## 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) Inland Deserts Region I3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220 Ontario, CA 91764 Contact: Ali Aghili Phone: (760) 900-4448

California Department of Transportation District 8 464 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, 6th Floor, MS 833 San Bernardino, CA 92401 Contact: Adam Compton Phone: (909) 383-7555

## SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21108 State Clearinghouse Number: 2018081100

Project Title: Interstate 40 Median Regrade Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2019-006-06 (ITP))

Project Location (include county): The Project extends along a 29.6-miles distance between PM 125.0 to PM 154.6 on I-40 in the unincorporated territory of San Bernardino County, California.

Project Description: The Project includes re-grading the median cross slopes from the existing 6:1 or steeper gradients to 10:1 or flatter gradients. The Project will result in permanent impacts to 247 acres of Agassiz's desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) habitat. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of Agassiz's Desert Tortoise, which is 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 [ $\Box$  the lead agency / 🕅 a responsible agency] approved the abovedescribed project on  $\underline{M2.3/202.0}$  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 CDFWs 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 [X were / ] were not] made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
- 4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [K] was / [] was not] adopted by CDFW for this project.
- 5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [ was / xwas not] adopted by CDFW for this project.
- 6. Findings [ were / kere not] 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.
  - X A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.
- Responsible Agency statement: The Negative Declaration prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFWs administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFWs regional office.

Signature

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Date: 1/23/2020-0

Leslie MacNair, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_