

State Water Resources Control Board

Public Notice of Application for Water Quality Certification for California Department of Transportation, District 2 Good Fred Bridge Replacement and Roadway Rehabilitation Project

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Water Quality Certification Program
Date Posted: March 18, 2019

Affected County: Lassen

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 letter (March 18, 2019) and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period (April 08, 2019).** To submit comments, or if you have any questions, please contact the State Water Board staff person listed below.

State Water Resources Control Board Contact:

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

Project Name: Good Fred Bridge Replacement and Roadway Rehabilitation Project
(Reg. Meas. ID: 426489 and SWRCB ID: SB18067IN)

Background: On December 19, 2018, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), District 2 submitted a complete application for a Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification for the Good Fred Bridge Replacement and Roadway Rehabilitation Project (Project).

Project Description: The purpose of the proposed Project is to reduce the amount of distressed lane miles, improve ride quality, increase safety, and extend the life of State Route (SR) 36. Safety and operational improvements would include the realignment of three sections of SR 36, drainage improvements, and the replacement of the existing bridge over Goodrich Creek. The Project is being proposed because: a) the existing curve alignments are nonstandard; b) the shoulders are not wide enough to meet current safety standards; and c) the existing bridge, which was built over Goodrich Creek in 1929, is deteriorating and does not meet current design standards.

The proposed Project is located in Lassen County near Westwood, situated on SR 36 between post mile (PM) 1.3 and PM 14.6 (1.3 miles west of Goodrich Creek Bridge and 1.0 mile west of Willard Creek Road). The Project would include the following: rehabilitate approximately 8.5 miles of SR 36; widen the shoulders to four (4) feet; overlay with 0.45-foot Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA); re-align and construct new pavement at three locations; replace, extend, and/or line approximately 57 culverts; and update the Intelligent Transportation System elements and guard rails. The existing roadway structural section would be rehabilitated using full depth reclamation with cement from edge of pavement to edge of pavement throughout the entire Project limits except for the three locations of realignment (PM 10.4/11.4, PM 12.3/12.6, and PM 13.2/14.0). Additionally, the Project would improve the clear recovery zone by removing obstacles and flattening slopes close to the traveled way. The Project would also replace the existing bridge across Goodrich Creek, which currently consists of three 8-foot by 8-foot box culverts (24-foot long by 28-foot wide total), with a pre-cast, prestressed, voided single span bridge (44-foot width by 68-foot length by 2-foot height).

The Project application reports impacts to waters of the state, including waters of the U.S., as shown in Table 1 below. Temporarily impacted areas would be restored to pre-project condition once the Project is complete. Caltrans proposes to compensate for permanent loss of waters through purchase of credits from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Sacramento District California In-lieu Fee Program.

On June 28, 2018, Caltrans, acting as lead agency under CEQA, filed a Notice of Determination for the Good Fred Bridge Replacement and Roadway Rehabilitation Project Mitigated Negative Declaration (State Clearinghouse No. 2018022038).

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity¹									
Aquatic Resource Type	Temporary Impact			Permanent Impact					
				Physical Loss of Area			Degradation of Ecological Condition Only		
	Acres	CY	LF	Acres	CY	LF	Acres	CY	LF
Riparian Zone	0.005			0.005					
Stream Channel	0.028		816	0.633		3,368			
Wetland	0.470		1,331	3.054		11,235			

A Certification or Denial will be prepared by the State Water Board for RGP 8 in response to this application.

Applicant: California Department of Transportation, District 2

Applicant Contact: Eric L. Rulison

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Date Complete Application: 12/19/2018

¹ Cubic Yards (CY); Linear Feet (LF)

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 SUBSCRIBE button under the "Quick Links" section of the 401 Program Webpage at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/index.shtml

Select "CWA401 Certification and Wetlands Program." By enrolling in this list, you will receive notices for all current 401 project 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 Lyris list, 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. The State Water Board will not disclose your name or e-mail information to any outside parties, and will not use this information for any other purpose.