



Program Environmental Document and Service Development Plan

Tier 1/Program Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report

Coachella Valley-San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor
Service Program

May 2021



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Coachella Valley-San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Program

Draft Tier 1/Program Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report

Pursuant to:

National Environmental Policy Act (42 USC 4321 et seq); Federal Railroad Administration Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts (64 FR 28545, May 26, 1999); Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations Implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508); National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 300101 et seq.); Clean Air Act as amended (42 USC 7401 et seq. and 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93); the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 USC 1531-1544); and the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1251-1387); California Environmental Quality Act (PRC 21000 et seq); and State of California CEQA Guidelines

Prepared by the:

Federal Railroad Administration

California Department of Transportation Division of Rail and Mass Transportation

and the

Riverside County Transportation Commission



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May 13, 2021

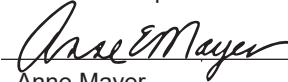
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Abstract: This document considers, describes, and summarizes the environmental impacts associated with the development of a passenger rail system to provide an alternative travel mode that would reduce travel times and improve service reliability between Los Angeles and the Coachella Valley by providing intercity and commuter rail service. The Draft Tier 1/Program EIS/EIR evaluates the potential effects of a passenger rail system within the Program Corridor on land use and planning, transportation, visual quality and aesthetics, air quality and greenhouse gases, noise and vibration, jurisdictional waters and wetland resources, biological resources, floodplains and water quality, geological and paleontological resources, hazards and hazardous materials, public utilities and energy, cultural resources, parklands and community services, safety and security, socioeconomic conditions, environmental justice, and Section 4(f)/Section 6(f) resources.

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Appendices

Appendix A. Notice of Intent/Notice of Preparation

Appendix B. Land Use and Planning Technical Memorandum

Appendix C. Transportation Impact Technical Memorandum

Appendix D. Visual and Aesthetics Technical Memorandum

Appendix E. Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Memorandum

Appendix F. Noise and Vibration Technical Memorandum

Appendix G. Biological and Wetland Resources Technical Memorandum

Appendix H. Cultural, Historic, and Tribal Resources Technical Memorandum

Appendix I. Socioeconomics Technical Memorandum

Abbreviations/Acronyms

AA	alternatives analysis
AB	Assembly Bill
ACS	American Community Survey
AGR	agriculture supply
ALUC	Airport Land Use Commission
ALUCP	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
AP	Alquist-Priolo
ARB	Air Resources Board
ASTM	ASTM International
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	best management practice
BTU	British thermal unit
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CCAA	California Clean Air Act
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CGS	California Geological Survey
CO	carbon monoxide
COLD	cold freshwater habitats
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
CRPR	California Rare Plant Rank
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	decibel

dB(A)	A weighted decibel
EIA	Energy Information Administration
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJ	environmental justice
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FCAA	Federal Clean Air Act
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FPS	Fully Protected Species
FR	Federal Register
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FRSH	freshwater replenishment
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GHG	greenhouse gas
GIS	geographic information system
GPSCVB	Greater Palm Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau
GWR	groundwater recharge
HCP	Housing and Urban Development Consolidated Plan
I	Interstate
IND	industrial service supply
LAUS	Los Angeles Union Station
L _{dn}	day-night average noise level
L _{eq}	equivalent sound level
LOSSAN	Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo
LRA	local responsibility area
LUST	leaking underground storage tank
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
Metro	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
MMBTU	million British thermal unit
MPO	metropolitan planning organization

MRZ	Mineral Resource Zone
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MSHCP	Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
MUN	municipal and domestic water supply
MUTCD	Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAC	noise abatement criteria
NCCP	Natural Communities Conservation Planning
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO ₂	nitrogen dioxide
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOC	Notice of Completion
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NO _x	nitrogen oxide
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
O ₃	ozone
OHP	Office of Historic Preservation
Pb	lead
PeMS	Performance Measurement System
PM ₁₀	particulate matter 10 microns or less
PM _{2.5}	particulate matter 2.5 microns or less
POW	hydropower generation
PPV	peak particle velocity
PRC	Public Resource Code
PROC	industrial process supply
Program	Coachella Valley-San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service Program
Program Corridor	Coachella Valley-San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor
PTC	positive train control

RARE	rare, threatened, or endangered species
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976
RCTC	Riverside County Transportation Commission
REC1	water contact recreation
REC2	noncontact water recreation
ROW	right-of-way
RSIA	Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SB	Senate Bill
SBCTA	San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCRRA	Southern California Regional Rail Authority
SCS	Sustainable Communities Strategy
SDP	Service Development Plan
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SO ₂	sulfur dioxide
SO _x	sulfur oxide
SR	State Route
SRA	State Responsibility Area
SSAB	Salton Sea Air Basin
SSC	Species of Special Concern
STRACNET	Strategic Rail Corridor Network
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TCR	tribal cultural resource
THPO	Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer
TMDL	total maximum daily load
TSCA	Toxic Substance Control Act
U.S.	United States
UBC	Uniform Building Code
Uniform Act	Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970

UP	Union Pacific Railroad
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
VdB	velocity in decibels
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound
WARM	warm freshwater habitat
WET	wetland habitat
WILD	wildlife habitat

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