

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:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Director's Office
 P.O. Box 944209
 Contact: Brandy Wood
 Phone: (909) 483-6319

**Lead Agency**

San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
 1630 W. Redlands Blvd.
 Redlands, CA 92373
 Contact: Daniel Cozad
 Phone: (909)793-2503

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2018011024

Project Title: Plunge Creek Conservation Project (Plunge Creek Conservation Safe Harbor Agreement 2089-2020-002-06)

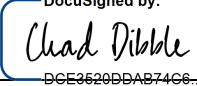
Project Location: The property subject to this Agreement (Enrolled Property), consists of 208 acres located within the active and historic floodplain of Plunge Creek, upstream of the Orange Street Bridge and immediately south of Abbey Way, in the City of Highland, County of San Bernardino (Latitude 34.104969, Longitude -117.158794). The Enrolled Property consists of approximately 8,300 feet of Plunge Creek.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Safe Harbor Agreement number 2089-2020-002-06, pursuant to section 2089 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District. The Plunge Creek Conservation Project will move flows from the active channel of Plunge Creek, through the historic floodplain, and back to the active channel by the excavation of two pilot channels. The reintroduction of fluvial processes into the historic floodplain and habitat enhancement activities are expected re-establish pioneer Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub (RAFSS) habitat which, in turn, is expected to expand suitable habitat for the Santa Ana River woollystar (SAWS) and San Bernardino kangaroo rat (SBKR). The Project result would be a more complex channel morphology with a network of distributary channels, expanded suitable habitat for SAWS and SBKR, and enhanced groundwater recharge.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described project on May 28, 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 Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations sections 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 Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for the project is available to the general public on the Lead Agency's website. CDFW's record of project approval as Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:

 Signature _____ Date: 5/28/2020
 Chad Dibble, Deputy Director

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____