



Notice of Preparation

Date: June 3, 2026

To: Reviewing Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Salt Creek Canyon Safety Improvements Project

Caltrans will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are described below. A copy of the Initial Study (is is not) attached.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to Caltrans at the address or email shown below. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Project Title

Salt Creek Canyon Project (EA: 03-0L000)

Project Applicant

The California Department of Transportation

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation proposes a safety improvements project in Colusa County on State Route (SR) 20 extending from the Colusa/Lake County line, post mile (PM) 0.0 to Interstate 5 intersection, PM R22.1.

The project aims to enhance safety for the traveling public along this segment of SR 20 by widening nonstandard shoulders, improving sight distance/clear recovery zone(s), pavement rehabilitation, construction/repair/extension of earth retaining systems (ERS), and installation of shoulder backing and pavement edge treatment. Proposed project work includes drainage rehabilitation or replacement, installation and replacement of rock slope protection (RSP), installation of bioswale or bio strip for stormwater

treatment, upgrade and installation of guardrail and end treatment to Manual of Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH) approved devices, addition of shoulder and centerline rumble strips, removal and/or trimming of existing trees and vegetation, and upgrade and installation of signing and striping.

Project Location

State Route 20 PM 0.00 to PM R22.10.

Probable Environmental Effects of the Project

The proposed project is expected to result in temporary and permanent environmental effects. The draft EIR/EA will determine what resources would be affected, the level of significance, and feasible measures to reduce impacts. Environmental effects anticipated for study include, but are not limited to:

- Aesthetics
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology / Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Land Use
- Public Services
- Transportation
- Wildfire

Public Scoping Meeting

A virtual public scoping meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. PST on Webex at <http://bit.ly/4uhSD95>.

Contact Information

Please submit your written comments via e-mail to: 03-01000.public@dot.ca.gov.

Comments may also be submitted to:

Caltrans District 3,
ATTN: Thaleena Bhattal,
703 B Street, Marysville, CA 95901

All comments must be received by 5 p.m. PST on July 7, 2026.

Additional information about the proposed project with the link to the virtual scoping meeting can be found at:

<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-3/d3-projects/d3-state-route-20-salt-creek-canyon>

Thalena Bhattal

Signature: _____

Title: Environmental Branch Chief

Attachments: Attachment A Location Map;

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.

Appendix A Vicinity Map

VICINITY MAP SALT CREEK CANYON

COL 20 PM 0.00/22.1

EA 03-0L000

