

Notice of Determination

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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:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd, Ste C220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: Heather Pert
Phone: 909-980-1381



Lead Agency:

Coachella Valley Water District
75-515 Hovley Lane East
Palm Desert, CA 92211
Contact: William Patterson
Phone: 760-398-2651

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2015111067

Project Title: Coachella Valley Stormwater Improvement Project – Ave 54 to Thermal Drop Structure (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2019-0235-R6)

Project Location (include county): The Project is located in the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel, between the Avenue 52 and the Thermal Drop Structure between Avenues 57 and 58, about 0.5 miles north of the unincorporated community of Thermal in the County of Riverside, State of California; Latitude 33.648360 N, Longitude 116.140860 W, Township 6 South, Range 8 East, U.S. Geological Survey maps Indio and Mecca, California, San Bernardino Meridian.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2019-0235-R6, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Coachella Valley Water District, as represented by Steve Bigley. The Project proposed to install channel modifications to reduce the flood hazard associated with a 100-year flood event and to meet the minimum requirement of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Channel modifications include installation of reinforced concrete-lined slope protection from about 130 feet upstream of Avenue 54 to about 300 feet downstream of the existing Thermal Drop Structure. Side-slope protection is to be buried with soil. Concrete channel bottom lining will occur at two locations. Channel bottom lining will occur from about 250 feet upstream to 250 feet downstream of the Airport Boulevard bridge. Channel bottom lining will also occur from about 600 feet upstream of the northernmost Union Pacific Railroad to about 500 feet downstream of the Highway 111 bridge. The channel is proposed to be lowered for a distance of about 5000 feet upstream from the Thermal Drop Structure.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described project on October 6, 2020 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

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. CDFW considered the environmental impact report prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. 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 California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The final environmental impact report 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 Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:
Scott Wilson
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10/6/2020

Signature

Date:

Scott Wilson, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____