

**Notice of Determination****- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
 For U.S. Mail:  
 P.O. Box 3044  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)  
 Central Region  
 1234 East Shaw Avenue  
 Fresno, CA 93710  
 Contact: Stephanie Manzo  
 Phone: (559) 578-0409

**Lead Agency:**

San Benito County  
 2301 Technology Parkway, Hollister, CA 95023  
 Contact: Steve Wittry  
 Phone: (831) 636-4170

**SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21108**

State Clearinghouse Number: 2012081021

**Project Title:** Union Road Bridge Replacement Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2022-048-04 (ITP))

**Project Location:** The Union Road Bridge Replacement Project (Project) is located just south of Hollister in unincorporated San Benito County. The Project is located on Union Road, in between Cienega Road and San Benito Street, where Union Road crosses the San Benito River at approximately 36.82668, -121.40082. The Project site occurs within the U.S. Geological Survey Hollister, California Quadrangle Map (Township 12 South; Range 5 East) and is surrounded by agricultural and rural-residential areas, as well as urban areas of Hollister to the north.

**Project Description:** This proposed project includes the following elements: (1) realignment of Union Road from 825 feet west of Cienega Road to 1250 feet east of San Benito Street; (2) extension of San Benito Street 350 feet south from its current intersection with Union Road to its new intersection with the realigned Union Road; (3) reconstruction of the Cienega Road intersection with a traffic signal; (4) construction of a new Union Road bridge; (5) removal of the existing Union Road roadbed; (6) removal of the existing fill prisms leading to the existing Union Road bridge; and (7) removal of the existing Union Road bridge.

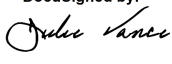
The Project will result in the permanent loss of 3.43 acres of upland dispersal and refugial habitat for California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), the temporary loss of 16.18 acres of upland dispersal and refugial habitat for California tiger salamander, and impacts to 5.05 acres of low-quality dispersal habitat for California tiger salamander, consisting of previously developed paved roadways. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of California tiger salamander, which is designated as a threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [ the lead agency /  a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on 6/7/2023 and made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project [ will /  will not] have a significant effect on the environment (This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a responsible agency).
2. [ An environmental impact report /  A negative declaration] was prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
3. Additional mitigation measures [ were /  were not] made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [ was /  was not] adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [ was /  was not] adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings [ were /  were not] made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081(a). CDFW did, however, adopt findings to document its compliance with CEQA.
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4 (check one):
  - Payment is submitted with this notice.
  - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.

**Notice of Determination**

Responsible Agency statement: The Negative Declaration prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFW's administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:  
  
FA83F09FE08945A...

Signature

Date: 6/7/2023

Julie A. Vance, *Regional Manager*

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_