

State Water Resources Control Board

Public Notice of Application for Water Quality Certification for Orange County Public Works OC Loop Segments O, P, Q Project

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Water Quality Certification Program
Date Posted: December 4, 2020

Affected Counties: Los Angeles 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 first date of issuance of this notice (December 4, 2020) and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period (December 28, 2020).** To submit comments, or if you have questions, please contact the State Water Board staff person listed below.

State Water Resources Control Board Contact:

Brendan Reed, Environmental Scientist
Wetland Permitting and Enforcement Unit, Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone: (916) 341-5462
Email: Brendan.Reed@waterboards.ca.gov

Note: No regulatory decision on the application is implied or intended in this public notice.

Project Name: OC Loop Segments O, P, Q Project

(Reg. Meas. ID: 441496 and SWRCB ID: SB20032IN)

Background: On December 1, 2020 Orange County (OC) Public Works submitted an application for Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification for the OC Loop Segments O, P, Q Project (Project).

Project Description: The primary goal of the proposed Project is to construct a bike trail along the north side of Coyote Creek East Fork and close a gap in the OC Loop bike trail system. Waters of the state within the Project area would be temporarily impacted during site access and staging of material, equipment, and scaffolding. Project activities associated with these temporary impacts would occur at three (3) separate sites along the length of the proposed bike trail, including: 1) the downstream end of the Project area at approximately 33.869422, -118.032992; 2) Valley View Street Bridge at approximately 33.871153, -118.028389; and 3) Artesia Boulevard Bridge at approximately 33.8731, -118.019286.

The Project application reports impacts to waters of the state, including waters of the United States, as shown in Table 1. Temporarily impacted areas would be restored to pre-project condition once the Project is complete.

The County of Orange, acting as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), is planning to complete and adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Project following completion of the public comment period, which ends on December 15, 2020. This MND is available at the following website:

https://www.ocpublicworks.com/ds/planning/projects/4th_district/ocloopcreekbikewayproject

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

Aquatic Resource type	Stream Channel
Acres of temporary impact	1.5
Linear feet of temporary impact	1,200
Acres of permanent physical loss of area	0
Linear feet of permanent physical loss of area	0

A Certification or Denial will be prepared by the State Water Board for the OC Loop Segments O, P, Q Project in response to this application.

Applicant: Orange County Public Works
Applicant Contact: Samantha Pilon
Telephone: (714) 647-3923
Email: Samantha.pilon@ocpw.ocgov.com

Date of Application Submittal: December 1, 2020

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 United States 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.

Click the SUBSCRIBE button under the "Quick Links" section of the 401 Program Webpage at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/index.shtml

Select "CWA401 Certification and Wetlands Program." 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 Lyris list, 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.