

Notice of Determination

To:
Office of Planning and Research
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From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Contact: Alyssa Marquez
Email: Alyssa.Marquez@Wildlife.ca.gov
Phone: 760-567-0332



Lead Agency
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Contact: Chuck Halloway
Email: Chuck.Halloway@ladwp.com
Phone: 213-367-0285

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

State Clearinghouse Number: SCH # 2002111020, SCH # 2005061068, SCH # 2007021127

Project Title: Owens Lake Tillage with Best Available Control Measure (BACM) Backup (TwB²) Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. (1600-2020-0105-R6))

Project Location (Inyo County): The Project is located in the Owens Lake bed, between the communities of Lone Pine and Olancho, bounded by State Route 136 to the north and east, State Route 190 to the South, and US Highway 395 to the West, in the County of Inyo, State of California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has amended Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (1600-2020-0105-R6), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

The proposed Project is limited to alterations to Dust Control Area (DCA) T2-2 and T16 to improve water distribution, attain target water depths and to improve LADWP's ability to manage salinity. Project activities in T2-2 include grading, removing one existing islands and replacing it with four new gravel bar islands and excavation of a new deeper pond with the DCA. Project activities in T16 include constructing new controlled outlet structures and sumps, drainage channels, an additional freshwater inlet, pump pads and new salinity sampling stations. The Project also includes improving roads to allow equipment access.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on September 26, 2022 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project **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** made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Reporting or Monitoring Plan **was** adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations **was not** adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings **were** made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The Final EIR 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 a Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

Signature: Alisa Ellsworth Date: 9/26/2022
DocuSigned by: Alisa Ellsworth
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 Alisa Ellsworth, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____