

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2019039140

Project Title: River Partners Habitat Restoration (Willow Bend) UP #19-2-1

Lead Agency: Colusa County

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Project Location: East side of Sacramento River, Princeton, Colusa County

City

County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Located inside the levee system along the eastern bank of the Sacramento River approximately 11-miles north of the City of Colusa and 3-miles south of the community of Princeton in Colusa County. The project area encompasses a total of approximately 122.5-acres within the Willow Bend Preserve and located in the Moulton Weir. Historically the area supported a dense growth of native riparian vegetation that had been removed for agricultural purposes. The purpose of the project is to restore high quality wildlife habitat to the property through minor alterations of land and vegetation. The project will benefit resident and migratory birds, fish, mammals, and invertebrates. The alterations are intended to work with adjacent wildlife management action (both upstream and downstream) as well as flood management actions within the entire flood management system. Specifically, the project is intended to:

- Increase riparian habitat connectivity within the primary floodplain of the Sacramento River;
- Improve habitat value within the project area for riparian-dependent species and special-status animals including Juvenile Chinook Salmon, Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle, and Yellow-Billed Cuckoo;
- Reduce fish stranding risk.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The project has the potential to temporarily impact air quality through the the release of exhaust emissions from heavy equipment and dust emissions through ground disturbance during grading. These impacts will be reduced to a less than significant level through best management practices including appropriate handling of soils and gravel by watering and covering during the grading operation. All vehicles will meet all vehicle code standards regarding emissions and maintenance. Biological resources have the potential to be impacted during the grading operations, weed control, and planting phases. Worker training, proper use of herbicides and standard special status species and water quality protection measure will reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level. Cultural resources have the potential to be impacted during the grading and planting phases. An Archaeological Resource Study was conducted for the project and no cultural resources sites were found to be present. Standard cultural resources and human remains mitigation measures shall be implemented to reduce potential impacts to undetected cultural resources to a less than significant level. Impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials have the potential to occur due to the use of heavy equipment and herbicides either through improper use or accidental releases. These potential impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by utilizing best management practices for proper use and cleanup of any releases. Potential Impacts to hydrology and water quality due to grading activities will be reduce to a less than significant by complying all Regional Water Quality Control Board requirements and utilizing best management practices.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Impacts to the flood control system and neighboring farming operations are considered to be important issues locally. However, the hydraulic analysis shows only minor impacts related to the flood control system and impact to farming will be addressed through the conditions of approval.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

FEDERAL AGENCIES

- NOAA-Fisheries, NEPA and ESA compliance
- US Army Corps of Engineers, Nationwide permit, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

STATE AGENCIES

- CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Streambed Alteration Agreement, Section 1602 of Fish and Game Code, and CA Endangered Species Act compliance
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board, Encroachment Permit
- Regional Water Quality Control Board, Water Quality Certification, Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, and Coverage under the General Construction Activity Storm Water permit, Section 402 of the Clean Water Act