



PUBLIC NOTICE

San Luis Rey River – East Brook to Shell Double Track (EBSDT) Project.

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

BUILDING STRONG®

Public Notice No.: 408-SPL-PN-2013-0027

Permit No.: 408-SPL-2013-0027

Comment Period: 2021-11-22 to 2021-012-22

Requester: In compliance with U.S.C. Title 33, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Section 408, the North County Transit District of San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), through the City of Oceanside, has requested permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to alter the San Luis Rey River Channel, San Diego County, California.

Location:

The proposed action would be located over the San Luis Rey River at Channel Reference Station number RS 2460 near the intersection of Harbor Drive and Pacific Street in the City of Oceanside, San Diego County, California.

Requester's Proposed Action:

The proposed project involves the removal and replacement of an existing single track steel girder bridge at Mile Post 225.4 over San Luis Rey River at Channel Reference Station number RS 2460 with a double track concrete bridge.

The work would remove the existing 704-foot long single track steel girder bridge and replace it with a double track rail bridge spanning approximately 726 feet over the San Luis Rey River. The replacement bridge would be a concrete girder bridge supported on abutments and concrete piles, approximately 25 feet high by 37 feet wide. The existing utilities of the single-track bridge would be relocated to the replacement bridge while the existing bike trail would be reconnected to surrounding improvements. The purpose of the action is to improve commuter and freight rail services and reduce conflicts leading to trains idling and delays.

Authority: The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent use, occupation or alteration of any USACE Civil Works project is contained in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended, codified at 33 USC 408 ("Section 408"). Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of a USACE project if the Secretary determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project. The Secretary of Army's authority under Section 408 has been delegated to the USACE, the Chief of Engineers. The Chief of Engineers has further delegated the authority to the USACE, Directorate of Civil Works and Division and District Engineers, depending upon the nature of the activity.

Limits of Section 408 Authority: A requester has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by federal, state, and local laws or regulations, including any required permits from the USACE Regulatory Program under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC Section 1344), and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 USC 1413). The compliance determination for any Section 10/404/103 permit decision associated with the proposed alteration will also address the Section 408 compliance determination. In addition, an approval under Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

Environmental Compliance: A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action, and therefore, subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental compliance requirements. While USACE is responsible for ensuring environmental compliance, the requester is responsible for providing all information that the Los Angeles District identifies as necessary to satisfy all applicable federal laws, executive orders, regulations, policies, and procedures. NEPA and other analysis completed to comply with other environmental statutes (e.g., Endangered Species Act) should be commensurate with the scale and potential effects of the activity that would alter the USACE project. The Los Angeles District will work with the requester to determine the requirements, which will be scaled to the likely impacts of the proposed alteration and should convey the relevant considerations and impacts in a concise and effective manner. Comments received on this public notice will be used in the evaluation.

Consideration of Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State and local agencies and officials, and other interested parties. Comments will be made part of the record, and they will be considered before permission is granted to proceed with this action. Please limit comments to the area of the alteration and those adjacent areas that would be directly or indirectly affected by the alteration described in this public notice.

Submission of Comments: Interested parties may submit, in writing, any comments concerning this proposal. Comments should reference public notice no. 408-SPL-PN-2013-0027 and be forwarded by the comment due date of December 22, 2021. Comments must be sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Engineering Division, ATTN: Priyo Majumdar, 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 930, Los Angeles, California 90017-3409. Alternatively, comments can be sent electronically to Priyodarshi.Majumdar@usace.army.mil.

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