

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)
Region 4 Central
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
Contact: Javler Mendez
Phone: (559) 243-4014, ext. 288

Lead Agency
California Department of Transportation
855 M Street
Fresno, CA 93721
Contact: Ronald Cummings
Phone: (559) 445-6236

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21108
State Clearinghouse Number: 2015041023

Project Title: State Route 119-43-Enos Lane Intersection Improvement Project (Major Amendment No. 1, California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2018-051-04 (ITP))

Project Location: The Project involves improvements to an intersection at State Route 119 and State Route 43/Enos Lane in Kern County. The 7.5-acre Project Area is located within Sections 35 of Township 31 South, Range 25 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian (MDB&M), Section 36 of Township 30 South, Range 25 East, MDB&M, Section 1 of Township 31 South, Range 25 East, MDB&M, and Section 2 of Township 31 South, Range 25 East, MDB&M.

Project Description: The Project is being implemented to improve the continuity, safety, and capacity of the 0.7-mile segment of State Route 119 between post mile 17.8 and post mile 18.5; and the 0.6-mile segment of State Route 43/Enos Lane between post mile 0.5 and a point 0.2 mile south of the intersection. The Project involves: demolition of the existing conventional intersection at State Route (SR) 119 and SR 43/Enos Lane and the construction of curved "chicane" approach lanes to a new roundabout traffic circle intersection.

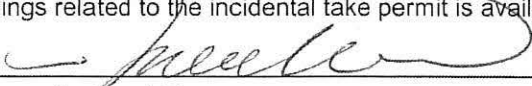
The Project could result in take of Tipton kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitradooides nitradooides*), San Joaquin antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*), and San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*) in the form of mortality ("kill") due to vehicle strikes, destruction of burrows, or loss of suitable habitat resulting in the loss of individuals over the five-year term of the ITP. Tipton kangaroo rat is listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). San Joaquin kit fox, and San Joaquin antelope squirrel are listed as threatened under CESA. This Major Amendment No. 1 to the ITP authorizes four changes to the original ITP, including addition of San Joaquin antelope squirrel to the list of Covered Species, removing the requirement that trapping activities are conducted prior to installation of the Covered Species exclusion fence, clarifies the requirement to trap and hand excavate burrows within the Project Area buffer, and modifies the Covered Species exclusion fence design requirement.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on 4/13/19 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 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 not made/ were made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081(a). CDFW did, however, adopt findings to document its compliance with CEQA.
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.

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Responsible Agency statement: The IS/MND 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: 4/8/19
Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 08 2019
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE