

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
Contact: Jennifer Blackhall
Email: EPIMS.R5@wildlife.ca.gov



Lead Agency
City of Irvine
1 Civic Center
Irvine, CA 92606
Contact: Alyssa Matheus
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SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 1994051049

Project Title: Shady Canyon Community Fuels Management and Riparian Enhancement Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-ORA-47949-R5).

Project Location (Orange County): The Shady Canyon Community Fuels Management and Riparian Enhancement Project (Project) is located at Shady Creek and several unnamed tributaries to San Diego Creek, Orange County; latitude 33.623666, longitude -117.803032. The Project encompasses a 150-foot wide fuel modification zone between structures around the entire perimeter of the Shady Canyon Community. The site for the restoration activities is located just south of Boulder View, between Sage Creek and Tree Fern streets, at latitude 33.632888, longitude -117.784076. A portion of the Project is located within the boundaries of the County of Orange Central and Coastal Subregion Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-ORA-47949-R5), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the Project Applicant, Shady Canyon Community Association.

The Project is limited to fuel management activities, including removal of dead and dying vegetation, removal of non-native grasses, removal of highly-flammable, non-native plant species, and the establishment of vertical and horizontal spacing between trees and shrubs via trimming and thinning. The work will be performed in accordance with an annual rotation schedule. The Project also includes riparian restoration to offset vegetation clearance activities from 2022. The Willow Habitat Enhancement Area has largely revegetated since the 2022 events but will be enhanced to ensure high quality habitat is maintained. The site will be kept weed-free through annual maintenance where non-native plants will be removed by hand tools and disposed off site.

Equipment anticipated to be used include loppers, hedge shears, hand pruners, weed whips, mowers, shovels, pickaxes, chainsaw, and other hand tools. No heavy equipment is anticipated to be used. Staging of equipment will occur outside of the stream beds, banks, and channel areas away from riparian vegetation. Access will occur on foot from established roads.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on June 25, 2025, 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).

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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 Final EIR 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.

Signed by:
Signature: Glen Lubcke Date: 6/25/2025
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Glen M. Lubcke, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at LCI: