

Notice of Determination

To:

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

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region 5
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
Contact: Jennifer Blackbird
Email: Jennifer.Blackbird@wildlife.ca.gov
Phone: (858) 354-3285



Lead Agency
City of Irvine
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606
Contact: Brenda Corona
Email: BCorona@cityofirvine.org
Phone: (949) 724-7538

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2023080528

Project Title: Hicks Canyon Project (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-ORA-47492-R5)

Project Location (Orange): The Hicks Canyon Project (Project) is located within the City of Irvine in Orange County, California. The site is located 1.25 miles east of Interstate 5 and 0.6 miles south of State Route 261 within the Hicks Canyon Wash corridor and can be located using the following information: latitude 33.72269, longitude - 117.75979; Assessor's Parcel Number 530-111-43.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-ORA-47492-R5), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602, the project Applicant, City of Irvine.

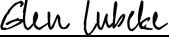
The Project is limited to the regrading of a 1.2-mile segment of Hicks Canyon Wash in compliance with 100-year flow management practices and the extension and connection of six existing storm drains to an existing 120-inch pipeline north of the site. The grading would also include the installation of six 15-foot-wide berms over each pipe extension to provide trail crossings over the wash. These berms will block the channel from flows, however the water sources from the six existing storm drains will be redirected into the underground pipeline and the channel will no longer receive flows. The storm drain extensions will also have 18-inch drainage inlets at the base of the berms which will drain any rainwater that exceeds these volumes. The Project will also remove several abandoned concrete structures, such as rip-rap segments, along the wash. This Agreement does not cover any routine maintenance of fuel modification activities.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on January 8, 2026 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.

Notice of Determination

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.

Signed by:  AD7D070BCB66466... Date: 1/8/2026

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Glen M. Lubcke, Environmental Program Manager

Date Received for filing at LCI: