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## State Water Resources Control Board

### **Public Notice of Water Quality Certification Application for California Department of Transportation State Route 74 (08-1K690) Project**

State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Quality  
Water Quality Certification Program  
**Date Posted: January 12, 2024**

#### **Affected Counties: Riverside and Orange**

The following information is provided in satisfaction of the public notice requirements of Section 3858, Title 23, of the California Code of Regulations, which govern the State's Water Quality Certification Program.

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) staff are proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. **Staff will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office during a 21-day comment period that begins on the date after issuance of this notice (January 12, 2024) and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period (February 6, 2024).** To submit comments, or if you have questions, please contact the State Water Board staff person listed below.

#### **State Water Resources Control Board Contact:**

Stephen Barlow, Environmental Scientist  
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State Water Resources Control Board  
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**Note: No regulatory decision on the application is implied or intended in this public notice.**

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E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Project Name: State Route 74 (08-1K690) Project**

(Reg. Meas. ID: 455498 and SWRCB ID: SB24002IN)

**Background:** On January 9, 2024, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) submitted an application for Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification for the State Route (SR-) 74 (08-1K690) Project (Project).

**Project Description:** Caltrans proposes to widen the existing lanes on SR-74 between post-mile (PM) 5.7 and PM 11.4 near the City of Lake Elsinore in Riverside County. The Project would provide twelve-foot standard lanes, widen outside shoulders to four feet, and add median and shoulder ground-in rumble strips. Shoulder widening will also require the construction of retaining walls with concrete barriers.

The Project application reports impacts to waters of the state, including waters of the U.S., as shown in Table 1. Temporarily impacted areas would be restored to pre-project condition once the Project is complete. Compensatory mitigation will be provided for permanent impacts.

Caltrans district 8 is the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Caltrans prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project, which has been filed at the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research [CEQAnet Web Portal](https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/) (<https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/>) under State Clearinghouse (SCH) # 2022060548.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Impacts to Waters of the State

<b>Aquatic Resource type</b>	<b>Stream Channel</b>
Acres of temporary impact	0.91
Linear feet of temporary impact	2834
Acres of permanent physical loss of area	0.16
Linear feet of permanent physical loss of area	989

**A Certification or Denial will be prepared by the State Water Board for the State Route 74 (08-1K690) Project in response to this application.**

**Applicant: California Department of Transportation**

**Applicant Contact: Adam Compton**

**Telephone: (909) 501-5352**

**Email: [adam.compton@dot.ca.gov](mailto:adam.compton@dot.ca.gov)**

**Date of Application Submittal: January 9, 2024**

Pursuant to federal law (Title 33, United States Code, Section 1341; Clean Water Act Section 401), applicants for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the U.S. must seek Water Quality Certification from the state or Indian tribe with jurisdiction. Such Certification is based on a finding that the discharge will meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, Regional Water

Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) issue or deny Certification for discharges within their geographical jurisdiction. The State Water Board has this responsibility for projects affecting waters within multiple Regional Water Board jurisdictions.

***KEEP INFORMED OF PROJECT MILESTONES***

To be informed of milestones in the development of this proposed Water Quality Certification, any interested persons should enroll in the State Water Board's 401 Program e-mail notification service.

Enter a valid Email Address in the box indicated and click Submit under the Subscribe directly to the 401 water quality Certification and Wetland Program Email List header on the [401 Program Webpage](#) at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/index.shtml)

By enrolling in this list, you will receive notices for all current 401 applications, including the Project announced in this notice. You will need a valid e-mail address to use this service. If you do not have internet access or do not wish to participate in the email notification service, contact the staff person named in the notice to express your interest in receiving notices by other means. You can enroll or un-enroll at any time.