

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	21-AFC-02
Project Title:	Willow Rock Energy Storage Center
TN #:	250076
Document Title:	Record of Conversation with CDFW biologists
Description:	ROC involving Western Joshua Tree
Filer:	Lon Payne
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

REPORT OF CONVERSATION



*Siting, Transmission
and Environmental
Protection Division*

FILE: n/a

PROJECT TITLE: Willow Rock

Docket: 21-AFC-02

TECHNICAL AREA(S): Biological Resources

Telephone

Voicemail

Meeting Location: TEAMS (virtual)

NAME: Andrea Stroud, Biologist
Carol Watson, Biologist

DATE: 4-4-2023

TIME: 1:00pm

WITH: Sarah Bahm (Senior Environmental Scientist), Jeremy Pohlman (Senior Environmental Scientist), Kari Daniska (Senior Environmental Scientist) California Department of Fish and Wildlife

SUBJECT: Western Joshua Tree ITP Requirements and Mitigation

COMMENTS:

California Energy Commission (CEC) staff spoke with Jeremy Pohlman, Sarah Bahm, and Kari Daniska with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to discuss if more information is needed from the applicant for western Joshua tree (WJT). Staff asked if it is possible to develop mitigation requirements for incidental take purposes when the applicant is assuming presence of the largest size class (4 feet or greater) for western Joshua tree?

Since the applicant is assuming the largest size class, CDFW stated this would result in a higher mitigation ratio and CDFW will use more conservative estimates for the mitigation requirements. The applicant proposed providing precise size classes for WJT during pre-construction surveys, but mitigation, as well as its viability, must be determined prior to approval of the project. Unlike the process outside of the CEC, any CDFW permit requirements are included in the CEC's license and thus are determined prior to approval of a project.

CC:

Signed: |s|

Name: Andrea Stroud, Planner II
(Biologist)