

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Memorandum



*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

To: CARMEN LO
DISTRICT 12
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Date: October 15, 2025

File: 12-OR990_
1219000072
12-ORA-74
PM 0.0/ 11.5

From: HECTOR SALAS
WATER QUALITY SPECIALIST
NPDES/ STORM WATER UNIT
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS / DISTRICT 12



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Hector Salas
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Subject: WATER QUALITY REVIEW FOR MULTI-ASSET PROJECT ON SR 74

Project proposes multi asset roadway improvements including Pavement Rehabilitation which includes cold planning and overlaying existing asphalt concrete on GP lanes and shoulders, Drainage rehabilitation to restore 168 feet of 3 existing pipe segments, adding curve warning signs, upgrading traffic safety devices from Metal Beam Guard Rail (MBGR) to Midwest Guardrail System (MGS) and update ladder crosswalks on SR 74 from SR 74/I-5 separation (PM 0.0) to 1.0 mile east of San Juan Creek (PM11.5) in the city of San Juan Capistrano and unincorporated area of Orange County.

The limits of the proposed project are within the jurisdiction of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the receiving body is San Juan Creek. The receiving water body at the project location is on the 2024 California Integrated Report (Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List/ 305(b) /Report) for unknown sources of Benthic Community Effects, Bifenthrin, DDE, Indicator Bacteria, Nitrogen, Oxygen, Phosphorus, Pyrethroids, Selenium, and Toxicity. In addition, the project is located within the Indicator Bacteria Project I Revised Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) as identified in Attachment D of the Caltrans Statewide NPDES Permit (Order No. 2022-0033-DWQ). Since this project discharges to a water body with an established TMDL as identified in Attachment D of the Caltrans NPDES permit, any runoff treated in excess of the new impervious area created by the project

may be claimed to meet Caltrans NPDES permit requirements for achieving the TMDL compliance strategy.

The Disturbed Soil Area (DSA) for the proposed project is anticipated to be less than 1.0 acre therefore a Water Pollution Control Program (WPCP) will be prepared and implemented to address temporary impacts to water quality. Potential temporary impacts to water quality will be addressed during construction with the application of specific temporary Best Management Practices (BMPs) as outlined in the contractor's WPCP. If the project disturbs more than 1.0 acre, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) should be prepared and implemented in place of a WPCP.

This project must conform to all applicable water quality regulations and/or permit requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and any applicable local Regional Water Quality Control Board(s), including, but not limited to, the Caltrans Statewide NPDES Permit (Order No. 2022-0033-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000003), the Statewide NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated With Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002), and the Caltrans Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP), and any subsequent revisions and/or additional requirements at the time of construction.

A Storm Water Data Report (SWDR) will be approved by the NPDES Unit to determine that this project conforms to Federal and State Clean Water Acts, and any other water quality regulations

Aside from the special provisions, there are no water quality specific related issues associated with this project that warrant any NPDES related CE Conditions.