



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Inland Deserts Region
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
VALERIE TERMINI, Acting Director



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

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
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Ontario, CA 91764
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Lead Agency (if different than CDFW)
The Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Contact: Ms. Michelle Morrison,
Environmental Planning Section
Email: mmorrison@mwdh20.com
Phone: (213) 217-7906

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2024050868

Project Title: Inland Feeder – Foothill Pump Station Intertie Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2025-021-06 (ITP))

Project Location (San Bernardino County): The Project is located at the intersection of Greenspot Road and Cone Camp Road in the City of Highland, San Bernardino County.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has issued an ITP (No. 2081-2025-021-06), pursuant to Section 2081(b) of the Fish and Game Code to The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

This proposed project involves the installation of two new pipeline connections between the Inland Feeder and the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water

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District-Inland Feeder Interconnection Line 1 and Foothill Pump Station. Both new pipelines would have their own valves, valve vault structures, and surge tanks. Additionally, a vault structure with valve will be installed on the Inland Feeder to control direction of water flow along Inland Feeder. Construction staging and storage would occur on the open dirt and gravel space within Metropolitan's fee property in the Project Area.

The Project will result in impacts to 1.77 acres of San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) habitat including temporary impacts to 0.91 acres; the Project will permanently remove 0.86 acres of San Bernardino kangaroo rat habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of San Bernardino kangaroo rat, which is/are designated as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act (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 a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on 2/9/2026 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.

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DocuSigned by:
Signature: Heidi Calvert Date: 2/9/2026
Heidi Calvert, Regional Manager