



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

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

**From:**  
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Irvine Ranch Water District  
Water Resources & Policy Department  
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Resources  
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## NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2019080009

**Project Title:** Syphon Reservoir Improvement Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-ORA-48911-R5)

**Project Location (Orange County):** The Project is located at the existing Syphon Reservoir and unnamed drainages to Syphon Reservoir, northeast of Portola Parkway between Bee Canyon Access Road and SR-133 in the County of Orange, State of California; Latitude 33.712018 N, Longitude -117.729456 W; Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) 104-117-40, 104-117-27, and 104-117-42.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-ORA-48911-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Irvine Ranch Water District, as represented by Paul Cook.

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The Project activities include raising the height of the Syphon Dam, the expansion of the Syphon Reservoir inundation area, and the expansion of Syphon Reservoir Treatment Facilities. Associated activities, including but not limited to, construction of access and maintenance roads, and on-site and off-site mitigation are also included in the Project.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on March 18, 2026 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to Section 15096, subdivision (i) of the California Code of Regulations:

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 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:  AD7D070BCB66466... Date: 3/18/2026

Glen Lubcke, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at LCI: