

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
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
Contact: Annee Ferranti
Phone: (559) 243-4005

Lead Agency
Merced County, Attn: Planning and
Community Development Department
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340
Contact: Oksana Newmen
Phone: (209) 385-7654

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21108
State Clearinghouse Number: 2013101071

Project Title: Wright Solar Park Project; Minor Amendment No. 1 to the California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2018-014-04 (ITP) (Amendment No. 1)

Project Location: The Project is located west of Interstate 5, south of Billy Wright Road and north of the Los Banos Reservoir, approximately 6 miles southwest of the City of Los Banos and the mitigation land is located west of Interstate 5, approximately 3 miles west of the intersection of Interstate 5 and Highway 165 in unincorporated areas of western Merced County, California.

Project Description: This proposed Project involves the construction, operation, and decommissioning of a 200-megawatt photovoltaic solar power-generating facility. The Project is composed of a 1,250-acre solar site, including access road improvements. Amendment No. 1 extends the deadline in which to complete the compensatory mitigation obligations.

The Project will result in permanent and temporary impacts to 1,250 acres of low to moderate quality San Joaquin kit fox (Vulpes macrotis mutica) and high Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni) habitat. As authorized in the ITP, Amendment No. 1 is not expected to result in an increase in incidental take of San Joaquin kit fox or Swainson's hawk, which are designated as threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [] the lead agency / [X] a responsible agency approved the above-described project on 3/16/2020 and made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

- 1. The project [] will / [X] will not have a significant effect on the environment...
2. [X] An environmental impact report / [] A negative declaration was prepared...
3. Additional mitigation measures [X] were / [] were not made...
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [X] was / [] was not adopted...
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [] was / [X] was not adopted...
6. Findings [X] were / [] were not made...
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement...
[X] Responsible Agency statement: The EIR prepared by the lead agency...

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

Date: 3/16/2020

Date Received for filing at OPR: MAR 17 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE