

Notice of Determination and Decision

FILED

To:

From Lead Agency:

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Department of Fish and Game (DFG)
South Coast Region
4949 Viewridge Ave.
San Diego, CA 92123-1662
Contact: Dolores Duarte
Phone: (858) 467-2702
Resources Agency of California

DEC 03 2010

Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Ste. 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination and Decision in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21108. (See also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, 783.5, subd. (d)(6).)

State Clearinghouse Number: 2000011025

Project Title: Newhall Ranch Resource Management and Development Plan (RMDP) and Spineflower Conservation Plan (SCP), and associated Master Streambed Alteration Agreement (No. 1600-2004-0016-R5)(MSAA) and Incidental Take Permits (ITPS) (Nos. 2081-2008-012-05 and 2081-2008-013-05).

Project Location: The Newhall Ranch RMDP, SCP, and MSAA and ITPs, and the related Newhall Ranch Specific Plan (NRSP) as previously approved by Los Angeles County, cover a geographic area located in the northern unincorporated portion of the County, totaling approximately 14,000 acres (collectively, the Project area). In general, the Project area includes a portion of the Santa Clara River Valley between the City of Santa Clarita to the east and the Los Angeles County/Ventura County jurisdictional boundary line to the west.

Project Description: The project as approved by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) consists of the MSAA and ITPs identified above, which address various conservation, management and development activities affecting or generally related to fish and wildlife resources subject to the regulatory authority of the Department, including natural resources subject to the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq. For purposes of CESA, the ITPs authorize incidental take of San Fernando Valley spineflower, western yellow-billed cuckoo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and least Bell's vireo, all in connection with otherwise lawful development activities within the Project area. The ITPs and MSAA, in this respect, will facilitate build-out of the NRSP and other properties owned by the project proponent and permittee, The Newhall Land and Farming Company (Newhall), including the Valencia Commerce Center (VCC) and the Entrada planning area. The project approved by DFG for purposes of the ITPs and MSAA is modified compared to the project as originally proposed by Newhall, including increased avoidance of riparian resources along the Santa Clara River, reduced impacts to the Middle Canyon Spring complex, additional spineflower preserve acreage, and larger riparian corridors within the five major tributaries within the NRSP area. In approving the project and the ITPs specifically, the DFG Director approved Newhall's applications and issued the ITPs.

This is to advise that DFG, acting as the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on _____ and made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project will / will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An environmental impact report was prepared by the lead agency for the project.
3. Additional mitigation measures were / were not] made a condition of DFG's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not] adopted by DFG for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was / was not] adopted by DFG for this project.
6. Findings were / were not] made by DFG pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081, subd. (a).
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4:
 - Payment is submitted with this notice.
 - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to DFG.

Signature 
Edmund J. Pert, Regional Manager

Date: 12-3-10

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

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