



# PUBLIC NOTICE



## Notice of Intent to Adopt a MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION and offer an Opportunity for a Public Meeting

(Study Results Available)

### State Route 9 Bridge Replacements in Santa Cruz County

#### WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to replace the existing San Lorenzo River Bridge and Kings Creek Bridge on State Route 9 in Santa Cruz County, north of the unincorporated community of Boulder Creek. Each bridge would be replaced with larger structures to accommodate 12-foot-wide travel lanes and 8-foot-wide shoulders in both directions. At the San Lorenzo River, the new bridge would be 106 feet long and 40 feet wide and would replace the existing bridge at this location, which is the same length but only 31 feet wide. At Kings Creek, the new bridge would be 99 feet long and 40 feet wide and would replace the existing bridge at this location, which is 88 feet long and 28 feet wide. The existing metal beam guardrail at both bridges would be replaced with standard Midwest Guardrail Systems, which would be connected to each side of the bridges. A taper would be paved on the sides of each bridge to transition the new 8-foot-wide shoulders to the existing roadway shoulders. Existing bridge piers and their foundations would be removed from Kings Creek. This would result in an increase of about 22 square feet of riparian area, critical habitat for the Central California Coast Coho Salmon and Central California Coast Steelhead, and essential fish habitat for the Central California Coast Coho Salmon.

#### WHY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE?

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. Our studies show it will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. The report that explains why is called an Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment. This notice is to tell you of the preparation of the Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment and of its availability for you to read and to offer the opportunity for a virtual public meeting.

#### WHAT'S AVAILABLE

The Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment and other project information are available for review and can be downloaded from the following website:  
<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/>

#### WHERE YOU COME IN

Do you have any comments about processing the project with an Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment? Do you disagree with the findings of our study as set forth in the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment? Would you care to make any other comments on the project? Would you like a virtual open house? Please submit your comments or request for a virtual open house in writing by U.S. mail or by email no later than January 14, 2021, to Caltrans Environmental Planning, Attention: Matt Fowler, Senior Environmental Planner, 50 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, California, 93401, or by email at [matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov](mailto:matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov). The date Caltrans will begin accepting comments is December 15, 2020. If there are no major comments or requests for a virtual open house, Caltrans will proceed with the project's design.

#### CONTACT

For more information or to request a copy of the Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment, please contact Matt Fowler, Senior Environmental Planner, at 805-542-4603 or by email at [matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov](mailto:matt.c.fowler@dot.ca.gov). For information on other state highway projects, please visit the Caltrans District 5 website at <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/> or contact the Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs Office at 805-549-3138 or by email at [info-d5@dot.ca.gov](mailto:info-d5@dot.ca.gov).

#### SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, individuals who require accommodation (American Sign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documents in alternative formats, etc.) are requested to contact the Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs Office by email at [info-d5@dot.ca.gov](mailto:info-d5@dot.ca.gov) or by phone at (805) 549-3138. Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY to Voice), 1 (800) 735-2922 (Voice to TTY), 1 (800) 855-3000 (Spanish TTY to Voice and Voice to TTY), 1 (800) 854-7784 (Spanish and English Speech-to-Speech), or 711.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Comments will be accepted from  
**December 15, 2020 to  
January 14, 2021.**

If there are no major comments or requests for a virtual public meeting, Caltrans will proceed with the project's design.

