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Project Title:	Con	tact Person:	
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Educational:	Waste Treatme	ent:Type MGD	
Recreational:	Hazardous Wa	ste:Type	
Water Facilities:Type MGD	Other:		
Project Issues Discussed in Document:			
Aesthetic/Visual Fiscal	☐ Recreation/Parks	☐ Vegetation	
Agricultural Land Flood Plain/Flooding	Schools/Universitie		
☐ Air Quality ☐ Forest Land/Fire Hazard	Septic Systems	☐ Water Supply/0	
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☐ Coastal Zone ☐ Noise ☐ Population/Housing Rate	Solid Waste	Land Use	facts
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Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:			

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

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	Parks & Recreation, Department of
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Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

Distribution List

This list does not include private property owners within/adjacent to the project.

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US Bureau of Reclamation Dan Cordova 7794 Folsom Dam Road Folsom, CA 95630

State Government

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California Department of Transportation Vlad Popkov 703 B. Street Marysville, CA 95901

California State Clearinghouse P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

California State Parks, Gold Fields District Jason De Wall 7806 Folsom Auburn Road Folsom, CA 95630

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Department of Toxic Substances Control Gavin McCreary 8800 Cal Center Drive Sacramento, CA 95826

Local Agencies

City of Colfax PO Box 702 Colfax, CA 95713 Foresthill Fire Michale Ridley 24320 Main Street Foresthill, CA 95631

Foresthill Forum 175 Fulweiler Avenue Auburn, CA 95603

Foresthill Public Utility District Hank White PO Box 266 Foresthill, CA 95631

Placer County Fire Brian Estes 13760 Lincoln Way Auburn, Ca 95603

Placer County Office of Emergency Services Young Rodriguez 2968 Richardson Drive Auburn, CA 95603

Placer Hills Fire District Matt Slusher PO Box 350 Meadow Vista, CA 95722

State Parks- Auburn State Recreation Area Lauren Shoemaker 501 El Dorado Steet Auburn, CA 95603

Other Organizations

American Whitewater Theresa L. Simsiman PO Box 455 Coloma, CA 95613

Colfax Area Historical Society P.O. Box 185 Colfax, CA 95713

Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidate Tribe PO Box 4884 Auburn, CA 95604 Forest Hill Divide Historical Society P.O. Box 646 Foresthill, CA 95631

North Fork American River Alliance PO Box 292 Gold Run, CA 95717 OARS 7330 River Park Drive Lotus, CA 95651

Placer County Historical Society P.O. Box 5643 Auburn, CA 95604

Protect American River Canyons PO Box 9312 Auburn, CA 95604

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria 10720 Indian Hill Road Auburn, CA 95603

Project Description

Yankee Jims Bridge Replacement Project

The Placer County Department of Public Works, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and the California Department of Transportation, proposes to replace the existing one lane suspension bridge (Bridge No. 19C-0002) that crosses over the North Fork of the American River. The Yankee Jims Project is located in an unincorporated area of Placer County, California over the North Fork of the American River, within the Auburn State Recreation Area.

The Project is needed to improve access related to evacuation routes and emergency vehicles by constructing a new, structurally sound bridge with two-lanes and increased weight capacity. The purpose of the Project is to improve the roadway approach geometry at each end of the bridge and improve pedestrian access over the North Fork of the American River and the adjacent recreational facilities by replacing the existing bridge with a new two-lane bridge over the North Fork American River on Yankee Jims Road. The existing bridge was constructed in 1930 and is currently considered structurally deficient and functionally obsolete by Caltrans Structures Maintenance and Investigations with a sufficiency rating of 0.0. The sufficiency rating assigned by Caltrans is a numeric value that indicates the sufficiency of a bridge to remain in service. Sufficiency Ratings range from zero to 100, with zero representing an entirely insufficient or deficient bridge.

Yankee Jims Road is a vital transportation connection between the communities of Colfax and Foresthill. As one of only a few roads in and out of Foresthill, Yankee Jims Road provides a vital fire, life and safety evacuation route for the local community. However, with the current bridge load restriction and width limitations, emergency response vehicles must come from both Colfax and Foresthill areas when called, since access across the existing load restricted bridge is not feasible and the exact location of the emergency is often unknown.

One build alternative is being considered for the bridge replacement; an arch suspension bridge located 10-15 feet downstream of the existing bridge. Additionally, the existing Yankee Jims Road Bridge would be strengthened to facilitate construction. The strengthened bridge would then remain in place as a historic structure. The total Project area encompasses approximately 133 acres including, approximately 7 miles of Yankee Jims Road leading up to the existing Yankee Jims bridge.

Eventual closure of the existing bridge to through traffic will be necessary to accommodate staging of equipment and delivery of materials from the Colfax side. Once the new bridge is constructed the existing bridge would be permanently closed to vehicular traffic but would remain in place as a historic structure.

Under the No Build Alternative, the County would not build a replacement bridge adjacent to the existing, structurally deficient bridge. The existing bridge will continue to be a hazard to fire and other emergency response, as the bridge has a sufficiency rating of 0.0. The delay in emergency response time would remain. Passage across the bridge would continue to be undesirable for emergency response, considering its condition, narrowness, and parking issues that currently exist in the area, especially on busy weekends. Ultimately, the no build alternative might result in no passage across the river and deteriorated road conditions on the approaches.

The following is a description of Project implementation for the Build Alternative.

Staging Areas and Tree Removal

A construction staging area, encompassing approximately 19 acres, has been identified west of I-80 along South Auburn Street. This area is currently graded and ideal for staging and storing large equipment. Furthermore, a smaller staging area (approximately 0.41 acres) has been identified along Yankee Jims Road near Gills Hill Road. Lastly, some smaller equipment will be staged around the existing Yankee Jims Bridge, where feasible. These staging areas are included in the overall Project area. A total of approximately 245 trees are anticipated for removal, both within montane riparian and montane hardwood communities. Tree removal is required to facilitate equipment mobilization, construction access along Yankee Jims Road, and ultimately the new bridge construction. Approximately 27 trees will be removed along Yankee Jims Road as part of the roadway improvements, and approximately 218 trees will be removed around the existing and proposed Yankee Jims Bridge.

Roadway Improvements and Bunch Creek Bridge

The Yankee Jims Bridge and Yankee Jims Road are remote and located within steep and narrow terrain. The majority of Yankee Jims Road is unpaved with the width varying between one and two lanes or twelve to twenty-four ft. across. Transporting equipment and material to the Project location will be difficult and roadway improvements will be necessary. Strategically sequencing construction activities will provide access and minimize or eliminate key site constraints.

Due to these factors, several design exceptions were made that differ from Placer County's design criteria. These include a 28-foot total width (12 ft. lanes with 2 ft. shoulders (County Standards are 32 ft.)) and a design speed of 25 miles-per-hour (MPH) (the County's design speed is 35 MPH). American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) guidelines will be followed for both the roadway and bridge.

Roadway improvements on the Colfax side leading to the bridge from the west include approximately 12 roadway improvements (cut/fill) and approximately 12 culvert repairs/replacements (some locations include two culverts), and work/modifications to the existing Bunch Creek Bridge. At some locations improvements include cuts into the adjacent hillside to widening the existing dirt road for equipment access. Total excavation for roadway improvements and culvert replacement/repairs is approximately 6,500-8,500 cubic yards. Yankee Jims Road, leading to the bridge from the west, will remain an unpaved road. There are no roadway improvements proposed east of the existing Yankee Jims Bridge, other than the roadway approach work associated with the new bridge. The total acreage of the proposed work area along Yankee Jims Road includes approximately 2.3 acres.

The Bunch Creek Bridge will require temporary modifications or permanent replacement to support construction access and large equipment. The Bunch Creek Bridge is located approximately 925 ft east from Gills Hill Road and Yankee Jims Road. If the bridge is temporarily modified, it will include a temporary K-rail support and temporary rock slope protection. If the temporary modifications are not sufficient to support construction access, a full replacement will be required. A full replacement will likely include a prefabricated rolled steel girder bridge with a composite concrete slab bridge deck. The permanent bridge would have a length of approximately 50 ft, an overall minimum width of approximately 12 ft, and a roadway width of 12 ft. The new bridge deck would follow the existing roadway profile. Bridge railing ending with crash cushions would be utilized at the edges of the deck. The existing concrete arch culvert would be removed and replaced with new concrete abutments and wingwalls bearing on competent rock. For

implementation of a full replacement, the existing abutments would be configured to channelize the stream flow to the existing creek bed, in-water work and/or temporary water diversions would be avoided if possible. However, if required, a small portion of Bunch Creek may be temporarily diverted or de-watered to ensure all work is outside of the active flow. Work around Bunch Creek Bridge (whether temporary modifications or permanent replacement) would require work within montane riparian habitat.

Existing Suspension Bridge Retrofit

The existing suspension bridge will be retrofitted to permit the transfer of construction materials across the river. The retrofit includes:

- Removal of the existing corrugated metal decking and the installation of a new galvanized steel plank. New galvanized bent plate steel angles will be installed to support the outside edges of the steel plank.
- 2. Installation of new timber planking (approximately 3 ft. x 12 ft.) over the steel planks.
- 3. Installation of new timber wheel guards (approximately 6 ft. x 6 ft.) to keep the construction material trailer in the center 7'-6" of the deck.
- 4. Installation of new vertical ground anchors to the existing cable dead man anchorages.
- 5. Installation of new steel plate expansion joint at each abutment with non-skid surface.
- 6. Installation of new galvanized anchor bolts at each tower base plate.
- 7. Installation of new galvanized cable restrainers and associated galvanized steel brackets at the underside of the deck at each abutment. The existing broken angle at the underside of the deck adjacent to the abutment will be removed and replaced with a new galvanized angle.
- 8. Installation of new aggregate base ramp at each abutment approach.

A soldier pile wall will be built to protect the existing foundations during construction of the new arch bridge abutment (see description for Retaining Walls below).

Hillside Excavation

Excavation of the hillside at the southeast corner of the bridge is required (south of the existing roadway approach on the Foresthill side) to prepare the east roadway approach. Removal of the hillside will be accomplished through blasting and grading techniques. Water drafting from the North Fork American River will be required throughout construction to aid in dust control. A portion of the grading activities will be in close proximity, approximately 40 feet, to Shirttail Creek, but outside of the ordinary high-water mark.

Bridge Construction

The steel arch bridge build consists of a boxed shaped arch rib with a parabolic profile spanning approximately 251 ft. between abutments with a rise to span ratio of 0.25. The total construction footprint for the bridge is approximately 4.27 acres. Cable hangers support built up I-shaped floor beams and W24 composite stringers. Stiffening girders are provided near the edge of deck. The arch will be assembled by segment over the span. Erected segments will be held in place via the temporary use of stay and backstay cables supported by a temporary tower. After the arch is complete, the hangers, floor beams, girders and stringers supporting the deck will be erected followed by the casting of the concrete deck and then concrete barrier rail. This bridge would be constructed immediately downstream, approximately 10-15 feet, from the existing bridge. The

height of the bridge, from the deck to the top of the structure, will be approximately 52.9 ft at the highest point of the arch.

Concrete seat type abutments and skew back footings on reinforced concrete piles cast in drilled holes will support the stringers and the arch rib. The bottom footing elevations of Abutment 1 (Colfax side) and Abutment 2 (Foresthill side) are approximately 962 ft. Five ft. thick abutment footings are required for the tower crane anchorage. Sub-horizontal ground anchors will extend into the rock behind each abutment. Excavating equipment would need to traverse down from the existing roadway to the bottom of the footing elevation. Concrete would be pumped down from the roadway.

During construction, the arch segments will be supported on a fixed connection to the foundations and temporarily through the use of cables and towers to adjust the elevation of the arch rib at the crown. These cables will be supported by king posts on or behind each abutment and anchored into the ground behind the abutment. The temporary king posts will be supported by micropiles on the abutment footing. Temporary supports are not required within the span. Bridge construction will occur above the ordinary high-water mark of the North Fork American River.

Retaining Walls

Construction of three new retaining walls are proposed on the southwest corner of the bridge and just north of the bridge to accommodate the roadway approaches at Colfax side abutment and to protect the existing suspension bridge anchorages. Retaining wall 1 is a MSE wall that is approximately 246 linear ft and has an area of approximately 2,705 square feet. Excavators and compactors will traverse down the hill to approximately 958 ft elevation to construct the wall, staying above the ordinary high-water level (which is at an elevation of approximately 940 ft and below dependent on flows).

Retaining wall 2 is a soil nail wall that is approximately 145 linear ft and would require 493 cubic yards of excavation and 294 cubic yards of fill. All work for Retaining wall 2 is above the existing roadway. Retaining wall 3 is a soldier pile wall with wood lagging that is approximately 68 linear ft and would require 135 cubic yards of excavation and 91 cubic yards of fill. The cast in drilled hole piles will be drilled into rock from the existing roadway and concrete will be placed from the existing roadway.

Parking Lot and Stairway Access

The excavated material from the above-mentioned hillside (approximately 15,000-20,000 cubic yards and approximately 0.7-acre area) will be placed north of the roadway toward Shirttail Creek with a 40 ft setback. This will raise the level of the area north of the roadway up to the existing roadway. This 0.35-acre area is anticipated to be used for parking in the future. Drainage at the proposed parking lot will sheet flow from east to west. Water will then sheet flow down the proposed 1:1 sloped fill. The parking lot will accommodate approximately 31 vehicles. The proposed stairway access will be constructed west of the proposed parking lot. The stairway access will be approximately 125 linear ft., and 10 ft. wide.

Construction of the Project is anticipated to take approximately 2-3 years. The roadway improvements and Bunch Creek Bridge will take approximately 1 year and work at the existing and proposed bridge will take approximately 1-2 years.