DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

[FHWA Docket no. FHWA—2017–0018]

Transportation Asset Management Plan Development Processes Certification and Recertification Guidance; Transportation Asset Management Plan Consistency Determination Guidance

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is seeking comments on two draft documents: (1) Transportation Asset Management Plan Development Processes Certification and Recertification Guidance, and (2) Transportation Asset Management Plan Consistency Determination Guidance. These documents provide implementation guidance on provisions of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP–21) and the Asset Management Final Rule, which requires a State department of transportation (State DOT) to develop and implement a risk-based asset management plan. Under these authorities, FHWA must (1) certify that transportation asset management plan (TAMP) development processes established by a State DOT meet applicable requirements, and (2) make an annual consistency determination, evaluating whether a State DOT has developed and implemented a State-approved TAMP that meets all applicable requirements. This notice announces the availability of these draft documents on the online docket at the docket number for this notice.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 5, 2017.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that you do not duplicate your docket submissions, please submit all comments by only one of the following means:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- Hand Delivery: West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (202) 366–9329.
- Instructions: You must include the agency name and docket number at the beginning of your comments. All comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice contact Mr. Stephen Gaj, FHWA Office of Infrastructure, (202) 366–1336, Federal Highway Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Washington, DC 20590, or via email at Stephen.Gaj@dot.gov. For legal questions, please contact Ms. Janet Myers, FHWA Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366–2019, Federal Highway Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Washington, DC 20590–0001, or via email at Janet.Myers@dot.gov. Business hours for FHWA are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access and Filing

Copies of the proposed Transportation Asset Management Plan Development Processes Certification and Recertification Guidance; and Consistency Determination Guidance are available online for download and public inspection online under the docket at the Federal eRulemaking portal at: http://www.regulations.gov. You may also submit or retrieve comments online through the Federal eRulemaking portal. The Web site is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. Electronic submission and retrieval help and guidelines are available under the help section of the Web site.


Background

Under the asset management provisions enacted in MAP–21, codified at 23 U.S.C. 119, State DOTs must develop and implement risk-based TAMP. This TAMP must include all National Highway System (NHS) pavements and bridges, regardless of whether the State or some other entity owns the relevant NHS facility.

The FHWA must take two actions with respect to State DOT asset management activities. The first is TAMP development process certification/recertification. Under 23 U.S.C. 119(e)(6), FHWA must certify at least every 4 years that the State DOT’s processes for developing its TAMP are consistent with applicable requirements. The FHWA must also recertify whenever the State amends its TAMP development processes, in accordance with 23 CFR 515.13(c). The second FHWA action, under 23 U.S.C. 119(e)(5), is an annual consistency determination, which evaluates whether the State DOT has developed and implemented a TAMP that is consistent with the requirements of 23 U.S.C. 119. The FHWA adopted the asset management rule, 23 CFR part 515, to implement these and other asset management requirements. The FHWA Division Offices (Divisions) are responsible for making these two decisions on behalf of FHWA.

To assist State DOTs and Divisions with these requirements, the FHWA Office of Asset Management, Pavements, and Construction is seeking comment on the two draft guidance documents announced by this notice. Please note that any comments should be limited to these guidance documents; FHWA is not soliciting further comment on the Asset Management Final Rule.

The Transportation Asset Management Plan Development Plan...
Processes Certification and Recertification Guidance provides a framework for Divisions to undertake and complete the process certification for a State DOT’s TAMP development processes as outlined in 23 CFR 515.13. The Transportation Asset Management Plan Consistency Determination Guidance assists Divisions on evaluating whether a State DOT has developed and implemented its TAMP in accordance with provisions in 23 CFR 515.10(b). All guidance is subject to change as the state of asset management practices change and the asset management rule is further implemented.


Issued on: May 26, 2017.

Walter C. Waidelich, Jr.,
Acting Deputy Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice of Final Federal Agency Actions on Proposed Highway in California

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.


SUMMARY: The FHWA, on behalf of Caltrans, is issuing this notice to announce actions taken by Caltrans, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service that are final. The actions relate to a proposed highway project, U.S. Route 101 from Post Mile 1.1 to Post Mile 2.2 in the County of Humboldt, State of California. Those actions grant licenses, permits, and approvals for the project.

DATES: By this notice, the FHWA, on behalf of Caltrans, is advising the public of final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(j)(1). A claim seeking judicial review of the Federal agency actions on the highway project will be barred by the claim is filed on or before November 2, 2017. If the Federal law that authorizes judicial review of a claim provides a time period of less than 150 days for filing such claim, then that shorter time period still applies.

For Further Information Contact:
For Caltrans: Sandra Rosas, Environmental Branch Chief, California Department of Transportation, 1656 Union Street, Eureka, CA 95501; or call (707) 441–5730, email Sandra.Rosas@dot.ca.gov.

For U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Janelle D. Leeson, Senior Regulatory Project Manager/Caltrans Liaison, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1455 Market Street, 16th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103 or call (415) 503–6773, email Janelle.D.Leeson@usace.army.mil.

For U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Bruce Bingham, Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Endangered Species Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1655 Heindon Road, Arcata, California 95521; or call (707) 822–7201, email Bruce_Bingham@fws.gov.

For National Park Service: Stephen Bowes, CA Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinator National Park Service, 1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700, Oakland, CA 94607; or call (510) 817–1451, email stephen_bowes@nps.gov.

For National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries: Jeffrey Jahn, Supervisory Fish Biologist—South Coast Branch, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service, 1655 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521; or call (707) 825–5173, email Jeffrey.Jahn@noaa.gov.

For the California Department of Parks and Recreation: Jay Harris, Senior Environmental Scientist, California State Parks, North Coast Redwoods District, P.O. Box 2006, Eureka, CA 95502; or call (707) 445–6547 ext. 19, email jay.harris@parks.ca.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Effective July 1, 2007, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) assigned, and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) assumed, environmental responsibilities for this project pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327. Notice is hereby given that the Caltrans, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service have taken final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(j)(1) by issuing licenses, permits, and approvals for the following highway project in the State of California: The proposed project is located on U.S. Route 101 in southern Humboldt County. The primary purpose of the proposed project is to modify the roadway alignment to accommodate Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) truck travel on U.S. Route 101 in Humboldt County, California. The project includes minor realignment, minor widening, culvert improvements, construction of a retaining wall, and repaving the roadway. The actions by the Federal agencies, and the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project approved on May 18, 2010, the Supplement to the Final Environmental Assessment (Supplement) approved on September 18, 2013, in the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) issued on May 1, 2017, and in other documents in Caltrans project records. The EA, Supplement, FONSI, and other project records are available by contacting Caltrans at the addresses provided above. The Caltrans EA, Supplement, and FONSI can be viewed and downloaded from the project Web site at dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1/projects/richardson_grove/.

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers decision and Nation Wide Permit are available by contacting the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers at the address provided above.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service consultations and Letter of Concurrence are available by contacting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the address provided above.

The U.S. National Park Service National Scenic River consultation is available by contacting the National Park Service at the address provided above.

The U.S. NOAA National Marine Fisheries consultation and Letter of Concurrence are available by contacting U.S. N.O.A.A National Marine Fisheries at the address provided above.

The Section 4(f) consultation and Letter of Concurrence are available by contacting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the address provided above.

The 4(f) consultation and Letter of Concurrence are available by contacting the California Department of Parks and Recreation at the address provided above.

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions as of the issuance date of this notice and all laws under which such actions were taken, including but not limited to:

1. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [42 U.S.C. 4321–4351]
3. Air: Clean Air Act 42 U.S.C. 7401–7671(q)