

Notice of Determination**- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research
 For U.S. Mail:
 P.O. Box 3044
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
 Central Region
 1234 East Shaw Ave. Fresno, California 93710
 Contact: Grant Piepkorn
 Email: grant.piepkorn@wildlife.ca.gov
 Phone: (559) 807-1459

Lead Agency

California Department of Transportation
 2015 East Shields Ave, Suite 100, Fresno, CA 93726
 Contact: Dena Gonzalez
 Email: dena.gonzalez@dot.ca.gov
 Phone: (559) 978-6865

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2023020265

Project Title: Tulare 245 Culvert Rehabilitation Project (Project), California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2024-0064-04 (ITP)

Project Location: The Project is located on State Route 245 between post miles 3.38 and 23.91 in Tulare County, in the vicinity of the community of Woodlake.

Project Description: The Project involves replacing and rehabilitating 35 existing drainage culverts in Tulare County. The culvert replacements and rehabilitations are needed to prevent flooding of the roadway and extend the service life of the culverts for a larger project to improve stormwater drainage on State Route 245.

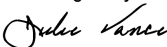
The Project is expected to result in incidental take of California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*, CTS), which is designated as a threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act. The Project is expected to result in temporary impacts to 1.003 acres of CTS upland habitat. The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of the Project.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as ☐ the lead agency / ☒ a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on 5/22/2025 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 Initial Study/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.

DocuSigned by:



Signature

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Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date: 5/22/2025

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____