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Notice of Determination

To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
CEQA Submit

From:
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
Contact: Clint Stevens
Email: Clint.Stevens@wildlife.ca.gov.
Phone: 559-578-0837

Lead Agency
Merced Irrigation District
744 West 20th Street
Merced, California 95340
Contact: Bryan Kelley
Email: bkelly@mercedid.org
Phone: 209-722-5761

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2017051054

Project Title: Bear Creek Gauging Station (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-MER-55121-R4)

Project Location: The Project activity in Bear Creek at the Crane Road crossing southwest of the City of Merced, Merced County, State of California; Assessor's Parcel Number 065-010-015; GPS coordinates Latitude 37.256508, Longitude -120.651942.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed a Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-MER-55121-R4), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, Merced Irrigation District.

The Project includes activities related to the maintenance of an existing stream gauge station. Project activities also include site preparation to clear the site, excavation and repair or replacement of facility materials, permanent rock slope protection installation vegetation maintenance, and sediment removal.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on 11/4/2026 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 Environmental Impact Report 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.

DocuSigned by:
Signature: _____ *Date:* 11/4/2026
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Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at LCI: