



Facts about Foothill Transportation Corridor-South

The Transportation Corridor Agency, a privately held and operated Orange County organization, is seeking to build an extension to the existing 241 Toll Road. The proposed Foothill Transportation Corridor South (FTC-South) is a sixteen-mile long toll road highway that would connect the current terminus of the 241 Toll Road to Interstate 5, effectively bisecting the inner portion of San Onofre State Beach, California's fifth most visited state park.

- **WILDLIFE** - Despite the several mitigation measures offered by the project's managers, the construction and operation of FTC-South would still have devastating effects on the local wildlife and ecosystem. The Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) lists eight **federally endangered** species as being consistently observed in the proposed toll road's path. This list includes the southern steelhead trout, pacific pocket mouse, arroyo toad, tidewater goby, San Diego fairy shrimp, Riverside fairy shrimp, Bell's vireo, and the southwestern willow flycatcher. The SEIR also states that increased levels of noise & light pollution, fire risk, road mortalities, habitat fragmentation, dust accumulation, soil erosion, and water contamination will either directly or indirectly strain the survivability of these species.
- **RECREATION** - According to the California Parks Department, the toll road will cause the abandonment of nearly 60% of the state park, including the entire inland subunit, its most popular campsite, and trails that lead to Trestles Beach. The loss of these areas, which are heavily frequented by surfers and beach lovers, will significantly reduce the public's access to, and enjoyment of, Trestles Beach. TCA has also failed to adequately consider changes to sediment conditions that could have significant impacts at various local and regional scales, and possibly alter the morphology of Trestles and its popular surfing characteristics.
- **MILITARY OPERATIONS** - The type of training conducted by military personnel at the U.S. Marine Corps base at Camp Pendleton is critical to the development of individual and unit combat skills, and the essential teamwork capabilities that are required by a Marine Air/Ground task force to be successful on the battlefield. FTC-South's close proximity to Pendleton will jeopardize the stated Military Mission of the base and the effectiveness of its training facilities. According to the SEIR, this new road would significantly hamper night vision goggle training, helicopter external load operations, and provide more opportunities for unauthorized base access. Even with mitigation measures, "troop movement and military activities in this area would be permanently impeded by the presence of the corridor."
- **TRAFFIC MISCALCULATIONS** - The proposed extension to the 241 Foothill South Toll Road will actually increase traffic congestion - not decrease it. Southbound traffic on Interstate 5 currently is fed by the 405 Freeway from the west and from the north on Interstate 5. Linking the existing 241 Toll Road to I-5 will compound this situation by adding additional traffic from the east (e.g. Riverside and San Bernardino Counties). The proposed alignment for the 241 Foothill-South extension will deposit thousands of cars each day directly between two existing "choke points": Dana Point/San Juan Capistrano to the north and Oceanside to the south.