CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED: 7003 1680 0002 3834 1510

Ms. Susan Moore, Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

Dear Ms. Moore:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) wants to inform you of important changes in formal consultation procedures under the Endangered Species Act for federally-funded highway projects in California. FHWA has assigned and Caltrans has assumed all responsibilities for consultation and coordination with resource agencies for most projects determined to be Categorical Exclusions (CEs) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

On June 7, 2007, FHWA and Caltrans signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the California Department of Transportation on State Assumption of Responsibilities for Categorical Exclusions. This MOU was signed pursuant to Section 6004 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which allows the Secretary of Transportation to assign, and the State of California to assume, responsibility for CEs designated by the Secretary. For these projects, the State may also be assigned FHWA’s responsibilities for environmental consultation and coordination under other federal environmental laws. By statute, the State is deemed to be a federal agency for these assigned responsibilities.

For projects designated in this MOU, Caltrans will conduct all consultation under the Endangered Species Act as a federal agency. For these projects, please address all future correspondence directly to Caltrans.

For your reference and use, enclosed is a copy of the MOU. If you have any questions, please
contact Maiser Khaled, Director of Project Development and Environment, at (916) 498-5020.

Sincerely,

/s/ Maiser Khaled

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator

Enclosure: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the California Department of Transportation on State Assumption of Responsibilities for Categorical Exclusions
CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED: 7003 1680 0002 3834 1497

Mr. Mike Long, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office
1655 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA  95521-5585

Dear Mr. Long:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) wants to inform you of important changes in formal consultation procedures under the Endangered Species Act for federally-funded highway projects in California. FHWA has assigned and Caltrans has assumed all responsibilities for consultation and coordination with resource agencies for most projects determined to be Categorical Exclusions (CEs) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

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Dear Mr. Bartel:

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For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator

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Ms. Diane Noda, Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office  
2493 Portola Road, Suite B  
Ventura, CA  93003-7726

Dear Ms. Noda:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) wants to inform you of important changes in formal consultation procedures under the Endangered Species Act for federally-funded highway projects in California. FHWA has assigned and Caltrans has assumed all responsibilities for consultation and coordination with resource agencies for most projects determined to be Categorical Exclusions (CEs) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

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/s/ Maiser Khaled

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator

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Mr. Robert D. Williams, Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234  
Reno, NV  89502

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) wants to inform you of important changes in formal consultation procedures under the Endangered Species Act for federally-funded highway projects in California. FHWA has assigned and Caltrans has assumed all responsibilities for consultation and coordination with resource agencies for most projects determined to be Categorical Exclusions (CEs) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

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