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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 #: _____

Project Title: Thompson Meadow Restoration & Water Budget Evaluation Project

Lead Agency: CA Department of Water Resources and United State Forest Service

Contact Name: Todd Hillaire

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Project Location: 11 air miles north of Portola in Plumas County

City *County*

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

DWR and USFS propose to:

• Restore Thompson Meadow using a variety of techniques including partial channel fill and widening (i.e. plug and pond method); complete channel fill; rock sleeper weirs; a meadow cut; fill material from upland borrow sites; rock raised riffle structures; a rock grade control structure; and headcut treatments including raised riffle structures, a rock apron, and an earthen plug.
• Improve and widen existing road.
• Revegetate and stabilize newly constructed restoration areas and borrow areas.
• Install wildlife-friendly fencing around a portion of the restoration area for grazing management.
• Maintain constructed project based on post-project performance monitoring results.

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

Potentially significant effects to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, hydology and water quality, and tribal cultural resources were identified. Potential impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels with implementation of the following avoidance and minimization measures included in mitigation measures:

Air Quality: Construction equipment would meet manufacturer's specifications, CA Air Resources Board certification standards, and would be registered.

Biological Resources: Pre-construction surveys and protection measures would be implemented to protect special-status species and sensitive vegetation. Prior to in-water work, water would be diverted and fish would be relocated to the nearest suitable habitat. Measures to avoid the introduction of invasive weeds would be implemented

Cultural Resources/Tribal Cultural Resources: A tribal monitor and Forest Service archaeologist would be present during activities occurring near two culturally significant sites. Newly discovered archaeological, prehistoric, or historic resources would be protected. If human remains are found, appropriate treatment procedures would be implemented.

Hydrology and Water Quality: Prior to in-water work, water would be diverted to protect water quality.

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

In response to a November 2017 public comment period for the project's proposed action, a group of irrigators and agricultural producers in Indian Valley wrote a letter expressing opposition to the proposed project and raising the following issues:

Issue 1. Less water would be available late season to downstream water rights holders as a result of restoring the meadow.

Issue 2. Ponded water as a result of the restoration techniques proposed would create habitat that was not historically present on the landscape.

Issue 3. Proposed project design would cause instability.

Responses to comments received on these issues are included in Chapter 3, "Public Involvement and Tribal Consultation", of the Environmental Assessment/Initial Study.

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

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Department of Fish and Wildlife