



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
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To:
Office of Land Use and Climate
Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region
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Lead Agency (if different than CDFW)
California Department of
Transportation
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NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code

State Clearinghouse Number: 2008111038

Project Title: State Route 11 and the Otay Mesa East Port of Entry EIR (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081b-2026-005-05 (ITP))

Project Location (San Diego County): The State Route 11 and Otay Mesa East Port of Entry Project (Project) is located in eastern San Diego County at the United States-Mexico international border, located at approximately 32.555876, -116.911996. The Project site is the southernmost 20 acres just north of and between the border walls of the U.S.-Mexico international border.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has issued an ITP (No. 2081b-2026-005-05), pursuant to Section 2081(b) of the Fish and Game Code to the California Department of Transportation.

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The Project includes fill placement and grading of the remaining 20 acres on the Otay Mesa East Port of Entry (POE)/Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility. This site is within the larger, 213-acre project footprint that began in 2012, which included modifications to approximately 2.1 miles of State Route 11 (SR-11), from Harvest Road to the future POE/CVEF. The Project will actively translocate burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) to a receiver site, which may include the Otay Business Park – Ramona mitigation site, the Ramona Grasslands mitigation bank, or another receptor site that is conserved and managed in perpetuity, as approved by CDFW. Lastly, the Project includes management activities at the mitigation site, the Lonestar Preserve.

The Project will result in impacts to six individuals of burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*); the Project will permanently remove 20 acres of burrowing owl habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of burrowing owl, which is/are designated as a candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). 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 a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on 02/13/2026 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

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. An environmental impact report **was** prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
3. Additional 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 Public Resources Code § 21081(a).

Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4: **A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.**

The environmental impact report prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead

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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:  B6E58CFE24724F5... Date: 2/13/2026

Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Regional Manager