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NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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-2220
Ontario, CA, 91764
Contact: Scott Jakubowski, Senior ES
Email: scott.jakubowski@wildlife.ca.gov
Phone: (909) 354-0919

City of Barstow
220 E. Mountain View Street
Barstow, CA, 92311
Contact: Chris Heldreth, Building Inspector
Email: cheldreth@barstowca.org
Phone: (760) 255-5151

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2024020501

Project Title: Barstow International Gateway Project [Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act (WJTCA) Incidental Take Permit No. 1927-ITP-2026-087-06 (ITP)]

Project Location (San Bernardino County): The Barstow International Gateway Project (Project) is primarily located within the City of Barstow and in unincorporated San Bernardino County. The Project is located two and a half miles southwest of State Highway 58 and three and a half miles northwest of Interstate 15 and is approximately centered at latitude 34.853903^0 N and longitude -117.159799^0 W. The Project is bounded by the Mojave River to the north and Main Street and Hinkley Road to the west (Project Site).

WJTs occur within a 9.2 acre area in the northeastern portion of the Project Site, specifically bounded between the BNSF railroad to the north, Main Street to the south, an unnamed ephemeral wash near Viejo Court to the west, and Ash Road to the northeast, and approximately centered at latitude 34.873910° N and longitude -117.1180517° W.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has issued an ITP (No. 1927-ITP-2026-087-06), pursuant to Section 1927.3 of the Fish and Game Code to BNSF Railway Company.

The Project involves the development of approximately 4,300 acres to construct and operate an integrated rail facility featuring mainline rail improvements, an intermodal yard, a block swap yard, utility improvements, rail and circulation improvements, an ancillary rail area, and a 9-million-square-foot transload warehouse center. Once operational, the facility will facilitate the direct transfer of freight containers from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long

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Beach to the Project Site for transloading from international to domestic containers and subsequent nationwide distribution.

The Project will result in incidental take of 32 western Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*) which is protected under the WJTCA and the California Endangered Species Act. The WJTCA ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of western Joshua tree 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 09/03/2026, 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.

DocuSigned by:
Signature: Heidi Calvert CAEE4779B63E4A3... *Date:* 9/8/2026

Heidi Calvert, Regional Manager