

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

Governor's Office of Planning & Research**JUNE 21 2019**

June 21, 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

GTS# 03-BUT-2019-00128
03-BUT-32 PM 3.17
SCH# 2019059079

Mr. Rowland Hickel
Butte County Development Services
7 County Center Drive
Oroville, CA 95965

Sacramento River Salmon Gravel Restoration Project

Dear Rowland Hickel:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental/application review process for the project referenced above. The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability. The Local Development-Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) Program reviews land use projects and plans through the lenses of our mission and state planning priorities of infill, conservation, and travel-efficient development. To ensure a safe and efficient transportation system, we encourage early consultation and coordination with local jurisdictions and project proponents on all development projects that utilize the multimodal transportation network.

The applicant is proposing a new mining operation that would remove an existing stockpile of alluvial aggregates from the project site. The stockpile was generated during wet and dry dredging operations conducted in 2001 and 2007 on the Sacramento River. Aggregate material will continue to be placed onsite because of future planned dredging operations (analyzed separately). A total of up to 600,000 tons of aggregate are anticipated to be removed over the life of the proposed project. Annual mining production would range from 20,000 to 50,000 tons, with a maximum of 100,000 tons per year, over a period of approximately 20 years. Following the completion of mining operations, the project site would be revegetated with native grassland species and reclaimed to open space uses. The project is west of City of Chico south of State Route (SR) 32, between Sacramento River and River Road. These comments are based on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) package received.

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Traffic Operations

Based on the MND received, traffic operations have these comments:

- To determine the traffic impacts of this proposed project, a comprehensive Transportation Impact Study (TIS) is required. It must include short term and long-term impacts. The intersections to be included are:
 - SR 45/SR32
 - SR 45/Ord Ferry Road
 - SR 32/ W 5th St.
- SR 45 and Ord Ferry Road has operational congestion. The ICE process should be considered to mitigate the additional traffic from the proposed project. Here is a URL for the ICE process: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/trafficops/ice.html>
- To reduce the mixing of project trucks and debris trucks coming out of the Town of Paradise, provide a more detailed map of the "Haul Routes and Traffic Distribution" to determine which roadways are being used within the City of Chico, along SR 99, and the surrounding parts of Chico.
- Based on the size of the proposed project, 27 trucks per day is a low estimate. Provide an average of projects per year to determine a more accurate number of offsite hauling trucks.

Please provide our office with copies of any further actions regarding this project. We would appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on any changes related to this development.

If you have any question regarding these comments or require additional information, please contact Nima Kabirinassab, Intergovernmental Review Coordinator for Butte County, by phone (530) 741-5452 or via email at Nima.Kabirinassab@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



for
SUSAN ZANCHI, Branch Chief
Office of Transportation Planning
Regional Planning Branch—North