced as close to their original location as is feasible. If active Crotch's bumble bee nests have been identified and floral resources cannot be replaced within 600 feet of their original location, floral resources should be planted in the most centrally available location relative to identified nests. This location should be no more than 4,900 feet (1.5-kilometers) from any identified nest. Replaced floral resources may be split into multiple patches to meet distance requirements for multiple nests. The draft IS/MND should state that mitigation lands will be protected in perpetuity under a conservation easement with an endowment established for long-term management of the lands.

COMMENT #3: Wildlife Movement and Connectivity

The draft IS/MND notes an increase in the number of trucks using Miller Road from 700 to 1,100 roundtrips per year. Increased traffic could impact wildlife connectivity and movement across Miller Road and result in increased mortality as well as increased avoidance of nearby habitat.

Implementation of the proposed Project could prevent, decline, or otherwise alter use of existing wildlife movement corridors for a number of species. The Project could impact wildlife connectivity in the region, and the ability of wildlife to safely move across roads and between habitats. The Project could result in direct mortality, reduced reproductive success, reduced frequency of care for young resulting in reduced health or vigor of young, forcing wildlife into movement paths and areas that could increase their vulnerability to vehicle strikes and predation, and reduction in genetic exchange affecting intra-species diversity. Isolation of subpopulations limits the genetic exchange of populations and increases the risk of local extirpation.

The draft IS/MND should consider the impact of the project on connectivity and implement design strategies to address these impacts. Species where connectivity impacts could occur due to the Project can be evaluated with the California Bay Area Linkage Network data in BIOS, with potential impacts to western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*), Alameda whipsnake, and American badger (*Taxidea taxus*). In particular, California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) records include both western pond turtle and Alameda whipsnake on both sides of Miller Road, suggesting connectivity across the road.

Maintaining connectivity through these linkages is critical to ensure current and future wildlife populations' abilities to move and adapt to a changing climate and habitat conditions. As part of this, CDFW recommends the draft IS/MND assess compliance with AB1889 and provide recommendations for local policy integration.

CDFW does not have sufficient detail to determine if the proposed mitigation measures will be sufficient to offset wildlife movement and connectivity impacts. CDFW has ascertained that there is potential to reduce impacts of the Project on wildlife movement through Project infrastructure and component redesign, as well as compensatory mitigation measures for impacts that cannot be completely avoided that were not identified within the draft IS/MND.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #12: Analysis and Monitoring of Wildlife Corridors

CDFW recommends in-depth studies on existing use of wildlife corridors within the Project area and surrounding areas in order to evaluate extent of future impacts of the Project on wildlife connectivity, and to provide a basis for infrastructure and Project component redesign. Data collection methods should enable detection of species that have been found to utilize the existing movement corridors, including species mentioned in the comment above.

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Pre-construction study results should be used to develop biologically feasible movement corridor improvements. Post-construction monitoring should assess use of wildlife movement corridors.

CDFW recommends that monitoring data be analyzed, summarized, and results discussed in reports that may be posted to the Project webpage and be submitted to CDFW and other agencies or organizations that have a duty or interest in the effectiveness of wildlife movement corridors.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #13: Infrastructure and Project Component Redesign

CDFW recommends that on-site features that contribute to habitat connectivity should be evaluated and implemented. Aspects of the Project that could create physical barriers to wildlife movement, including direct or indirect Project-related activities, should be identified, and addressed in the draft IS/MND. CDFW recommends the Project avoid developing and encroaching onto wildlife corridors, essential connectivity blocks, critical wildlife passage areas, or potential linkage areas.

CDFW recommends coordination with regional CDFW and Conservation Engineering staff on the design of connectivity minimization measures including, but not limited to wildlife passage undercrossings, directional fencing to prevent animals from crossing roads to reduce wildlife-vehicle strikes, removal of accumulated sediment that may block undercrossings, removal of vegetation debris, control of invasive plant species, signage to alert truck drivers of wildlife crossings, and education and training on wildlife crossing minimization.

The recommended movement studies should be used to determine locations for design modifications that support the maximum movement and connectivity for impacted species. CDFW recommends thorough monitoring of wildlife crossings both before and after construction to assess their effectiveness. This monitoring should include the use of camera traps, track beds, and other methods.

Recommended Mitigation Measure #14: Compensatory Mitigation

Off-site compensatory mitigation should be implemented to completely offset unavoidable impacts if Project infrastructure redesigns, and other measures to avoid significant impacts to existing wildlife corridors within the Project area do not fully avoid impacts to wildlife corridors. The draft IS/MND should include an analysis of beneficial and feasible wildlife movement corridors and/or crossings at off-site locations that could be improved or constructed, to improve wildlife connectivity.

Fish and Game Code Section 1955 et seq. (Senate Bill 790) allows the CDFW to approve compensatory mitigation credits for projects that improve wildlife connectivity. These actions should lead to measurable improvements in aquatic or terrestrial habitat connectivity, wildlife migration, recolonization, and breeding opportunities, especially where these are hindered by infrastructure or habitat fragmentation and may include building road overpasses or underpasses. The Project may be able to provide additional value for wildlife connectivity, depending on the design.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to prepare subsequent CEQA documents or to make supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (d) & (e).) Accordingly, please report any special-status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to CNDDDB. The CNDDDB field survey form can be filled out and submitted online here: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Submitting-Data>. The types of information reported

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to CNDDDB can be found here: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Plants-and-Animals>.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEES

CDFW anticipates that the proposed Project, will have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of environmental document 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 environmental document filing fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (See Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089.)

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft IS/MND to assist the Lead Agency in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources.

Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed to Marcus Griswold, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at (707) 815-6451 or Marcus.Griswold@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Erin Chappell
Erin Chappell
Regional Manager
Bay Delta Region

Attachments: Attachment 1: Special-Status Species and Commercially/Recreationally Important Species

ec: Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse, Sacramento
Craig Weightman, CDFW Bay Delta Region – Craig.Weightman@wildlife.ca.gov
Jason Faridi, CDFW Bay Delta Region – Jason.Faridi@wildlife.ca.gov

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ATTACHMENT 1: Special-Status Species

Species	Status
Fish and Invertebrates	
Crotch's bumble bee (<i>Bombus crotchii</i>)	State candidate (SC)
Birds	
burrowing owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>)	SC
loggerhead shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>)	SSC
Mammals	
American badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>)	SSC
pallid bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>)	SSC
San Joaquin kit fox (<i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i>)	Federally Endangered (FE), ST
Townsend's big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>)	SSC
Reptiles and Amphibians	
Alameda whipsnake (<i>Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus</i>)	FT, ST
California red-legged frog (<i>Rana draytonii</i>)	FT, SSC
western pond turtle (<i>Emys marmorata</i>)	Proposed FT, SSC