

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)
 Region 4
 1234 East Shaw Avenue
 Fresno, California 93710
 Contact: Jim Vang
 Phone: (559) 243-4014, ext. 254

Lead Agency
 Department of Water Resources
 1416 Ninth Street, Room 604
 Sacramento, California 95825
 Contact: Shelly Amrhein
 Phone: (916) 653-6973

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2009091004

Project Title: B.F. Sisk Safety of Dams Geotechnical Investigations Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2019-028-04 (ITP))

Project Location: The Project is located adjacent to the B.F. Sisk Dam, an impoundment for the San Luis Reservoir, located 12 miles west of Los Banos, in Merced County, California.

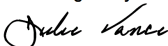
Project Description: This proposed project involves a variety of methods (i.e., geotechnical borings, cone penetration tests, in-situ pump out tests, test pits) used to explore and characterize embankment and foundation materials downstream of the dam axis to gather data for use in analysis and design for the proposed B.F. Sisk Safety of Dams Modification Project.

The Project will result in temporary impacts to 4 acres of California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) habitat and 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 3/23/2020 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).
 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.
- Responsible Agency statement: The EIR 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.

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Signature

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Date: 3/23/2020

Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: MAR 24 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE