

# CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED TRAIN

DRAFT

## Agency Coordination Plan

Fresno to Bakersfield Section  
High-Speed Train  
Project EIR/EIS

October 2009

Prepared for:

**California High-Speed  
Rail Authority**



**U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Railroad Administration**





# **CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED TRAIN PROJECT**

---

## **TASK 3**

### **FRESNO TO BAKERSFIELD**

#### AGENCY COORDINATION PLAN

*Prepared by:*

**URS**

October 2009



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Railroad  
Administration**



## Table of Contents

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Lead/Cooperating/Participating Agencies.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	List of Agencies, Roles, and Responsibilities .....	1
1.2	Agency Contact Information.....	7
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Coordination Points and Responsibilities.....</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1	Coordination Points, Information Requirements and Responsibilities .....	2
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Project Schedule .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Coordination Meetings.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Revision History .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Other Information.....</b>	<b>23</b>



## 1.0 Lead/Cooperating/Participating Agencies

### 1.1 List of Agencies, Roles, and Responsibilities

#### 1.1.1 Overview to the Project and the Coordination Plan

The California High Speed Train (CAHST) system intended to serve future intercity travel demand in California traverses a diverse set of communities, regions, and natural resources. As a result, there is a critical need to engage and coordinate with a number of public agencies in the planning, design, permitting, construction, and implementation of this landmark statewide rail system. This Agency Coordination Plan identifies public agencies that the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) will consult during the project-level Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) and describes the process by which the Authority and FRA proposes to seek guidance and share information during the preparation of the EIR/EIS.

This Agency Coordination Plan establishes a formal procedure by which interested governmental agencies can participate in the environmental review process. The purpose of the CAHST Coordination Plan is to facilitate and document the lead agencies' structured interaction with the public and other agencies as well as to inform groups of how the plan will be implemented. The coordination plan promotes an efficient, streamlined process, as well as good project management through coordination, scheduling, and early resolution of issues.

#### 1.1.2 Participating Agencies

This Agency Coordination Plan seeks to include Federal, State, regional, and local government agencies that may have an interest in a transportation project and participate in the environmental review process for that project. Nongovernmental organizations and private entities cannot serve as participating agencies. The Authority and FRA have identified the agencies below as potential participants in the Fresno to Bakersfield High Speed Train (HST) Project EIR/EIS. The selection of these agencies represents a good faith, common-sense effort to identify and involve interested agencies early on, the objective being to raise and resolve issues as early and quickly as possible. Coordination with Native American tribes is addressed in a separate Tribal Coordination Plan.

The roles and responsibilities of participating agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process starting at the earliest possible time, especially with regard to the development of the purpose and need statement, range of alternatives, methodologies, and the level of detail for the analysis of alternatives.
- Identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts.
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.
- Participating in the scoping process. The scoping process should be designed so that agencies whose interest in the project comes to light as a result of initial scoping activities are invited to participate and still have an opportunity for involvement.

### 1.1.3 Cooperating Agencies

Cooperating Agencies are those governmental agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise that have been specifically requested by the lead agency to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document for the project. Cooperating and Participating Agencies that have been sent invitations for this project, as well as their responsibilities, are listed in the tables below and their contact information is provided later in Section 2 of this Coordination Plan.

The Cooperating Agencies for this project have roles and responsibilities that include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the NEPA process starting at the earliest possible time, especially with regard to the development of the purpose and need statement, range of alternatives, and methodologies;
- Identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts. Cooperating Agencies are also allowed to participate in the issue resolution process;
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues; and
- Reviewing and providing comment on the preliminary draft DEIS and the preferred alternative.

If new information reveals the need to request another agency to serve as a Cooperating Agency, FRA/Authority will issue that agency an invitation.

### 1.1.4 Responsible Agencies

Responsible Agencies, as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), are those local and state governmental agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise that have discretionary approval power over a project. Examples of approval authority include review, approval, or permitting authority over a project. While the lead agency (the Authority) is responsible for considering all environmental impacts of a project before approving it, a responsible agency has a more specific charge: to consider only those aspects of a project that are subject to the responsible agency's jurisdiction. Under CEQA, responsible agencies have two sets of responsibilities. First, they must respond in a timely fashion to lead agency requests for information or comments at various stages in preparation of the EIR. Second, they must fulfill their role after the Authority acts on a project in approving or acting on the project. Responsible and Participating Agencies that have been sent invitations for this project, as well as their responsibilities, are listed in the tables below and their contact information is provided later in Section 2 of this Coordination Plan.

### 1.1.5 Initial Coordination

The FRA, with assistance from the Authority, submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS, as required by CEQ regulations 40 CFR 1501.7. The NOI was published in the Federal Register on March 16, 2009. Notification of the preparation of the EIS was also published in the project area newspapers. The NOI announced a series of scoping meetings at which agencies, organizations, and the public could learn about the EIS process and raise initial concerns about the project and the scope of the environmental documentation. Five scoping meetings were held in March 2009. Following the close of the comment period, the FRA and the Authority determined that the environmental effects of the Fresno to Bakersfield HST Project could be assessed separately from Merced to Fresno and Fresno to Bakersfield. Therefore, amended NOIs were



issued on October 1, 2009 to announce the preparation of a separate EIS for the Merced to Fresno and Fresno to Bakersfield sections of the HST system. The NOI extended the scoping period for the Fresno to Bakersfield Section through October 30, 2009.

**1.1.6 Lead Agencies**

Agency Name	Role	Responsibilities
Federal Railroad Administration	Federal Lead Agency	Manage agency coordination process; prepare EIS; provide opportunity for public and cooperating/participating agency involvement
California High-Speed Rail Authority	State Lead Agency	Manage agency coordination process; prepare EIR, provide opportunity for public and cooperating/participating agency involvement

**1.1.7 Potential Participating Resource Agencies (and Responsible or Cooperating Agencies)**

Agency Name	Role	Responsibilities
<b>Federal</b>		
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	Participating Agency	Oversees implementation and compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act. Participates in Section 106 consultation regarding project impacts.
Bureau of Reclamation	Participating Agency	Oversees water resource management, specifically as it applies to the oversight and/or operation of numerous water diversions.
Department of Homeland Security	Participating Agency	Responsible for protecting United States territory from terrorist attacks and responding to natural disasters.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Participating Agency	Implements Executive Order 11988 – encroachments on regulated floodplains.
Natural Resources Conservation Service	Participating Agency	Implements the Farmland Protection Policy Act.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District	Invited Cooperating Agency	Implements Clean Water Act, Section 404. Implements Executive Order 11990 – Preservation of Wetlands.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Participating Agency	Oversees the implementation of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, including NEPA review responsibilities. Provides overall authority for Clean Water Act, Section 404.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Participating Agency	Consults under Endangered Species Act. Implements Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Manages federal wildlife refuge system. Reviews Biological Assessment and issues Biological Opinion for the project.

Agency Name	Role	Responsibilities
U.S. National Park Service	Participating Agency	Manages federal parks and parks acquired and/or developed under the Land and Water Conservation Act. Implements the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

<b>State</b>		
California Department of Conservation	Participating Agency	Administers agricultural conservation programs including California Land Conservation Act (Williamson Act) and California Farmland Conservancy Program. Monitors farmland conversion.
California Department of Fish and Game	Responsible Agency	Regulates activities occurring in streams and/or lakes that could adversely affect fish or wildlife resources.
California Department of Parks and Recreation	Participating Agency	Manages State Park system.
California Department of Toxic Substances Control	Participating Agency	Issues permits for the transfer, recycling, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes.
California Department of Water Resources	Responsible Agency	Regulates state water resources.
California State Lands Commission	Participating Agency	Manages public rights of access to many of the State's waterways. Encroachment permits must be obtained for construction and other projects. Administers "Public Trust" lands.
Native American Heritage Commission	Participating Agency	Provides procedures for notifying most likely descendants regarding the discovery of Native American human remains and associated grave goods. Maintains an inventory of sacred places.
State Historic Preservation Officer	Participating Agency	Ensures that projects carried out or sponsored by federal and state agencies comply with federal and state historic preservation laws.

**1.1.8 Potential Participating Transportation Agencies (and Responsible or Cooperating Agencies)**

<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>
Federal Highway Administration, California Division	Participating Agency	Federal and state highway jurisdiction
Federal Transit Administration, Region IX	Participating Agency	Approval and funding of construction for transit improvements
California Department of Transportation, Central Region	Cooperating/Responsible Agency	Encroachment permit, highway access, modification reviews.
California Public Utilities Commission	Participating Agency	Grade crossings, grade separations, systems safety
California Transportation Commission	Participating Agency	Funding of construction of highway, passenger rail and transit improvement throughout California
Golden Empire Transit District	Participating Agency	Public transit operator

**1.1.9 Interested Local Agencies**

<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>
Central Valley Flood Protection Board	Participating Agency	Manages the integrity of the existing flood control system and designated floodways through encroachment permits.
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Participating Agency	Implements federal Clean Water Act and state Porter-Cologne Water Pollution Control Act.
City of Bakersfield	Participating/Responsible Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
City of Corcoran	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
City of Fresno	Participating/Responsible Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
City of Hanford	Participating/Responsible Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
City of Shafter	Participating/Responsible Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
City of Tulare	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
City of Visalia	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
City of Wasco	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Council of Fresno County Governments	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Fresno County	Participating/Responsible Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Kern County	Participating/Responsible Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Kern County Council of Governments	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Kings County	Participating/Responsible Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Kings County Association of Governments	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Kings County Office of Education	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS

Agency Name	Role	Responsibilities
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Tulare County	Participating/ Responsible Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS
Tulare County Association of Governments	Participating Agency	Review of documents from EIR/EIS

## 1.2 Agency Contact Information

This draft of the Coordination Plan contains a number of prospective participating agencies. Following the response to the invitation letters to participate in the Fresno to Bakersfield HST Project EIR/EIS, the list of agencies will be updated to include those that elect to participate and to exclude those that decline to participate. At the time the Coordination Plan is updated, agency contacts will be revised with the specific contact identified by the participating agency. The contact information for each agency identified in Section 1.1 is provided below.

### 1.2.1 Lead Agencies

Agency	Contact Person	Title	Phone	Email
Federal Railroad Administration	David Valenstein	Environmental Program Manager	202-493-6368	<a href="mailto:david.valenstein@fra.dot.gov">david.valenstein@fra.dot.gov</a>
California High-Speed Rail Authority	Carrie Bowen	Regional Director	559-221-2636	cbowen@hsr.ca.gov

### 1.2.2 Resource Agencies

Agency	Contact Person	Title	Phone	E-Mail
<b>Federal</b>				
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)	John Fowler	Executive Director	202-606-8528	jfowler@achp.gov
Bureau of Reclamation	Donald R. Glaser	Regional Director	916-978-5005	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Department of Homeland Security	Janet Napolitano	Secretary	202-282-8000	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Region IX	Nancy Ward	Regional Administrator	415-923-7111	<a href="mailto:Nancy.Ward@dhs.gov">Nancy.Ward@dhs.gov</a>

Agency	Contact Person	Title	Phone	E-Mail
National Park Service	Jonathan Jarvis	Regional Director, Pacific West Region	510-817-1304	<a href="mailto:Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov">Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov</a>
Natural Resources Conservation Service	Curtis Tarver	Area Conservationist, Fresno Area Office	559-252-2191	<a href="mailto:Curtis.tarver@ca.usda.gov">Curtis.tarver@ca.usda.gov</a>
Regulatory Branch, U.S. Department of Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District	Ramon Aberasturi	Project Manager	916-557-5100	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Regulatory Division, U.S. Department of Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District	Jane Hicks	Chief	415-503-6771	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9	Tom Plenys	NEPA Reviewer	415-972-3238	<a href="mailto:plenys.thomas@epa.gov">plenys.thomas@epa.gov</a>
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, Region 8	Ren Lohofener	Regional Director	916-414-6712	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, Sacramento Field Office	Ken Sanchez Jan King	San Joaquin Valley Branch Chief, Endangered Species Program	916-414-6600	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
<b>State</b>				
California Department of Conservation	Bridgett Luther	Director	916-322-1080	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), Region 4	Jeffrey Single	Regional Manager, Central Region	559-243-4005	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
California Department of Parks and Recreation	Richard Rayburn	Chief of Natural Resources	916-653-6725	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
California Department of Toxic Substances Control	Maziar Movassaghi	Acting Director	916-322-0504	<a href="mailto:MMovassa@dtsc.ca.gov">MMovassa@dtsc.ca.gov</a>
California Department of Water Resources	Barbara McDonnell	Chief of Environmental Services	916-651-9777	<a href="mailto:bmcdonne@water.ca.gov">bmcdonne@water.ca.gov</a>
California State Lands Commission (CSLC)	Judy Brown	Public Land Manager	916-574-1868	<a href="mailto:brownj@slc.ca.gov">brownj@slc.ca.gov</a>

Agency	Contact Person	Title	Phone	E-Mail
Native American Heritage Commission	Debbie Pilas-Treadway	Environmental Specialist III	916-653-4038	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Native American Heritage Commission	Larry Myers	Executive Secretary	916-653-4082	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
State Historic Preservation Officer	Steve Mikesell	State Historic Preservation Officer	916-651-8453	mwdonaldson@parks.ca.gov
State Historic Preservation Officer	Joseph McDole	State Historian	916-653-8972	jmcdole@parks.ca.gov

### 1.2.3 Transportation Agencies

Agency	Contact Person	Title	Phone	E-Mail
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Region IX	Cindy Vigue	Director, State Programs	916-498-5017	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Region IX	Gene Fong	Division Administrator	916-498-5014	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Federal Transit Administration, Region IX	Ray Sukys, Director of Planning and Program Development	Regional Administrator	415-744-3115	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Federal Transit Administration, Office of Planning and Environment	Susan Borinsky	Associate Administrator	202-366-4033	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
California Department of Transportation, Central Region	Garth Fernandez	CAHST Project Manager	559-243-8012	Garth_fernandez@dot.ca.gov
California Public Utilities Commission	Moses Stites	Rail Crossings Engineering Section	415-713-0092	Ms2@cpuc.ca.gov
California Transportation Commission	Bimla Rhinehart	Executive Director	916-654-4245	Bimla.rhinehart@dot.ca.gov
Golden Empire Transit District	Karen King	CEO	661-324-9874	kking@getbus.org

**1.2.4 Local Agencies**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>
Central Valley Flood Protection Board	Jay Punia	Executive Officer	916-574-2611	jpunia@water.ca.gov
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Karl Longley	Chair	559-445-5116	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
City of Bakersfield	Alan Tandy	City Manager	661-326-3751	AdmMgr@bakersfieldcity.us
City of Corcoran	Ron Hoggard	City Manager	559-992-2151	Ron.hoggard@cityofcorcoran.com
City of Fresno	Andrew Souza	City Manager	559-621-7770	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
City of Hanford	Jan Reynolds	City Manager	559-585-2500	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
City of Shafter	John Guinn	City Manager	661-745-5000	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
City of Tulare	Darrel Pyle	City Manager	559-684-4217	<a href="mailto:dpyle@ci.tulare.ca.us">dpyle@ci.tulare.ca.us</a>
City of Visalia	Steve Solomon	City Manager	559-713-4332	<a href="mailto:ssolomon@ci.visalia.ca.us">ssolomon@ci.visalia.ca.us</a>
City of Wasco	Jim Zervis	City Manager	661-758-7214	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Council of Fresno County Governments	Tony Boren	Executive Director	559-233-4148	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Fresno County	John Navarrette	County Administrative Officer	559-488-1710	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Kern County	John Nilon	County Administrative Officer	661-868-3198	caomailbox@co.kern.ca.us
Kern County Council of Governments	Ron Brummett	Executive Director	661-861-2191	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Kings County	Larry Spikes	County Administrative Officer	559-582-3211	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Kings County Association of Governments	Joe Neves	Transportation Policy Committee Chairperson	559-582-3211	Joe.neves@co.kings.ca.us



<b>Agency</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>
Kings County Office of Education	Stephen Corl	Assistant Superintendent – Business Services	(559) 584-1331 X 7091	scorl@kings.k12.ca.us
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District	Leroy Ornellas	Governing Board Chairperson	209-468-3113	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting
Tulare County	Jean Rousseau	County Administrative Officer	559-636-5005	phoque@co.tulare.ca.us
Tulare County Association of Governments	Mike Ennis	Governing Board Chairperson	559-733-6291	To be obtained at initial Technical Working Group meeting



## **2.0 Coordination Points and Responsibilities**

### **2.1 Coordination Points, Information Requirements and Responsibilities**

#### **2.1.1 Invitation to Participate**

All prospective participating agencies will be invited to participate in writing by the Authority. Invitations to cooperating federal agencies will be sent by the FRA. State, regional, and local governmental agencies will be invited to participate by the Authority. Federal agencies that decline to participate are asked to indicate so in writing and to provide an explanation for their decision. If no response to the invitation letter is received from other public agencies, it is assumed that they will not serve as participating agencies. This section lists key coordination points, including which agency is responsible for activities during that coordination point, the information required at each coordination point, and who is responsible for transmitting that information.

**2.1.2 Key Coordination Points**

Coordination Point	Information "In"	Agency Responsible	Information "Out"	Agency Responsible	Start	Finish
Technical Working Group/ Technical Assessment Group Meetings (TWG/TAG)	Invitations to and agendas for TWG/TAG meetings	Authority	Attendance at pertinent meetings	TWG/TAG members	6/2009	8/2011
Project Scoping	Publish NOI/NOP and distribute to agencies, invite to scoping meetings, hold scoping meetings, provide draft purpose and need statement	FRA/Authority	Attend meetings, submit scoping comments and comments on purpose and need by end of comment period	Prospective Cooperating and Participating Agencies	3/2009 10/2009 <sup>1</sup>	4/2009 10/2009
Purpose and Need	Comments on draft Purpose and Need	Cooperating and Participating Agencies	Refine purpose and need based on comments	FRA/Authority	5/2009	8/2009
Range of Alternatives*	Comments on range of alternatives from scoping	Cooperating and Participating Agencies			3/2009	11/2009
	Screening Analysis	Authority			6/2009	11/2009
	Input from Alternatives workshop	Cooperating and Participating Agencies	Alternatives Analysis Report/EIS Alternatives Chapter	Authority	7/2009	11/2009
Collaboration on impact assessment methodologies	Draft methodologies	Authority	Comments on methodologies	Cooperating and Participating Agencies	5/2009	12/2009
Technical Reports	Draft technical reports	Authority	Comments on technical reports	Participating and Cooperating Agencies	3/2010	10/2010
Preparation/Circulation of Draft EIR/EIS	Analysis of affected environment and potential project impacts and coordination with agencies	FRA/Authority	Input and assistance on identification of resources and issues that could substantially delay permit	Cooperating Agencies	9/2009	5/2010

<sup>1</sup> As indicated in Section 1.1.5, an amended NOI was issued for the Fresno to Bakersfield section of the HST system on October 1, 2009. This extended the scoping period to October 30, 2009.

Coordination Point	Information "In"	Agency Responsible	Information "Out"	Agency Responsible	Start	Finish
			approval and other project approvals			
	Distribution of administrative draft of Draft EIR/EIS to Cooperating Agencies for review	FRA/Authority	Comments on Administrative Draft	Cooperating Agencies	10/2010	11/2010
	Circulation of Draft EIS, publication and distribution of Notice of Availability/Notice of Completion, advertisement of public hearings, public hearings	FRA/Authority	Review of DEIS and comment within comment period	Cooperating and Participating Agencies	12/2010	1/2011
Identify Preferred Alternative	Summary of public comments and review of EIR/EIS analysis presented to CHSRA Board and identification of Preferred Alternative	FRA/Authority	Preferred Alternative	Cooperating and Participating Agencies	2/2011	3/2011
Preparation/Circulation of Final EIR/EIS	Update analysis where necessary, continue design of preferred alternative, refine mitigation, respond to comments	FRA/Authority	Input and assistance on identification of resources and issues that could delay permit approvals	Cooperating and Participating Agencies	2/2011	6/2011
	Publication and circulation of Final EIS, publication and distribution of Notice of Availability/Notice of Completion	FRA/Authority			7/2011	7/2011
Issue Record of Decision (ROD)/Notice of Determination (NOD)	Draft ROD and NOD	FRA/Authority	Review of draft ROD	Cooperating Agencies	8/2011	9/2011
Permitting	Permit/approval application completion based on data in EIR/EIS and additional information from preliminary and final design	Authority	Coordination on permit completion and conditions and permit issuance	Cooperating Agencies as appropriate	10/2011	1/2012

Coordination Point	Information "In"	Agency Responsible	Information "Out"	Agency Responsible	Start	Finish
<p>*Additional detail for the alternatives analysis process is included in the California High-Speed Train Project Technical Memorandum: Alternatives Analysis Methods for Project-Level EIR/EIS, December 2008</p>						

### 3.0 Project Schedule

This section includes the key milestones and decision-making deadlines for each agency approval.

Fresno to Bakersfield		2009				2010				2011				2012				2013	
		Quarter																	
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Draft EIR/EIS</b>																			
	Scoping	X		X															
	Invitation to become Cooperating/Participating Agency			X															
	Refine Purpose and Need		X																
	Submit Final Public Participation Plan			X															
	Submit Scoping Report		X	X															
	Cooperating and Participating Agency Review of Methodologies			X															
	Refine and Finalize Analysis Methodologies			X															
<b>Technical Reports</b>																			
	T.R. - Traffic and Transit								X										
	T.R. - Air Quality									X									
	T.R. – Noise and Vibration								X										
	T.R. - Biological Resources and Wetland									X									
	T.R. – Hydrology and Water Resources									X									
	T.R. - Geology, Soils and Seismicity									X									
	T.R. - Hazardous Materials									X									
	T.R. - Communities and Environmental Justice									X									
	T.R. – Aesthetics and Visual Quality									X									
	T.R. - Cultural Resources and Paleontology										X								

Fresno to Bakersfield		2009				2010				2011				2012				2013	
		<i>Quarter</i>																	
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Cooperating Agency Review Technical Reports, as appropriate								X										
	Revise Technical Reports								X										
	EIS analysis of affected environment and project impacts						X	X	X										
	Distribute Administrative Draft EIR/EIS to Cooperating Agencies								X										
	Cooperating Agency Review of Administrative Draft								X										
	Revision of Administrative Draft EIR/EIS								X										
	Print and Distribute Draft EIR/EIS								X										
	Public Review/Hearings								X	X									
	<b>Final EIR/EIS</b>																		
	Identify Locally Preferred Alternative									X									
	Prepare and Submit Draft Final EIR/EIS									X	X								
	Submit Draft Final EIR/EIS										X								
	Submit Findings and Statements of Overriding Conditions										X								
	Submit Final EIR/EIS										X								
	<b>NOD/ROD</b>																		
	Authority Board Certification of EIR/EIS												X						
	Submit Draft NOD													X					
	Submit revised Draft NOD													X					
	Submit Draft ROD													X					
	Submit revised Draft ROD													X					
	FRA Clearance and Signature													X					



## 4.0 Coordination Meetings

The Regional Team with the assistance of the Lead Agencies, the Authority and FRA, will form agency coordination groups for each subsection the study area. These working groups will be composed of agency representatives that will likely be responsible for issuing environmental approvals and permits for each section of the HST system. A minimum of three groups should be formed for the purpose of conducting coordination meetings:

1. Local and regional planning agencies;
2. Transportation agencies; and
3. Environmental resource agencies.

Each of these groups will be expected to meet a minimum of twice during the Alternative Analysis (AA) process and every three to six months during the project-level EIR/EIS process or as needed. This will provide forums for information exchange and coordination, which will inform the Authority's teams in developing project-level EIRs/EISs to support issuance of permits and approvals.

<b>Coordination Point</b>	<b>Anticipated Date for Coordination Meeting</b>	<b>Purpose of Meeting</b>
Scoping	October 2009	Identify range of alternatives, environmental effects and mitigation measures to be analyzed. Identify agency concerns.
Scoping Summary	November 2009	Overview of alternatives, summary of comments from scoping process
Initial Development of Range of Alternatives / Criteria for Evaluation	July 2009	Review initial range of alternatives, including design options and stations, and criteria for evaluation in AA and receive input from agencies.
AA Results	November 2009	Discuss results of alternatives analysis.
EIS Analysis: Existing Conditions (2 or 3 meetings)	January – March 2010	Discuss existing conditions information, clarify information and analysis needs where necessary
Resource Evaluation	September 2009 – March 2010	Coordination with resource agencies regarding resources in project area, potential impacts and mitigation concepts.
Pre-Distribution of Draft EIR/EIS	Fall 2010	Review draft EIS prior to publication to discuss analysis results and potential mitigation and address remaining issues.
Public Hearings/ Comment Period	Winter 2011	Receive comments from agencies and public on the Draft EIR/EIS
Results from Comment Period	Spring 2011	Discuss agency comments and address issues
Pre-Distribution of Final EIR/EIS	Summer 2011	Resolve remaining issues



## 5.0 Revision History

Table 5-1 identifies changes to the Coordination Plan. This portion of the Agency Coordination Plan will be active and filled out as progress occurs.

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	8/21/09	Tom Baily	Initial draft of Agency Coordination Plan
2	9/10/09	Tom Baily	Incorporated review comments
3	10/8/09	Tom Baily	Incorporated review comments
<p>Note: If a schedule was included in the original agency coordination plan and it is the item that requires modification, concurrence on the schedule change is required only if the schedule is being shortened and then only from cooperating agencies, not all participating agencies.</p>			



## 6.0 Other Information

