

Notice of Determination

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 4
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
Contact: Sarah Bahm (559) 243-4014

Lead Agency

Kern County Planning and Community Development
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301
Lorelei Oviatt (661) 862-8866

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2013081079

Project Title: Revisions to Kern County Zoning Ordinance - 2015 (C), Focus on Oil and Gas Local Permitting

Valley Resources, LLC Shideler Oil Exploratory Drilling Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2019-009-04 (ITP))

Project Location: The Shideler Exploratory Drilling Project (Project) is located within the existing California Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources Administrative Boundaries of North Belridge Oil Field in the unincorporated portion of western Kern County. The Project is approx. 9.4 miles southwest of Lost Hills and approx. 1.35 miles from State Route (SR) 33 in Township 27 South, Range 20 East, Section 28.

Project Description: The originally approved project consists of an amendment to Title 19 Kern County Zoning Ordinance, with focus on Ch. 19.98 (Oil and Gas Production), to include new site development standards for all oil and gas exploration, extraction, operations, and production activities in unincorporated Kern County. CDFW, as the Responsible Agency, will be issuing an ITP for the Project, which consists of the following: Valley Resources, LLC will be constructing one drilling pad with two roadway access points (1.995-acre Project Site) to drill one initial exploratory oil well followed by drilling two additional oil producing wells within two years, if the exploratory well is successful.

The Project will result in permanent impacts to 1.995 acres of San Joaquin antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*) and San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*) habitat. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of San Joaquin antelope squirrel and San Joaquin kit fox which are designated as a threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act. 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 9/27/19 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):

Notice of Determination

- 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.

Signature  Date: 9/27/19
Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: SEP 27 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE