

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE



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August 25, 2026

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Subject: CUP #26-001 – RPCA Solar 28, LLC (Project)
Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declarations
State Clearinghouse No.: 2026071148

Dear Brian Guerrero:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declarations (MND) from the County of Madera for the above referenced Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.¹

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, CDFW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's **Trustee Agency** for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a)). CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically

¹ CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

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sustainable populations of those species (*Id.*, § 1802). Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a **Responsible Agency** under CEQA (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381). CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed alteration regulatory authority (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq). Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take" as defined by State law of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), the Project proponent may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

Nesting Birds: CDFW has jurisdiction over actions with potential to result in the disturbance or destruction of active nest sites or the unauthorized take of birds. Fish and Game Code sections that protect birds, their eggs and nests include sections 3503 (regarding unlawful take, possession, or needless destruction of the nest or eggs of any bird), 3503.5 (regarding the take, possession, or destruction of any birds-of-prey or their nests or eggs), and 3513 (regarding unlawful take of any migratory nongame bird).

Unlisted Species: Species of plants and animals need not be officially listed as Endangered, Rare, or Threatened on any State or Federal list to be considered Endangered, Rare, or Threatened under CEQA. If a species can be shown to meet the criteria for Endangered, Rare, or Threatened, as specified in the CEQA Guidelines section 15380, CDFW recommends it be fully considered in the environmental analysis for the Project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Proponent: County of Madera (County)

Objective: The proposed Project consists of construction and operation of a 4.95 MW photovoltaic solar energy generating facility on approximately 36 acres of an approximately 130-acre parcel, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 026-120-011. The facility will be interconnected to existing PG&E electric distribution lines that run parallel to Chowchilla Boulevard.

Location: The Project site is located on the east side of Chowchilla Boulevard, approximately 500' south of Road 15 in the Chowchilla area. The site also borders the southbound lanes of Highway 99 to the west.

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COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the County in adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources. Editorial comments or other suggestions may also be included to improve the MND prepared for this Project. Because the 36-acre portion that will be developed was not identified, the whole 130-acre parcel was analyzed.

The MND evaluates the Project's potential impacts on several additional special-status species whose geographic ranges overlap the Project site and concludes impacts to these species would be less than significant, either with or without mitigation incorporated. Accordingly, the MND proposes multiple mitigation measures to reduce the Project's impacts to a less-than-significant level on the State threatened and federally endangered San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*), the State threatened Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), and nesting birds. CDFW has concerns about the ability of some of these measures to reduce impacts to less than significant and avoid unauthorized take for these and additional special-status animal species, including but not limited to: the State threatened and federally endangered California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*); the State candidates western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) and Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*); and the State candidate and federally proposed threatened western spadefoot (*Spea hammondi*). CDFW recommends that the following modifications and/or edits be incorporated into the MND, including proposed avoidance, minimization, and compensatory measures, prior to its adoption by the County.

California Tiger Salamander

The Project site is within the geographic range of the California tiger salamander (CTS) and CTS have been documented within 5 miles of the Project site (CDFW 2026). The MND does not discuss CTS, and it is unclear if CTS was considered during development of the MND. CTS have the potential to breed within the ditch adjacent to the northern boundary of the Project site and within pooled water within the Ash Slough Bypass Canal (Ash Slough). The MND did not include an analysis of the likelihood for CTS to be present on site. CTS breed and develop in vernal and seasonal pools and stock ponds in grassland, woodland, and scrub habitat types, and have been known to utilize agricultural lands with sufficient breeding habitat such as agricultural ponds, slow ditches, and canals. CTS have also been known to utilize refugia habitat (i.e., upland habitat), such as agricultural orchards, adjacent to these agricultural aquatic resources. CTS have also been determined to be physiologically capable of dispersing up to approximately 1 ½-miles from seasonally flooded wetlands (Searcy and Shaffer 2011). These habitat features may be present within the Project site and vicinity with connectivity to the site along the banks of Ash Slough. As there is the potential for CTS

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to utilize the habitat within and surrounding the Project site, CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist conduct a habitat assessment for CTS prior to construction to determine if suitable breeding and refugia habitat is located within the Project site. CDFW also recommends the MND to include the following

Recommended Mitigation Measure 1: CTS Protocol-level Surveys

CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist conduct protocol-level surveys within areas of suitable habitat prior to the start of construction. CDFW recommends these surveys be conducted in accordance with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) *Interim Guidance on Site Assessment and Field Surveys for Determining Presence or a Negative Finding of the California Tiger Salamander* (USFWS 2003) at the appropriate time of year to determine the existence and extent of CTS breeding and refugia habitat. The protocol-level surveys for CTS require more than one survey season and are dependent upon sufficient rainfall to complete. As a result, consultation with CDFW is recommended well in advance of beginning the surveys and prior to any planned vegetation- or ground-disturbing activities. CDFW advises that the protocol-level survey include a 100-foot buffer around all areas of wetland, ditches, and upland habitat that could support CTS in the Project site where ground disturbing is set to occur. Please be advised that protocol-level survey results are considered viable for two years after the results are reviewed by CDFW. As such, several rounds of protocol surveys may be necessary prior to the initiation of ground disturbing activities.

Recommended Mitigation Measure 2: CTS Avoidance

If CTS protocol-level surveys are not conducted, CDFW advises that a minimum 50-foot no-disturbance buffer be delineated around all small mammal burrows and soil cracks in suitable upland refugia habitat within and/or adjacent to the Project site. Further, CDFW recommends potential or known breeding habitat, including ditches, within and/or adjacent to the Project site be delineated with a minimum 250-foot no-disturbance buffer. Both upland burrow and wetland breeding no-disturbance buffers are intended to minimize impacts to CTS habitat and avoid take of individuals.

Recommended Mitigation Measure 3: CTS Take Authorization

If suitable habitat is present within or immediately adjacent to the Project site and absence of the species cannot be confirmed, consultation with CDFW is warranted to determine if activities can avoid take. If take cannot be avoided, take authorization through the acquisition of an Incidental Take Permit (ITP), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivision (b), is necessary to comply with CESA.

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San Joaquin Kit Fox

The MND includes an analysis of San Joaquin kit fox (SJKF) in Mitigation Measure Bio-2. CDFW generally concurs with this measure, but would like to add that, in the event a SJKF is observed on the Project site, consultation with CDFW is warranted to discuss how to implement the Project and avoid take. If take cannot be avoided, take authorization through the acquisition of an ITP, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b) is necessary to comply with CESA.

Swainson's Hawk

The Project site is within the geographic range of Swainson's hawk (SWHA) and SWHA have been observed within three miles of the Project site at Chowchilla River, Berenda Slough, and Ash Slough (CDFW 2026). The MND acknowledges that SWHA could nest in the vicinity of and forage within the Project site. The MND proposes Mitigation Measure BIO-1b requiring: a qualified biologist to conduct protocol surveys following the survey methodology developed by the SWHA Technical Advisory Committee (SWHA TAC 2000) and be conducted prior to initiation of Project activities; Project activities to not commence if active SWHA nests are observed during surveys; consultation with CDFW to determine a proper strategy to avoid impacts to nesting Swainson's hawks; and potential application for an Incidental Take Permit if avoidance is infeasible. CDFW requests that the MND's Mitigation Measure BIO-1b be further refined by including the following:

Recommended Mitigation Measure 4: SWHA Pre-Activity Surveys

Depending on the time between the initial survey efforts conducted in support of the MND and Project construction, CDFW recommends that additional surveys following the entire survey methodology prescribed in *Recommended Timing and Methodology for Swainson's Hawk Nesting Surveys in California's Central Valley* as developed by the SWHA Technical Advisory Committee (SWHA TAC 2000). This survey should be repeated the survey season immediately prior to initiating Project activities.

Recommended Mitigation Measure 5: SWHA Avoidance Buffer

If Project-specific activities will take place during the SWHA nesting season (i.e., March 1 through September 15), and active SWHA nests are present, CDFW recommends a minimum ½-mile no-disturbance buffer be delineated and maintained around each nest, regardless of whether it was detected by surveys or observed incidentally. These buffers would remain in place until the breeding season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival, to prevent nest abandonment and other take of SWHA as a result of Project activities.

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Recommended Mitigation Measure 6: SWHA Take Authorization

CDFW also recommends that in the event an active SWHA nest is detected, and maintaining a ½-mile no-disturbance buffer is not feasible, consultation with CDFW is warranted to discuss how to implement the Project and avoid take. If take cannot be avoided, take authorization through the acquisition of an ITP, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b) is necessary to comply with CESA.

Western Burrowing Owl

The California Fish and Game Commission approved western burrowing owl (BUOW) as a candidate for potential listing as a protected species under CESA on October 10, 2024, and published these findings in the California Regulatory Notice Register on October 25, 2024. As such, BUOW is now a candidate under CESA and receives the same legal protection afforded to an endangered or threatened species (Fish & G. Code, §§ 2074.2 & 2085).

The Project site is within the geographic range of BUOW and the species has been documented within three miles of the Project site (CDFW 2026). The MND did not include an analysis of the likelihood for BUOW, specifically, to be present on site. BUOW are known to utilize agricultural areas and have been documented breeding and foraging along canal banks and roadways within agricultural settings. Aerial imagery shows potential habitat along the agricultural ditch on the northern boundary of the Project site and within areas of lower vegetation where California ground squirrels can burrow on the southern portions of the Project site. As suitable habitat appears to be present within the Project site, CDFW recommends the MND include the following measures:

Recommended Mitigation Measure 7: BUOW Pre-Activity Surveys

CDFW recommends that focused surveys following the 2012 *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (2012 Staff Report) (CDFG 2012) be conducted the survey season immediately prior to construction. Please note that the 2012 Staff Report necessitates multiple surveys prior to the initiation of Project activities.

Recommended Mitigation Measure 8: BUOW Avoidance Buffer

Should a BUOW or known BUOW den (active or inactive) be detected, either during pre-construction surveys or construction activities, CDFW recommends that no-disturbance buffers, as outlined in the 2012 Staff Report, be implemented prior to and during any ground-disturbing activities. CDFW also recommends that these buffers be implemented for both wintering and breeding BUOW.

Recommended Mitigation Measure 9: BUOW Take Authorization

If a BUOW or known BUOW den (active or inactive) is detected, and the no disturbance buffers outlined in the 2012 Staff Report are not feasible, consultation

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with CDFW is warranted to discuss how to implement the Project and avoid take. If take cannot be avoided, take authorization through the acquisition of an ITP, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b) is necessary to comply with CESA.

Crotch's Bumble Bee

The Project site is within the range of Crotch's bumble bee (CBB). The MND does not discuss bumble bees, and it is unclear if CBB was considered during development of the MND. CBB are known to inhabit areas of grasslands, scrub habitat, and ruderal vegetation that contain requisite habitat elements for nesting, such as small mammal burrows and bunch/thatched grasses. CBB primarily nest in late February through late October underground in abandoned small mammal burrows but may also nest under perennial bunch grasses or thatched annual grasses, underneath brush piles, in old bird nests, and in dead trees or hollow logs (Williams et al. 2014, Hatfield et al. 2015). Overwintering sites for CBB mated queens include soft, disturbed soil (Goulson 2010) or leaf litter or other debris (Williams et al. 2014). These habitat elements may be present within the Project site in the areas adjacent to the northern boundary of the Project site and the northern streambank of Ash Slough within the southern portion of the Project site. As such, CDFW the MND include the following measures:

Recommended Mitigation Measure 10: CBB Habitat Assessment and Pre-Activity Surveys

CDFW recommends a qualified biologist conduct a habitat assessment to determine if the Project site and the immediate surrounding vicinity contain habitat suitable to support CBB. The timing of this assessment should allow for potential surveys below to be performed during the vegetation blooming period prior to activities at Project sites. Potential nesting sites, which include all small mammal burrows, perennial bunch grasses, thatched annual grasses, brush piles, old bird nests, dead trees, and hollow logs would need to be documented as part of the assessment.

Within these areas of suitable habitat, CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist conduct focused surveys for CBB following the methodology outlined in the *Survey Considerations for California Endangered Species Act Candidate Bumble Bee Species* (CDFW 2023) during the vegetation blooming period prior to activities at Project sites.

Recommended Mitigation Measure 11: CBB Avoidance Buffer

If CBB is detected, then CDFW recommends that all small mammal burrows and thatched/bunch grasses be avoided by a minimum of 50 feet to avoid take and potentially significant impacts. If ground-disturbing activities will occur during the overwintering period (October through February), consultation with CDFW is warranted to discuss how to implement Project activities and avoid take. Any

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detection of CBB prior to or during Project implementation warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to avoid take.

Recommended Mitigation Measure 12: CBB Take Authorization

If take cannot be avoided, take authorization through the acquisition of an ITP, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b) is necessary to comply with CESA.

Western Spadefoot

The California Fish and Game Commission (FGC) approved western spadefoot (WESP) as a candidate for potential listing as a protected species under CESA on August 13, 2026. FGC is currently working to publish these findings in the Notice Register. Once these findings are published in the California Regulatory Notice Register, WESP will be designated as a candidate under CESA and as such will receive the same legal protection afforded to an endangered or threatened species (Fish & G. Code, §§ 2074.2 & 2085). If WESP is found during pre-activity surveys or during Project activities within the Project site, and avoidance is not feasible, take authorization through the acquisition of an Incidental Take Permit (ITP), pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivision (b), would be necessary to comply with CESA. CDFW recommends early consultation to help identify if avoidance is feasible or, if not, to initiate discussions regarding the need for an ITP.

The Project is within the known geographic range of western spadefoot (WESP) and there is a documented occurrence within 5 miles of the Project site (CDFW 2026). The MND does not discuss WESP, and it is unclear if WESP was considered during development of the MND. WESP occurs primarily in grasslands and seasonal wetlands with appropriate upland habitat, though they are also documented throughout the San Joaquin Valley in areas of irrigated agriculture, where features such as tailwater ponds and irrigation ditches are present. Aerial imagery shows potential habitat along the agricultural ditch on the northern boundary of the Project site and within areas of lower vegetation where California ground squirrels can burrow on the southern portions of the Project site. As the Project site contains these habitat features, there is the potential for WESP to be present within the Project site and vicinity. As such, CDFW recommends the MND include the following measures:

Recommended Mitigation Measure 13: WESP Pre-Activity Surveys

CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist conduct a habitat assessment to determine if the Project site and the immediate surrounding vicinity contain habitat suitable to support WESP. If potential habitat exists, CDFW recommends a qualified biologist conduct focused breeding season surveys for WESP, using appropriate survey methodologies, prior to initiating Project activities.

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Recommended Mitigation Measure 14: WESP Avoidance Buffer

If burrows, soil cracks, loose soil areas or other refugia are found to be used by WESP during focused surveys, CDFW recommends implementation of a 50-foot no-disturbance buffer around these resources, including all potential breeding habitat, which can include agricultural sumps and irrigation ditches in addition to any areas that pool water for only a few weeks. Potential breeding habitat should be avoided even when dry since post-metamorphic WESP juveniles have a unique adaptation to the drying of their temporary breeding pools; they utilize the dried pond bottom as a refuge, burying themselves in the desiccation cracks and damp soil beneath the surface crust (Baumberger et al., 2020). If any life stage of WESP is observed on the Project site, Project activities in their immediate vicinity should cease, allowing individuals to leave the Project site on their own accord.

Recommended Mitigation Measure 15: WESP Take Authorization

If take cannot be avoided, take authorization through the acquisition of an ITP, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b) is necessary to comply with CESA.

Editorial Comments and/or Suggestions

Nesting Birds: The MND proposes Mitigation Measure BIO-1a to ensure avoidance of impacts to Native Nesting Birds by performing preconstruction nesting bird surveys, implementing suitable buffers from active nests, and avoiding ground disturbance or removal of suitable nesting habitat during the breeding season. CDFW recommends amending this measure to define the nesting season as starting on February 1st and continuing through September 15th. The Project applicant is responsible for ensuring that implementation of the Project does not result in violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or relevant Fish and Game Code sections as referenced in this letter.

If the nesting season cannot be avoided, CDFW recommends further amending the MND Mitigation Measure BIO-1a to require a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction survey for active nests no more than ten days prior (instead of the proposed seven days) to the start of ground or vegetation disturbance to maximize the probability that nests that could potentially be impacted are detected. CDFW also recommends that surveys cover a sufficient area around the Project site to identify nests and determine their status. A sufficient area means any area potentially affected, either directly or indirectly, by the Project. In addition to direct impacts (i.e., nest destruction), noise, vibration, and movement of workers or equipment could also affect nests. CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist establish a behavioral baseline of all identified nests. Once Project activities begin, CDFW recommends having a qualified biologist continuously monitor nests to detect behavioral changes resulting from the Project. If behavioral changes occur, CDFW recommends halting the work causing that change and consulting with CDFW for additional avoidance and minimization measures.

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If continuous monitoring of identified nests by a qualified biologist is not feasible, CDFW also recommends amending the MND Mitigation Measure BIO-1a to require a minimum no-disturbance buffer of 250 feet around active nests of non-listed bird species and a 500-foot no-disturbance buffer around active nests of non-listed raptors. These buffers are advised to remain in place until the breeding season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or on-site parental care for survival. Variance from these no-disturbance buffers is possible when there is a compelling biological or ecological reason to do so, such as when the Project site would be concealed from a nest site by topography. CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist advise on any variance from these buffers and consult with CDFW in advance of implementing a variance.

Lake and Streambed Alteration: Portions of Ash Slough are located within the Project site. Project activities that will substantially change or use any material from the bed, bank, and channel of any river, stream, or lake are subject to the notification requirement of Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq. Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires an entity to notify CDFW prior to commencing any activity that may (a) substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake; (b) substantially change or use any material from the bed, bank, or channel of any river, stream, or lake (including the removal of riparian vegetation); (c) deposit debris, waste or other materials that could pass into any river, stream, or lake. “Any river, stream, or lake” includes those that are ephemeral or intermittent as well as those that are perennial and may include those that are highly modified such as canals and retention basins, such as Ash Slough. Future on-going project operations and maintenance may involve activities that are jurisdictional under Fish and Game Code section 1602. CDFW recommends coordination with CDFW staff prior to groundbreaking activities on-site or submission of a Lake or Streambed Alteration Notification to determine if the activities proposed are subject to CDFW’s jurisdiction.

CDFW is required to comply with CEQA in the issuance of a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement; therefore, if the CEQA document approved for the Project does not adequately describe the Project and its impacts to lakes or streams, a subsequent CEQA analysis may be necessary for Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement issuance. For information on notification requirements, please refer to CDFW’s website (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/LSA>) or contact CDFW staff in the Central Region Lake and Streambed Alteration Program at RRR.R4@wildlife.ca.gov.

California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB): Please note that the CNDDDB is populated by and records voluntary submissions of species detections. As a result, species may be present in locations not depicted in the CNDDDB but where there is suitable habitat and features capable of supporting species. A lack of an occurrence record in the CNDDDB does not mean a species is not present. In order to adequately assess any potential Project-related impacts to biological resources, surveys conducted

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by a qualified wildlife biologist/botanist during the appropriate survey period(s) and using the appropriate protocol survey methodology are warranted in order to determine whether or not any special-status species are present at or near the Project site.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e)). Accordingly, please report any special-status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to CNDDDB. The CNDDDB field survey form can be filled out and submitted online at the following link:

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Submitting-Data>. The completed form can be mailed electronically to the CNDDDB at the following email address: CNDDDB@wildlife.ca.gov. The types of information reported to CNDDDB can be found at the following link: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Plants-and-Animals>.

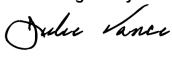
FILING FEES

The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of environmental document filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the environmental document filing fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089).

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the MND to assist the County in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources. A Mitigation and Monitoring Program (Attachment 1) is included to assist the County with incorporating the recommended mitigation measures provided above. If you have any questions, please contact Alya Wakeman-Hill, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at the address provided on this letterhead, by telephone at (559) 317-7335, or by electronic mail at alya.wakeman-hill@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

FA83F09FE08945A...

Julie A. Vance
Regional Manager

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Attachment 1 Mitigation Monitoring Report Program

ec: State Clearinghouse
Land Use and Climate Innovation
State.Clearinghouse@lci.ca.gov

Alya Wakeman-Hill
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/guidance-on-site-assessments-and-field-surveys-for-california-tiger-salamander.pdf>

Attachment 1



Attachment 1

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)

CDFW provides the following language to be incorporated into the MMRP for the Project.

Biological Resources (BIO)		
Mitigation Measure (MM) Description	Implementation Schedule	Status/Date /Initials
California Tiger Salamander (CTS)		
Recommended Mitigation Measure 1: CTS Protocol-level Surveys	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 2: CTS Avoidance	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 3: CTS Take Authorization	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	
Swainson's Hawk (SWHA)		
Recommended Mitigation Measure 4: SWHA Pre-Activity Surveys	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 5: SWHA Avoidance Buffer	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 6: SWHA Take Authorization	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	
Western burrowing owl (BUOW)		
Recommended Mitigation Measure 7: BUOW Pre-Activity Surveys	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 8: BUOW Avoidance Buffer	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 9: BUOW Take Authorization	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	
Crotch's Bumble Bee (CBB)		
Recommended Mitigation Measure 10: CBB Habitat Assessment and Pre-Activity Surveys	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 11: CBB Avoidance Buffer	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 12: CBB Take Authorization	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	

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Western Spadefoot (WESP)		
Recommended Mitigation Measure 13: WESP Pre-Activity Surveys	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 14: WESP Avoidance Buffer	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	
Recommended Mitigation Measure 15: WESP Take Authorization	Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation and During Construction	