

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: December 10-11, 2008

Reference No.: 2.2b.(1)  
Action Item

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Environmental Analysis

Subject: **DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, ROUTE 1 IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY – REALIGN ROADWAY NEAR SAN SIMEON**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) review and comment at the December 2008 Commission meeting on the following Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR):

- 05-SLO-1, PM 64.0/R67.2, EA 49280, Realign Route 1 near San Simeon.

## **PROGRAMMING:**

This project in San Luis Obispo County would realign a portion of Route 1 from just north of Piedras Blancas Lighthouse to the Arroyo de la Cruz Bridge near San Simeon. The project is not programmed. The project is included in the 2008 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Long Lead Projects list consistent with Commission Resolution G-13. This resolution requires the Department to notify the Commission when project development work begins on SHOPP projects that are not currently programmed. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$43,270,000. Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2012-13.

## **ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:**

The DEIR identifies two alternatives:

- Alternative 1 - No Build.
- Alternative 2 - This alternative realigns inland this portion of Route 1 approximately 1400 feet north of the Piedras Blancas Lighthouse driveway and re-connects with the existing roadway just prior to the Arroyo de la Cruz Bridge.

**POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:**

Potential significant environmental effects identified at this phase of the project include:

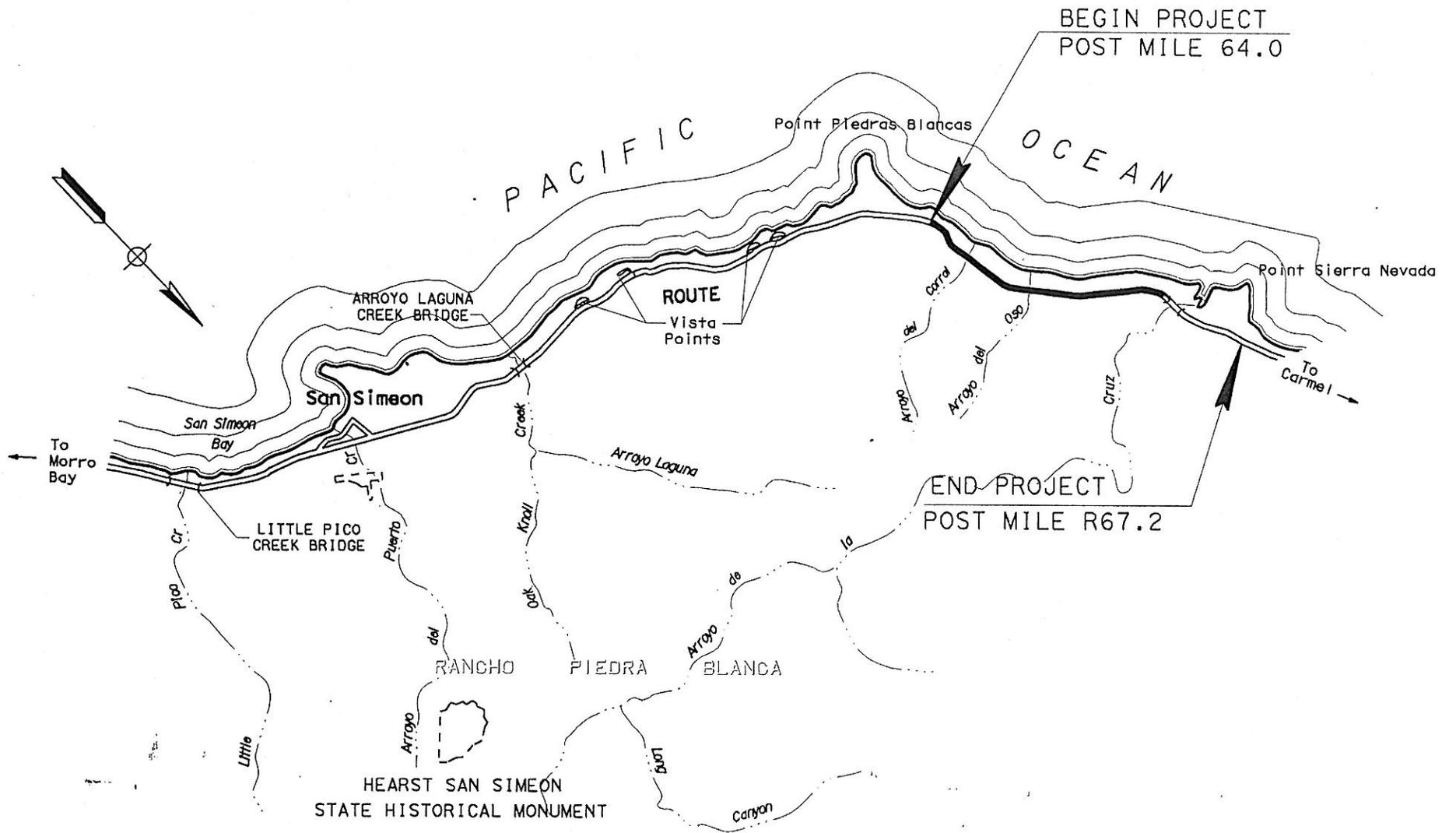
- Inconsistency with local coastal plan policy
- Wetlands
- Coastal prairie habitat
- Biological resources
- Community
- Visual
- Air Quality
- Geology
- Water quality

Because of the potentially significant environmental impacts listed above, an Environmental Impact Report is being prepared.

**PROPOSED MEASURES TO MINIMIZE HARM:**

- Compensate at fair market value private property acquisitions.
- Remove old highway pavement and culverts.
- Restore and re-create wetlands.
- Restore coastal prairie areas where feasible.
- Exclusionary fencing for wildlife from the construction area.
- Exercise construction windows during high flows of wet areas to avoid aquatic life.
- Implement Department standard specifications on noise attenuation.
- Incorporate engineering design to blend slopes into existing natural areas.
- Minimize construction footprint and implement water quality best management practices.

Attachment



No Scale

**Piedras Blancas Realignment Project Vicinity Map**