



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
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Compliance with Peremptory Writ of Mandate
 Related to the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project

On May 17, 2023, the Los Angeles County Superior Court issued its decision on the petitions for writ of mandate for the following related cases ("Decision"):

- The Ballona Wetlands Land Trust v. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, case no. 21STCP00242
- Grassroots Coalition, et al. v. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, case no. 21STCV03657
- Defend Ballona Wetlands, et al v. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, case no. 21STCP00240
- Protect Ballona Wetlands v. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, case no. 21STCP00237

In its Decision, the Court granted in part the petitions for writ of mandate concluding that the California Department of Fish and Wildlife ("CDFW") was required to disclose and analyze a 68,000 cfs levee flood control design in CDFW's Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project ("Project"). The Court also concluded that the EIR's project description does not adequately commit CDFW to specific performance criteria to the extent it provides CDFW with authority to modify restoration goals without any supplemental environmental review. The Court denied the petitions in all other respects.

On July 13, 2023, judgment was entered in the four cases which contemplated issuance of a peremptory writ of mandate directing CDFW to take certain actions ("Writ"). On September 20, CDFW's counsel accepted electronic service of the Writ, as issued by the Court in case no. 21STCP00242.

In response to the Writ, CDFW hereby:

1. Decertifies the EIR for the Project entitled "Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project" adopted on December 30, 2020, State Clearinghouse Number: 2012071090;
2. Rescinds the Project's CEQA Findings;
3. Invalidates all CDFW approvals of the Project; and
4. Suspends any Project activity that could result in an adverse change or alteration to the physical environment until CDFW fully complies with the requirements of CEQA.

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Victoria Tang
 South Coast Regional Manager (Acting)

9/28/2023

Date