

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



June 25, 2025

SCH #: 2025060806
GTS #: 04-NAP-2025-00528
GTS ID: 36776
Co/Rt/Pm: Napa/29/33.245

Christina Freeman, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)
California State Parks – Bay Area District
845 Casa Grande Rd
Petaluma, CA 94954

Re: Bothe-Napa Valley State Park Day Use Road/Bothe State Park Road-Ritchey Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal Project – Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

Dear Christina Freeman:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Bothe-Napa Valley State Park Day Use Road/Bothe State Park Road-Ritchey Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal Project. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the June 2025 Draft IS/MND.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position or approval by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The proposed project would reconstruct a road and bridge crossing over Ritchey Creek to restore fish passage in the Bothe-Napa Valley State Park. Two 60" culverts, concrete road crossing, and associated footings would be removed. Construction would include creek channel grading in the vicinity of the bridge crossing, replacement of the existing facilities with a natural bottom box culvert, constructing an engineered streambed, construction of a retaining wall, and repaving of the day use and campground roads in the vicinity of the improvements. The proposed construction would occur within a few hundred feet of State Route 128.

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, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)).

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).

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet Americans with 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 temporary or permanent work including traffic control that encroaches in, under, or over any portion of the State highway Rights-of-Way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit.

The Office of Encroachment Permits requires 100% complete design plans and supporting documents to review and circulate the permit application package. The review and approval of encroachment projects is managed through the Encroachment Permits Office Process (EPOP) or the Project Delivery Quality Management Assessment Process (QMAP), depending on project scope, complexity, and completeness of the application. Please use the following resources to determine the appropriate review process:

- TR-0416 Applicant's Checklist ([link](#))
- Caltrans Encroachment Projects Processes – Information Video ([link](#))
- Flowchart, Figure 1.2 in Section 108, Overview of the Encroachment Review Process, of Chapter 100 – The Permit Function, Caltrans Encroachment Permit Manual ([link](#))

The permit approval typically takes less than 60 days, but may take longer depending on the project scope, size, complexity, completeness, compliance with applicable laws, standards, policies, and quality of the permit package submitted. Projects requiring exceptions to design standards, exceptions to encroachment policies, or external agency approvals may need more time to process.

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To obtain more information and download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)).

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Luana Chen, Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luo" being more prominent.

YUNSHENG LUO

Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse