

Notice of Section 401 Application Reception

File Number: 362025-18

Project Name: Seven Oaks Bridge Project

Received: 8/18/2025

Date Posted: 8/20/2025

End of 21 Day Public Comment Period: 9/09/2025

Project Location: 34.186006° N, -116.91905° W

Project City and County: Seven Oaks community (unincorporated), San Bernardino

Applicant Organization: San Bernardino County Department of Public Works

Applicant Name: Arlene Chun

Waterboard Staff: KF

Brief Description of Project:

Project Description: San Bernardino County (County) proposes to construct a permanent bridge on Seven Oaks Road over the Santa Ana River (Project). The Project is needed to replace and extend the permanent bridge that was washed out by extremely high flows resulting from Tropical Storm Hilary in August 2023. Following Tropical Storm Hilary, the County completed a temporary bridge emergency repair by routing the Santa Ana River slightly south of the original alignment through two metal pipe culverts and backfilling the area to create an unpaved road on top of the culverts. This temporary fix restored the only access route in and out of the unincorporated community of Seven Oaks. However, a permanent bridge is needed to improve safety and reliability of the structure and will serve as a betterment to the environment by creating a wider structure to accommodate flow of the Santa Ana River.

Project Activities: The Project would occur within an approximately 2.15-acre area in the unincorporated community of Seven Oaks in the San Bernardino Mountains in western San Bernardino County, California (Figure 1, Project Vicinity, and Figure 2, Project Location) in the Big Bear Lake U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle. The proposed Project features include installing a new bridge, slope protection measures (e.g., rock slope protection), and improving the roadway approaches. The project will require a temporary detour route to maintain ingress/egress for nearby residents, in-water work consisting of installation of temporary culvert extensions to support the temporary road, and rerouting of the Santa Ana River to return the flow to its pre-storm alignment under the new permanent structure (approximately 60 feet to the northwest of the current flow). To minimize impacts to the Santa Ana River, water will continue to flow through the existing culverts that were installed during the emergency repairs. The water will be diverted back into its original alignment as part of the Project. Temporary construction

easements may be required for the Project. Additionally, the Edison communication pole on the southeast side of the bridge would be relocated, and up to 18 trees may be removed/trimmed to accommodate access for construction. Excavators, dozers, concrete trucks, cranes, pavers, pile drivers, graders, pick-up trucks, compactors, water trucks, and dump trucks are anticipated to be required to construct the new bridge. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring of 2026 and is proposed to take approximately 7 months to complete.