Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research CEQA Submit

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife Inland Desert Region 3602 Inland Empire Blvd C-220 Ontario, CA 91764 Contact: Jacob Skaggs

Email: jacob.skaggs@wildlife.ca.gov

Lead Agency Coachella Valley Association of Governments 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 200 Palm Desert, CA 92260

Contact: Jonathan Hoy Email: Jhoy@cvag.org

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2013111050

Project Title: CV Link Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2016-0248-R6

Project Location (Riverside County): The Project is located at up to 31 locations along Tahquitz Creek, tributary to the Whitewater River, and along the Whitewater River (Whitewater River Stormwater Channel and Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel), within the Cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Palm Desert, La Quinta, Indio, Coachella, portions of the Reservations for three Native American tribes (Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians and Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians), and unincorporated areas of Riverside County, State of California. If the Cities of Rancho Mirage and Indian Wells participate in the project, then this Agreement applies also to work within those cities.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has amended Streambed Alteration Agreement 1600-2016-0248-R6, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, Jonathan Hoy of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments. The amendment updates the Project Description and Exhibits to include artificial nighttime lighting plans.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on March 11, 2024 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:	DocuSigned by:	Date <u>:</u>	3/13/2024
Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager	84F92FFEEFD24C8		
Date Received for filing at OPR:			