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## State Water Resources Control Board

### **Public Notice of Application for Water Quality Certification for California Department of Transportation State Route 4 Pavement Anchor Project**

State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Quality  
Water Quality Certification Program  
**Date Posted: October 18, 2023**

**Affected County: Alpine**

The following information is provided in satisfaction of the public notice requirements of Section 3858, Title 23, of the California Code of Regulations, which govern the State's Water Quality Certification Program.

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) staff are proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. **Staff will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this notice (October 18, 2023) and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period (November 8, 2023).** To submit comments, or if you have questions, please contact the State Water Board staff person listed below.

**State Water Resources Control Board Contact:**

Aundrea Asbell, Environmental Scientist  
Wetland Permitting and Enforcement Unit 1, Division of Water Quality  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  
Telephone: (916) 323-0887  
Email: [Aundrea.Asbell@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Aundrea.Asbell@waterboards.ca.gov)

**Note: No regulatory decision on the application is implied or intended in this public notice.**

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E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Project Name: State Route 4 Pavement Anchor Project**

(Reg. Meas. ID: 454720 and SWRCB ID: SB23079IN)

**Background:** On October 12, 2023, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) submitted an application for Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification for the State Route 4 Pavement Anchor Project located on State Route 4 in Alpine County (Caltrans EA 10-0J720) (Project).

**Project Description:** The Project would rehabilitate the existing asphalt concrete pavement on State Route 4 in Alpine County from postmiles 0.0 to 31.67, which is situated within the limits of Stanislaus and Toiyabe National Forests. The Project would also involve construction of two maintenance vehicle pullouts near the State Route 89 junction, installation of two new culverts, grading, and placement of rock slope protection at the roadside ditch near Bear Valley intersection, and replacement of 65 existing culverts, guardrails at six bridge locations, approximately 274 roadside signs, and two overhead sign structures.

The Project application reports impacts to waters of the state, including waters of the United States, as shown in Table 1. Temporarily impacted areas would be restored to pre-project condition once the Project is complete. Compensatory mitigation would be required for permanent impacts.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Impacts to Waters of the State

<b>Aquatic Resource type</b>	<b>Stream Channel</b>	<b>Wetland</b>	<b>Riparian Zone</b>
Acres of temporary impact	0.10	0.19	0.06
Linear feet of temporary impact	NA	NA	NA
Acres of permanent physical loss of area	0.03	0.01	0.004
Linear feet of permanent physical loss of area	NA	NA	NA

Caltrans is the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. An Initial Study Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for the Project and is available at the following website:

<https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/Project/2022020586>

**A Certification or Denial will be prepared by the State Water Board for the State Route 4 Pavement Anchor Project in response to this application.**

**Applicant: California Department of Transportation**

**Applicant Contact: Jason Meigs**

**Telephone: (209) 471-2117**

**Email: [jason.meigs@dot.ca.gov](mailto:jason.meigs@dot.ca.gov)**

**Date of Application Submittal: October 12, 2023**

Pursuant to federal law (Title 33, United States Code, Section 1341; Clean Water Act Section 401), applicants for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the United States must seek Water Quality Certification from the state or Indian tribe with jurisdiction. Such Certification is based on a finding that the discharge will meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) issue or deny Certification for discharges within their geographical jurisdiction. The State Water Board has this responsibility for projects affecting waters within multiple Regional Water Board jurisdictions.

***KEEP INFORMED OF PROJECT MILESTONES***

To be informed of milestones in the development of this proposed Water Quality Certification, any interested persons should enroll in the State Water Board's 401 Program e-mail notification service.

Click the Submit button after entering a valid email address under the Subscribe to the 401 Water Quality Certification and Wetland Program Email List banner on the 401 Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Program webpage at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/)

By enrolling in this list, you will receive notices for all current certification applications, including the Project announced in this notice. You will need a valid e-mail address to use this service. If you do not have internet access or do not wish to participate in the email notification service, contact the staff person named in the notice to express your interest in receiving notices by other means. You can enroll or un-enroll at any time.