

Public Notice



Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration Study Results Available Mitigation Proposed for Joshua tree impacts in Kern County Opportunity for Public Hearing

What's Being Planned:

The California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) is currently constructing the “Rosamond Mohave Pavement Rehabilitation” project to repair pavement and upgrade facilities on US 14 in Kern County from 1.4 miles south of Dawn Road Overcrossing (postmile 4.7) to 0.5 mile north of Silver Queen Road Overcrossing (postmile 12.6). Construction is anticipated to be complete in the Spring of 2022. During construction, unanticipated impacts to Joshua trees occurred. As a candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), impacts to the Joshua trees resulted in a violation to Fish and Game code Section 2081.1. Both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CESA require that these impacts be mitigated. CALTRANS is proposing to purchase mitigation credits to fulfill mitigation requirements for impacts to six Joshua trees and the associated habitat loss.

Why This Ad: Unanticipated impacts to Joshua trees occurred during construction, therefore CALTRANS has prepared this Draft Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration to disclose the project's impact to Joshua trees, and associated mitigation measures to be implemented to offset those impacts. This notice is to tell you of the preparation of the report, its availability for you to read and offer comments, and to notify you that an online public meeting will be offered upon request.



What's Available: Maps, the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, and the Initial Study for the Rosamond Mohave Pavement Project are available for review and copying during business hours at the following locations:

- CALTRANS District Office (500 South Main Street, Bishop, CA 93514)
- Kern County Library, Rosamond Branch (3611 Rosamond Boulevard, Rosamond, CA 93560)
- online at: <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-9/district-9-current-projects/rosamond-mojave-rehabilitation-project>

Where You Come In: Do you have any comments about or disagree with the findings of our study as set forth in the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration? Would you care to make any other comments on the project? Please submit your comments in writing no later than March 18, 2022 to Kristopher Bason, Associate Environmental Planner - Caltrans, at 500 South Main Street, Bishop, CA 93514, or Kristopher.Bason@dot.ca.gov. The date we will begin accepting comments is February 17, 2022. If there are no major comments, CALTRANS will proceed with the proposed mitigation.

For more information about this study or any transportation matter, call CALTRANS at 1-760-872-0601. Individuals who require documents in alternative formats are requested to contact the District 9 Public Affairs Office at 1-760-872-0603. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929, or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922.