

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
INITIAL STUDY/NOTICE OF PREPARATION
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

You are hereby notified that the below-referenced Initial Study/Notice of Preparation (IS/NOP) is available for public review.

Project Title: Habitat Conservation Plan for Elk Hills Oil & Gas Field, Kern County, California.

Project Location: Elk Hills Oil & Gas Field (EHOF), Kern County, California.

Description of Project:

The project consists of the proposed 50-year HCP and the associated incidental take permit coverage under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) and other similar laws for the following: (1) the continued exploration, development, production, recovery and processing of oil and gas reserves on the 47,884-acre EHOF over a period of 50 years, including the drilling of additional wells which could result in the permanent disturbance of up to 4,000 acres and the temporary disturbance of up to 3,000 acres of presently undisturbed land; (2) the operation, maintenance and repair of facilities associated with *existing* facility ROWs (i.e.; product transmission lines and pipelines, waterlines, and powerlines, etc.) both on the EHOF and within a surrounding 2-mile buffer; (3) the installation, operation and maintenance of limited *additional* off-site facilities within the 2-mile buffer; and (4) implementation of the conservation program specified in the Section 2081(b) application, including the management for conservation purposes of Conservation Lands designated within the EHOF and/or acquired in the adjacent 2-mile buffer area or areas otherwise approved by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

Lead Agency: California Department of Fish and Game
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 243-4005 ext. 141

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Julie Vance

Addresses where document may be obtained:

California Department of Fish & Game
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710

Kern County Library
701 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Taft Branch Library
27 Emmons Park Drive
Taft, CA 93268

Public Review Period: Begins: August 23, 2010 Ends: September 21, 2010

Anyone interested in this matter is invited to comment on the document by written response on or before September 21, 2010.

A Scoping Meeting conducted by the CDFG to receive public and agency comments on the preparation of a Joint CEQA/NEPA environmental document will be held on the following date at the following location: September 15, 2010 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Double Tree Hotel, 3100 Camino Del Rio Court, Bakersfield, CA, 93308.