

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation

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From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Ste 220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: Edith Martinez
Email: Edith.Martinez@wildlife.ca.gov
Phone: (909) 484-0523

**Lead Agency**

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Contact: Alex Marks
Email: AMarks@mwdh2o.com
Phone: 213-217-7629

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2022120316

Project Title: Copper Basin Discharge Valve Replacement and Access Road Improvements Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SBR-42438-R6)

Project Location (San Bernardino): The Copper Basin Discharge Valve Replacement and Access Road Improvements Project is located at Copper Basin Reservoir, which lies approximately 5 miles west of Parker Dam and the border between California and Arizona, in unincorporated San Bernardino County, California; Latitude 34.282847, Longitude -114.235758.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed and issued Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SBR-42438-R6, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, to the project Applicant, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Project proposes to rehabilitate the slide gate valve and replace the discharge valve within the Copper Basin Dam valve house; install new conduit and electrical components within the valve house; install three new concrete pads and electrical components 250 feet southwest of the Copper Basin Dam; install and anchor-in-place approximately 250 feet of above-ground electrical conduit from the new concrete pads to Copper Basin Dam; replace the ladder on the dam face; install a new catwalk and stairs immediately downstream of and adjacent to the valve house; remove and reconstruct two existing concrete weirs approximately 125 feet downstream of Copper Basin Dam; and install electrical conduit and instrumentation from the two weirs along the catwalk to the valve house. Additionally, the Project will rehabilitate approximately 1.66 miles of the existing dirt access road around the perimeter of Copper Basin Reservoir to facilitate safe access to the base of Copper Basin Dam.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on 12/15/2025 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 **Mitigated Negative Declaration** 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 not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration 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.

DocuSigned by:

Kim Freeburn

Signature: _____

Date: 12/15/2025

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Kim Freeburn, Environmental Program Manager

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Date Received for filing at LCI: