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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Ontario, CA, 91764
wildlife.ca.gov

To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
CEQA Submit

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Ontario, CA, 91764
Contact: Scott Jakubowski, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)
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City of Barstow
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Barstow, CA 92311
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NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2024020501

Project Title: Barstow Internation Gateway Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081(b)-2026-009-06 (ITP))

Project Location (San Bernardino County): The Barstow International Gateway Project (Project) is located partly within the City of Barstow and unincorporated San Bernardino County. It lies about two and a half miles southwest of State Highway 58 and three and a half miles northwest of Interstate 15 at approximately latitude 34.853903° N and longitude -117.159799° W. The Project area is bounded by the Mojave River to the north, Main Street to the south, Lenwood Road to the east, and Hinkley Road to the west.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has issued an ITP (No. 2081(b)-2026-009-06), pursuant to Section 2081(b) of the Fish and Game Code to Burlington Northern and Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway.

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The Project's primary function is to create an integrated rail facility to allow direct transfer of freight containers from ships at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to trains for transport through the Alameda Corridor onto the BNSF mainline and to the Project Area. Once at the Project Area, freight will be transloaded from international containers to domestic containers for subsequent nationwide distribution. The Project includes the development of approximately 4,400 acres of previously developed, undeveloped, vacant, and agricultural land. The Project will relocate existing facilities, construct new facilities, expand existing facilities, and includes operations and maintenance.

The Project will result in impacts to 3,968.20 acres of Agassiz's desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) habitat and impacts to 3,947.68 acres of western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia* ssp. *hypugaea*) habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of Agassiz's desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*), which is designated as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and incidental take of western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia* ssp. *hypugaea*), which is designated as a candidate 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 a Responsible Agency, approved the Project described above on July 15, 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. An environmental impact report **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** made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081(a).
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 environmental impact report 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: Heidi Calvert CAEE4779B63E4A3... *Date:* 7/15/2026

Heidi Calvert, Regional Manager