

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



May 1, 2023



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GTS #: 04-MRN-2023-00285
GTS ID: 29348
Co/Rt/Pm: Marin / 37 / 12.275

Roger Leventhal, Senior Civic Engineer
Marin County Flood Control District
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 304
San Rafael, CA 94903

Re: Deer Island Basin Complex Tidal Wetland Restoration Project – Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

Dear Roger Leventhal:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Deer Island Basin Complex Tidal Wetland Restoration Project. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system. The following comments are based on our review of the March 2023 IS/MND.

Project Understanding

The proposed project consists of a tidal wetland restoration that would improve tidal connectivity to the diked areas along Novato Creek. This project would be beneficial to endangered species. This project site is located directly adjacent to State Route (SR)-37.

Construction-Related Impacts

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, visit: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits>.

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the County of Marin is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the STN. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

Please note that Caltrans is in the process of implementing an online, automated, and milestone-based Caltrans Encroachment Permit System (CEPS) to replace the current permit application submittal process with a fully electronic system, including online payments. The new system is expected to be available during 2023. To obtain information about the most current encroachment permit process and to download the permit application, please visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, or for future notifications and requests for review of new projects, please email LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Roger Leventhal, Senior Civic Engineer
May 1, 2023
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

YUNSHENG LUO
Acting District Branch Chief
Local Development Review

c: State Clearinghouse