

Caltrans NEPA Assignment Program

Talking Points

- California is currently the only state to be assigned responsibility for NEPA Environmental Assessment/FONSI and EIS level documents pursuant to 23 USC 327 (NEPA Assignment).
- California was the only state to have participated in the NEPA Assignment Pilot Program, authorized by SAFTEA-LU, June 1, 2007 – September 30, 2012.
- Under the Pilot Program, Caltrans successfully completed five years of FHWA audits and reporting, and is now the only state in the monitoring phase of NEPA Assignment. Monitoring is required annually.
- California is one of three states to have CE Assignment (23 USC 326) and was the first state to assume this responsibility.

Number of Environmental Approvals under NEPA Assignment

23 USC 326 CEs	23 USC 327 CEs	Draft EAs	FONSIs	Draft EISs	Final EISs	RODs	Total
7,829	108	149	142	16	12	10	8,266

Data: July 1, 2007 through March 31, 2014 for Capital and Local Assistance programs.

Median Times Savings for Caltrans Environmental Approvals and Coordination Completed under NEPA Assignment Program

NEPA Environmental Approval Processing Milestones	Pre-NEPA Assignment Program Median Duration in Months (# of approvals)	NEPA Assignment Program Median Duration in Months (# of approvals)	Median Time Savings Realized in Months
Begin Environmental Studies to Draft Environmental	40.4 (31)	32.9 (147)	7.5
Begin Environmental Studies to Environmental Assessment or Finding of No Significant Impact Approval	52.2 (31)	43.4 (127)	8.8
Notice of Intent to Draft Environmental Impact Statement	71.0 (8)	34.7 (16)	36.4
Notice of Intent to Final Environmental Impact Statement	193.9 (5)	54.2 (10)	139.7
Begin Coordination with USFWS/NMFS to Completion of ESA Section 7	11.0 (25)	5.7 (91)	5.3

Data: July 1, 2007 through March 31, 2014 for Capital and Local Assistance programs.