

NOTICE OF PREPARATION
DRAFT TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

DATE: March 20, 2020

TO: State Clearinghouse, County of El Dorado, Interested Parties

COMMENT PERIOD: March 20, 2020 to April 20, 2020

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians (Tribe) will be the lead agency for the preparation of a Tribal Environmental Impact Report (TEIR) to assess the potential off-Reservation impacts of the Tribe's proposed Event Center Project (Project). The proposed Event Center will be located at the existing Red Hawk Casino on the Tribe's Reservation in El Dorado County, California. The TEIR will be developed in accordance with the requirements of the Tribal-State Compact (Compact) between the Tribe and the State of California.

The purpose of this notice is to describe the Project and request comments on off-Reservation environmental issues and reasonable mitigation measures for the Tribe to consider in preparation of the TEIR. Written comments must be postmarked or received by email no later than April 20, 2020.

Please send your written responses to:

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians
Attn: NOP Comments
P.O. Box 1340
Shingle Springs, CA 95682
EventCenterNOP@ssband.org

A description of the Project, setting and potential off-Reservation environmental impacts is provided below.

BACKGROUND

The Tribe is currently planning expansion of its Red Hawk Casino, which opened in 2008. The expansion will include the construction of a hotel and an event center. Hotel development was identified, evaluated, and approved in connection with the Final Environmental Assessment and Findings of No Significant Impact previously prepared by the National Indian Gaming Commission and Bureau of Indian Affairs in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. Therefore, consistent with the Compact and the Memorandum of Understanding and Intergovernmental Agreement Between the County of El Dorado and the Tribe, the hotel component has already been subjected to environmental review and will not be addressed as part of the Project evaluated in the TEIR. All applicable mitigation measures identified in the Final Environmental Assessment and Findings of No Significant Impact will be implemented during construction and operation of the proposed hotel.

The Tribe's development of the event center and associated facilities described below was not addressed in the Final Environmental Assessment and Findings of No Significant Impact and will be the subject of the TEIR.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project consists of the development of an 1,827-seat event center adjoining the existing Red Hawk Casino located on the Shingle Springs Rancheria in El Dorado County, which serves as the Tribe's Reservation (**Figures 1 and 2**). The event center would extend from the north side of the existing casino building. The event center would provide a venue for conventions, performances and special events. A 24-lane bowling alley would be provided on a lower level. Other uses would include meeting rooms, kitchen, additional buffet seating, additional back of house space, and a loading dock. The existing eight-level parking garage would be expanded with an additional two levels.

POTENTIAL OFF-RESERVATION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The Compact includes an Off-Reservation Environmental Impact Analysis Checklist that provides a list of environmental issues to be evaluated within the TEIR. Based on an initial review of these environmental issues, the expected scope of the TEIR is outlined below.

Aesthetics – The TEIR will address potential impacts to off-Reservation scenic vistas and potential impacts associated with new sources of light or glare.

Agriculture and Forest Resources – Project construction would be limited to the Reservation and is not expected to result in the conversion of farmland or forests off the Reservation.

Air Quality – The TEIR will evaluate short-term air quality impacts from construction, and long-term air quality impacts from operations, including increased vehicular traffic associated with the Project.

Biological Resources – The TEIR will address the potential for off-Reservation impacts on species, habitats, and plants, including water quality impacts and impacts to wildlife from site lighting.

Cultural Resources – Project ground disturbance would be limited to the Reservation and thus no impacts to off-Reservation cultural or paleontological resources would occur.

Geology and Soils – The TEIR will discuss the potential for off-Reservation impacts related to seismic events and soil erosion.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions – The TEIR will address generation of greenhouse gas emissions directly and indirectly.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials – The TEIR will discuss the potential for impacts from the use and handling of hazardous materials and off-Reservation hazards.

Water Resources – The TEIR will evaluate the potential for the Project to impact off-Reservation water quality, groundwater supplies and stormwater drainage.

Land Use – The TEIR will include an analysis of the Project's potential to conflict with off-Reservation land use plans and policies.

Mineral Resources – Project construction would be limited to the Reservation and is not expected to result in the loss of off-Reservation mineral resources.

Noise – The TEIR will evaluate noise associated with construction and operation of the Project, including any increased traffic noise.

Population and Housing – The Project is not anticipated to induce substantial off-Reservation population growth. The Project would not displace existing housing.

Public Services – The TEIR will discuss potential impacts to public service providers, including law enforcement, fire protection, and solid waste services. The Project is not anticipated to create additional demands on schools or parks.

Recreation – The Project is not anticipated to increase the use of existing off-Reservation recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration would occur.

Transportation and Traffic – The TEIR will evaluate the Project's impact on off-Reservation roadways and potential conflicts with applicable congestion management programs and emergency access.

Utilities and Service Systems – The TEIR will address the potential for the Project to impact off-Reservation stormwater facilities and water and sewer utility systems.

Cumulative Effects – The TEIR will evaluate any individually limited, but cumulatively considerable off-Reservation impacts.



Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians

Figure 1
Regional Location



Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians

Figure 2
Project Site with Existing and Proposed Facilities