

Notice of Determination

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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:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: Marissa Caringella
Phone: (909) 980-1381



Lead Agency

California Department of Transportation
(Caltrans), District 8
464 West 4th Street, 6th Floor, MS-827
San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400
Contact: James Shankel
Phone: (909) 383-6379

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2015071074

Project Title: Interstate 15 Express Lanes Project (Minor Amendment to Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2017-0010-R6 [Revision 2])

Project Location: The project is located along Interstate 15 (I-15) within the cities of Corona, Norco, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, and various unincorporated areas within the County of Riverside, State of California. Specific project locations subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602 include the I-15 crossings at Temescal Wash (33.872994° N, -117.544997° W), Arlington Channel (33.878864° N, -117.546039° W), and the Santa Ana River (33.947492° N, -117.554050° W).

Project Description: Minor Amendment to previously executed Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2017-0010-R6 (Revision 2), pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Riverside County Transportation Commission.

The amendment authorizes increases of habitat impacts of 0.05 acres (from 15.80 acres to 15.85 acres), for the project to construct up to two express lanes between post miles 36.8 and 51.4 of I-15 in Riverside County. The project will: construct one express lane in each direction from just south of Cajalco Road to El Cerrito Road; construct two express lanes in each direction from El Cerrito Road to north of Ontario Avenue; construct one express lane in each direction from just north of Ontario Avenue to Hidden Valley Parkway; construct two express lanes in each direction from Hidden Valley Parkway to Cantu Galleano Ranch Road; and construct one express lane in each direction from Cantu Galleano Ranch Road to State Route 60. A total of 11 bridges will be widened from project activities, three of which cross areas subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602: Temescal Wash, Arlington Channel, and the Santa Ana River.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described project on July 26, 2019 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 mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. 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 not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration 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 Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

Signature _____ *Date:* _____

Scott Wilson, Environmental Program Manager

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: **JULY 25 2019**

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE