

# **Anchor Bay Downdrain Reconstruction**

State Route 1 in Mendocino County

01-MEN-1 PM 4.47

EA 01-446501

## **Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration**



Prepared by the  
State of California Department of Transportation

**February 2010**



## **General Information About This Document**

### ***What's in this document?***

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has prepared this Initial Study, which examines the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project located in Mendocino County, California. The document describes why the project is being proposed, the existing environment that could be affected by the project, and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures.

In California, properties with known hazardous waste are placed on a public list for notification and public disclosure. This list, known as the "Cortese List", was established under Government Code 65962.5 and is published annually by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. If a site is listed in the Cortese List database, a Negative Declaration (ND) is the minimum level of CEQA documentation required for legal compliance.

### ***What should you do?***

- Please read this Initial Study. Additional copies of this document as well as the technical studies are available for review at the Caltrans District 3 Office of Environmental Support at 703 B St, Marysville, CA 95901 and at the Coast Community Branch Library at 225 Main St., Point Arena California, 95468.
- We welcome your comments. If you have any concerns regarding the proposed project, send your written comments to Caltrans by the deadline. Submit comments via U.S. mail to Caltrans at the following address:

Sandra Rosas, Senior Environmental Planner  
North Region Environmental Planning  
California Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 911 Marysville, CA 95901

Submit comments via email to: [sandra\\_rosas@dot.ca.gov](mailto:sandra_rosas@dot.ca.gov)

- Submit comments by the deadline: March 8, 2010.

### ***What happens next?***

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, Caltrans may 1) give environmental approval to the proposed project, 2) do additional environmental studies, or 3) abandon the project. If the project is given environmental approval and funding is appropriated, Caltrans could design and construct all or part of the project.

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document is available in Braille, large print, on audiocassette, or computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please call or write to Caltrans, Attn: Sandra Rosas, North Region Environmental Planning, P.O. Box 911, Marysville, CA 95901; (530) 741-4017 Voice, or use the California Relay Service TTY number, 1-800-735-2929.

01 MEN-1  
PM 4.47  
EA 01-445401

Anchor Bay Downdrain Reconstruction in Mendocino County, California

PM 4.47

EA 01-446501

INITIAL STUDY

Submitted Pursuant to: (State) Division 13, California Resources Code

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Transportation

27 January 2010  
Date of Approval

  
John Webb, Chief  
North Region Environmental Services – South  
California Department of Transportation

## **Proposed Negative Declaration**

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

### ***Project Description***

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to repair a culvert on State Route 1 at Post Mile (PM) 4.47 in the town of Anchor Bay in Mendocino County. The proposed project is to replace the culvert down drain. No work will be done on the existing cross drain, except where the new cable-anchor system will be attached to the last joint of the existing culvert; Therefore no concrete pile anchors will be required. Removal of the existing down drain will involve debris and/or vegetation clearing and grading. The existing down drain will then be replaced by a new rock-lined ditch and black plastic down drain. The rock-lined ditch will contain two pools that serve as frog habitat and willows will be planted between the rocks. There will be no excess dirt because the slope of the new down drain will be determined by re-grading the existing embankment. The existing bench, where the down drain is located, will be re-graded to eliminate the need for angle points in the new down drain.

The staging and material stockpiling areas will be located primarily within a new temporary construction easement (a 25 foot wide by 75 foot long flat area on the west side of State Route 1). Some staging could also occur within the existing right of way (in the southbound lane and along the southbound shoulder of State Route 1) or within the proposed right of way (a 20 foot wide by 157 foot long area along the new down drain and rock-lined ditch).

Construction access will be from State Route 1. The construction access road will be within the grading limits of the down drain and rock-lined ditch flow-line. The contractor will construct the rock-lined ditch first and then place the down drain, working back towards State Route 1. Erosion control materials will be placed by hand over all disturbed areas.

- The proposed project would have no effect on visual aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, cultural resources, geology/soils, hydrology/water quality, land use/planning, mineral resources, noise, population/housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or utilities/service systems.
- The proposed project would have a less than significant impact on hazardous materials and biological resources.

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John Webb  
Chief, Office of Environmental Services - South  
North Region Environmental Planning  
California Department of Transportation

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Date

## **Proposed Negative Declaration**

### ***Project Title***

Anchor Bay Downdrain Reconstruction along State Route 1

### ***Lead Agency Name and Address***

California Department of Transportation  
703 B St, Marysville 95901

### ***Contact Person and Phone Number***

Sandra Rosas, Senior Environmental Planner  
(530) 741-4017

### ***Project Location***

The proposed project site is located west of State Route (SR) 1, at PM 4.47, in the town of Anchor Bay, Mendocino County. Refer to Project Location Map and Project Vicinity Map on pages 3 and 4. The parcels referred to as the proposed project site are parcel numbers 11315-1 and 11315-2.

### ***Project Sponsor's Name and Address***

California Department of Transportation  
Sandra Rosas, Senior Environmental Planner  
703 B St. P.O. Box 911  
Marysville, CA 95901

### ***Zoning***

The proposed project parcels are zoned as Rural Coastal (C).

### ***Description of Project***

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to repair a culvert on State Route 1 at Post Mile (PM) 4.47 in the town of Anchor Bay in Mendocino County. The proposed project is to replace the culvert downdrain. No work will be done on the existing crossdrain, except where the new cable-anchor system will be attached to the last joint of the existing culvert. Therefore no concrete pile anchors will be required. Removal of the existing downdrain will involve debris and/or vegetation clearing and grading. The existing downdrain will then be replaced by a new rock-lined ditch and black plastic downdrain. The rock-lined ditch will contain two pools that serve as frog habitat and willows will be planted between the rocks. There will be no excess dirt because the slope

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### ***Surrounding Land Uses and Setting***

The project area is within the unincorporated community of Anchor Bay. The area is zoned as Rural Coastal.

### ***Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required***

Permits are anticipated for this project due to temporary impacts to waters and wetlands, as well as encroachment into Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA) buffers. Section 404 and 401 permits and a Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement will be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Department of Fish and Game respectively. Because of the project area's proximity to the ocean, a County Coastal Development Permit from Mendocino County will also be needed.

Project Location Map



