To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
CEQA Submit

From:
California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Contact: Karen Taylor, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)
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Phone: (707) 428-2002

Lead Agency
California Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA 94623
Contact: Juliane Smith, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)
Email: Juliane.Smith@dot.ca.gov
Phone: (510) 926-0426

SUBJECT: ***Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21108***
State Clearinghouse Number: **2022070088**

Project Title: Petaluma River Bridge Fenders Project (04-2Q500) [California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2024-011-03 (ITP)]

Project Location: The Project is located in Novato crossing the Petaluma River, adjacent to State Route 37 at PM 14.5 in the County of Marin, State of California; Latitude 38.115330, Longitude -122.506179.

Project Description: The Project will rehabilitate the bridge deck, upgrade the bridge railings, and replace the bridge fender system to meet current standards. The fender system protects the bridge bents from direct impact from vessels traveling in the navigable channel of the Petaluma River, and replacement of the fenders is needed to ensure the structure is protected.

Impacts to longfin smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*; LFS) habitat include 0.01 acres of permanent impacts and 0.3 acres of temporary (hydroacoustic) impacts to in-water habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of the LFS, designated as a threatened species under CESA. 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 5/15/2025 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.

☒ Responsible Agency statement: The 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 DocuSigned by: Erin Chappell B77E9A6211EF486... *Date:* 5/15/2025

Erin Chappell, *Regional Manager*

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____