

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal**Form F**

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2000011033

Project Title: Supplemental Draft EIR/Updated EA (Route 46 Corridor Improvement Project - Cholame Section)

Lead Agency: Caltrans

Contact Name: Cecilia Boudreau

Email: cecilia.boudreau@dot.ca.gov Phone Number: 805-549-3376

Project Location: State Route 46 from Post Mile 49.7 to 54.7 San Luis Obispo County
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Caltrans has prepared a Supplemental Draft EIR/Updated EA to address changes that have occurred to larger State Route 46 Corridor Improvement Project since finalization of the 2006 EIR/FONSI as they relate to the Cholame Section. The original 2006 EIR/FONSI preferred alternative (Alternative 1) for the Cholame Section would have resulted in extraordinary utility relocation costs and was no longer a viable alternative. Therefore, Caltrans is proposing a new build alternative for the Cholame Section (Cholame North Modified Alternative - Option A). Construction of the Cholame Section would continue to improve the corridor by converting the existing two-lane conventional highway to a four-lane divided expressway. The purpose and need of the Corridor Project remains the same as what is described in the 2006 EIR/FONSI. The purpose of the Corridor Project is to minimize fatal accidents, improve safety and reduce existing and future peak-hour congestion. The Corridor Project is needed due to current and predicted future traffic capacity problems as well as a higher than average collision rate within the Wye Section. This Supplemental Draft EIR/Updated EA only focuses on changes to the Corridor Project as they relate to the Cholame Section.

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

Potentially Significant Environmental Effects:

- Aesthetics
- Biological
- Cultural

Proposed Measures to Minimize Harm:

- Tree/Vegetation replacement and grading features to minimize visual impacts
- Establishment of Environmentally Sensitive Areas to restrict ground disturbance to the maximum extent possible
- Removal and restoration of old roadbed back to grassland
- Purchase of San Joaquin kit fox mitigation credits at an approved mitigation bank
- Incorporation of day and night roosting bat habitat into new Cholame Creek Bridges
- Establishment of work windows for the protection of sensitive species
- Incorporation of culverts and directional fencing for wildlife passage
- Biological pre-construction surveys and full time biological construction monitor
- Archeological/Native American monitoring, exclusion zones if resources discovered, and notification procedures
- Implementation of data recovery plan (Phase III Study) to excavate and recover the features of the pre-historic site that

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

At this time, Caltrans is not aware of any areas of controversy over the proposed project.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

United States Army Corps of Engineers
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
Office of Historic Preservation
California Transportation Commission
California Department of Conservation