



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
San Francisco District

Regulatory Division  
1455 Market Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103-1398

SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT

# SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

## California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Submittal of the Willits Bypass Project Final Mitigation and Monitoring Plan for Comments and Notice of Public Information Meeting

NUMBER: 1991-194740N

DATE: October 6, 2011

RESPONSE REQUIRED BY: November 9, 2011

PERMIT MANAGER: David Wickens

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On March 1, 2010, Caltrans (2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, California 95833, Attn: David G. Kelley, PE, Willits Bypass Project Manager, 530-741-5408) submitted an application to the Corps of Engineers (USACE) for a Department of the Army Permit to construct a new segment of U.S. 101 that would bypass the City of Willits in Mendocino County, California. The project is a four-lane freeway segment of U.S. 101 that would bypass the City of Willits with several bridges spanning creeks and local roads, a viaduct spanning the regulatory floodway, and interchanges on either end of the bypass. Project construction would result in the discharge of fill material into approximately 86.74 acres of waters of the United States, including wetlands. The first public notice for this application may be found at <http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/regulatory/PN/2010/document2010-03-16-120721.pdf> (text) and <http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/regulatory/PN/2010/document2010-03-16-120759.pdf> (plans).

To compensate for the direct loss and/or impacts to 86.74-acres of waters and wetlands of the United States resulting from bypass construction, the applicant proposes a mitigation and monitoring plan (MMP) that would off-set impacts through a combination of restoration, establishment, and enhancement actions. The bypass project would be constructed in two phases, thus, mitigation for project impacts would occur concurrently with the phased project construction.

To compensate for project impacts to wetlands the applicant's MMP submittal proposes the following wetland mitigation types and credited amounts: 34.85 acres of wetland establishment credit on approximately 59 acres and; 48.22 acres of wetland rehabilitation credit on approximately 325 acres of existing wetlands. To compensate for project impacts to other waters (streams) the applicant proposes 19.03 acres of stream rehabilitation.

A Public Information Meeting will be held from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at the City of Willits City Hall Community Center. The City Hall Community Center is located at 111 E. Commercial Street, Willits, California 95490. USACE is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State and local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the proposed MMP submittal.

A copy of the proposed MMP is available for review at the following locations: Mendocino County Library, Main Branch, located at 105 North Main Street, Ukiah, California 95482; and the Mendocino County Library, Willits Branch, located at 390 East Commercial Street, Willits, California 95490.

A copy of the proposed MMP is also available through Caltrans' internet web site at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1projects/willits/reports.htm>

Interested parties may also submit, in writing, any comments concerning this activity. Comments should include the applicant's name and the number and the date of this Public Notice, and should be forwarded so as to reach this office within the comment period specified on Page 1. Comments should be sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District, Regulatory Division, 1455 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94103-1398. It is USACE's policy to forward any such comments that include objections to the applicant for resolution or rebuttal. Any person may also request, in writing, within the comment period of this Public Notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Additional details may be obtained by contacting the applicant whose name and address are indicated in the first paragraph of this Public Notice or by contacting David Wickens of our office at telephone 415-503-6787 or E-mail: david.m.wickens@usace.army.mil. Details on any changes of a minor nature that are made in the final permit action will be provided upon request.