

California Department of Transportation

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August 15, 2022

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Aug 15 2022

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

**SAC-160-PM L05.434
SCH#2022020528
West False River
Drought Salinity Barrier**

Robert Trang
California Department of Water Resources
Division of Operations and Maintenance
1516 9th Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Trang:

The California Department of Transportation appreciates the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the West False River Drought Salinity Barrier. The project is an approximately 800 foot barrier located across False River between Bradford Island Levee Road and Jersey Island Road. The Department has the following comments:


- During construction, the applicant may be required to obtain permits from Caltrans if they are hauling materials off the State Route.
- Since most construction materials will likely be brought in by barge, Caltrans suggests that barge traffic be coordinated to minimize disruption to car traffic caused by raising bridges.
- It does not appear work will encroach on Caltrans right-of-way (ROW). However, if any construction related activities encroach into Caltrans ROW, the project proponent must apply for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans Encroachment Permit Office.
 - All CEQA documentation, with supporting technical studies, must be submitted with the Encroachment Permit Application. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, scenic highways, and/or other environmental resources within Caltrans ROW, at the project site.

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- There are mature trees within and/or near Caltrans ROW that could provide suitable nesting habitat. If work will occur between February 1 and September 30 of any year, a pre-construction bird survey must be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to the start of any construction related activities in Caltrans ROW. If an active nest is observed, a protective buffer must be established around the nest per CDFW guidelines. No work is allowed within the protective buffer limits until the young have fledged and until authorized by Caltrans.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 209-483-2582 or Nicholas Fung at (209) 986-1552.

Sincerely,



FOR

Tom Dumas
Chief, Office of Metropolitan Planning