



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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NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2020049072

Project Title: Phase II Wastewater Collection System (Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act (WJTCA) Incidental Take Permit No. 1927-ITP-2025-009-06-A1 (ITP))

Project Location (San Bernardino County): The project is located within the Town of Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, State of California. The Phase II Sunnyslope Segment (Project) consists of 68 acres and is located approximately 1.50 miles south of the 29 Palms Highway.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has amended an ITP (No. 1927-ITP-2025-009-06-A1), pursuant to Section 1927.3 of the Fish and Game Code to Hi-Desert Water District.

The Project involved the addition of the Sunnyslope Segment to the Phase II Wastewater Collection System. The Project will install 18 miles new sewer infrastructure consisting of 8-inch

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polyvinyl chloride (PVC) sewer main pipes and associated structures, 1,059 PVC service laterals (4-inch and 6-inch) and associated cleanouts, and full street width pavement rehabilitation and/or replacement.

The Project will result in incidental take of 484 western Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*), which is protected under the WJTCA and the California Endangered Species Act. The WJTCA ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of western Joshua tree 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 March 27, 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. A mitigated negative declaration 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 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: **A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.**

The mitigated negative declaration 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.

Signature:  Date: 3/27/2026
Heidi Calvert, Regional Manager