

D R A F T

**Environmental Impact Statement/
Environmental Impact Report for the
Bautista Canyon Road Project
California Forest Highway 224
Volume II: Technical Appendices**

Prepared by:

**County of Riverside
Transportation and Land Management Agency
and the
Federal Highway Administration**



August 2004

DRAFT



**Environmental Impact Statement/
Environmental Impact Report for the
Bautista Canyon Road Project
California Forest Highway 224
Volume II: Technical Appendices**

Prepared by:

**County of Riverside
Transportation and Land Management Agency**

4080 Lemon Street, 8th Floor
Riverside, California 92502



Federal Highway Administration
Central Federal Lands Highway Division
555 Zang Street, Room 259
Lakewood, Colorado 80228



August 2004

Appendix A

Notice of Preparation/ Notice of Intent



Gray Davis
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse



Steve Nissen
ACTING DIRECTOR

Notice of Preparation

January 25, 2001

To: Reviewing Agencies

Re: Bautista Canyon Road Project
SCH# 2001011110

Attached for your review and comment is the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Bautista Canyon Road Project draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Responsible agencies must transmit their comments on the scope and content of the NOP, focusing on specific information related to their own statutory responsibility, within 30 days of receipt of the NOP from the Lead Agency. This is a courtesy notice provided by the State Clearinghouse with a reminder for you to comment in a timely manner. We encourage other agencies to also respond to this notice and express their concerns early in the environmental review process.

Please direct your comments to:

Mary Zambon
Riverside County Transportation Department
4080 Lemon Street, 8th Floor
Riverside, CA 92502

with a copy to the State Clearinghouse in the Office of Planning and Research. Please refer to the SCH number noted above in all correspondence concerning this project.

If you have any questions about the environmental document review process, please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Project Analyst, State Clearinghouse

Attachments
cc: Lead Agency

**Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

SCH# 2001011110
Project Title Bautista Canyon Road Project
Lead Agency Riverside County Transportation & Land Management Agency

Type NOP Notice of Preparation
Description The purpose of the proposed action is to pave an 8.2-mile segment of Bautista Canyon Road which currently is an unimproved, substandard dirt road. The main need for this project is to provide the Anza area with specific measures to improve fire protection, law enforcement, and medical response times in the event of an emergency situation.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Mary Zambon
Agency Riverside County Transportation Department
Phone 909-955-6759 **Fax**
email
Address 4080 Lemon Street, 8th Floor
City Riverside **State** CA **Zip** 92502

Project Location

County Riverside
City Hemet
Region
Cross Streets Bautista Canyon Road
Parcel No. Various

Township	Range	Section	Base
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Proximity to:

Highways 371
Airports
Railways
Waterways
Schools
Land Use Unimproved, substandard dirt road.

Project Issues Archaeologic-Historic; Aesthetic/Visual; Flood Plain/Flooding; Water Quality; Growth Inducing; Air Quality; Toxic/Hazardous; Landuse; Other Issues

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Conservation; Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Fish and Game, Region 6; Native American Heritage Commission; State Lands Commission; Caltrans, District 8; Department of Housing and Community Development; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, Division of Transportation Planning; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 8

Date Received 01/25/2001 **Start of Review** 01/25/2001 **End of Review** 02/23/2001

CP Distribution List

- Resources Agency
Nadell Gayou
- Dept. of Boating & Waterways
Bill Curry
- California Coastal Commission
Elizabeth A. Fuchs
- Dept. of Conservation
Ken Trott
- Dept. of Forestry & Fire Protection
Allen Robertson
- Office of Historic Preservation
Hans Kreuzberg
- Dept of Parks & Recreation Resource Mgmt. Division
- Reclamation Board
Pam Bruner
- S.F. Bay Conservation & Dev'L Comm.
Steve McAdam
- Resources Agency
Nadell Gayou
Dept. of Water Resources
- Health & Welfare
Wayne Hubbard
Dept. of Health/Drinking Water
- Food & Agriculture
Tad Bell
Dept. of Food and Agriculture
- Fish and Game
Dept. of Fish & Game
Joe Vincanty
Environmental Services Division
- Dept. of Fish & Game
Donald Koch
Region 1
- Dept. of Fish & Game
Banky Curtis
Region 2
- Dept. of Fish & Game
Brian Hunter
Region 3
- Dept. of Fish & Game
William Lauder milk
Region 4
- Dept. of Fish & Game
Sandy Peterson
Region 5, Habitat Conservation Program
- Dept. of Fish & Game
Gabrina Gatchel
Region 6, Habitat Conservation Program
- Dept. of Fish & Game
Tammy Allen
Region 6, Inyo/Mono, Habitat Conservation Program
- Dept. of Fish & Game
DeWayne Johnston
Marine Region
- Independent Commissions
California Energy Commission
Environmental Office
- Native American Heritage Comm.
Debbie Treadway
- Public Utilities Commission
Andrew Barnsdale
- State Lands Commission
Betty Silva
- State Water Resources Control Board
Greg Frantz
Division of Water Quality
- State Water Resources Control Board
Mike Falkenstein
Division of Water Rights
- Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
CEQA Tracking Center
- Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
RWQCB
Cathleen Hudson
North Coast Region (1)
- RWQCB
Environmental Document Coordinator
San Francisco Bay Region (2)
- RWQCB
Central Coast Region (3)
- RWQCB
Jonathan Bishop
Los Angeles Region (4)
- RWQCB
Central Valley Region (5)
- RWQCB
Central Valley Region (5)
Fresno Branch Office
- RWQCB
Central Valley Region (5)
Redding Branch Office
- RWQCB
Lahontan Region (6)
- RWQCB
Lahontan Region (6)
Victorville Branch Office
- RWQCB
Colorado River Basin Region (7)
- RWQCB
Santa Ana Region (8)
- RWQCB
San Diego Region (9)
- Dept. of Transportation
Chris Sayre
District 10
- Dept. of Transportation
Lou Salazar
District 11
- Dept. of Transportation
Alleen Kennedy
District 12
- Business, Trans & Housing
Housing & Community Development
Cathy Creswell
Housing Policy Division
- Caltrans - Division of Aeronautics
Sandy Hesnard
- California Highway Patrol
Lt. Dennis Brunette
Office of Special Projects
- Dept. of Transportation
Ron Helgeson
Caltrans - Planning
- Dept. of General Services
Robert Sleppy
Environmental Services Section
- Air Resources Board
Airport Projects
Jim Lerner
- Transportation Projects
Ann Geraghty
- Industrial Projects
Mike Tolstrup
- California Integrated Waste Management Board
Sue O'Leary
- State Water Resources Control Board
Diane Edwards
Division of Clean Water Programs
- Colorado River Board
Gerald R. Zimmerman
- Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)
Lyn Barnet
- Office of Emergency Services
John Rowden, Manager
- Delta Protection Commission
Debby Eddy
- Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Paul Edelman
- Dept. of Transportation
Dept. of Transportation
IGR/Planning
District 1
- Dept. of Transportation
Vicki Roe
Local Development Review,
District 2
- Dept. of Transportation
Jeff Pulverman
District 3
- Dept. of Transportation
Jean Finney
District 4
- Dept. of Transportation
Lawrence Newland
District 5
- Dept. of Transportation
Marc Birnbaum
District 6
- Dept. of Transportation
Stephen J. Buswell
District 7
- Dept. of Transportation
Mike Sim
District 8
- Dept. of Transportation
Caroline Yee for Kate Walton
District 9



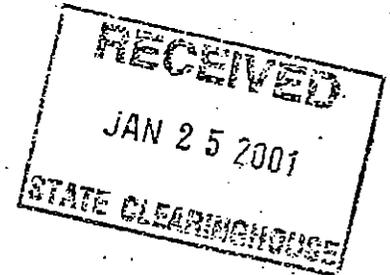
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
TRANSPORTATION AND
LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Transportation Department



David E. Barnhart
Director of Transportation

2001011110

NOTICE OF PREPARATION



TO: Robert Prohaska
AMEC Earth &
Environmental
5510 Morehouse Drive
San Diego, Ca 92121
(858) 458-9044

FROM: County of Riverside
Transportation Department
4080 Lemon St., 8th Floor
Riverside, CA 92502
(909) 955-6759

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement

The County of Riverside Transportation Department will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for the project identified below. The Department requires your input as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to refer to the EIR prepared by the Department when considering your permit or other approval for this project.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the San Bernardino National Forest, will be the lead agency in the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS).

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens. Public scoping meetings will be held on:

January 30, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.
Anza Community Center
Anza, CA 92539

January 31, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.
Valley Wide Parks and Recreation Facility
43935 E. Acacia,
Hemet, CA 92544.

Attachment 1

Project Description Bautista Canyon Road

Project Location

The proposed project is the improvement to California Forest Highway (FH) 224, Bautista Canyon Road. The portion that is proposed for improvement begins 10.3 miles southeast of Valle Vista and extends 8.2 miles to a point 3.2 miles northwest of State Highway 371, west of Anza.

Background

Bautista Canyon Road is a 21.7-mile route in Riverside County between State Highway (SH) 74, at the town of Valle Vista, and SH 371, about 1.5 miles west of the community of Anza.

The road traverses through the San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF). The route is also designated as Riverside County Road (CR) S5019, Sections B and C. The project proposes to pave an 8.2-mile segment of this roadway, which is currently an unpaved dirt road. The route's functional classification is rural collector.

Bautista Canyon Road provides access to over 40,000 acres of National Forest, Indian Reservation, State, and private lands. It provides access for various forest multiple use functions and links the communities of Hemet and Anza to the southern portion of the SBNF. In 1985 the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) granted Riverside County and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) an easement across USFS lands. Consequently, Riverside County is responsible for maintaining the roadway.

The 8.2-mile segment of the route was recommended for reconnaissance and scoping during the November 9, 1993, California Public Lands Highways (PLH) program meeting. The Reconnaissance and Scoping Report for Bautista Canyon Road (FH 224) was prepared in 1994 as a guide for PLH agencies, which includes the USFS, the California Department of Transportation, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). These three agencies are responsible for administering the PLH program and are collectively referred to as the "Tri-Agencies." Following development of the Reconnaissance and Scoping Report for Bautista Canyon Road, the project was identified for funding and is currently in the project development phase.

Project Description

The purpose of the proposed action is to pave an 8.2-mile segment of Bautista Canyon Road which currently is an unimproved, substandard dirt road. The need for this action is multiple. This segment is the middle portion of a roadway that provides access between the communities of Hemet and Anza. The remaining 13.5 miles of this roadway are paved. The

Robert Prohaska
AMEC Earth & Environmental
Page 2

A brief project description is contained in Attachment 1. A copy of the initial study has not been prepared because the lead agencies have determined that an EIR/EIS will be prepared for the project.

Due to the time constraints mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but **not later than 30 days** after receipt of this notice.

Please send your responses to **Mary Zambon**, Senior Transportation Planner, (909) 955-6759, at the address shown above. Additionally, please provide a point of contact for your agency along with your responses.

Project Title: Bautista Canyon Road Project

Project Applicants: County of Riverside, Transportation Department

Date: January 22, 2001

Signature:


Edwin D. Studor, Administrative Manager

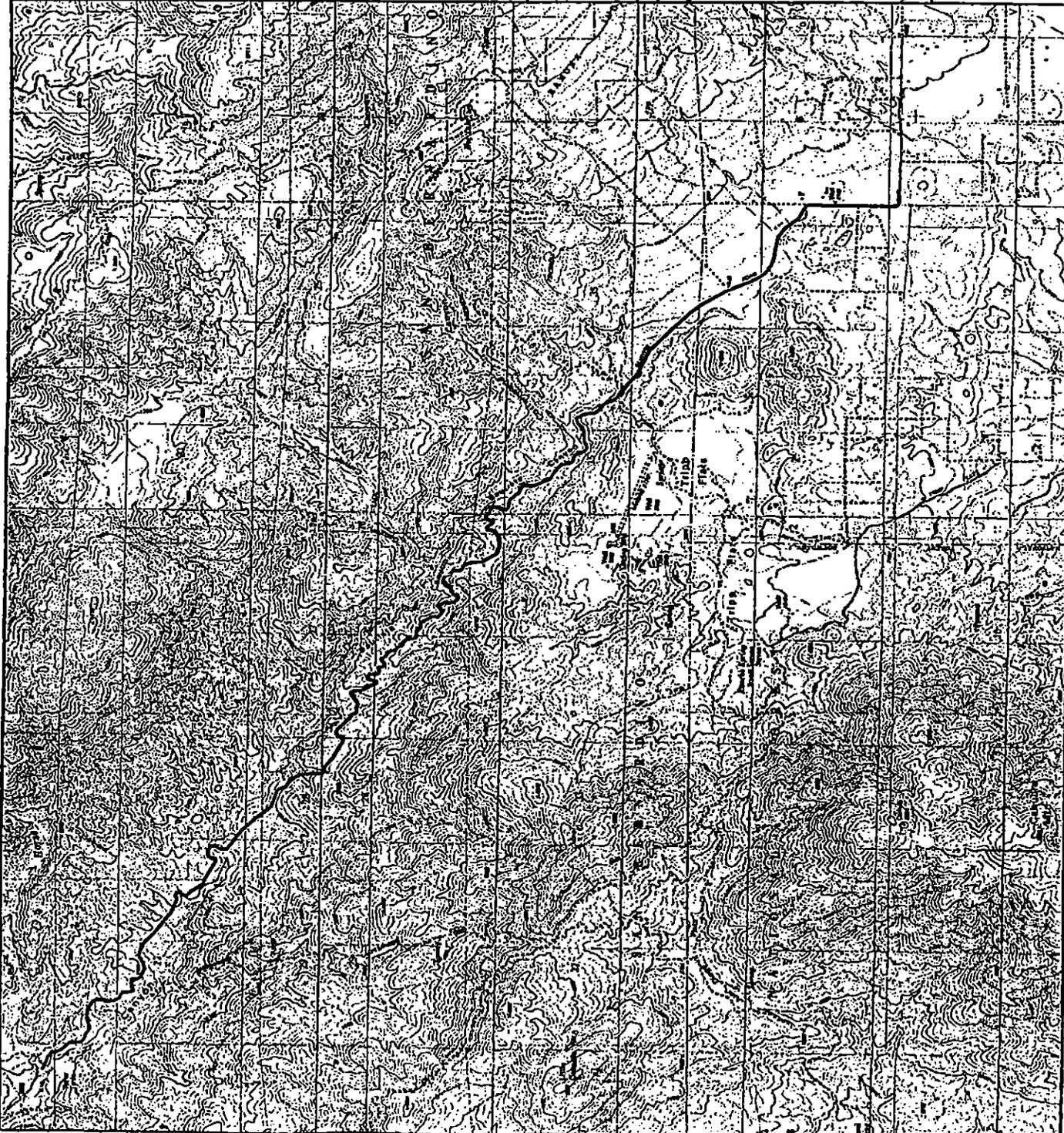
Attachments: Project Description, Project Area Map, Agency NOP Distribution List

AGENCY NOP DISTRIBUTION LIST

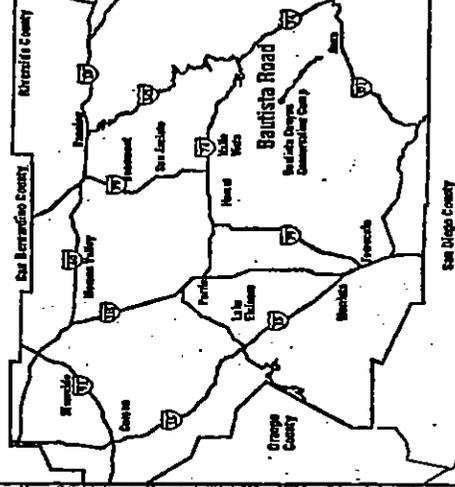
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH- STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
BOARD ASSISTANT TO SUPERVISOR J. VENABLE- COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS)
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (RWQCB)
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
FRIENDS OF BAUTISTA CANYON
RAMONA BAND OF CAHULLA INDIANS
LOS COYOTES BAND OF MISSION INDIANS
SANTA ROSA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS
SOBOBA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS
CAHULLA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS
RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL PARK & OPEN SPACE DISTRICT
RIVERSIDE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER
SIERRA CONSERVATION CENTER- STATE CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT
RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
CITY OF HEMET
CITY OF SAN JACINTO
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
RIVERSIDE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
BAUTISTA CANYON CONSERVATION CAMP- (CC# 36)
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
SOUTHERN CAMP OFFICE- STATE CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT
ASSEMBLYMAN DAVE KELLEY

Bautista Canyon Road

8.2-Mile Segment Proposed
for Improvements



Regional Location Map



Project Location Map



FIGURE

1

Attachment 1

Project Description Bautista Canyon Road

main need for this project is to provide the Anza area with specific measures to improve fire protection, law enforcement, and medical response times in the event of an emergency situation. This segment of the road also constrains the ability of fire fighting crews to suppress wildfires in and adjacent to the Canyon. In addition, the current condition of the 8.2-mile segment of this roadway poses safety, operational, and maintenance concerns.

There are several locations where the roadway is too narrow for vehicles to safely pass; basic roadway geometry is lacking (roadway crown, superelevation, etc.); and numerous horizontal and/or vertical alignment inconsistencies exist, creating limited sight distance problems in several areas. In addition, roadway drainage is poor and road washouts and rock-falls caused by storm water runoff and seasonal flooding at the low-water crossings of Bautista Creek and other drainages occur. Furthermore, the native soil surface is rough and dusty and is difficult to maintain. Riverside County grades the road approximately three times a year, and the roadway surface tends to become dusty and washboarded between maintenance efforts. The dust in the dry season can severely restrict visibility causing a safety concern.

Based on a review of the project by the County of Riverside Transportation Department and the Federal Highway Administration, it has been determined that primary environmental issues to be analyzed in the Draft EIR/EIS will include: archaeological resources, visual impacts, farmland evaluation, floodplain evaluation and risk assessment, biological resources, hydrology and water quality, growth inducement, hazardous materials, air quality and a Section 4 (f) Evaluation.



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Central Federal Lands
Highway Division

555 Zang St, Rm 259
Lakewood, CO 80228

JAN 05 2001

In Reply Refer To:
HPD-16

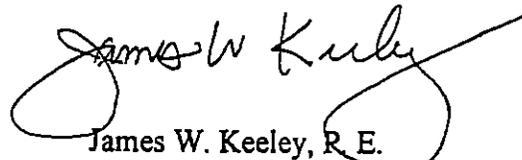
Office of the Federal Register
National Archives and Records Administration
7th and Pennsylvania N.W.
Washington, DC 20408

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find three original signed copies of a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement. These are being provided so that they may be published in the Federal Register at your earliest possible convenience.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Mr. Michael Vanderhoof at 303-716-2141.

Sincerely yours,



James W. Keeley, P. E.
Project Development Engineer

Enclosures (3 NOI)

cc: Mary Zambon, Senior Transportation Planner, County of Riverside Transportation
Department, 4080 Lemon Street, 8th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501 (w/enclosure)
Mike Florey, Forest Engineer, San Bernardino National Forest, 1824 Commerce Center
Circle, San Bernardino, CA 92408 (w/enclosure)
Louis Flores, Caltrans, D8 Local Assistance Engineer, 464 W. Fourth Street, 6th Floor,
MS 1030, San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400 (w/enclosure)
bc: Sam Holder, Project Manager
Michael Vanderhoof, Environmental Protection Specialist
yc: reading file
Central file: CA PFH 224, Bautista Canyon
MVANDERHOOF:jm:01/05/01:L:\environm\wp\ca224\NOI cover.wpd *MV*

[4910-22]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an

Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Riverside County, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Rick Cushing, Environmental Planning Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 555 Zang Street, Rm 259, Lakewood, Colorado 80228, telephone 303-716-2138.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with San Bernardino National Forest, the California Department of Transportation, and Riverside County, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal to improve California Forest Highway (FH) 224, Bautista Canyon Road. The portion that is proposed for improvement begins 10.3 miles southeast of Valle Vista and extends 8.2 miles to a point 3.2 miles northwest of State Highway 371 west of Anza. The FHWA is the lead agency. Riverside County will assist the FHWA in the preparation of the EIS.

Improvements are being considered to provide a safe, all-weather facility for existing and projected traffic demand. Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no action, (2) the improvement of the existing facility to appropriate County, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), or other acceptable design

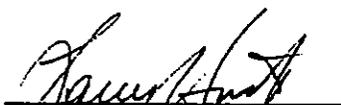
criteria, and (3) other alternatives that may be developed during the environmental process.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens. Public scoping meetings will be held on January 30, 2001 at 7:00pm in Anza and on January 31, 2001 at 7:00pm in Valle Vista. A public hearing will also be held in the project area. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. Information on the time and place of public meetings and hearings will be provided in the local news media and by letter to individuals and agencies that have expressed interest in the proposal.

To ensure that the full range of issues and alternatives related to the proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments and questions concerning the proposed action should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: January 4, 2001



Larry C. Smith, P.E.
Division Engineer, FHWA
Denver, Colorado

1/4/01
Date