



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

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

**From:**  
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## NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2024090237

**Project Title:** Sun Lakes Boulevard Extension (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081(b)-2025-079-06 (ITP))

**Project Location (Riverside):** The Sun Lakes Boulevard Extension Project (Project) is located within the City of Banning, Riverside County. The Project is located approximately 1.1 miles east of Sun Lakes Country Club at approximately 33.91798, -116.91975. The Project site is bounded by Interstate 10 to the north, South Sunset Ave to the east, and undeveloped land to the south. The project includes portions of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs): 419-140-039, 537-110-013, 537-110-014, 537-120-023, 537-120-024, 537-120-025, 537-120-027, 537-120-028, 537-120-029, 537-120-030, 537-120-031, .537-120-033, 537-120-034, 537-140-001, 537-140-002, 538-323-024, and 538-323-029.

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**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has issued an ITP (No. 2081(b)-2025-079-06), pursuant to Section 2081(b) of the Fish and Game Code to Public Works Department, City of Banning.

The Project includes the construction of a new arterial roadway that will traverse a 28.54 acre (19.52-acre direct footprint and 9.02-acre temporary construction disturbance area) undeveloped area crossing three major waterways: Highland Wash, Smith Creek, and Pershing Creek. The 1.02-mile, 110-foot wide road will include two eastbound and two westbound lanes separated by a raised median, reinforced concrete box culverts at each creek crossing, storm water infrastructure with sediment filtration and conveyance improvements, abandonment in place of existing Westward Avenue culverts, and participation in regional sediment transport planning for the Smith Creek watershed. Project construction is anticipated to occur within two years and will require approximately 98,180 cubic yards of imported soil. Project activities include the use of excavators, rubber-tired dozers and loaders, scrapers, and other material-delivery vehicles during daylight hours, and other activities.

The Project will result in impacts to 25.32 acres of Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) habitat including temporary impacts to 8.09 acres; the Project will permanently remove 17.23 acres of Crotch's bumble bee habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of Crotch's bumble bee, which is designated as a candidate 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 4/22/2026 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

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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:  
*Heidi Calvert*  
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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 4/22/2026  
Heidi Calvert, Regional Manager