

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Ventura County Department of Public Works, as the designated Lead Agency, has reviewed the following project:

1. **Project:** Bridge Road Temporary Bridge Project
2. **Project Applicant:** Ventura County Department of Public Works
3. **Project Location:** The project area is in unincorporated Ventura County approximately 150 feet east of State Route 150 and approximately two miles north of the City of Santa Paula.
4. **General Plan Designation:** Agriculture (AG)
5. **Zoning Designation:** Agricultural Exclusive, 40-Acre Minimum Parcel Size (AE-40)
6. **Responsible and/or Trustee Agencies:** Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
7. **Project Description:** The County of Ventura proposes to install a temporary, prefabricated single lane bridge, directly north of the existing Bridge Road Bridge (Bridge #52C 0053) over Santa Paula Creek in unincorporated Ventura County. The project area encompasses approximately 0.5 acre and is identified by Assessor's Parcel Numbers 040-010-019, 040-012-001, and 040-012-025.

In accordance with Section 15070 of the California Code of Regulations, the Ventura County Department of Public Works determined that this proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment; however, mitigation measures are available that would reduce the impacts to less than significant levels. As such, a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared and the Ventura County Department of Public Works has agreed to implement the mitigation measures. The project would address several minor bridge defects that require correction identified in the 2018 Bridge Inspection Report.

**List of Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts Identified:**

**Section 5.4a) Biological Resources, Special Status Species:** The Initial Study finds that construction activities, such as vegetation removal, excavation, grading, paving, and the movement of construction personnel would have the potential to result in impacts on special status species, such as the white rabbit-tobacco, broadleaf pondweed, American bumble bee, Crotch's bumble bee, steelhead – southern California DPS, two-striped garter snake, San Bernardino ringneck snake, coastal whiptail, southern California legless lizard, and California legless lizard, least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow



flycatcher, and the pallid bat. However, the project would result in a less than significant impact with the implementation of mitigation measures, such as species ratio mitigation and offsite habitat restoration.

Section 5.4 d) Biological Resources, Migratory Wildlife and Wildlife Nursery Sites: The Initial Study finds that oak tree removal and/or trimming would have the potential to result in impacts on nesting birds and/or roosting bats. However, the project would result in a less than significant impact with the implementation of mitigation measures, such as oak tree trimming ratio mitigations.

Section 5.4 e) Biological Resources, Tree Preservation Ordinance: The Initial Study finds that oak tree removal and/or trimming would have the potential to result in impacts on the Ventura County Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance. However, the project would result in a less than significant impact with the implementation of mitigation measures, such as oak tree trimming ratio mitigation.

The public review period is from June 4 to July 6. The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for public review online at [https://publicworks.venturacounty.gov/rt/declarations\\_of\\_intent/](https://publicworks.venturacounty.gov/rt/declarations_of_intent/) or at the County of Ventura Government Center, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. The public is encouraged to submit written comments to Matt Hesperheide, no later than 5:00 pm on July 6, to the address listed above. Alternatively, you may email your comments to case planner at [matt.hesperheide@venturacounty.gov](mailto:matt.hesperheide@venturacounty.gov).

