

## **SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Central Coast Water Board is currently reviewing a Clean Water Act section 401 Water Quality Certification application for the project described below. We encourage public comments on the proposed project and will take comments into consideration when taking action on the application. You may submit written comments on this project to:

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board  
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
Attention: 401 Coordinator  
OR  
centralcoast@waterboards.ca.gov  
Attention: 401 Coordinator

**Project Applicant:** Santa Barbara County PWD, Transportation Division – Morgan Jones

**Project Name:** Bonita School Road Bridge Replacement Project

**Receiving Water:** Santa Maria River

**City/County:** Santa Maria / Santa Barbara

**Public Notice:** July 24, 2024 – August 14, 2024

### **Project Description:**

The purpose of this project is to replace the structurally deficient Bonita School Road Bridge with a permanent, all-weather river crossing that will withstand a 100-year flood event, prevent flooding of nearby agricultural fields and provide a safe crossing for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The proposed project activities include:

- Diverting any dry-weather flows of the Santa Maria River around the project site;
- Removing all vegetation that conflicts with the bridge demolition and construction;
- Demolishing the existing bridge by removing each of 12 railroad flatcars that make up the bridge;
- Removing 26,500 cubic yards of roadway embankment fill in the riverbed;
- Drilling 30 seven-foot diameter, 13.7-foot deep holes in the riverbed for cast-in-drill-hole piles; and
- Constructing a new 48.5-foot wide, 2,321-foot long concrete span bridge on the piles.

Mitigation activities include:

- Permittee-responsible re-establishment of 2.0 acres / 413 linear feet of stream channel habitat; and
- Permittee-responsible enhancement of 3.0 acres / 536 linear feet of stream channel habitat.