

**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:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)  
 Central Region  
 1234 East Shaw Ave. Fresno, California 93710  
 Contact: Mary Trask  
 Phone: 559-939-0282

Lead Agency

California Department of Transportation  
 2015 East Shields Ave, Suite 100, Fresno, CA 93726  
 Contact: John Thomas  
 Phone: (559) 445-6461

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2015051074

Project Title: Madera 41 Expressway Project (Project) (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2024-068-04 (ITP))

Project Location: The is located on State Route 41 between post miles 1.5 and 7.6 in Madera County, approximately 4 miles north of the City of Fresno.

Project Description: The Project involves expanding the existing two-lane highway into a divided four-lane expressway within the 6.1-mile section of State Route 41.

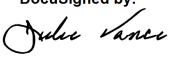
The Project is expected to result in incidental take of California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), which is designated as a threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and San Joaquin orcutt grass (*Orcuttia inaequalis*), which is designated as an endangered species under the CESA. The Project is expected to result in the permanent loss of approximately 70.04 acres of upland habitat and 0.21 acre of breeding habitat for California tiger salamander, temporary impacts to approximately 21.03 acres of upland habitat and 2.96 acres of breeding habitat for California tiger salamander, permanent loss of approximately 1.35 acres of suitable habitat for San Joaquin Valley orcutt grass, and approximately 2.14 acres of temporary impacts to suitable habitat for San Joaquin Valley orcutt grass. 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 [ the lead agency /  a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on 5/28/2025 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 original 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 /  were 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.
  - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.

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Responsible Agency statement: The Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment 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.

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Signature

Date: 5/28/2025

Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_