

Sample Summary for Electronic Document Submittal

15 copies of this document may be included when a Lead Agency is submitting electronic copies of environmental impact reports, negative declarations, mitigated negative declarations, or notices of preparation to the SCH. The SCH will still accept other summaries, such as an EIR summary prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123, attached to the electronic copies of the document.

SCH # 2017101045

Lead Agency: Caltrans District 7

Project Title: VEN-1 Permanent Slope Restoration Project

Project Location: Unincorporated Ventura County Ventura County
City *County*

Please provide a Project Description (Proposed Actions, location, and/or consequences).

Caltrans, proposes to construct 2 secant walls on the southbound/coastal side of State Route (SR) 1, also known as Pacific Coast Highway (PCH), in Ventura County at post mile (PM) 4.0 and PM 4.2 to prevent coastal erosion and stabilize the roadway foundation. The slope has undergone extensive erosion due to powerful storms. The first recent storm that greatly compromised the stability of the roadway and left the slope fill embankment severely eroded, occurred in August 2014 and worsened through December 2014 at PM 4.2. Additional storms in January 2015 caused the eroded fill embankment at PM 4.0 to collapse which proved so severe that the guardrail was left hanging from the roadway. Rock slope protection was temporarily placed at these locations in 2015 to minimize damage from future storms. A permanent improvement must be implemented to effectively stabilize the roadway for future years and the secant walls are intended to serve as a permanent stabilization of the slope and roadway.

Please identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The location of the proposed secant wall at PM 4.0 is along a vertical cliff. The selected preferred alternative is Alternative 1 - Cantilever Option which requires excavation for the cast-in-drill-hole (CIDH) piles for the secant wall and minor excavation of about 20 inches to place a concrete barrier on top of the piles. Within the rocky intertidal zone of the cliff face is black abalone habitat, and at the base of the cliff is Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). No slope excavation is required for this alternative, therefore no dirt is expected to be introduced into the waterway. The black abalone habitat and the EFH are not expected to experience any direct or indirect impacts. Caltrans is still proposing to install a debris blanket with a silt fence to hold sedimentation on the slope side and avoid entering the ocean. The device would be designed to stand structurally on the side of the vertical slope and hold any small granulated debris onto the slope during construction. A qualified biologist will be on site to ensure a debris blanket BMP is installed correctly.

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUL 09 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

If applicable, please describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

CDFW and NOAA Fisheries Service was concerned about the possibility of excavated debris, dislodging from the cliff side at PM 4.0 and impacting the EFH and black abalone habitat below during construction. However the selected preferred alternative does not require excavation of the slope, therefore the habitats are not vulnerable to impacts from loosened debris. Additionally the debris blanket with with slit fencing would be installed as an extra effort to prevent debris from entering the habitats, as described in the previous page of this summary form. Chapter 2.18 describes the measures incorporated to avoid impacts to the EFH and black abalone.

CDFW has also shown concern over possible grunion habitat at PM 4.2, adjacent to one of the proposed secant walls. Grunion surveys revealed that grunions are utilizing the beach adjacent to PM 4.2 for spawning. In order to avoid impacts to the species, Caltrans will abstain from entering the beach during all times of construction. Further discussion on the grunion habitat can be found in Chapter 2.17.

California Coastal Commission requested a Wave Run-Up study prior to granting a Coastal Development Permit, which is included in Appendix G. The agency also requested a sea-level rise analysis, which can be found in Chapter 3.4.2.

Please provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

California Coastal Commission