

Pile Repair at Firebaugh and Buttonwillow Bridges

On State Route 33 in Fresno County and State Route 58 in Kern County

6-FRE-33-PM 70.63, 72.81, 75.95

6-KER-58-PM 27.82

EA 06-0U000 and Project ID 0615000296

SCH Number 2020019059

Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration



Prepared by the
State of California Department of Transportation

April 2020



General Information About This Document

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SCH Number 2020019059
6-FRE-33- PM 70.63, 72.81, 75.95
6-KER-58-PM 27.82
Project ID Number 0615000296

To extend the service life of four existing bridges on State Route 33 at post miles 70.63, 72.81, 75.95 in Fresno County and on State Route 58 at post mile 27.82 in Kern County

**INITIAL STUDY
with Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Submitted Pursuant to: (State) Division 13, California Public Resources Code

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Department of Transportation

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California Department of Transportation
CEQA Lead Agency

04-17-2020

Date

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Mitigated Negative Declaration

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will extend the service life of four existing bridges by repairing their corroded steel shell piers. The corroded steel shell piers will be encased with reinforced concrete from the top of the pier to four feet below the mudline at three canal bridges in Fresno County and one canal bridge in Kern County. The four bridges to be rehabilitated include the Colony Main Canal Bridge (Number 42-0031), Helm Canal Bridge (Number 42-0033), Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034) and Main Drain Canal Bridge (Number 50-0013).

Determination

Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study for this project and, following public review, has determined from this study that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons.

The project would have no effect on: aesthetics, agriculture and forest resources, air quality, cultural resources, paleontological resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural resources, utilities and service systems, and wildfire.

The project would have no significantly adverse effect on biological resources because the following mitigation measure would reduce potential effects to insignificance:

- Biological impacts would be mitigated by conducting pre-construction surveys, worker environmental awareness training for construction staff, installing environmentally sensitive area fencing and purchasing conservation bank credits for the giant garter snake. If Swainson's hawks are discovered nesting within 500 feet of the project area, a qualified biologist will monitor the nest tree during construction.

J. Vespermann

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• Date

Section 1 Project Description and Background

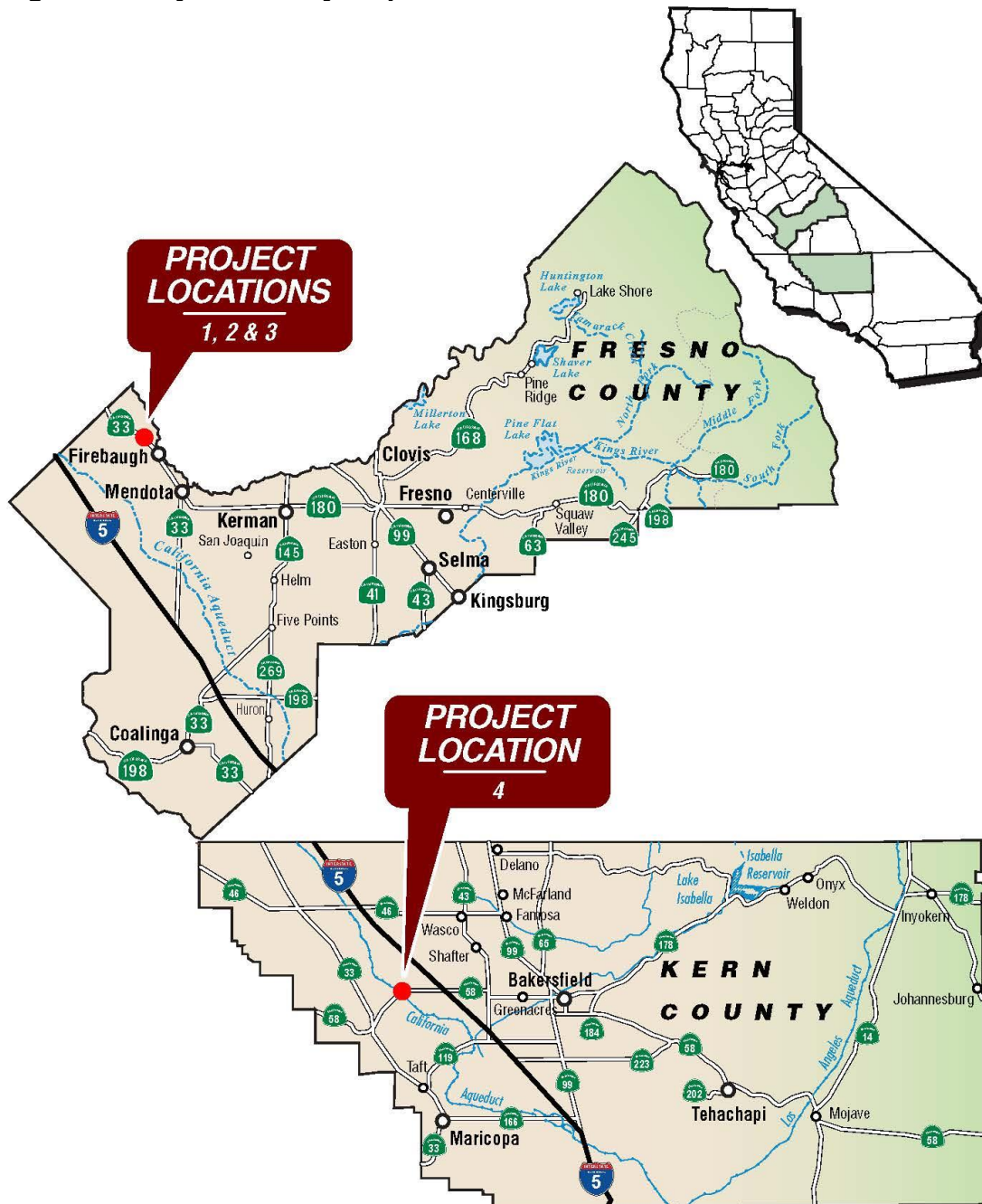
1.1 Project Title

Pile Repair at Firebaugh and Buttonwillow Bridges.

1.2 Project Location

The project bridges are on State Route 33 near the city of Firebaugh in Fresno County and on State Route 58 in Buttonwillow in Kern County. The project sites in Fresno County are at the Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034) at post mile 70.63, Helm Canal Bridge (Number 42-0033) at post mile 72.81, and Colony Main Canal Bridge (Number 42-0031) at post mile 75.95. The project site in Kern County is at the Main Drain Canal Bridge (Number 50-0013) at post mile 27.82. See Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 1 Project Vicinity Map



PROJECT LOCATIONS
1, 2 & 3

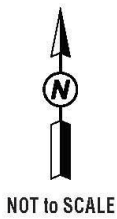
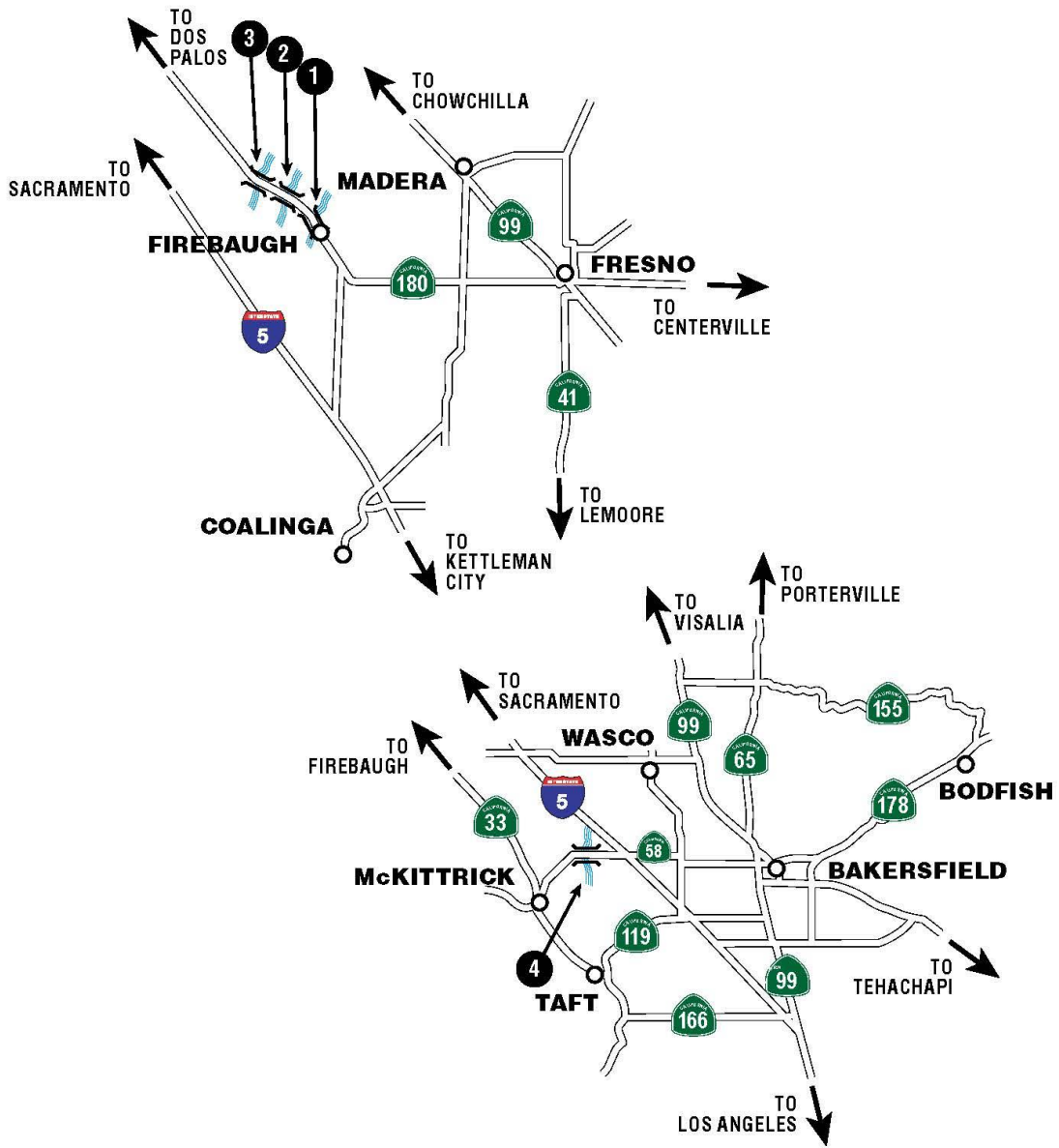
PROJECT LOCATION
4



NOT to SCALE

LOCATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION					
No	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILE	DESCRIPTION	BRIDGE NAME
1	Fre	33	70.63	Bridge No. 42-0034	POSO CANAL
2	Fre	33	72.81	Bridge No. 42-0033	HELM CANAL
3	Fre	33	75.95	Bridge No. 42-0031	COLONY MAIN CANAL
4	Ker	58	27.82	Bridge No. 50-0013	MAIN DRAIN CANAL

Figure 2 Project Location Map



LOCATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION					
No	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILE	DESCRIPTION	BRIDGE NAME
1	Fre	33	70.63	Bridge No. 42-0034	POSO CANAL
2	Fre	33	72.81	Bridge No. 42-0033	HELM CANAL
3	Fre	33	75.95	Bridge No. 42-0031	COLONY MAIN CANAL
4	Ker	58	27.82	Bridge No. 50-0013	MAIN DRAIN CANAL

1.3 Description of Project

The project lies in various spots in Fresno County on State Route 33 near the city of Firebaugh and State Route 58 in Buttonwillow in Kern County. The purpose of the project is to perform preventative maintenance on four bridges—Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034) at post mile 70.63, Helm Canal Bridge (Number 42-0033) at post mile 72.81, Colony Main Canal Bridge (Number 42-0031) at post mile 75.95 on State Route 33, and Main Drain Canal Bridge (Number 50-0013) at post mile 27.82 on State Route 58. The project is needed to ensure that the bridges maintain functionality and to reduce the need for continual maintenance.

The work requires encasing corroded shell piers with reinforced concrete. Each pier will be cleaned and encased in concrete from the top of the pier to 4 feet below the existing mudline—the limit of soft, sticky matter that results from the mixing of earth and water stuck under the bridge riverbed that needs to be removed.

At Colony Main Canal Bridge (Number 42-0031), 12 piers will be encased, specifically six piers each at bent caps 2 and 3. At Helm Canal Bridge (Number 42-0033), 12 piers will be encased, specifically six piers each at bent caps 2 and 3. At Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034), four piers will be encased at abutment 4. At Main Drain Canal Bridge (Number 50-0013), 14 piers will be encased, specifically seven piers each at bent caps 2 and 3. About 42 piers in total will be reinforced. The pier diameter will increase by about 5 inches per pier from 15 inches to 20 inches. Temporary bents may be used to support the bridge while work is being done.

Additional work will fill in erosion found under the bridge abutments. This will be done by grout injection from the top side by drilling through the roadway shoulder and removing loose material from the eroded area and installing rock slope protection over rock slope protection fabric, as needed. Rock slope protection would be installed at abutment 4 of Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034). Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034) would also receive an updated bridge identification tag. The project would also patch concrete spalls (chipped concrete) on the existing concrete curb of bridge barriers at each location.

To avoid heavy water flows in the canals, construction of the project would be scheduled during the winter months. A water diversion system would be implemented to allow work around each pier on the three Firebaugh bridge locations. A water diversion system is not currently proposed at Main Drain Canal Bridge (Number 50-0013). A cofferdam would be installed on both sides of all three bridges near Firebaugh, and a water bypass system would be installed to allow the canals to operate at full capacity during construction. About 2 feet of water would need to be pumped out of the work site after installing the cofferdam to allow a dry work area. All material removed from

the canal, including silt, would be put back and compacted. A small access road would be needed for construction equipment and would likely be cut from a side embankment at each canal.

It is estimated that 1.5 months are needed for construction time at each canal bridge.

1.4 Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

This final environmental document (Mitigated Negative Declaration) has been updated from the draft environmental document (Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration) to reflect the following changes.

- The temporary construction easements are now described by total area in acres instead of distance in feet from Caltrans' current right-of-way.
- The temporary construction easement areas in Figures 3, 4, 5, and 6 below were included in the project Initial Study. An Initial Study is a preliminary analysis used to determine if a project may have a significant impact on the environment. However, Figure 3 in the draft environmental document did not show the total area studied for the potential temporary construction easements because it was assumed that a smaller area was needed to complete project work. The temporary construction easement areas shown in Figures 4, 5, and 6 of the draft environmental document have been reduced in size and updated in this final environmental document. Since the temporary construction easement areas shown in Figures 3, 4, 5, and 6 below have been studied and updated, no further environmental review is necessary.

Location—1 Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034)

Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034) is on State Route 33 at post mile 70.63 within the city of Firebaugh. The city of Firebaugh General Plan designates several parcels south and southeast of Poso Canal Bridge and abutting State Route 33 as Service Commercial. These parcels are zoned General Commercial District (C-3) under the city of Firebaugh Zoning Ordinance. The parcel immediately north of Poso Canal Bridge and parallel to State Route 33 is also designated Service Commercial. This parcel is zoned Neighborhood Commercial District (C-1). The parcels farther north of Poso Canal Bridge and parallel to State Route 33 are designated Low Density Residential. These parcels are zoned Single Family Residential District (R-1). The Southern Pacific Railroad is west of State Route 33 and runs parallel to the parcels. Potential staging would occur within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 008-030-05, 008-041-05, and 008-090-27S.

A temporary construction easement would be obtained to allow for staging and access to the Poso Canal Bridge. The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 008-030-05 will have an area of 0.157 acre. The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 008-

041-05 will have an area of 0.238 acre. The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 008-090-27S will have an area of 0.05 acre. See Figure 3.

Figure 3 Temporary Construction Easements for Poso Canal Bridge (Number 42-0034)



Location—2 Helm Canal Bridge (Number 42-0033)

The Helm Canal Bridge (Number 42-0033) is on State Route 33 at post mile 72.81 outside the city limits of Firebaugh. The Fresno County General Plan designates this project site as Agriculture (A). The zoning for this project site is Exclusive Agricultural (AE20) under the Fresno County Zoning Ordinance. Staging would occur within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 006-010-07U and 006-120-22ST. The Central California Irrigation District owns Assessor's Parcel Number 006-120-22ST, so coordination with the district would be required for the staging area.

The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 006-010-07U will have an area of 0.122 acre. See Figure 4.

The Central California Irrigation District (CCID) owns Assessor's Parcel Number 006-120-22ST, so coordination with the district would be required for the staging area.

Figure 4 Temporary Construction Easements for Helm Canal Bridge (Number 42-0033)



Location—3 Colony Main Canal Bridge (Number 42-0031)

The Colony Main Canal Bridge (Number 42-0031) is on State Route 33 at post mile 75.95 outside the city limits of Firebaugh. The Fresno County General Plan designates this project site as Agriculture (A). The zoning for this project site is Exclusive Agricultural (AE20) under the Fresno County Zoning Ordinance. A single-family home is northwest of State Route 33 and the Colony Main Canal Bridge. The area northeast of State Route 33 and the

Colony Main Canal Bridge is developed for agricultural use. The remaining areas surrounding the bridge are highly disturbed with nonnative vegetation.

Staging for this project site would require a temporary construction easement within a parcel that is bisected by the Colony Main Canal Bridge. Staging will occur within the western portion of Assessor's Parcel Number 006-080-04 and within a portion of the same parcel abutting the northeast corner of Colony Main Canal Bridge and State Route 33. The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 006-080-04 will have an area of 0.253 acre. See Figure 5.

Figure 5 Temporary Construction Easements for Colony Main Canal Bridge (Number 42-0031)



Staging will also occur south of State Route 33 within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 006-010-06U and 006-010-07U. The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 006-010-06U will have an area of

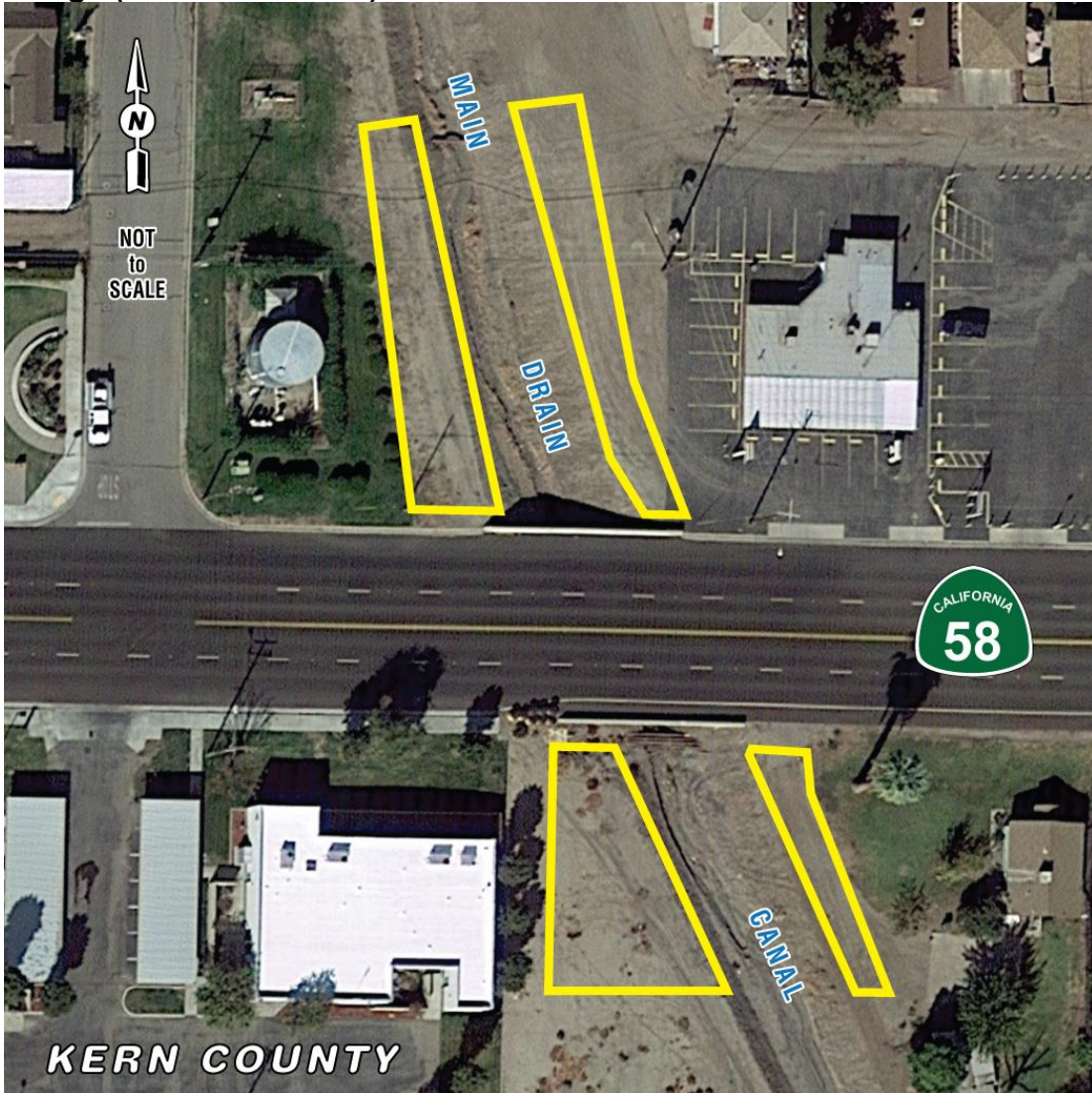
0.086 acre. The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 006-010-07U will have an area of 0.057 acre. See Figure 5.

Location—4 Main Drain Canal Bridge (Number 50-0013)

The Main Drain Canal Bridge (Number 50-0013) is on State Route 58 at post mile 27.82 within Buttonwillow, an unincorporated community in Kern County. The project site is within an urban setting surrounded by a mix of commercial and residential development. Staging for this project site would require three temporary construction easements for Assessor's Parcel Numbers 101-030-03, 101-043-15, and 101-045-08. See Figure 6.

The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 101-030-03 will have an area of 0.06 acre. This parcel is zoned Low-Density Residential District (R-1) according to the Kern County Zoning Ordinance. This parcel is currently undeveloped. The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 101-043-15 will have an area of 0.073 acre. This parcel is zoned Low-Density Residential District (R-1) according to the Kern County Zoning Ordinance. The third parcel, Assessor's Parcel Number 101-045-08, is bisected by the Main Drain Canal Bridge. The temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 101-045-08 will have an area of 0.105 acre. The zoning for this parcel is Medium Industrial District (M-2) according to the Kern County Zoning Ordinance. This parcel is currently undeveloped.

Figure 6 Temporary Construction Easements for Main Drain Canal Bridge (Number 50-0013)



1.5 Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required

Agency	Permit/Approval	Status
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	401 Certification	The 401 Certification (permit) will be obtained before construction starts.
Central Valley Flood Protection Board	Encroachment Permit	The Main Drain Canal in Kern County is a regulated stream. The Central Valley Flood Protection Board of the Resources Agency of the state of California requires a permit application to be filled out with all proposed encroachments within the floodways under its jurisdiction. The encroachment permit will be obtained before construction starts.
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants Notification	The contractor will be required to notify the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District 15 days before starting demolition or rehabilitation activities.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Letter of Concurrence	A Letter of Concurrence was received on November 26, 2019.
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Section 1600 Permit	A Section 1600 Permit will be obtained before construction starts.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Section 404 Permit	A Section 404 Permit will be obtained before construction starts.

Section 2 **CEQA Environmental Checklist**

2.1 CEQA Checklist

This checklist identifies physical, biological, social, and economic factors that might be affected by the project. Potential impact determinations include Significant and Unavoidable Impact, Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated, Less Than Significant Impact, and No Impact. In many cases, background studies performed in connection with a project will indicate that there are no impacts to a particular resource. A No Impact answer reflects this determination. The words “significant” and “significance” used throughout the following checklist are related to CEQA, not NEPA, impacts. The questions in this checklist are intended to encourage the thoughtful assessment of impacts and do not represent thresholds of significance.

Project features, which can include both design elements of the project, and standardized measures that are applied to all or most Caltrans projects such as Best Management Practices and measures included in the Standard Plans and Specifications or as Standard Special Provisions, are considered to be an integral part of the project and have been considered prior to any significance determinations documented below.

2.1.1 Aesthetics

CEQA Significance Determinations for Aesthetics

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

No Impact—No qualifying scenic resource as defined by Section 15300.2 (d) of the California Environmental Quality Act, Implementation Guidelines, would be affected by the project.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

No Impact—No qualifying scenic resource as defined by Section 15300.2 (d) of the California Environmental Quality Act, Implementation Guidelines, would be affected by the project.

c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

No Impact—The project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. This is a preventative maintenance project aimed at extending the service life and ensuring the safety of four bridges. Construction work for this project is limited to canal areas under the bridge and out of public view.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

No Impact—The project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. Construction work for this project is limited to canal areas under the bridge and would take place during the day, which would not require artificial lighting.

2.1.2 Agriculture and Forest Resources

CEQA Significance Determinations for Agriculture and Forest Resources

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

Would the project:

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

No Impact—The project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use because the project would repair four existing bridges.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

No Impact—The project will require a temporary construction easement for Assessor's Parcel Number 006-080-04. A review of Fresno County Assessor's Parcel Maps revealed that this parcel (Assessor's Parcel Number

006-080-04) is within an agricultural preserve and subject to a Williamson Act contract. The existing zoning for agricultural use and a Williamson Act contract will remain in place during and after preventative maintenance of the Colony Main Canal Bridge. Therefore, this project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract.

c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?

No Impact—The project does not conflict with existing zoning. There are no forests or timberlands impacted by the project.

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact—There are no forests impacted by the project. Therefore, the project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact—The project would not involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.

2.1.3 Air Quality

CEQA Significance Determinations for Air Quality

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

No Impact—The project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan for the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin under the jurisdiction of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

No Impact—There would be no cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant because of the project. The project is exempt from all project-level conformity requirements under 40 Code of Federal Regulations Section 93.126, Table 2, Widening Narrow Pavements or Reconstructing Bridges.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

No Impact—The project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. During construction, the project would generate air pollutants. The exhaust from construction equipment contains hydrocarbons, oxides of nitrogen, carbon monoxide, suspended particulate matter, and odors. The contractor would be required to comply with the provisions of Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-9.02 Air Pollution Control and Section 10-5 Dust Control to reduce and control emission impacts during construction.

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

No Impact—The project would not create objectionable odors that would affect a substantial number of people.

2.1.4 Biological Resources

CEQA Significance Determinations for Biological Resources

Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated—Caltrans prepared a Biological Assessment and Natural Environment Study to determine to what extent the project may affect threatened, endangered, candidate, or sensitive species. Refer to Appendix A for the species lists. For these studies, focus was given to the potential for the San Joaquin kit fox, giant garter snake, and Swainson's hawk to be in the project area.

The Biological Assessment revealed that there is only marginal suitable habitat for the giant garter snake and San Joaquin kit fox in the project areas. Additionally, surveys for each of the previously mentioned species did not detect their presence within the project areas. However, the Natural Environment Study revealed that suitable nesting trees for the Swainson's hawk are present near the project areas.

Evidence of nesting Swainson's hawks was seen during reconnaissance surveys. No critical habitat is directly associated with the project areas, so direct or indirect impacts to critical habitats are not expected. Based on the preceding analysis, it was determined that implementing the project is not likely to adversely affect the giant garter snake, San Joaquin kit fox, or Swainson's hawk.

No tree removal is expected for this project, and the project is expected to start before the nesting season. If construction starts during the nesting season (February 1 to September 30), pre-construction surveys for the Swainson's hawk will be conducted within 30 days before construction to determine if Swainson's hawks are nesting within 0.5 mile of the project area. If Swainson's hawks are found nesting within a 500-foot-radius of or from construction activities, a qualified biologist will monitor the nest tree during construction until the birds have fledged. This project will also comply with the applicable sections of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. (Biological Assessment, September 2019 and Natural Environment Study, November 2019)

Because giant garter snakes are difficult to identify in the field, there is potential for them to occur along State Route 33. Although that is unlikely, the project may still impact giant garter snakes' marginal habitat. Construction is expected to take about 15 months to complete and will be done within the giant garter snake active and inactive season, so mitigation for the project is expected.

The project will temporarily impact 3 acres and will permanently impact 0.03 acre of giant garter snake habitat. For mitigation, a 3 to 1 ratio for permanent impacts and a 1.1 to 1 ratio for temporary impacts are proposed. This means that for every 1 acre of giant garter snake habitat permanently impacted, 3 credits (acres) would need to be purchased to mitigate impacts. For every 1 acre of giant garter snake habitat temporarily impacted, 1.1 credits (acres) would need to be purchased to mitigate impacts. Credits (acres) would be purchased at an approved giant garter snake mitigation bank or, if a bank is unavailable, credits would be purchased for the enhancement of giant garter snake habitat.

Avoidance and minimization measures for this project include, but are not limited to environmental awareness training, pre-construction surveys, construction monitoring, vegetation removal guidelines, Best Management Practices, and construction site management practices. Before work starts (before September 15) and following pre-construction surveys, temporary silt fencing will be installed around the project limits at the Poso Canal Bridge, Helm Canal Bridge, and Colony Main Canal Bridge in Fresno County to minimize adverse effects to water quality and to prevent species from entering the work areas.

The contractor will inspect and maintain fencing before the start of each workday until the project is completed. After April 15, any dewatered habitat will remain dry at least 15 consecutive days before excavating or filling dewatered habitat.

This will allow any giant garter snake present in dewatered habitat enough time to leave the area. (Biological Assessment, September 2019 and Natural Environment Study, November 2019)

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

No Impact—There would not be a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The project areas do not contain riparian habitat, vernal pools, or ponds. (Biological Assessment, September 2019 and Natural Environment Study, November 2019)

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

No Impact—There are no state or federally protected wetlands in the project areas. (Biological Assessment, September 2019 and Natural Environment Study, November 2019)

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

No Impact—The project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Also, consultation with a National Marine Fisheries Service liaison revealed that salmonids would most likely be absent within the project areas. At the request of the National Marine Fisheries Service liaison, the project would follow Best Management Practices such as erosion control and hazardous waste spill prevention.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

No Impact—The project does not conflict with any local policy or ordinance protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No Impact—The project does not conflict with the provisions of any Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

2.1.5 Cultural Resources

CEQA Significance Determinations for Cultural Resources

Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?

No Impact—In compliance with Section 106, Caltrans' Professionally Qualified Staff determined that the undertaking of this project has no potential to affect historic properties or historic resources. (Section 106 Compliance-Screened Undertaking Memo for Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Project, June 19, 2019)

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?

No Impact—No archaeological resources are known to exist within the project areas. (Section 106 Compliance-Screened Undertaking Memo for Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Project, June 19, 2019)

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

No Impact—The project would not disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries. If cultural materials are unearthed during construction, it is Caltrans' policy that work be stopped in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find. If human remains are discovered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities must stop in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the local coroner must be contacted. Per California Public Resources Section 5097.98, if the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner would notify the California Native American Heritage Commission, which would then notify the most likely descendent.

2.1.6 Energy

CEQA Significance Determinations for Energy

Would the project:

a) Result in potentially significant environmental impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

No Impact—This is a preventative maintenance project aimed at extending the service life and ensuring the safety of four existing bridges. The project would not result in potentially significant environmental impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

No Impact—The project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

2.1.7 Geology and Soils

CEQA Significance Determinations for Geology and Soils

Would the project:

a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?

No Impact—The project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving i above and ii, iii, and iv below. Sources for this response include the California Geological Survey webpage, Faulting in California, and the California Department of Conservation Map Data Viewer webpage. No faults were identified in the project areas, and seismic hazards activities are low. There is no strong seismic ground shaking in the project areas, and there is no risk of landslides associated with the project.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

No Impact—Refer to response “i” above.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

No Impact—Refer to response “i” above.

iv) Landslides?

No Impact—Refer to response “i” above.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

No Impact—The project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. This is a preventative maintenance project aimed at extending the service life and ensuring the safety of four existing bridges. A small access road would be needed for equipment and would likely be cut from the side embankment at each canal. Soil would be returned to its original state after construction is completed. Additional project work would fill in erosion that is found under bridge abutments. This would be done by grout injection from the top side by drilling through the roadway shoulder and removing loose material of an eroded area and installing rock slope protection over rock slope protection fabric as needed. With the use of selected Best Management Practices, the project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

No Impact—The project is not on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or that would become unstable because of the project. Each project site already supports an existing bridge, and the project aims to repair the bridge piles at each site and extend the service life of the four bridges.

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

No Impact—The project is not on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), that would create substantial risks to life or property. Each project site already supports an existing bridge, and the project aims to extend the service life of the four existing bridges.

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

No Impact—Because the project would not involve the installation of a septic tank or alternative wastewater disposal system, no impacts would occur.

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

No Impact—The project areas are within the Great Valley of California geomorphic province. The geologic units for the Firebaugh bridge locations consist of Holocene fan deposits. The Buttonwillow bridge location is underlain by Holocene basin deposits. Low sensitivity paleontological resources are present within the project areas. Excavation for the project would occur in sediments that have accumulated in each canal. According to the Paleontological Identification Report, these sediments have no potential to encounter paleontological resources or a unique geologic feature. (Paleontological Identification Report, December 21, 2017)

2.1.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

CEQA Significance Determinations for Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Would the project:

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Less Than Significant Impact—The project would not add travel lanes or change roadway capacity or vehicle miles traveled. Therefore, no increase in operational greenhouse gas emissions is expected. Carbon dioxide emissions generated from construction equipment were estimated using the Caltrans Construction Emissions Tool. The estimated carbon dioxide emissions are 49 U.S. tons generated. (Air Quality Memo, July 8, 2019) With the implementation of construction greenhouse gas-reduction measures, the impact would be less than significant.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Less Than Significant Impact—The project does not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

2.1.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

CEQA Significance Determinations for Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Would the project:

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

No Impact—Standard Special Provisions 14-11.16 Asbestos-Containing Construction Materials in Bridges and 14-9.02 Air Pollution Control, Notification to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District apply to this project. Additional provisions for the project include 14-11.13 Disturbance of Existing Paint System on Bridges and 7-1.02K(6)(j)(ii) Lead Compliance Plan. With these provisions, the project would not result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or

disposal of hazardous materials. (Preliminary Site Investigation Summary, September 23, 2019)

b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

No Impact—With the Standard Special Provisions listed above in response “a,” this project would not cause a significant hazard to the public. Also, with these provisions in place, the project would not create a significant hazard to the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. (Preliminary Site Investigation Summary, September 23, 2019)

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

No Impact—The project is not within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.

d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

No Impact—A record and review search using the Cortese List developed by the California Environmental Protection Agency and a database by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery did not identify any hazardous waste sites for this project.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact—The project is not within the vicinity of a public airport or within an airport land use plan.

f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

No Impact—The project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?

No Impact—There are no wildlands within the project areas. The bridges outside the city of Firebaugh are mostly in rural areas that are developed for agricultural use. The bridges in the city of Firebaugh and Buttonwillow are mostly in commercial and industrial areas.

2.1.10 Hydrology and Water Quality

CEQA Significance Determinations for Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface water or groundwater quality?

No Impact—The project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements because Caltrans is required to reduce potential water quality impacts in the design and construction phases. With the use of selected Best Management Practices, water quality would be protected, and the risk for accidental release of chemical pollutants would be reduced.

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

No Impact—This is a preventative maintenance project aimed at extending the service life and ensuring the safety of four bridges. A cofferdam would be installed on both sides of all three bridges near Firebaugh, and a water bypass system would be installed to allow the canals to operate at full capacity during construction.

These canals are meant to supply water to Central Valley farmers. The project would have no impacts on groundwater supplies or groundwater recharge that would impede sustainable groundwater management of a basin.

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:

i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;

No Impact—This is a preventative maintenance project that would extend the service life and ensure the safety of four bridges. All four bridges were built over human-made canals, with one or more dating back as far as 1922. All material removed from the canal, including silt, would be put back and compacted. With the use of selected Best Management Practices, the project would not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.

ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;

No Impact—Project work includes encasing corroded shell piers with reinforced concrete, which would take place in the canal areas. Due to work taking place in the canal areas and using Best Management Practices, the project would not substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff that would result in flooding on- or off-site.

iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or

No Impact—With the use of Caltrans Standard Specification 13-1 Water Pollution Control and Caltrans Water Pollution Control Program, the project would not create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff.

iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?

No Impact—A water diversion system would be implemented to allow work around each pier on the three Firebaugh bridge locations. At this time, a water diversion system is not proposed on the Main Drain Canal Bridge in Buttonwillow. A cofferdam would be installed on both sides of all three bridges near Firebaugh, and a water bypass system would be installed to allow the canals to operate at full capacity during construction. Because this work is limited to canals and would use a water bypass system to keep canals operating at full capacity, the project would not impede or redirect flood flows.

d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

No Impact—Based on an initial floodplain study, the project does not encroach on the Federal Emergency Management Agency-designated 100-year base floodplains. The project areas are outside the coastal zone and are not in an area that is subject to sea-level rise. Therefore, the project is not within a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zone, and does not pose a risk of releasing pollutants due to project inundation. (Initial Flood Plain Study, November 20, 2015)

e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

No Impact—The project does not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

2.1.11 Land Use and Planning

CEQA Significance Determinations for Land Use and Planning

Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?

No Impact—This is a preventative maintenance project that would extend the service life and ensure the safety of four existing bridges. The project will not physically divide an established community.

b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No Impact—The project would not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

2.1.12 Mineral Resources

CEQA Significance Determinations for Mineral Resources

Would the project:

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

No Impact—The project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. In Fresno County, precious minerals and building material aggregate resources are abundant according to the Fresno County General Plan. Mineral and petroleum resources are basic to Kern County's economy. Kern County has the distinction of producing more oil than any other county in California. These resources would not be impacted because work is limited to canal areas that contain sediment that lacks such resources.

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?

No Impact—The project would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. Refer to response "a" above.

2.1.13 Noise

CEQA Significance Determinations for Noise

Would the project result in:

a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

No Impact—The project is not expected to generate noise levels in excess of noise standards. Temporary noise impacts during construction would be minimized by the Caltrans Standard Specification Section 14-8.02 Noise Control.

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

No Impact—The project would not generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. As directed by Caltrans, the contractor would implement the appropriate additional noise mitigation measures, such as turning off idling equipment, using newer equipment with improved noise muffling, limiting construction activities to daytime hours, using temporary noise barriers, and implementing a construction noise or vibration monitoring program. (Air and Noise Studies, October 30, 2018)

c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact—The project is not within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan, so the project would not expose people living or working in the project areas to excessive noise levels.

2.1.14 Population and Housing

CEQA Significance Determinations for Population and Housing

Would the project:

a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

No Impact—This is a preventative maintenance project that would extend the service life and ensure the safety of four existing bridges. The project would not induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly or indirectly.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact—This is a preventative maintenance project that would extend the service life and ensure the safety of four bridges. The project would not displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

2.1.15 Public Services

CEQA Significance Determinations for Public Services

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?

No Impact—This is a preventative maintenance project that would extend the service life and ensure the safety of four bridges. The project would not trigger the need for new or changed public facilities of any type.

Police protection?

No Impact—Refer to response “a” above.

Schools?

No Impact—Refer to response “a” above.

Parks?

No Impact—Refer to response “a” above.

Other public facilities?

No Impact—Refer to response “a” above.

2.1.16 Recreation

CEQA Significance Determinations for Recreation

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

No Impact—The project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial

physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. No park or recreational facility would be impacted as a result of the project.

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

No Impact—The project does not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. This is a preventative maintenance project that would repair the piles of four existing bridges.

2.1.17 Transportation

CEQA Significance Determinations for Transportation

Would the project:

a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?

No Impact—The project would not conflict with any program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities.

b) Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

No Impact—This is a preventative maintenance project that would extend the service life and ensure the safety of four bridges. Project work includes encasing corroded shell piers with reinforced concrete within canal areas. The project would have no impact on vehicle miles traveled.

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

No Impact—The project would not increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses. This is a preventative maintenance project that would extend the service life and ensure the safety of four bridges. Project work includes encasing corroded shell piers with reinforced concrete within canal areas.

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

No Impact—The project would not result in inadequate emergency access. No detour is planned for the project, and each bridge location would remain open while work is being done on the bridge piers.

2.1.18 Tribal Cultural Resources

CEQA Significance Determinations for Tribal Cultural Resources

Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or

No Impact—Caltrans determined that there are no resources listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k). (Section 106 Compliance-Screened Undertaking Memo for Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Project, June 19, 2019)

b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

No Impact—Caltrans consulted the California Native American Heritage Commission to identify tribes that are present in geographic areas of this project. Letters were then sent to 19 individuals on May 22, 2018, and to one individual on June 13, 2018. A second notification (follow-up) letter was sent to 15 individuals on June 13, 2018, and a third notification letter was sent to 15 individuals on May 31, 2019. Letters were sent to determine if any cultural properties were known to exist within or next to the project areas. No responses have been received to date. Prior field reviews and pedestrian surveys yielded no archaeological resources within the project locations. (Section 106 Compliance-Screened Undertaking Memo for Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Project, June 19, 2019)

2.1.19 Utilities and Service Systems

CEQA Significance Determinations for Utilities and Service Systems

Would the project:

a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

No Impact—The project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities that could cause significant environmental effects.

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?

No Impact—The project will not affect future water supplies and does not require an external water source.

c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

No Impact—The project would have no impact on wastewater treatment operations.

d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

No Impact—The project would have no impact on solid waste reduction goals or generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards or exceed the capacity of local infrastructure.

e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

No Impact—The project would comply with all solid waste regulations.

2.1.20 Wildfire

CEQA Significance Determinations for Wildfire

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:

a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

No Impact—The project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The project is not on lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones.

b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

No Impact—The project would have no impact on wildfire risks. The bridges outside the city of Firebaugh are mostly in rural areas and lands developed for agricultural use. The bridges in the city of Firebaugh and Buttonwillow are mostly in commercial and industrial areas.

c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

No Impact—The project does not require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure that would exacerbate fire risk or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment.

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

No Impact—Construction work for the project is limited to canal areas under the bridges. These canals are meant to supply water to Central Valley farmers. The scope of work for the project would not expose people or structures to downslope or downstream flooding or landslides from runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.

2.1.21 Mandatory Findings of Significance

CEQA Significance Determinations for Mandatory Findings of Significance

a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

No Impact—The project would not degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community. Also, the project would not substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the

effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)

No Impact—The project would not have impacts that would be individually limited, but cumulatively considerable. This is a preventative maintenance project that would extend the service life and ensure the safety of four existing bridges.

c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

No Impact—The project would not have any environmental impacts that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings. The project areas are mostly rural with some commercial, industrial, and residential uses. This preventative maintenance project would not substantially impact human beings.

Appendix A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Species Lists, CNPS Species List and CNDDDB Query



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713



In Reply Refer To:
Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2018-SLI-2944
Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-04331
Project Name: 06-0U000 Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Location 1

March 18, 2020

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
(916) 414-6600

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2018-SLI-2944

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-04331

Project Name: 06-0U000 Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Location 1

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Caltrans proposes capitol bridge prevention maintenance project for four bridges. Work includes encasing the corroded steel shell piers supporting the bridges with reinforced concrete. Each pier will be cleaned and encased in concrete from the top of the pier to 2 feet under the existing mud line. Pier diameter increase will be about 6 inches per pier. Additionally work proposes to fill in erosion found under the bridge abutments by grout injection from the top side by drilling through the roadway shoulder, removing loose material and installing Rock Slope Protection (RSP) over RSP fabric as needed. It is proposed to patch concrete spalls on the existing concrete curb of the bridge barriers at each location and update the painted bridge identification tag with new identification at Post Canal Bridge No. 42-0034. The project locations are post miles 70.63, 72.81, 75.95 on Highway 33 and post mile 27.82 on Highway 58.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/36.8617550594102N120.46109505846263W>



Counties: Fresno, CA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 9 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Fresno Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys nitratooides exilis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5150 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/37/office/11420.pdf	Endangered
Giant Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys ingens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6051	Endangered
San Joaquin Kit Fox <i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873	Endangered

Birds

NAME	STATUS
Yellow-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> Population: Western U.S. DPS There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911	Threatened

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard <i>Gambelia silus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/625	Endangered
Giant Garter Snake <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482	Threatened

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/205/office/11420.pdf	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321	Threatened

Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498	Threatened

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713



In Reply Refer To:
Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2018-SLI-2945
Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-04332
Project Name: 06-OU000 Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Location 2

March 18, 2020

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
(916) 414-6600

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2018-SLI-2945

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-04332

Project Name: 06-0U000 Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Location 2

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Caltrans proposes capitol bridge prevention maintenance project for four bridges. Work includes encasing the corroded steel shell piers supporting the bridges with reinforced concrete. Each pier will be cleaned and encased in concrete from the top of the pier to 2 feet under the existing mud line. Pier diameter increase will be about 6 inches per pier. Additionally work proposes to fill in erosion found under the bridge abutments by grout injection from the top side by drilling through the roadway shoulder, removing loose material and installing Rock Slope Protection (RSP) over RSP fabric as needed. It is proposed to patch concrete spalls on the existing concrete curb of the bridge barriers at each location and update the painted bridge identification tag with new identification at Post Canal Bridge No. 42-0034. The project locations are post miles 70.63, 72.81, 75.95 on Highway 33 and post mile 27.82 on Highway 58.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/36.88280123372052N120.49113204232044W>



Counties: Fresno, CA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 9 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Fresno Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys nitratoides exilis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5150 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/37/office/11420.pdf	Endangered
San Joaquin Kit Fox <i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873	Endangered

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard <i>Gambelia silus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/625	Endangered
Giant Garter Snake <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482	Threatened

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/205/office/11420.pdf	Threatened
California Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> Population: U.S.A. (Central CA DPS) There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321	Threatened

Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498	Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Palmate-bracted Bird's Beak <i>Cordylanthus palmatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1616	Endangered

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.



United States Department of the Interior



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Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713

In Reply Refer To:

March 18, 2020

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2018-SLI-2946

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-04333

Project Name: 06-OU000 Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Location 3

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office

Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
(916) 414-6600

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2018-SLI-2945

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-04332

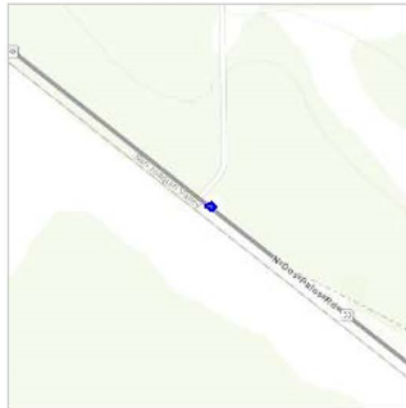
Project Name: 06-0U000 Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Location 2

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Caltrans proposes capitol bridge prevention maintenance project for four bridges. Work includes encasing the corroded steel shell piers supporting the bridges with reinforced concrete. Each pier will be cleaned and encased in concrete from the top of the pier to 2 feet under the existing mud line. Pier diameter increase will be about 6 inches per pier. Additionally work proposes to fill in erosion found under the bridge abutments by grout injection from the top side by drilling through the roadway shoulder, removing loose material and installing Rock Slope Protection (RSP) over RSP fabric as needed. It is proposed to patch concrete spalls on the existing concrete curb of the bridge barriers at each location and update the painted bridge identification tag with new identification at Post Canal Bridge No. 42-0034. The project locations are post miles 70.63, 72.81, 75.95 on Highway 33 and post mile 27.82 on Highway 58.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/36.88280123372052N120.49113204232044W>



Counties: Fresno, CA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 8 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Fresno Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys nitratooides exilis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5150 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/37/office/11420.pdf	Endangered
San Joaquin Kit Fox <i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873	Endangered

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard <i>Gambelia silus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/625	Endangered
Giant Garter Snake <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482	Threatened

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/205/office/11420.pdf	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321	Threatened

Insects

NAME	STATUS
Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle <i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7850 Habitat assessment guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/assessment/population/436/office/11420.pdf	Threatened

Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498	Threatened

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.



United States Department of the Interior

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Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
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In Reply Refer To:

March 18, 2020

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2018-SLI-2947

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-04334

Project Name: 06-0U000 Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Location 4

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

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Federal Building
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Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
(916) 414-6600

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2018-SLI-2947

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-04334

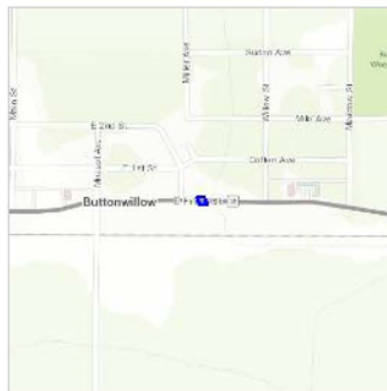
Project Name: 06-0U000 Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Location 4

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Caltrans proposes capitol bridge prevention maintenance project for four bridges. Work includes encasing the corroded steel shell piers supporting the bridges with reinforced concrete. Each pier will be cleaned and encased in concrete from the top of the pier to 2 feet under the existing mud line. Pier diameter increase will be about 6 inches per pier. Additionally work proposes to fill in erosion found under the bridge abutments by grout injection from the top side by drilling through the roadway shoulder, removing loose material and installing Rock Slope Protection (RSP) over RSP fabric as needed. It is proposed to patch concrete spalls on the existing concrete curb of the bridge barriers at each location and update the painted bridge identification tag with new identification at Post Canal Bridge No. 42-0034. The project locations are post miles 70.63, 72.81, 75.95 on Highway 33 and post mile 27.82 on Highway 58.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/35.39970475982756N119.46476407349112W>



Counties: Kern, CA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 10 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Buena Vista Lake Ornate Shrew <i>Sorex ornatus relictus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1610	Endangered
Giant Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys ingens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6051	Endangered
San Joaquin Kit Fox <i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873	Endangered
Tipton Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys nitratoides nitratoides</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7247 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/40/office/11420.pdf	Endangered

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard <i>Gambelia silus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/625	Endangered
Giant Garter Snake <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482	Threatened

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/205/office/11420.pdf	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321	Threatened

Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498	Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
San Joaquin Woolly-threads <i>Monolopia (=Lembertia) congdonii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3746	Endangered

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FISH and WILDLIFE *RareFind*

Query Summary:
 Cued IS (Firebaugh (3812074) OR Poco Fern (3812084) OR Cozelle (3812085) OR Buttonwillow (3511944))

CNDDB Element Query Results

Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxonomic Group	Element Code	Total Occs	Returned Occs	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	CA Rare Plant Rank	Other Status	Habitats
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	tricolored blackbird	Birds	ABPBXB0020	955	1	None	Threatened	G2G3	S1S2	null	BLM S-Sensitive, CDFW SSC-Species of Special Concern, IUCN EN-Endangered, NABCI RWL-Red Watch List, USFWS BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Freshwater marsh, Marsh & swamp, Swamp, Wetland
<i>Ammospermophilus leucurus</i>	Nelson's antelope squirrel	Mammals	AMAFB04040	285	8	None	Threatened	G2	S2S3	null	BLM S-Sensitive, IUCN EN-Endangered	Chenopod scrub
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i>	California glossy snake	Reptiles	ARADB01017	280	1	None	None	G5T2	S2	null	CDFW SSC-Species of Special Concern	null
<i>Astragalus horridus</i> var. <i>horridus</i>	Horn's milk-velvet	Dicots	PDFAB0F421	28	1	None	None	GUT1	S1	1B.1	BLM S-Sensitive	Alluvial plays, Meadow & seep, Wetland
<i>Athene cucularia</i>	burrowing owl	Birds	ABNSB10010	1989	7	None	None	G4	S3	null	BLM S-Sensitive, CDFW SSC-Species of Special Concern, IUCN LC-Lowest Concern, USFWS BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Coastal prairie, Coastal scrub, Great Basin grassland, Great Basin scrub, Mojave desert scrub, Sonoran desert scrub, Valley & foothill grassland
<i>Atriplex confertifolia</i> var. <i>confertifolia</i>	heartscale	Dicots	PDCHED040B0	88	2	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.2	BLM S-Sensitive	Chenopod scrub, Meadow & seep, Valley & foothill grassland
<i>Atriplex confertifolia</i> var. <i>arctostyle</i>	Earlment orache	Dicots	PDCHED042V0	21	1	None	None	G3T1	S1	1B.2	BLM S-Sensitive	Valley & foothill grassland
<i>Atriplex coronata</i> var. <i>vellicola</i>	Lost Hills crownscale	Dicots	PDCHED04371	74	1	None	None	G4T2	S2	1B.2	BLM S-Sensitive, SB SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	Chenopod scrub, Valley & foothill grassland, Vernal pool
<i>Atriplex microscyla</i>	lesser heartscale	Dicots	PDCHED042M0	52	5	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1	null	Alluvial plays, Chenopod scrub, Valley & foothill grassland
<i>Atriplex subtile</i>	subtle orache	Dicots	PDCHED042T0	24	2	None	None	G1	S1	1B.2	BLM S-Sensitive	Valley & foothill grassland
<i>Bombus croceus</i>	Crotch bumble bee	Insects	IHYM24480	234	2	None	Candidate Endangered	G3G4	S1S2	null	null	null
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Swainson's hawk	Birds	ABNIC19070	2518	21	None	Threatened	G5	S3	null	BLM S-Sensitive, IUCN LC-Lowest Concern, USFWS BCC-Birds of	Great Basin grassland, Riparian forest, Riparian woodland, Valley & foothill grassland

<https://apps.wildlife.ca.gov/rarefind/view/QuickElementListView.html>

												Conservation Concern	
Charadrius montanus	mountain plover	Birds	ABNNB03100	90	1	None	None	G3	S2S3	null	BLM_S-Sensitive, CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern, IUCN_NT-Near Threatened, NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List, USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Chenopod scrub, Valley & foothill grassland	
Chloropyron palmatum	palmete-bracted bird's-beak	Dicots	PDSCR0J0J0	25	4	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1	SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	Chenopod scrub, Meadow & seep, Valley & foothill grassland, Wetland	
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	western yellow-billed cuckoo	Birds	ABNRB02022	156	1	Threatened	Endangered	G5T2T3	S1	null	BLM_S-Sensitive, NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List, USFS_S-Sensitive, USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Riparian forest	
Delphinium recurvatum	recurved larkspur	Dicots	PDRAN0B1J0	120	1	None	None	G2?	S2?	1B.2	BLM_S-Sensitive, SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	Chenopod scrub, Cismontane woodland, Valley & foothill grassland	
Dipodomys nitratoides nitratoides	Tiplon kangaroo rat	Mammals	AMAFD03152	79	3	Endangered	Endangered	G3T1T2	S1S2	null	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	Chenopod scrub	
Emys marmorata	western pond turtle	Reptiles	ARAAD02030	1385	1	None	None	G3G4	S3	null	BLM_S-Sensitive, CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern, IUCN_VU-Vulnerable, USFS_S-Sensitive	Aquatic, Artificial flowing waters, Klamath/North coast flowing waters, Klamath/North coast standing waters, Marsh & swamp, Sacramento/San Joaquin flowing waters, Sacramento/San Joaquin standing waters, South coast flowing waters, South coast standing waters, Wetland	
Eremalche parryi ssp. kernensis	Kern mallow	Dicots	PDMAL0C031	184	1	Endangered	None	G3G4T3	S3	1B.2	SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	Chenopod scrub, Pinon & juniper woodlands, Valley & foothill grassland	
Eriastrum hooveri	Hoover's eriastrum	Dicots	PDPLM03070	47	3	Delisted	None	G3	S3	4.2	SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	Chenopod scrub, Pinon & juniper woodlands, Valley & foothill grassland	
Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	Mammals	AMACD02011	296	2	None	None	G5T4	S3S4	null	BLM_S-Sensitive, CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern, WBWG_H-High Priority	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley & foothill grassland	
Gambella sila	blunt-nosed leopard	Reptiles	ARACF07010	380	11	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	null	CDFW_FP-Fully	Chenopod scrub	

	lizard											Protected, IUCN_EN- Endangered	
Lasiurus blossevillii	western red bat	Mammals	AMACC05060	128	1	None	None	G5	S3	null	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern, IUCN_LC- Least Concern, WBWG_H- High Priority	Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Riparian forest, Riparian woodland	
Lasiurus cinereus	hoary bat	Mammals	AMACC05030	238	2	None	None	G5	S4	null	IUCN_LC- Least Concern, WBWG_M- Medium Priority	Broadleaved upland forest, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, North coast coniferous forest	
Layia munzii	Munz's tidy-tips	Dicots	PDAST5N0B0	68	2	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2	BLM_S- Sensitive	Chenopod scrub, Valley & foothill grassland	
Myotis yumanensis	Yuma myotis	Mammals	AMACC01020	265	1	None	None	G5	S4	null	BLM_S- Sensitive, IUCN_LC- Least Concern, WBWG_LM- Low-Medium Priority	Lower montane coniferous forest, Riparian forest, Riparian woodland, Upper montane coniferous forest	
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 11	steelhead - Central Valley DPS	Fish	AFCHA0209K	31	1	Threatened	None	G5T2Q	S2	null	AFS_TH- Threatened	Aquatic, Sacramento/San Joaquin flowing waters	
Onychomys torridus tularensis	Tulare grasshopper mouse	Mammals	AMAFF06021	53	1	None	None	G5T1T2	S1S2	null	BLM_S- Sensitive, CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Chenopod scrub	
Perognathus inornatus	San Joaquin Pocket Mouse	Mammals	AMAFD01060	127	3	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	null	BLM_S- Sensitive, IUCN_LC- Least Concern	Cismontane woodland, Mojavean desert scrub, Valley & foothill grassland	
Phrynosoma blainvillii	coast horned lizard	Reptiles	ARACF12100	784	5	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	null	BLM_S- Sensitive, CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern, IUCN_LC- Least Concern	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal scrub, Desert wash, Pinon & juniper woodlands, Riparian scrub, Riparian woodland, Valley & foothill grassland	
Sagittaria sanfordii	Sanford's arrowhead	Monocots	PMALI040Q0	126	1	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2	BLM_S- Sensitive	Marsh & swamp, Wetland	
Sorex ornatus relictus	Buena Vista Lake ornate shrew	Mammals	AMABA01102	7	1	Endangered	None	G5T1	S1	null	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Marsh & swamp, Riparian scrub	
Spea hammondi	western spadefoot	Amphibians	AAABF02020	1275	1	None	None	G3	S3	null	BLM_S- Sensitive, CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern, IUCN_NT- Near Threatened	Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley & foothill grassland, Vernal pool, Wetland	
Taxidea taxus	American badger	Mammals	AMAJF04010	592	1	None	None	G5	S3	null	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern, IUCN_LC- Least Concern	Alkali marsh, Alkali playa, Alpine, Alpine dwarf scrub, Bog & fen, Brackish marsh, Broadleaved upland forest,	

													Chaparral, Chenopod scrub, Cismontane woodland, Closed-cone coniferous forest, Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal prairie, Coastal scrub, Desert dunes, Desert wash, Freshwater marsh, Great Basin grassland, Great Basin scrub, Interior dunes, lone formation, Joshua tree woodland, Limestone, Lower montane coniferous forest, Marsh & swamp, Meadow & seep, Mojavean desert scrub, Montane dwarf scrub, North coast coniferous forest, Oldgrowth, Pavement plain, Redwood, Riparian forest, Riparian scrub, Riparian woodland, Salt marsh, Sonoran desert scrub, Sonoran thorn woodland, Ultramafic, Upper montane coniferous forest, Upper Sonoran scrub, Valley & foothill grassland
Thamnophis gigas	giant gartersnake	Reptiles	ARADB36150	366	4	Threatened	Threatened	G2	S2	null	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	Marsh & swamp, Riparian scrub, Wetland	
Valley Sacaton Grassland	Valley Sacaton Grassland	Herbaceous	CTT42120CA	9	1	None	None	G1	S1.1	null	null	Valley & foothill grassland	
Valley Saltbush Scrub	Valley Saltbush Scrub	Scrub	CTT36220CA	19	1	None	None	G2	S2.1	null	null	Chenopod scrub	
Vulpes macrotis nutica	San Joaquin kit fox	Mammals	AMAJA03041	1018	16	Endangered	Threatened	G4T2	S2	null	null	Chenopod scrub, Valley & foothill grassland	
Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus	yellow-headed blackbird	Birds	ABPBXB3010	13	1	None	None	G5	S3	null	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern, IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Marsh & swamp, Wetland	



*The database used to provide updates to the Online Inventory is under construction. [View updates and changes made since May 2019 here.](#)

Plant List

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scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Blooming Period	CA Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
Atriplex cordulata var. erecticaulis	Earlhart orache	Chenopodiaceae	annual herb	Aug-Sep(Nov)	1B.2	S1	G3T1
Atriplex minuscula	lesser saltcale	Chenopodiaceae	annual herb	May-Oct	1B.1	S2	G2
Atriplex subfills	suble orache	Chenopodiaceae	annual herb	Jun,Aug,Sep(Oct)	1B.2	S1	G1
Eremalche parryi ssp. kernensis	Kern mallow	Malvaceae	annual herb	Jan,Mar,Apr,May(Feb)	1B.2	S3	G3G4T3
Eriastrum hooveri	Hoover's eriastrum	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	(Feb)Mar-Jul	4.2	S3	G3
Monolopia congdonii	San Josquin woollythreads	Asteraceae	annual herb	(Jan)Feb-May	1B.2	S2	G2

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Questions and Comments

rareplants@cnps.org

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Appendix B Title VI Policy Statement

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

Gavin Newsom, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49
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Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.

November 2019

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT

The California Department of Transportation, under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, ensures "No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

Related federal statutes, remedies, and state law further those protections to include sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, and age.

For information or guidance on how to file a complaint, or obtain more information regarding Title VI, please contact the Title VI Branch Manager at (916) 324-8379 or visit the following web page:
<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/business-and-economic-opportunity/title-vi>.

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille or in a language other than English, please contact the California Department of Transportation, Office of Business and Economic Opportunity, at 1823 14th Street, MS-79, Sacramento, CA 95811; (916) 324-8379 (TTY 711); or at Title.VI@dot.ca.gov.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Toks Omishakin".

Toks Omishakin
Director

"Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability"

Appendix C Comments and Responses

Text of Comment from the State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit

February 24, 2020

Som Phongsavanh
Caltrans, District 6-Fresno/Bakersfield
855 M Street, Suite 200
Fresno, California 93726

Subject: Pile Repair at Firebaugh and Buttonwillow Bridges (06-0U000)
SCH Number 2020019059

Dear Som Phongsavanh:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named MND to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on 2/20/2020, and no state agencies submitted comments by this date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, please visit: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2020019059/2> for full details about your project.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

Response to Comment from the State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit

Thank you for circulating the Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Pile Repair at Firebaugh and Buttonwillow Bridges project and acknowledging Caltrans' compliance with California Environmental Quality Act requirements pursuant to State Clearinghouse guidelines. Caltrans has recorded the corresponding State Clearinghouse number for this project.

List of Technical Studies

Air Quality Memo: July 8, 2019

Air and Noise Studies: October 30, 2018

Water Compliance Study: November 1, 2018

Biological Assessment: September 12, 2019

Natural Environment Study: November 6, 2019

Initial Floodplain Study: November 20, 2015

Section 106 Compliance—Screened Undertaking Memo for the Firebaugh Bridge Pile Repair Project: June 19, 2019

Preliminary Site Investigation Summary (Task Order 1): September 23, 2019,
Paleontological Identification Report: December 21, 2017

Climate Change Analysis: December 4, 2019

To obtain a copy of one or more of these technical studies/reports or the Initial Study, please send your request to the following email address:
d6.public.info@dot.ca.gov

Please indicate the project name and project identifying code (under the project name on the cover of this document) and specify the technical report or document you would like a copy of. Provide your name and email address or U.S. postal service mailing address (street address, city, state, and zip code).