

DOG BAR ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

**DISTRICT 3-NEV
BRIDGE No. 17C-0031
PROJECT No. BRLO-5917(084)**

**DRAFT INITIAL STUDY WITH
PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**



Prepared by Dokken Engineering
On behalf of Nevada County



March 2021

General Information About This Document

What's in this document:

The Nevada County Department of Public Works has prepared this Initial Study, which examines the potential environmental impacts of the Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement (Project) being proposed over Bear River in Nevada County. The document explains the proposed Project details and the existing environment that could be affected by the Project, potential impacts, and proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures.

What you should do:

- Please read the document. An electronic copy of the document is available for review at: <http://dokkenbridges.com/nevada-county/dog-bar-road-over-bear-river.html>
- Submit comments by the deadline: Monday, April 26, 2021.

Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

Project Description

The Dog Bar Road Bridge over Bear River carries two-way traffic on a one-lane bridge connecting Nevada and Placer Counties. The narrow bridge with a curb-to-curb roadway width of 13 feet and 8 inches does not meet standards for bridge cross sections. The sharp turns at each end of the bridge roadway have also resulted in impacts to the existing bridge railing.

The removal of the existing bridge and replacement with a new, broadened curve radius that extends slightly upstream was found to be the most responsive solution. The existing bridge, which is not eligible for the National Register of Historical Places, will be removed and a new, two-lane, cast-in-place prestressed concrete box girder bridge will be constructed. The existing bridge will be utilized until the new bridge is complete.

Determination

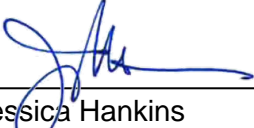
This proposed Mitigate Negative Declaration is included to give notice to interested agencies and the public that it is Nevada County's intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for this Project. This does not mean that the decision on the Project is final. This Mitigated Negative Declaration is subject to changes based on comments received from interested agencies and the public.

Nevada County has prepared an Initial Study for this Project and, pending public review, expects to determine from this study that the proposed Project would not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons.

The Project would have no impact on agriculture and forest resources; land use and planning; mineral resources; population and housing; public services; recreation; and wildfire.

The Project would have a less than significant impact on aesthetics; energy; greenhouse gas emissions; transportation; and utilities and service systems.

The Project would have less than significant impact with mitigation on air quality; biological resources; cultural resources; geology and soils; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; noise; and tribal cultural resources.



Jessica Hankins
Project Manager
Nevada County
CEQA Lead Agency

03/23/21

Date

Executive Summary

The Dog Bar Road Bridge (No. 17C-0031) over Bear River carries two-way traffic on a one-lane bridge connecting Nevada and Placer Counties. The narrow bridge with a curb-to-curb roadway width of 13 feet and 8 inches does not meet standards for bridge cross sections. Additionally, the sharp curves at each end of the bridge roadway approaches have resulted in impacts to the bridge railing.

The historic value of the existing bridge is listed as a Category 5 Bridge in the Caltrans bridge inventory, indicating that it is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historical Places. Therefore, the existing bridge will be removed and a two-lane, cast-in-place prestressed concrete box girder bridge, approximately 235 feet long, will be built directly upstream.

The following features will be part of the bridge:

- An approximately 32' wide bridge with two lanes each 11' wide
- 135' curve radius (helps to accommodate larger trucks)
- New roadway realignment

The Project would require temporary construction easements (TCE) on private property northeast of the existing east roadway bridge approach. No utilities are required to be relocated as part of this Project. Construction access would be from Dog Bar Road approaching from the north. Construction staging would be located adjacent to the existing west roadway bridge approach.

The measures to reduce potential effects to insignificance are summarized below.

Table 1: Summary of Potential Impacts

Resource	Project Impacts	Summary of Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
Aesthetics	Less than Significant Impact	N/A
Agriculture and Forest Resources	No Impact	N/A
Air Quality	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	Dust control during construction.
Biological Resources	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	ESA and wildlife exclusion fencing; environmental awareness trainings; agency-approved biologist inspection for FYLF; BMP implementation to reduce erosion; post-construction re-vegetation.
Cultural Resources	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	Compliance with regulations relating to unexpected discovery of cultural resources or human remains.
Energy	Less than Significant Impact	N/A
Geology and Soils	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	Implementation of an SWPPP
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Less than Significant Impact	N/A
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	Preparation of an SPCCP

Resource	Project Impacts	Summary of Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures
Hydrology and Water Quality	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	Standard BMPs; ESA fencing; acquisition of an NPDES permit; implementation of an SWPPP.
Land Use and Planning	No Impact	N/A
Mineral Resources	No Impact	N/A
Noise	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	Standard Noise Control and BMPs
Population and Housing	No Impact	N/A
Public Services	No Impact	N/A
Recreation	No Impact	N/A
Transportation/ Traffic	Less than Significant Impact	N/A
Tribal Cultural Resources	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	Compliance with regulations relating to unexpected discovery of cultural resources or human remains.
Utilities and Service Systems	Less than Significant Impact	N/A
Wildfire	No Impact	N/A
Mandatory Findings of Significance	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation	N/A

The detailed CEQA checklist with discussion and findings of Project impacts on each resource is in Section 2 of this Initial Study.

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List of Abbreviations

AB 32	Assembly Bill 32
AB 52	Assembly Bill 52
APE	Area of Potential Effects
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BSA	Biological Study Area
CAA	Clean Air Act
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CDC	California Department of Conservation
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFG	California Fish and Game
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CWA	Clean Water Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FYLF	Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
HBP	Highway Bridge Program
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ITP	Incidental Take Permit
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MLD	Most Likely Descendant
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NCIC	North Central Information Center
NES	Natural Environment Study
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places

O ₃	Ozone
Pb	Lead
PM	Particulate Matter
PRC	Public Resources Code
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
SPCCP	Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Program
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TCE	Temporary Construction Easement
TCRs	Tribal Cultural Resources
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WPCP	Water Pollution Control Plan

1.0 Project Description

1.1 Introduction

The Dog Bar Road Bridge (No. 17C-0031) over Bear River carries two-way traffic on a one-lane bridge connecting Nevada and Placer Counties. The narrow bridge with a curb-to-curb roadway width of 13 feet and 8 inches does not meet standards for bridge cross sections. Additionally, the sharp curves at each end of the bridge roadway approaches have resulted in impacts to the bridge railing.

Based on the Feasibility Study conducted in April 2020, the removal of the existing bridge and replacement with a new, broadened curve radius was found to be the most responsive solution. The existing bridge has deficiencies related to structure capacity and functionality; a Caltrans inspection report dated August 2019, gave the bridge a 45.6 Sufficiency Rating. The Highway Bridge Program (HBP) requires that any funded project raise the bridge sufficiency rating above 50; the sufficiency rating cannot be increased above 50 without replacement.

The historic value of the existing bridge is listed as a Category 5 Bridge in the Caltrans bridge inventory, indicating that it is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historical Places. Therefore, the existing bridge will be removed and a two-lane, cast-in-place prestressed concrete box girder bridge, approximately 235 feet long, will be built directly upstream.

The following features will be part of the bridge (Figure 3):

- An approximately 32' wide bridge with two lanes each 11' wide
- 135' curve radius (helps to accommodate larger trucks)
- New roadway realignment

Traffic will be relatively undisturbed on the existing bridge during construction with the existing bridge being removed after traffic is moved onto the new bridge. This allows for a much shorter construction time with the new bridge being built in one season.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of the Project is to replace an existing bridge with structural and functionality deficiencies with a new bridge with a broadened curve radius and wider lanes on a new roadway alignment that can accommodate larger vehicles. Public safety will also be increased by eliminating the sharp curves at each bridge approach on the current one-lane bridge.

1.3 Need

The existing one-lane bridge causes vehicles the need to stop prior to the sharp turns on the roadway at each end of the bridge if oncoming traffic is coming. The bridge travels over Bear River and connects Nevada County to Placer County. A new bridge is necessary to improve functionality and meet capacity requirements that will accommodate two-way traffic and maintain access across the river.

1.4 Alternatives

The Project includes a build alternative and a no-build alternative.

1.4.1 Build Alternative

The build alternative would consist of the following improvements:

- An approximately 32' wide bridge with two lanes each 11' wide
- 135' curve radius (helps to accommodate larger trucks)
- New roadway realignment

The Project would require temporary construction easements (TCE) on private property northeast of the existing east roadway bridge approach. No utilities are required to be relocated as part of this Project. Construction access would be from Dog Bar Road approaching from the north. Construction staging would be located adjacent to the existing west roadway bridge approach.

1.4.2 No-Build Alternative

The no-build alternative would not construct a new bridge and keep the existing bridge with a 45.6 sufficiency rating in place. This alternative would not make improvements or changes to the existing sharp curves on each end of the one-lane bridge.

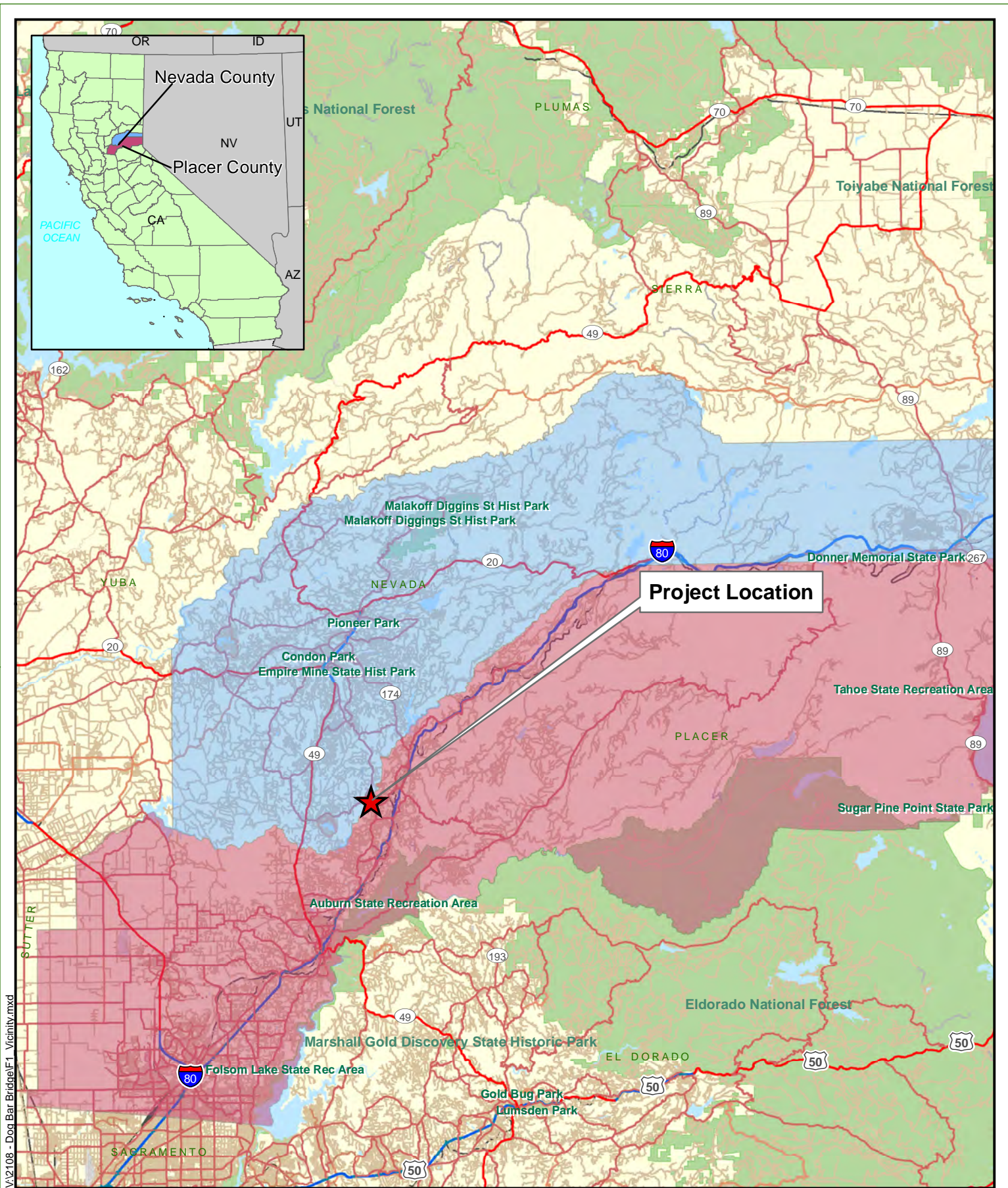
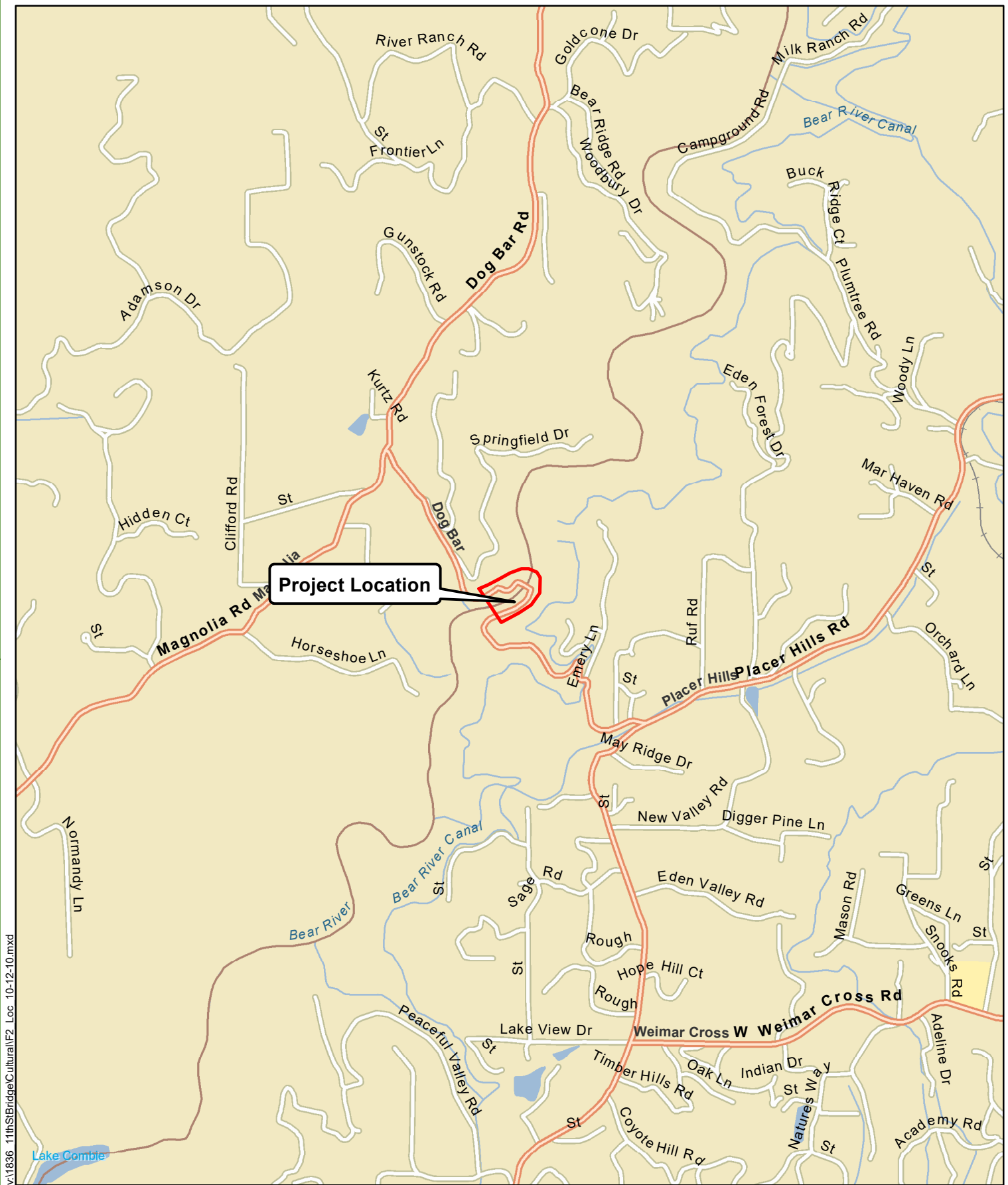


FIGURE 1
Project Vicinity

BRLO-5917(084)

Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement Project
Nevada and Placer Counties, California



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Source: ESRI World Street Maps Online; Dokken Engineering 12/28/2020; Created By: ahale

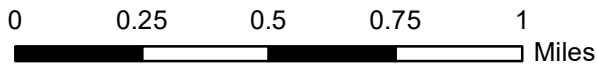
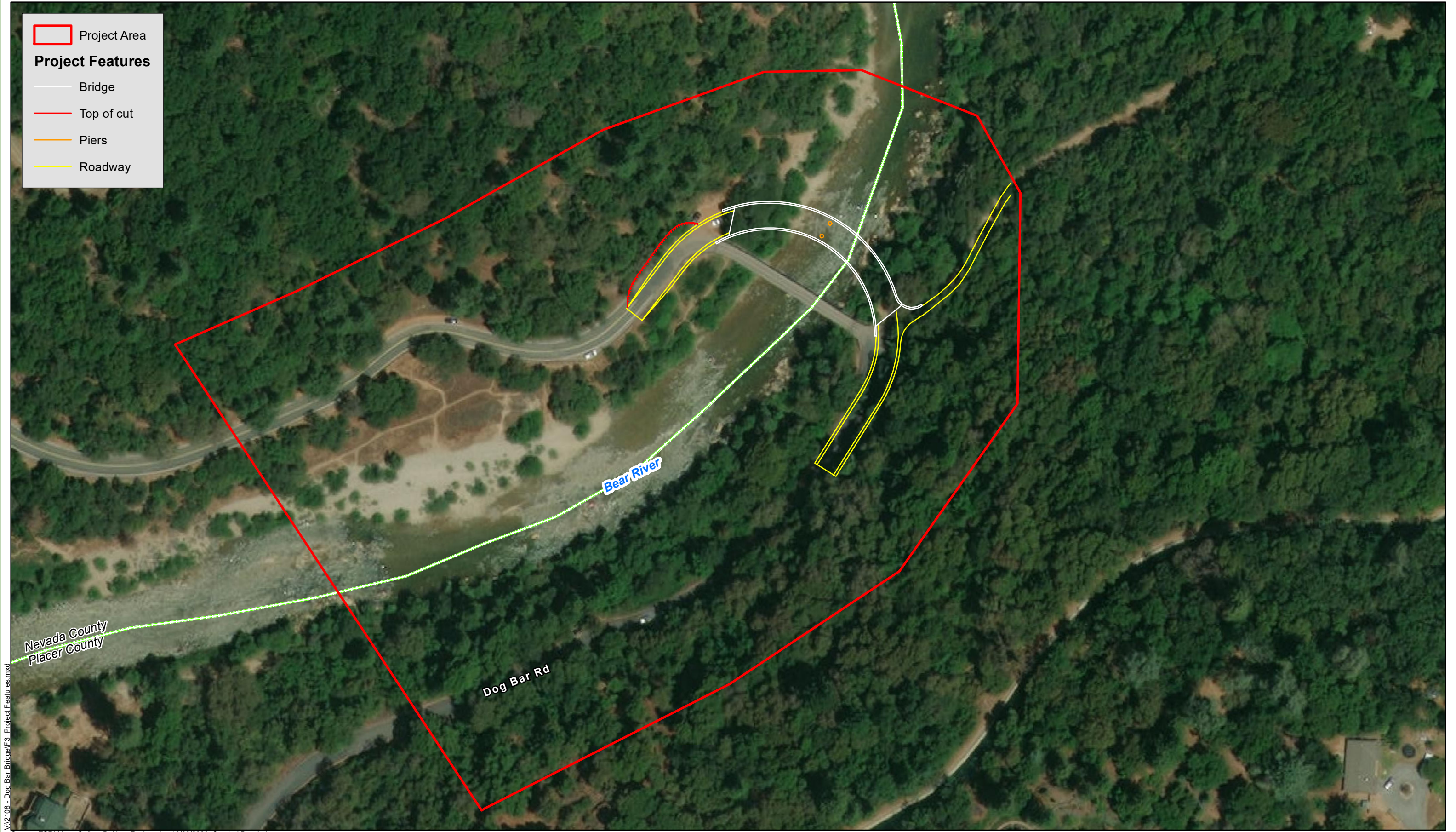


FIGURE 2
Project Location
 BRLO-5917(084)
 Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement Project
 Nevada and Placer Counties, California



V:\2108 - Dog Bar Bridge\F3 - Project Features.mxd

Source: ESRI Maps Online; Dokken Engineering 12/28/2020; Created By: ahale

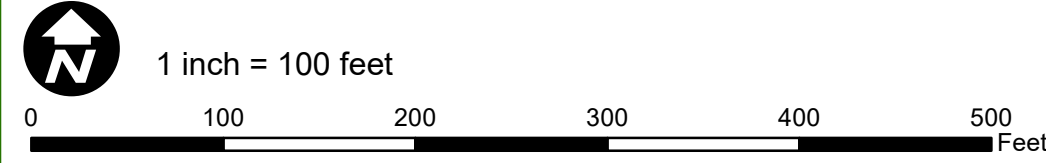


Figure 3
Project Features
BRLO-5917(084)
Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement Project
Nevada and Placer Counties, California

1.5 Permits and Approvals Needed

The following permits, licenses, agreements, and certifications are required for Project construction.

Table 2: Permit and Approvals Needed

Agency	Permit/Approval	Status
California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW)	Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement	To be obtained during Final Design
Regional Water Quality Control Board	Section 401 Water Quality Certification	To be obtained during Final Design
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Section 404 Nationwide Permit Authorization	Covered under the 404 Nationwide Non-Notifying Permit #14
State Regional Water Quality Control Board	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit	To be obtained prior to the start of construction
California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW)	Section 2081 Incidental Take Permit for Foothill Yellow-legged Frogs	To be obtained prior to the start of construction

2.0 CEQA Initial Study Environmental Checklist

This checklist identifies physical, biological, social, and economic factors that might be affected by the proposed Project. Potential impact determinations include Potentially Significant Impact, Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated, Less Than Significant Impact, and No Impact. In many cases, background studies performed in connection with a Project will indicate that there are no impacts to a particular resource. A No Impact answer reflects this determination. The questions in this checklist are intended to encourage the thoughtful assessment of impacts and do not represent thresholds of significance.

2.1 AESTHETICS

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

a) *Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?*

No Impact. There are no scenic vistas within the Project area.

b) *Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?*

Less than Significant Impact. The Project will remove vegetation along the embankment to accommodate for the new roadway and bridge. All open graded areas will be revegetated following construction using construction Best Management Practices (BMP) as described in mitigation measure BIO-1.

c) *In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings?*

No Impact. The Project would not degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and surroundings.

d) *Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*

No Impact. The new bridge and Project features would not create a new source of glare nor affect day or nighttime views in the area.

FINDINGS

The Project would not adversely affect any designated scenic resource or vista nor substantially change the current visual environment. The Project would have **Less than Significant Impact** relating to aesthetics.

2.2 AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The land use designation at the Dog Bar Bridge Project area is Rural 20 acre (RUR-20) in the Nevada County General Plan and the zoning district is Agriculture 20 acre (AG-20).

DISCUSSION

- a) *Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?*

No Impact. Based on the California Important Farmland Finder map there are no farmlands within the Project area nor in the general vicinity of the Project.

- b) *Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?*

No Impact. Based on a review of the Nevada County General Plan, there are no parcels with a Williamson Act contract within the Project limits. The Project would also not conflict with any existing zoning for agricultural use as it is owned by the Nevada Irrigation District.

- c) *Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?*

No Impact. There are no forests or forest resources located within the Project area; therefore, the Project would have no impacts with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production.

- d) *Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*

No Impact. There are no forests or forest resources located within the Project area; therefore, the Project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use and there would be no impact on forest land.

- e) *Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in the conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*

No Impact. The Project is consistent with state and local farmland protection programs and policies. Furthermore, the Project would have no conversion of farmland or agriculture use in the Project area. No other changes in the existing environment which could result in the conversion of Farmland are anticipated.

FINDINGS

The affected land is not under a Williamson Act contract. A partial parcel acquisition or roadway easement from the Nevada Irrigation District would be necessary to complete the Project, which would meet the purpose and need of the Project and be beneficial to the surrounding land. The Project would result in **No Impact** to Agricultural and Forest Resources.

2.3 AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

Would the Project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REGULATORY SETTING

The Clean Air Act (CAA) as amended in 1990 is the federal law that governs air quality. Its counterpart in California is the California Clean Air Act of 1988. These laws set standards for the quantity of pollutants that can be in the air. At the federal level, these standards are called National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Standards have been established for six criteria pollutants that have been linked to potential health concerns: carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ozone (O₃), particulate matter (PM), lead (Pb), and sulfur dioxide (SO₂).

Federal and State Ambient Air Quality Standards

California and the federal government have established standards for several different pollutants. For some pollutants, separate standards have been set for different measurement periods. Most standards have been set to protect public health. For some pollutants, standards have been based on other values (such as protection of crops, protection of materials, or avoidance of nuisance conditions). The pollutants of greatest concern in the project area are ozone, particulate matter-2.5 microns (PM_{2.5}) and particulate matter-10 microns (PM₁₀). **Table 3** shows the state and federal standards for a variety of pollutants.

State Regulations

Responsibility for achieving California's air quality standards, which are more stringent than federal standards, is placed on the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and local air districts, and is to be achieved through district-level air quality management plans that will be incorporated into the State Implementation Plan (SIP). In California, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has delegated authority to prepare SIPs to the CARB, which, in turn, has delegated that authority to individual air districts.

The CARB has traditionally established state air quality standards, maintaining oversight authority in air quality planning, developing programs for reducing emissions from motor vehicles, developing air emission inventories, collecting air quality and meteorological data, and approving state implementation plans.

Responsibilities of air districts include overseeing stationary source emissions, approving permits, maintaining emissions inventories, maintaining air quality stations, overseeing agricultural burning permits, and reviewing air quality-related sections of environmental documents required by

CEQA.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The Project, located within Nevada County, is in the Mountain Counties Air Basin and is subject to the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District requirements and regulations.

DISCUSSION

a) *Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?*

No Impact. The Project is consistent with the site land use and zoning; construction of the Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of any air quality plan.

b) *Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?*

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is required to designate areas of the state as attainment, non-attainment, or unclassified for any state standard. An “attainment” designation for an area signifies that pollutant concentrations do not violate the standard for that pollutant in that area. A “non-attainment” designation indicates that a pollutant concentration violated the standard at least once within a calendar year. The area air quality attainment status of Nevada County is shown on **Table 2**.

Table 3: NAAQS and CAAQS Attainment Status for Nevada County

Pollutant	Designation/Classification	
	Federal Standards	State Standards
Ozone – 1-Hour	-	Non-attainment
Ozone – 8-Hour	Non-attainment	Non-attainment
PM ₁₀	Unclassified	Non-attainment
PM _{2.5}	Unclassified/Attainment	Unclassified
Carbon Monoxide	Unclassified/Attainment	Unclassified
Nitrogen Dioxide	Unclassified/Attainment	Attainment
Sulfur Dioxide	Unclassified	Attainment
Hydrogen Sulfide	-	Unclassified
Source: California Air Resources Board 2010		

Operational Emissions

The proposed Project is not a capacity increasing project and would not cause a change in the traffic patterns that would increase air pollutants. The addition of one lane to the bridge would improve traffic flow and eliminate idling vehicles waiting to cross the existing one-lane bridge, which in turn would slightly reduce criteria pollutant emissions and result in a small but beneficial impact on air quality in the long term. Since traffic would not increase after construction, there would be no additional regional or local air emissions and no adverse impact on air quality. Accordingly, the proposed Project would not exceed the applicable thresholds of significance for air pollutant emissions during operation. Therefore, operation of the Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is in non-attainment.

Construction Emissions

Construction activities associated with the construction of the new bridge and demolition of the existing bridge will result in some temporary incremental increases in air pollutants, such as ozone precursors and particulate matter due to operation of gas powered equipment and earth moving activities. However, the proposed construction activities would be temporary in nature and are not anticipated to generate large amounts of dust or particulates with the implementation of standard air quality best management practices. The Project would be implementing best available control measures, as required by **AQ-1**, to reduce dust and particulate spreading. The table below summarizes the project emissions, which would not exceed the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (NSAQMD) Level B threshold.

Table 4: Construction Emission Levels

Pollutant	Maximum Daily Construction Emissions (Pounds per Day)	NSAQMD Construction Emissions Level B Threshold (Pounds per Day)
Respirable Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀)	6.07	79-136 lbs/day
Oxides of Nitrogen (NO _x)	103.73	24-136 lbs/day
Reactive Organic Gas (ROG)	9.57	24-136 lbs/day
Source: Road Construction Emissions Model, Version 8.1.0 & NSAQMD Guidelines for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts of Land Use Projects, 2009		

All construction activities would follow the NSAQMD rules and would implement all appropriate air quality BMPs, including minimizing equipment idling time and use of water or similar chemical palliative to control fugitive dust. The implementation of **AQ-1** would also be used to minimize effects of impacts on air quality due to construction. These measures provide compliance guidelines for minimizing fugitive dust to protect sensitive receptors. With adherence to **AQ-1** construction emissions would result in a **Less Than Significant Impact**.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less than Significant Impact. The proposed Project would not generate any substantial pollutant concentrations, and the project location is in a sparsely populated area with the nearest sensitive receptor approximately 650 feet southeast surrounded by contiguous vegetation. Recreational users do use Bear River and could be exposed to pollutants in the air caused by demolition or construction activities; however, activities are anticipated to be intermittent and only occur during weekdays when recreational use is low.

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

Less than Significant Impact. Short-term air quality impacts may occur due to the release of particulate emissions (airborne dust) generated by construction activities; however, they would not adversely impact any residents due to the distance of homes from the project area. Recreational users use Bear River in the vicinity and could be exposed to other emissions and dust caused by construction activities, however, measure **AQ-1** would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.

AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND/OR MITIGATION MEASURES

AQ-1: Prior to the start of construction, a Fugitive Dust Control Plan issued by the NSAQMD shall be obtained.

FINDINGS

Long-term air quality impacts are not anticipated as a result of the bridge replacement project. The Project would comply with all federal, state, and NSAQMD standards. Short term emissions from construction would result in a **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation**.

2.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or NOAA Fisheries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REGULATORY SETTING

This section describes the Federal, State, and local plans, policies, and laws that are relevant to biological resources within the Biological Study Area (BSA). Applicable Federal permits and approvals that will be required before construction of the Project are provided in Section 1.5.

Federal Regulations

Federal Endangered Species Act

The Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) of 1973 (16 U.S.C. section 1531 et seq.) provides for the conservation of endangered and threatened species listed pursuant to Section 4 of the Act (16 U.S.C. section 1533) and the ecosystems upon which they depend. These species and resources have been identified by United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act (CWA) was enacted as an amendment to the Federal Water Pollutant Control Act of 1972, which outlined the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants to waters of the U.S. CWA serves as the primary Federal law protecting the quality of the nation's surface waters, including lakes, rivers, and coastal wetlands. CWA empowers the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set national water quality standards and effluent limitations, and includes programs addressing both point-source and non-point-source pollution. Point-source pollution originates or enters surface waters at a single, discrete location, such as an outfall structure or an excavation or construction site. Non-point-source pollution originates over a broader area and includes urban contaminants in storm water runoff and sediment loading from upstream areas. CWA operates on the principle that all discharges into the nation's waters

are unlawful unless they are specifically authorized by a permit; permit review is CWA's primary regulatory tool.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the U. S. These waters include wetlands and non-wetland bodies of water that meet specific criteria, including a direct or indirect connection to interstate commerce. USACE regulatory jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA is founded on a connection, or nexus, between the water body in question and interstate commerce. This connection may be direct (through a tributary system linking a stream channel with traditional navigable waters used in interstate or foreign commerce) or may be indirect (through a nexus identified in USACE regulations).

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has jurisdiction under Section 401 of the CWA and regulates any activity which may result in a discharge to surface waters. Typically, the areas subject to jurisdiction of the RWQCB coincide with those of USACE (i.e., waters of the U.S. including any wetlands). The RWQCB also asserts authority over "waters of the State" under waste discharge requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

State Regulations

California Environmental Quality Act

California State law created to inform governmental decision-makers and the public about the potential, significant environmental effects of proposed activities and to work to reduce these negative environmental impacts. Nevada County is the CEQA lead agency for this Project.

California Endangered Species Act

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (California Fish and Game (CFG) Code Section 2050 et seq.) requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to establish a list of endangered and threatened species (Section 2070) and to prohibit the incidental taking of any such listed species except as allowed by the Act (Sections 2080-2089). In addition, CESA prohibits take of candidate species (under consideration for listing).

CESA also requires the CDFW to comply with CEQA (Pub. Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) when evaluating incidental take permit applications (CFG Code Section 2081(b) and California Code Regulations, Title 14, section 783.0 et seq.), and the potential impacts the Project or activity for which the application was submitted may have on the environment. CDFW's CEQA obligations include consultation with other public agencies which have jurisdiction over the Project or activity [California Code Regulations, Title 14, Section 783.5(d)(3)]. CDFW cannot issue an incidental take permit if issuance would jeopardize the continued existence of the species [CFG Code Section 2081(c); California Code Regulations, Title 14, Section 783.4(b)].

Section 1602: Streambed Alteration Agreement

Under CFG Code 1602, public agencies are required to notify CDFW before undertaking any project that will divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow, bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake. Preliminary notification and project review generally occur during the environmental process. When an existing fish or wildlife resource may be substantially adversely affected, CDFW is required to propose reasonable project changes to protect the resources. These modifications are formalized in a Streambed Alteration Agreement that becomes part of the plans, specifications, and bid documents for the project.

Section 3503 and 3503.5: Bird and Raptors

CFG Code Section 3503 prohibits the destruction of bird nests and Section 3503.5 prohibits the killing of raptor species and destruction of raptor nests. Trees and shrubs are present in and adjacent to the study area and could contain nesting sites.

Section 3513: Migratory Birds

CFG Code Section 3513 prohibits the take or possession of any migratory non-game bird as designated in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) or any part of such migratory non-game bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the MBTA.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The Biological Study Area (BSA) was defined as the proposed Project impact area and an approximately 50-foot buffer to capture adjacent habitat communities. The Project impact area includes all temporary and permanent impacts related to the Project, access, and right-of-way. The Project BSA encompasses surrounding habitat adjacent to the Project impact area. The Project impact area is approximately 11.2 acres and the BSA is approximately 14.5 acres. The BSA spans approximately 770 feet from north to south, and approximately 970 feet from west to east.

Physical Conditions

The elevation within the BSA ranges from approximately 1,870 to 1,670 feet above mean sea level. In the vicinity of the BSA, annual temperatures range from a high of 91 degrees Fahrenheit to a low of 35 degrees Fahrenheit, and the average annual rainfall is 47 inches (U.S. Climate Data 2020). The topography within the Project limits consists of steep slopes, ranging from 5 to 60 percent slopes. Soil within the BSA consists of Boomer, hard bedrock- Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 60 percent slopes, Placer diggings and Mariposa-Rock outcrop complex, 5 to 50 percent slopes.

Biological Conditions

Vegetation communities within the BSA were identified during biological surveys (Figure 4).

Urban/Development

Urban and developed areas within the BSA include Dog Bar Road and two barren dirt areas adjacent to Dog Bar Road in the northern portion of the BSA. No vegetation is present within this habitat type. Approximately 0.77 acres (<1%) of the BSA is classified as urban/development.

Foothill Riparian

The habitat identified as foothill riparian within the BSA is located adjacent to Bear River. Foothill riparian habitat supports a plant and animal community adapted to flooding and wet conditions. This habitat is associated with streams, rivers and lakes resources. The dominate species that compose the canopy of the foothill riparian habitat within the BSA include white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*), arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), pacific willow (*Salix lasiandra*), oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*) and valley oak (*Quercus lobata*). The understory of the habitat is comprised of lush herbaceous plants, including, black elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*), California rose (*Rosa californica*), winter vetch (*Vicia villosa*) and California grape (*Vitis californica*). Foothill riparian comprises approximately 4.1 acres (29%) of the BSA.

Montane Hardwood

Montane hardwood habitat is found on higher elevation slopes within the BSA. This habitat community is dominated by native, hardwood trees including valley oak, black oak (*Quercus velutina*), California bay (*Umbellularia californica*), California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) and interior live oak (*Quercus wislizeni*). The BSA contains approximately 7 acres (48.2%) of montane hardwood habitat.

Bear River (Riverine)

The river channel within the BSA consists of the Bear River (Riverine). Bear River is an ephemeral tributary of the Feather River in the Sierra Nevada. This river carries seasonal flow and snow melt from the Sierra Nevada mountain range. The streambed within the BSA is mainly composed of bedrock, cobble stone with some small gravel and small boulders. The BSA contains approximately 2 acres (17.9%) of the Bear River (Riverine).

Wildlife

The only animal species observed during the May 2020 biological survey were three bird species: Canada goose, osprey, and spotted towhee. Other wildlife anticipated to occur within the BSA include common species typically found in foothill riparian habitat. A complete list of species observed, including plants, within the BSA is provided within the Natural Environment Study (NES).

Habitat Connectivity

According to CDFW Essential Connectivity Areas, the Project is outside of any essential habitat connectivity areas. Furthermore, the Project would not add to existing habitat fragmentation within the Project vicinity and would not create an obstacle for the movement of wildlife species. The Project would not impact any wildlife migratory corridors, linkages or other habitat connectivity.

Record Search and Field Survey

Plant and animal species are considered to have special status if they have been listed as such by Federal or State agencies or by one or more special interest groups, such as CNPS. Prior to the field surveys, literature searches of the USFWS, NMFS, CNDDB, and CNPS databases (see Appendix A) were conducted to identify regionally sensitive species with potential to occur in the Project vicinity. The Special Status Species table (Appendix B) provides a list of regional species of special concern returned by database searches, describes the habitat requirements for each species, and states if the species was determined to have potential to occur within the BSA.

Prior to field surveys, the BSA was defined as the proposed Project impact area, including all areas necessary to accommodate the design and facilitate construction. Field surveys, habitat assessments and analysis of special status species occurrences were conducted to determine the potential for species to occur within the BSA. Field surveys were conducted on May 12, 2020, by Dokken Engineering biologists Scott Salembier and Hanna Sheldon and included walking meandering transects through the entire BSA, observing and mapping vegetation communities, compiling notes on observed flora and fauna, and assessing the potential for existing habitat to support sensitive plants and wildlife.

While Foothill Yellow Legged Frogs (FYLF) were not observed during the May 12 field survey, the BSA contains a perennial freshwater stream with rocky substrate and riffles, as well as adjacent riparian habitat that supports the species. There are more than 30 CNDDB documented

occurrences of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest and most recent occurrence is from 2019 and is located approximately one mile northeast of the BSA, upstream of Bear River (Riverine). The species was found resting on a moss-covered rock in a small creek that connects to Bear River (Riverine). Due to the presence of suitable habitat and the number of local recent occurrences, the species is presumed present within the BSA.

Foothill Yellow Legged Frog

According to the FYLF status review, published by CDFW in September 2019, there are 5 distinct genetic clades of FYLF throughout California. Due to the genetic diversity, geographic isolation and varying threats within the FYLF populations listing of the species has been separated by clade. The southwest/south coast clade, west/central coast clade and the east/southern Sierra clade are listed as state endangered under CESA and the northeast/northern Sierra and the Feather River clade are listed as state threatened under CESA. The FYLF population presumed to be present within the BSA is part of the northeast/northern Sierra clade listed as threatened under CESA.

The proposed Project anticipates impacting FYLF habitat present within the BSA. Temporary impacts to FYLF habitat include the temporary disturbance of approximately 0.21 acres of the Bear River (Riverine) as a result of the construction of a temporary trestle and removal of the existing bridge. Furthermore, the proposed Project will have no permanent net impacts to the Bear River (Riverine). The removal of the existing in-water pier will create approximately 88 square feet of aquatic habitat within the Bear River (Riverine).

DISCUSSION

- a) *Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or NOAA Fisheries?*

Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation. Literature research, habitat assessments, and biological surveys determined that one special status wildlife species has the potential of occurring within the BSA: the foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*) (FYLF), which is state listed as threatened for the northeast/northern Sierra clade. The FYLF is considered to have a high potential to occur within the BSA based on nearby known occurrences and presence of suitable habitat within the BSA. As a result of potential Project related impacts to state listed species, consultation with CDFW will be required to obtain a 2081 Incidental Take Permit for FYLF.

With the implementation of measures **BIO-11** through **BIO-14**, impacts to foothill riparian habitat will be minimized to the greatest extent feasible. Additionally, a buffer area will be left due to the potential benefits it may provide to state listed species, including the Foothill Yellow Legged Frog (*Rana boylei*) (FYLF). This buffer will create basking habitat for the species.

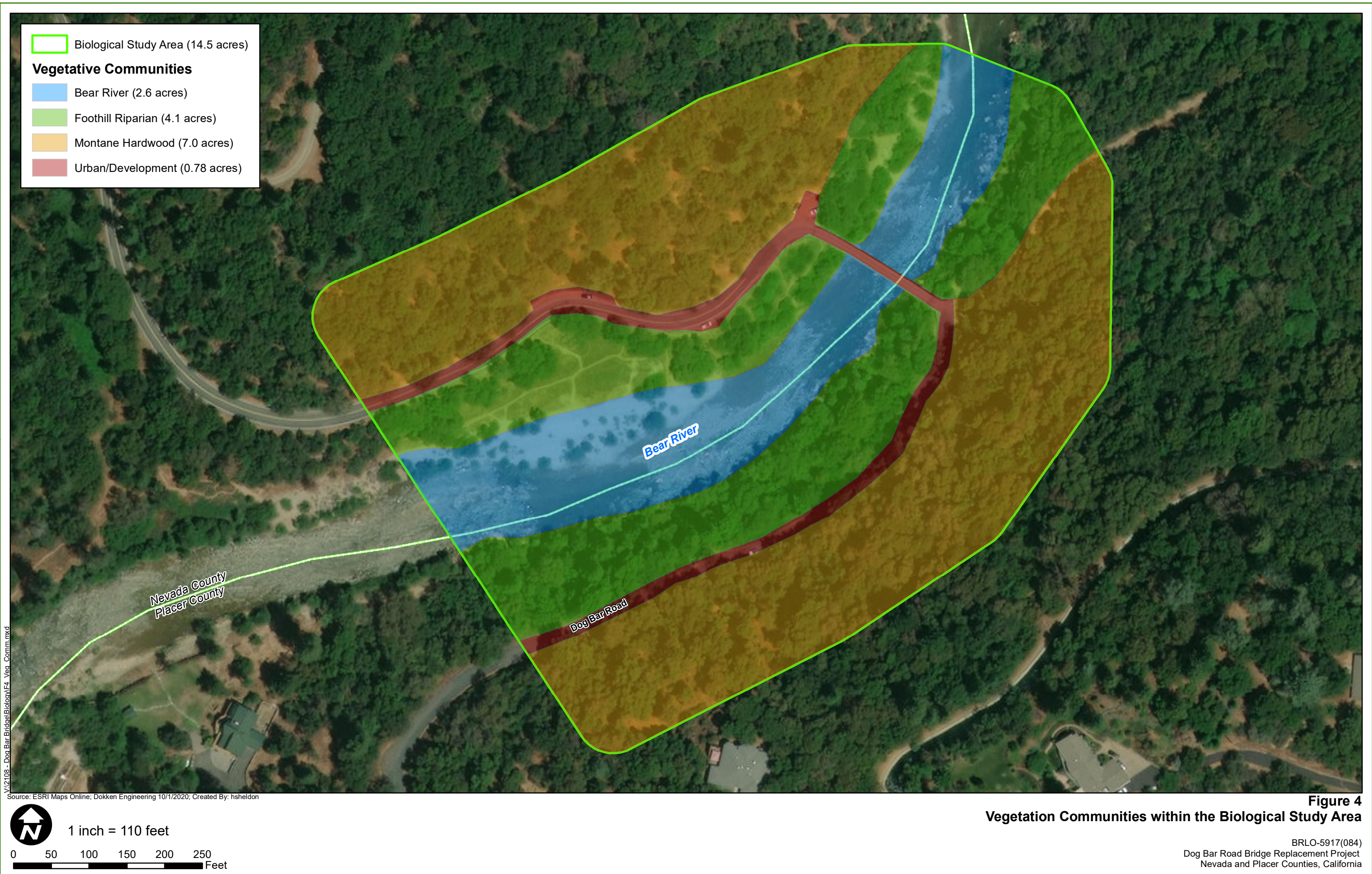
- b) *Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?*

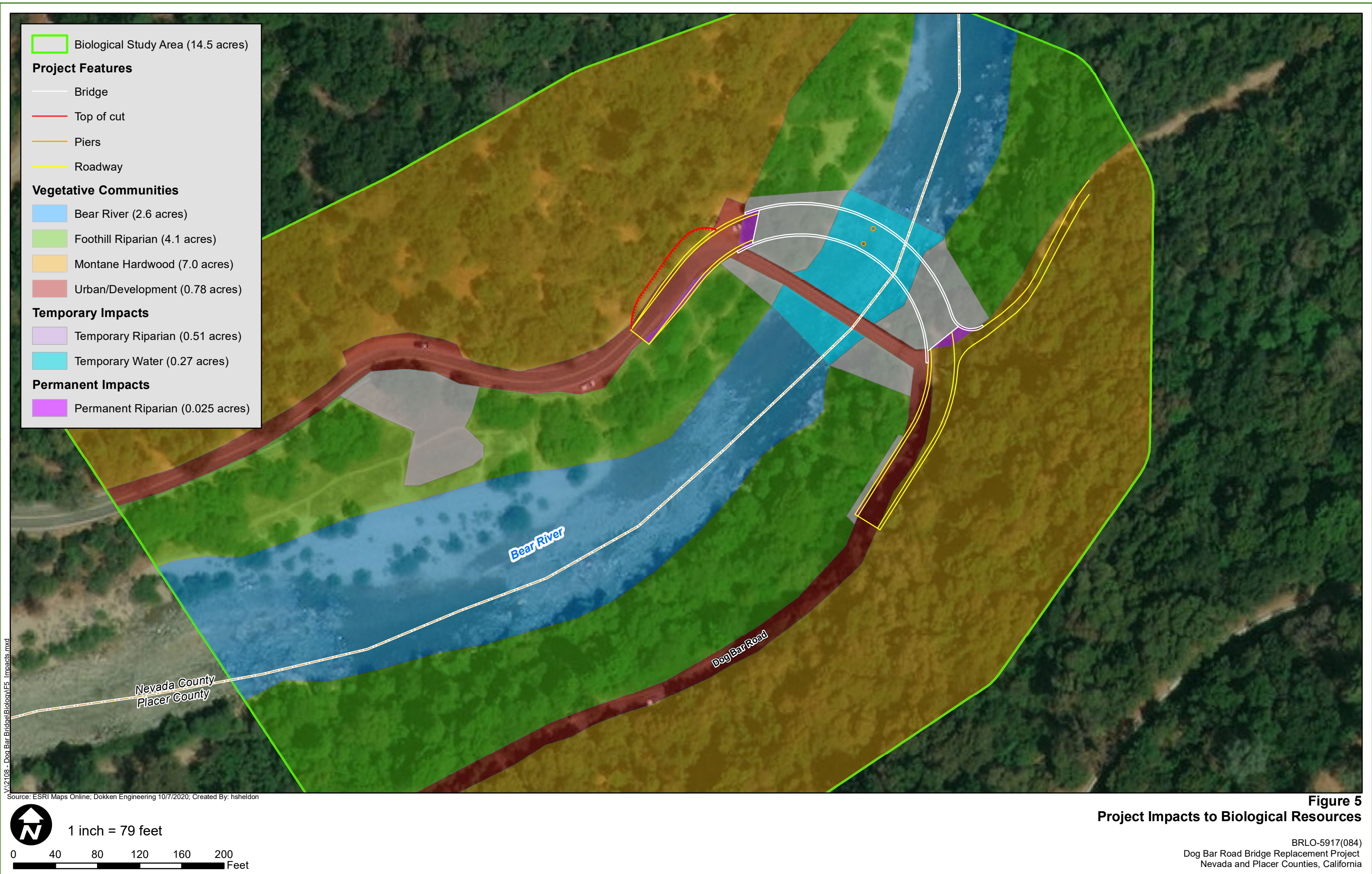
Less than Significant with Mitigation. Project impacts to sensitive habitats, including foothill riparian habitat, which makes up approximately 4.1 acres of the Project area, are anticipated to be minor and are not anticipated to substantially degrade the existing habitat community. The Project will minimize impacts to foothill riparian habitat through the use of avoidance and minimization measures, BMPs, and by complying with all permit conditions specified by regulatory agencies during the permitting phase of the Project.

With the implementation of measures **BIO-1** through **BIO-9**, impacts to foothill riparian habitat will be minimized to the greatest extent feasible. Compensatory mitigation will be implemented in accordance with permitting agencies, as stated below in measure **BIO-10**.

- c) *Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?*

Less than Significant with Mitigation. According to biological field surveys, National Wetlands Mappers and the EPA's Google Earth Water Layer, there are no wetlands present within the Project BSA. The only water feature present within the BSA is the Bear River (Riverine), a jurisdictional water of the U.S. and State. The proposed Project will have approximately 0.27 acres of temporary impacts to the Bear River. No net permanent impacts are anticipated, due to the creation of approximately 88 square feet of aquatic habitat from removal of the existing in-water pier. Prior to work within the Project area, the following permits, relating to waters, will be obtained: a Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement from CDFW and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the RWQCB for potential discharge into Federal waters. The Project will implement standard BMP's to avoid impacts to local water quality.





V:\2108 - Dog Bar Bridge\Biology\F5 Impacts.mxd

Source: ESRI Maps Online; Dokken Engineering 10/7/2020; Created By: hsheldon

- d) *Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?*

No Impact. The Project is not anticipated to have any effects to the habitat connectivity for birds, fish, or small and medium terrestrial wildlife. No loss of or impediments to habitat connectivity are anticipated.

- e) *Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?*

No Impact. The Project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances that protect biological resources.

- f) *Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?*

No Impact. The Project would not conflict with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other habitat conservation plans.

AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND/OR MITIGATION MEASURES

The following avoidance and minimization measures, including BMPs shall be implemented to avoid long term and temporary impacts.

BIO-1: Best Management Practices:

- Existing vegetation would be protected where feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation. Vegetation would be preserved by installing temporary fencing, or other protection devices, around sensitive biological resources.
- Exposed soils would be covered by loose bulk materials or other materials to reduce erosion and runoff during rainfall events.
- Exposed soils would be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the Project site caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities.
- All concrete curing activities would be conducted to minimize spray drift and prevent curing compounds from entering the waterway directly or indirectly.
- All construction materials, vehicles, stockpiles, and staging areas would be situated outside of the stream channel as feasible. All stockpiles would be covered, as feasible.
- All erosion control measures, and storm water control measures would be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state.
- All disturbed areas would be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated, where applicable, either through hydroseeding or other means, with native or approved non-invasive exotic species.
- All construction materials would be hauled off-site after completion of construction.

BIO-2: All construction personnel shall be provided with environmental awareness training prior to being allowed to work on the job site. The training shall include an overview of sensitive habitats and special status species that are present within or adjacent to the Project area, including foothill yellow-legged frog, and Project specific protective measures that must be adhered to. The training will also include a description of the legal penalties for violating protective measures.

- BIO-3:** Prior to the start of construction activities, the Project limits in proximity to jurisdictional waters and foothill riparian habitat shall be marked with high visibility Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) fencing or staking to ensure construction plans do not further encroach into waters or sensitive habitats. The Project biologist shall periodically inspect the ESA to ensure sensitive locations remain undisturbed.
- BIO-4:** Refueling or maintenance of equipment shall not be permitted to occur on the temporary trestle and must occur at least 40 feet from Bear River. All onsite refueling and maintenance shall occur over plastic sheeting or other secondary containment measures to capture accidental spills before they can contaminate the soil. Secondary containment must have a raised edge (e.g. sheeting wrapped around wattles).
- BIO-5:** Equipment shall be checked daily for leaks and will be well maintained to prevent lubricants and any other deleterious materials from entering Bear River and the associated riparian area.
- BIO-6:** Vehicle maintenance, staging and storing equipment, materials, fuels, lubricants, solvents, and other possible contaminants shall remain outside of sensitive habitat marked with high-visibility fencing. Any necessary equipment washing must occur where the water cannot flow into sensitive habitat communities.
- BIO-7:** A chemical spill kit shall be kept onsite and available for use in the event of a spill.
- BIO-8:** Secondary containment consisting of plastic sheeting or other impermeable sheeting shall be installed underneath all stationary equipment to prevent petroleum products or other chemicals from contaminating the soil or from spilling directly into the Bear River. Secondary containment must have a raised edge (e.g. sheeting wrapped around wattles).
- BIO-9:** Vegetation clearing shall only occur within the delineated Project boundaries (impact areas). An ESA fence will be shown on the final plans to delineate which trees can be saved and which will be removed. Where possible and with the guidance of the Project biologist, trees shall be trimmed rather than removed fully. In areas that will be subject to re-vegetation, plants will only be cleared where necessary and when feasible and will be cut above soil level.
- BIO-10:** The construction contractor shall revegetate affected areas of foothill riparian habitat in the western portion of the BSA with a native seed mix approved by the Project biologist. The northwestern and northeastern portion of impacted foothill riparian habitat will be re-vegetated starting approximately 15 feet upland of the ordinary-high water mark. Additionally, the lead agency shall mitigate for the net loss of foothill riparian habitat at a 2:1 ratio at an approved mitigation bank in coordination with permitting agencies.
- BIO-11:** Prior to ground disturbing activities or in-water work, exclusion fencing shall be established on the edge of the Project boundary within foothill riparian habitat and upstream and downstream of Bear River (Riverine) within the Project limits. The final plans will include exclusion fencing within foothill riparian habitat that shall consist of silt fencing, or a similar plastic material, at least 3 feet high. The top few inches of the fence must be curved away (outside) from the construction area to curtail climbing frogs and shall be dug at least 6 inches into the ground. Exclusion fencing within Bear River shall consist of a ¼-inch mesh or smaller opening material and must be sufficiently anchored

to the streambed with rocks and gravel to prevent immigration of frogs and tadpoles underneath into the construction area. The exclusion fencing shall be installed as soon as possible after cessation of winter flows and before the frogs begin to breed.

- BIO-12:** Prior to vegetation removal an agency-approved biologist shall first inspect all areas where ground disturbing activity is anticipated. The agency-approved biologist shall observe all vegetation clearing and grubbing and will have stop work authority. If a FYLF is spotted within an active work area, the agency-approved biologist shall immediately stop work activities. The Permittee, or authorized Permittee representative, of the ITP shall notify CDFW of the finding and take the appropriate actions as included in the final ITP that will be acquired for the Project.
- BIO-13:** The agency-approved biologist shall perform daily clearance sweeps of all in stream areas and surrounding foothill riparian areas of construction activity prior to the commencement of work.
- BIO-14:** The agency-approved biologist shall keep daily monitoring logs of construction activities and FYLF activities.
- BIO-15:** Upon completion of construction activities, any barriers to flow shall be removed, with oversight from the agency-approved biologist, in a manner that would allow flow to resume with the least disturbance to the substrate.
- BIO-16:** All construction crew members will allow wildlife enough time to escape initial clearing and grubbing activities. Initial clearing and grubbing must be accomplished through the use of hand tools.
- BIO-17:** Prior to arrival at the Project site and prior to leaving the Project site, construction equipment that may contain invasive plants and/or seeds shall be cleaned to reduce the spreading of noxious weeds.
- BIO-18:** If hydroseed and plant mixes are used during or post-construction, plant species must consist of a biologist approved plant palette seed mix of native species sourced locally to the Project area.
- BIO-19:** The construction contractor shall avoid removing any vegetation during the nesting bird season (February 15 –August 31). If vegetation must be removed within the breeding season, a pre-construction nesting bird survey must be conducted no more than 3 days prior to vegetation removal. The vegetation must be removed within 3 days from the nesting bird survey.
A minimum 100-foot no-disturbance buffer will be established around any active nest of migratory birds and a minimum 300 foot no-disturbance buffer will be established around any nesting raptor species. The contractor must immediately stop work in the nesting area until the appropriate buffer is established and is prohibited from conducting work that could disturb the birds (as determined by the Project biologist and in coordination with the city) in the buffer area until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged. A reduced buffer can be established if determined appropriate by the Project biologist and approved by the County.

BIO-20: The contractor shall dispose of all food-related trash in closed containers and must remove it from the Project area each day during construction. Construction personnel must not feed or attract wildlife to the Project area.

BIO-21: The contractor shall not apply rodenticide or herbicide within the BSA during construction.

FINDINGS

No federally threatened species were determined to have a potential of occurring within the BSA. One California special status species, the FYLF, is presumed to be present within the BSA and, while the Project is not anticipated to substantially alter habits, activities could potentially impact individual FYLF. Mitigation measures will be put in place to reduce impacts to the FYLF and additional measures to prevent harm to other wildlife will be implemented. The Project impacts to Bear River, sensitive habitat communities, and special status species will be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**.

2.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REGULATORY SETTING

CEQA established statutory requirements for establishing the significance of historical resources in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21084.1. The CEQA Guidelines (Section 10564.5[c]) also require consideration of potential Project impacts to "unique" archaeological sites that do not qualify as historical resources. The statutory requirements for unique archaeological sites that do not qualify as historical resources are established in PRC Section 21083.2. These two PRC sections operate independently to ensure that significant potential effects on historical and archaeological resources are considered as part of a Project's environmental analysis. Historical resources, as defined in Section 15064.5 as defined in the CEQA regulations, include 1) cultural resources listed in or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register); 2) cultural resources included in a local register of historical resources; 3) any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in one of several historic themes important to California history and development.

Under CEQA, a Project may have a significant effect on the environment if the Project could result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, meaning the physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource would be materially impaired. This would include any action that would demolish or adversely alter the physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historic significance and qualify it for inclusion in the California Register or in a local register or survey that meets the requirements of PRC Section 5020.1(l) and 5024.1(g). PRC Section 5024 also requires state agencies to identify and protect state-owned resources that meet National Register of Historic Place (National Register) listing criteria. Sections 5024(f) and 5024.5 require state agencies to provide notice to and consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) before altering, transferring, relocation, or demolishing state-owned historical resources that are listed on or are eligible for inclusion in the National Register or are registered or eligible for registration as California Historical Landmarks.

CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines also recommend provisions be made for the accidental discovery of archaeological sites, historical resources, or Native American human remains during construction (PRC Section 21083.2(i) CCR Section 15064.5[d and f]).

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The horizontal area of potential effects (APE) was established as the area of direct and indirect effects and consists of an approximately 11.2-acre area (see Figure 6 below). This includes all staging areas, vegetation/tree removal, approach roadway realignment, bridge replacement, ground disturbance, and temporary construction easements. The APE extends approximately 600

feet along Dog Bar Road from both sides of the bridge and approximately 200 feet northeast of the bridge and approximately 500 feet wide.

The vertical APE consists of a maximum of 20 feet of depth below the existing ground surface (bgs) to accommodate grading for the construction of bridge abutments. The minimum depth of ground disturbance is approximately 5 feet bgs, required for all roadway approach realignment, vegetation removal, and fill compaction. The Project does not involve relocation of any buried utilities.

Records Search

Dokken Engineering obtained a record search (File #NEV-18-90) for the APE and a one-mile radius surrounding the APE from the North Central Information Center (NCIC), California State University, Sacramento on November 29, 2020. The record search was conducted by NCIC staff Paul Rendes, Assistant Coordinator. The search examined the OHP Historic Properties Directory, OHP Determinations of Eligibility, and *California Inventory of Historical Resources*. The record search disclosed four previously recorded resources (listed below) within the one-mile record search boundary. None of these resources are located within the APE.

- Bear River Canal and diversion dam
- Historic trash scatter
- Mortared rock retaining wall on Dog Bar Road
- Drum-Spaulding Project Historic District

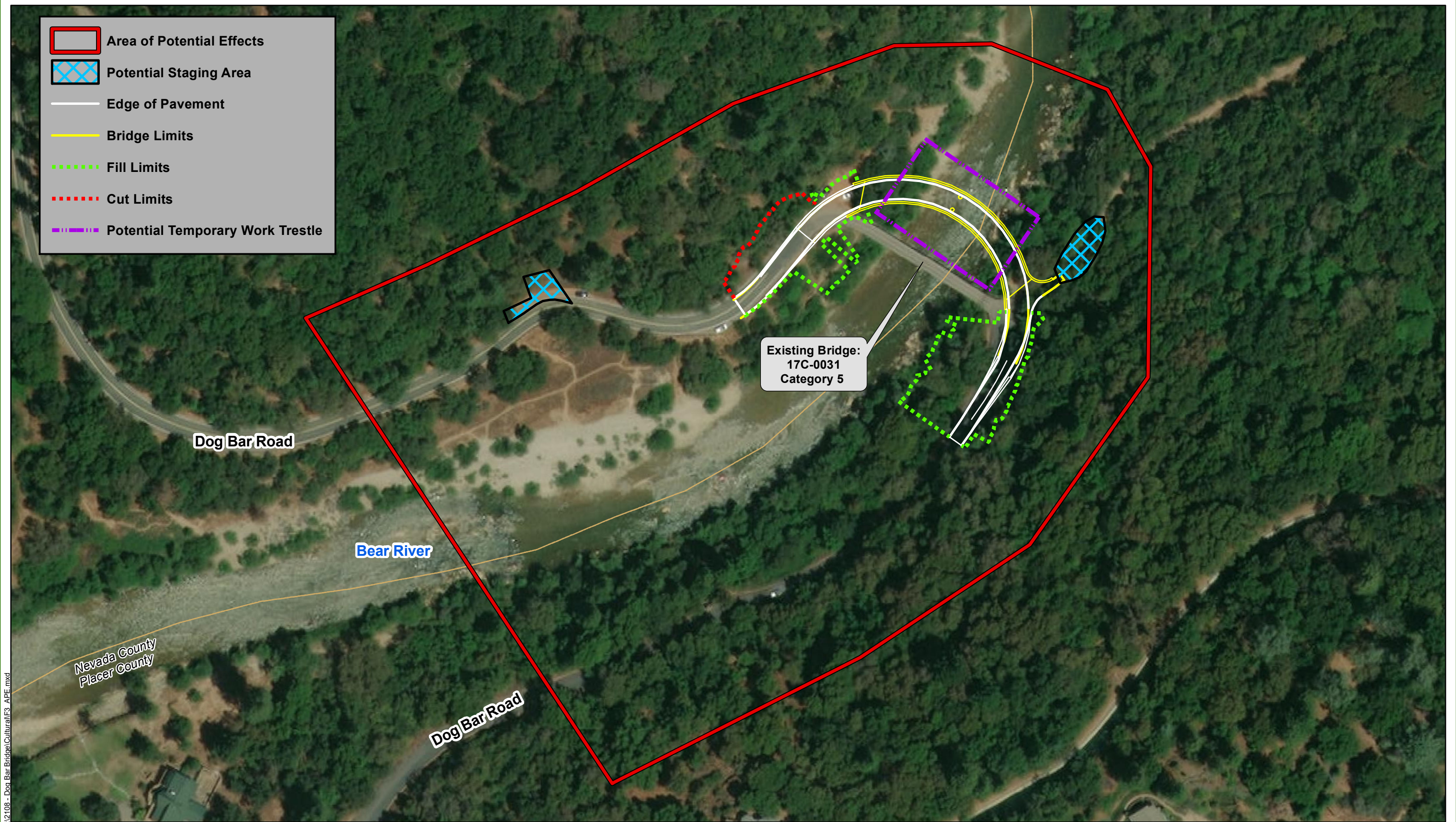
Native American Consultation

On November 11, 2018, and July 28, 2020, Dokken Engineering sent a letter and a map depicting the project vicinity to the NAHC in West Sacramento, asking the NAHC to review the Sacred Lands File (SLF) for any Native American cultural resources that might be affected by the project. The request to the NAHC seeks to identify any Native American cultural resources within or adjacent to the project area. A list of Native American individuals who might have information or concerns about the Project was also requested. Gayle Totton, NAHC Associate Governmental Program Analyst, and Nancy Gonzalez-Lopez, NAHC Cultural Resource Analyst, responded on December 4, 2018, and July 29, 2020, respectively, via digital fax that a review of the SLF failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the Project area or within a one-mile radius. Native American contact lists were included with both replies.

On August 12, 2020, initial consultation letters were sent to the Native American individuals on the list provided by the NAHC. The letters provided a summary of the project and requested information regarding comments or concerns the Native American community might have about the project. For those individuals that did not reply to the letter, emails were sent on October 6, 2020. The following descriptions below present a summary of consultation in which a response as received.

Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe, Pamela Cubbler, Treasurer. No response to the initial letter was received. A follow-up email was sent on October 6, 2020, and a response was received on October 12, 2020, requesting a site visit and attendance during the cultural survey. A site visit took place on October 26, 2020, which involved a partial survey of the APE. No Native American cultural resources were identified during the site visit. While Ms. Cubbler did not request that a tribal monitor be present during construction activities, she did request that the Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe be notified of the date of construction and be given permission to conduct a follow-up survey after vegetation clearing and grubbing had been completed. She further requested to be notified should any Native American cultural resources be discovered.

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria, Antonio Ruiz, Tribal Heritage Specialist. A response was received via email from Anna Starkey, Cultural Regulatory Specialist, on September 16, 2020 informing the County of the Tribe's concern of the cultural sensitivity of the project area. The Tribe asked to participate in the cultural resources survey and review the draft environmental document, cultural report, and records search. The records search and site photos were provided to Ms. Starkey on October 5, 2020, and she was informed that the survey had been conducted with negative results. Ms. Starkey replied on October 5, 2020, that the project had low sensitivity, provided measures to be included in the environmental document prepared for the Project, and stated that no additional consultation was warranted. The measures included halting work in the event that Native American cultural resource was discovered during construction activities; contacting a Native American tribal representative traditionally and culturally affiliated with the Project area to make resource evaluation and treatment recommendations; stating that preservation in place is the preferred treatment of a discovery; and that work at the discovery location would resume after the resource has been fully assessed and treated.



Source: ESRI Maps Online; Dokken Engineering 1/22/2021; Created By: roberts

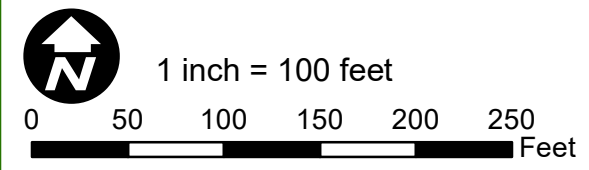


Figure 6
Area of Potential Effects
 BRLO 5917 (084)
 Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement Project
 Nevada and Placer Counties, California

DISCUSSION

- a) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?*

No Impact. The Dog Bar Bridge (#17C-031) is classified as a Category 5 – not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) – on the Caltrans Historic Bridge Inventory and, therefore, would have no impact on historical resources.

- b) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?*

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. Dokken Engineering obtained a record search for the APE and a one-mile radius surrounding the APE from the North Central Information Center (NCIC), California State University, Sacramento on November 29, 2020. The record search disclosed four previously recorded resources within the one-mile record search boundary. None of these resources are located within the APE. Brian Marks, Ph.D. (Archaeologist), conducted a pedestrian surface survey on December 14, 2018 to identify and record potential archaeological resources. No historic or archaeological resources were identified during the survey. As with any project that involves subsurface excavation, there is the potential for accidental discovery of previously unidentified cultural resources. Inclusion of **Measure CUL-1** and **CUL-2** into the project design will reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels with mitigation incorporated.

- c) *Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?*

Less than Significant with Mitigation. No human remains (including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries) have been identified within or adjacent to the APE. In the event human remains are encountered as a result of construction activity, the implementation of **Measure CUL-3** would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND/OR MITIGATION MEASURES

CUL-1: Prior to construction, environmental awareness training shall be provided to all construction workers onsite regarding the possibility of encountering subsurface cultural resources. Native American groups have expressed concerns regarding the Native American resources in the immediate area. Continued consultation will continue throughout the course of the Project.

CUL-2: If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, work shall be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find and develop a plan for documentation and removal of resources, if necessary. Additional archaeological survey will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits.

CUL-3: Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code protect Native American burials, skeletal remains and grave goods, regardless of age and provide method and means for the appropriate handling of such remains. If human remains are encountered, California Law requires that work shall halt in that vicinity and the Nevada County Coroner shall be notified immediately to assess the remains. If the coroner determines the human remains to be of Native American origin, the coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within twenty-four hours of such identification. The NAHC shall then determine

the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) of the human remains and contact the MLD immediately. The County, the MLD, and a professional archaeologist retained by the County shall then consult to determine the appropriate plans for treatment and assessment of the human remains and any associated grave goods.

FINDINGS

A review of the geologic formations, occurrences of bedrock located in the APE, and the steepness of the slopes, indicate that the APE has a low potential for intact archaeological resources. Modern realignment of the road, construction of the bridge, and construction of paved and graveled parking areas also contributes to the low potential for the presence of archaeological resources within the APE. Additionally, it was noted during the survey that the river is a high energy environment, which has annual flood events, and would not be considered a depositional environment, further contributing to the low potential for the APE to contain archaeological resources.

As a result of these identification efforts, no prehistoric or historic-era archaeological resources were identified within or immediately adjacent to the APE. At this time, no further archaeological study is required unless project plans change to include areas not previously included in the project APE or if additional information is received from other sources or special interest groups. As requested, the Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe will be kept apprised of the anticipated construction schedule. Both the Colfax-Todds Consolidated Tribe and the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria will be contacted should Native American cultural resources be discovered within the APE due to project activities.

The Project would have **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation.**

2.6 ENERGY

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during Project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) *Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during Project construction or operation?*

Less than Significant Impact. Construction of the project would result in a short-term increase in consumption of oil-based energy products associated with construction equipment; however, consumption of those oil-based energy products necessary for the project would be used efficiently and in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws. Appropriate construction equipment would be used to minimize wasteful or inefficient actions, and construction energy consumption would not cause a significant reduction in available supplies.

- b) *Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?*

No Impact. The Project would not conflict with or obstruct any state or local plans for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

FINDINGS

The Project would have **Less than Significant Impact** on energy resources and would not conflict with energy efficiency.

2.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the Project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

Nevada County is part of the Sierra Nevada Range, a geologic block approximately 400 miles long and 80 miles wide which extends in a north-south band along the eastern portion of California. The geologic substructure of the county can be divided into three very broad groups, Zone I: Western Foothills comprised of metavolcanic and granite formations; Zone II: Central Portion comprised of sedimentary, metasedimentary, and volcanic formations; and Zone III: Eastern Portion comprised of volcanic and granitic formations. The Project is within the Western Foothills area. This area, extending from the Yuba County border to just northeast of the Grass Valley/Nevada City area, is generally comprised of metavolcanic and granitic formations (Nevada County General Plan, Chapter 12: Soils).

Soils within the Project area primarily consist of Mariposa-Rock outcrop complex (5 to 50 percent slopes) and Placer diggings with Boomer, hard bedrock - Rock outcrop complex (15 to 60 percent slopes) bordering Placer diggings north of Bear River.

DISCUSSION

- a) *Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:*
 - i) *Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?*
 - ii) *Strong seismic ground shaking?*
 - iii) *Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?*
 - iv) *Landslides?*

No Impact. The Project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure, or landslides. The Project is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. However, the Project area is located on Pre-Quaternary Faults, which are older than 1.6 million years or faults without recognized Quaternary displacement. Therefore, according to the California Department of Conservation (CDC), there is very low risk of rupture, ground shaking, and seismic-related ground failure.

- b) *Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?*

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. The proposed Project would require ground disturbing activities within Bear River and along the banks during demolition of the existing bridge and construction of the new bridge. In order to reduce the potential for erosion, the proposed Project will be designed with erosion control measures including use of rock slop protection. Furthermore, erosion control practices would be required of the Project as part of the Stormwater Pollutant Prevention Plan (SWPPP) identified under 2.10 Hydrology and Water Quality measure WQ-4. With inclusions of these design features, and adherence to SWPPP requirements, impacts associated with erosion and loss of topsoil would be considered less than significant.

- c) *Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the Project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?*

Less than Significant Impact. Soil material in the Project area is predominantly Placer diggings, bedrock, and rock outcrop. A less than significant impact to stability may temporarily occur during construction, but the risk of landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse is low due to the nature of the terrain and the water profile.

- d) *Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?*

No Impact. Soils within the Project area primarily consist of Mariposa-Rock outcrop complex (5 to 50 percent slopes) and Placer diggings with Boomer, hard bedrock - Rock outcrop complex (15 to 60 percent slopes) bordering Placer diggings north of Bear River. This soil is not considered expansive. Therefore, there would be no impact from expansive soils.

- e) *Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?*

No Impact. The Project would not utilize septic tanks or an alternative waste water disposal system on the site. Therefore, the Project would have no impact due to soils incapable of adequately supporting septic systems.

- f) *Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?*

No Impact. No findings of unique paleontological resources or sites or unique geological features were identified in the Nevada County General Plan EIR within the Project area.

FINDINGS

The Project would have **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation** (see 2.10 Hydrology and Water Quality measure WQ-4) to geology and soils due the soil composition and the implementation of erosion control practices that will be required as part of the Stormwater Pollutant Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

2.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REGULATORY SETTING

While climate change has been a concern since at least 1988, as evidenced by the establishment of the United Nations and World Meteorological Organization's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the efforts devoted to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and climate change research and policy have increased dramatically in recent years. These efforts are primarily concerned with the emissions of GHG related to human activity that include CO₂, CH₄, NO_x, nitrous oxide, tetrafluoromethane, hexafluoroethane, sulfur hexafluoride, HFC-23 (fluoroform), HFC-134a (s, s, s, 2 –tetrafluoroethane), and HFC-152a (difluoroethane).

On June 1, 2005, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-3-05. The goal of this Executive Order is to reduce California's GHG emissions to: 1) 2000 levels by 2010, 2) 1990 levels by the 2020 and 3) 80 percent below the 1990 levels by the year 2050. In 2006, this goal was further reinforced with the passage of Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. AB 32 sets the same overall GHG emissions reduction goals while further mandating that CARB create a plan, which includes market mechanisms, and implement rules to achieve "real, quantifiable, cost-effective reductions of greenhouse gases." Executive Order S-20-06 further directs state agencies to begin implementing AB 32, including the recommendations made by the state's Climate Action Team.

With Executive Order S-01-07, Governor Schwarzenegger set forth the low carbon fuel standard for California. Under this executive order, the carbon intensity of California's transportation fuels is to be reduced by at least 10 percent by 2020.

Climate change and GHG reduction is also a concern at the federal level; however, at this time, no legislation or regulations have been enacted specifically addressing GHG emissions reductions and climate change. California, in conjunction with several environmental organizations and several other states, sued to force the EPA to regulate GHG as a pollutant under the Clean Air Act (Massachusetts vs. [EPA] et al., 549 U.S. 497 (2007)). The court ruled that GHG does fit within the Clean Air Act's definition of a pollutant, and that the EPA does have the authority to regulate GHG. Despite the Supreme Court ruling, there are no promulgated federal regulations to date limiting GHG emissions.^[1]

According to Recommendations by the Association of Environmental Professionals on How to Analyze GHG Emissions and Global Climate Change in CEQA Documents (March 5, 2007), an individual project does not generate enough GHG emissions to significantly influence global climate change. Rather, global climate change is a cumulative impact. This means that a project may participate in a potential impact through its incremental contribution combined with the contributions of all other sources of GHG. In assessing cumulative impacts, it must be determined if a project's incremental effect is "cumulatively considerable." See CEQA Guidelines sections 15064(i)(1) and 15130. To make this determination the incremental impacts of the project must

^[1] <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/endangerment.html>

be compared with the effects of past, current, and probable future projects. To gather sufficient information on a global scale of all past, current, and future projects in order to make this determination is a difficult if not impossible task.

The Project would build a new bridge that eliminates the one-lane bridge that currently causes vehicles to idle while waiting for other travelers to cross the bridge. The Project does not make improvements to the rural road to and from the bridge, thus does not increase traffic on the road.

DISCUSSION

- a) *Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?*

Less than Significant Impact. The Project would generate a small amount of GHG emissions through the use of gas-powered vehicles during construction. Construction activities are expected to generate CO₂ in quantities that would not individually or cumulatively contribute to a significant impact on the environment.

- b) *Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?*

No Impact. The Project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

FINDINGS

The Project would have a **Less than Significant Impact** as it relates to GHG emissions.

2.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the Project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REGULATORY SETTING

Hazardous materials and hazardous wastes are regulated by many state and federal laws. These include not only specific statutes governing hazardous waste, but also a variety of laws regulating air and water quality, human health and land use.

Hazardous waste in California is regulated primarily under the authority of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 and the California Health and Safety Code. Other California laws that affect hazardous waste are specific to handling, storage, transportation, disposal, treatment, reduction, cleanup, and emergency planning.

Worker health and safety and public safety are key issues when dealing with hazardous materials that may affect human health and the environment. Proper disposal of hazardous material is vital if it is disturbed during project construction.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The Dog Bar Road Bridge is located on Dog Bar Road, which would be utilized to transport and remove items during the demolition of the existing bridge and construction of the new bridge. The existing bridge would remain in place until the new bridge is completed.

DISCUSSION

- a) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?*

Less than Significant Impact. The Project will build a new bridge and demolish the existing bridge once the new bridge is open to traffic. Material and debris from the existing bridge will be transported out of the Project area, but are not anticipated to include hazardous material that could create an adverse impact to the public or the environment.

- b) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?*

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. Potential hazardous materials during construction activities could occur due to disturbance. However, the release of such hazardous materials associated with construction is unlikely with the implementation of a Spill Containment and Countermeasure Plan that would be required of the Project prior to the start of construction per measure **HAZ-1**.

- c) *Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?*

No Impact. No schools are located within one-quarter mile of the project site.

- d) *Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?*

No Impact. EnviroStor and GeoTracker were used to find active hazardous waste sites within the Project vicinity. A review of the Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor Database and the State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker indicated that there were no sites on the Project area. A Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Cleanup Site with a status of Completed - Case Closed as of 9/18/2001 is located 0.7 miles from the project site. There are no other sites within the vicinity.

- e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the Project area?*

No Impact. The Project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area as the Project is not within the vicinity of an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport.

- f) *Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

No Impact. The existing bridge will remain in place during construction; the new bridge that provides better ingress and egress will open to traffic once construction is complete. The Project will not impair or interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan.

- g) *Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?*

No Impact. The Project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, and no wildlands are adjacent to or within the Project area.

AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND/OR MITIGATION MEASURES

Avoidance measures would be implemented through the use of Best Management Practices (BMP) below.

HAZ-1: The contractor shall prepare a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Program (SPCCP) prior to the commencement of construction activities. The SPCCP shall include information on the nature of all hazardous materials that shall be used on-site. The SPCCP shall also include information regarding proper handling of hazardous materials, and clean-up procedures in the event of an accidental release. The phone number of the agency overseeing hazardous materials and toxic clean-up shall be provided in the SPCCP.

FINDINGS

The Project would have **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation** as it pertains to hazards and hazardous materials.

2.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such the Project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
(i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to Project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REGULATORY SETTING

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires water quality certification from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) or from a Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) when the project requires a CWA Section 404 permit. Section 404 of the CWA requires a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Along with CWA Section 401, CWA Section 402 establishes the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the discharge of any pollutant into waters of the United States. The federal Environmental Protection Agency has delegated administration of the NPDES program to the SWRCB and nine RWQCBs. The SWRCB and RWQCB also regulate other waste discharges to land within California through the issuance of waste discharge requirements under authority of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The proposed Project is within the Upper Bear River Watershed and along Bear River. Bear River flows 73 miles and originates at Emigrant Gap, flowing into Rollins Reservoir, then under Dog Bar Road Bridge (the Project site) and eventually meeting the Feather River just west of Wheatland.

Surface Water Features

Upper Bear River is fed by numerous tributaries. Approximately three miles upstream from the Project site, Campbell Creek flows into the river with other creeks flowing into Bear River above Rollins Reservoir.

Floodplains

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) indicates Upper Bear River is a special flood hazard area subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance flood (Appendix C).

Municipal Supply

Drinking water in vicinity of the Project area is provided by private wells.

Groundwater

Groundwater resources in western Nevada County are characterized as poorly defined and variable.

Impervious Surface

The existing bridge is 195-feet long and the proposed bridge is 235-feet long. Therefore, the Project would result in an increase in impervious surface within the Bear River watershed. The watershed area of Bear River in the Project vicinity is approximately 117 square miles.

DISCUSSION

- a) *Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?*

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. The Project would disturb greater than one acre; therefore, a Construction Storm Water General Permit is required, consistent with Construction General Permit Order No. 2009-009-DWQ, issued by the SWRCB, to address storm water runoff, as well as a Section 401 Water Quality Certification permit. The permits would address grading, clearing, grubbing, and disturbances to the ground, such as stockpiling, or excavation. This Project would also require the preparation and implementation of a SWPPP with the intent of keeping all products of erosion from moving off site into receiving waters. The SWPPP includes BMPs to prevent construction pollutants from entering storm water runoff. By preparing and following the stormwater BMPs provided in the SWPPP, the Project impacts to water quality would be less than significant per implementation of measures **WQ-1** and **WQ-4**.

- b) *Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the Project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?*

No Impact. The Project would not directly or indirectly result in the construction of uses that would utilize groundwater supplies.

- c) *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:*
- (i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;*
 - (ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;*
 - (iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of*

polluted runoff; or
(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. The proposed Project would disrupt the slope and bank of the river to construct the new bridge through the removal of vegetation and excavation. These activities could increase the likelihood of erosion; however, BMPs such as the use of mulches, soil binders and erosion control blankets, silt fencing, sediment desilting basins, and other tactics will be utilized to avoid and minimize erosion sedimentation. During the construction and demolition of the new and existing bridge, respectively, a temporary trestle may be constructed, but that activity is not anticipated to have substantial impact to flood or regular river flows per the implementation of measure **WQ-1**.

d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to Project inundation?

Less than Significant Impact. The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) indicates Upper Bear River as a special flood hazard area subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance flood. To minimize the potential for release of pollutants by equipment used during construction or demolition of the existing bridge, BMPs stated below would be followed and all equipment would be staged outside of any risk of inundation.

e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

No Impact. The Project would not conflict or obstruct a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND/OR MITIGATION MEASURES

To conform to water quality requirements, the Project would implement the following BMPs.

WQ-1: BMPs will be incorporated into project design and project construction to minimize impacts on the environment:

- The area of construction and disturbance shall be limited to as small an area as feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation.
- Measures shall be implemented during land-disturbing activities to reduce erosion and sedimentation. These measures may include mulches, soil binders and erosion control blankets, silt fencing, fiber rolls, temporary berms, sediment desilting basins, sediment traps, and check dams.
- Existing vegetation shall be protected where feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation. Vegetation shall be preserved by installing temporary fencing, or other protection devices, around areas to be protected.
- Exposed soils shall be covered by loose bulk materials or other materials to reduce erosion and runoff during rainfall events.
- Exposed soils shall be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the Project site. This is caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities.
- All construction roadway areas shall be properly protected to prevent excess erosion, sedimentation, and water pollution.

- All vehicle and equipment maintenance procedures shall be conducted off-site. In the event of an emergency, maintenance would occur in a staging area away from the river.
- All concrete curing activities shall be conducted to minimize spray drift and prevent curing compounds from entering the waterway directly or indirectly.
- All construction materials, vehicles, stockpiles, and staging areas shall be situated outside of the river channel. All stockpiles must be covered, as feasible.
- Energy dissipaters and erosion control pads would be provided at the bottom of slope drains. Other flow conveyance control mechanisms may include earth dikes, swales, or ditches. Riverbank stabilization measures will also be implemented, if necessary.
- All erosion control measures and stormwater control measures shall be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state.
- All disturbed areas shall be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated, either through hydroseeding or other means, with native species.
- All construction materials shall be hauled off-site after completion of construction.

WQ-2: Any requirements for additional avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures will be contained in the permits obtained from required regulatory agencies.

WQ-3: The Project limits in proximity to Bear River will be marked as an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) or either be staked or fenced with high visibility material to ensure construction activities will not encroach further beyond established limits.

WQ-4: The proposed Project will require a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit for Discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) or Water Pollution Control Plan (WPCP) will also be developed and implemented as part of the Construction General Permit.

WQ-5: The construction contractor shall adhere to the SWRCB Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ NPDES Permit pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA. This permit authorizes stormwater and non-stormwater discharges from construction activities. As part of this Permit requirement, an SWPPP or WPCP will be prepared prior to construction consistent with the requirements of the RWQCB. This SWPPP shall incorporate all applicable BMPs to ensure that adequate measures are taken during construction to minimize impacts to water quality.

WQ-6: Design pollution prevention BMPs will be evaluated based on effectiveness and feasibility and incorporated into the final design as applicable.

WQ-7: Stormwater systems will be designed to prevent the release of toxins, chemicals, petroleum products, exotic plant materials or other elements that might degrade or harm biological resources.

FINDINGS

Less than Significant with Mitigation. The Project would add a net impervious surface area of approximately 0.17 acres for the build alternative, but would include an approach drainage system to direct runoff appropriately. The impervious surface generated by the Project is the minimum area practicable to meet the project objectives and minimum width roadway design standards. As stated in Avoidance and Minimization Measure **WQ-6** above, permanent treatment control BMPs will be included during final design. The Project anticipates temporary impacts to waters within

the Project area. However, the proposed Project has been designed to minimize all temporary impacts to the maximum extent practicable through the use of BMPs and implementation of regulatory permit conditions.

2.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION*a) Physically divide an established community?*

No Impact. The Project is not in or near a residential area and would not divide an established community.

b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No Impact. The Project would not change the land use or zoning and does not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulatory agency with jurisdiction over the Project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

FINDINGS

The Project does not physically divide an established community or conflict with any land plan, policy, or regulation designed to avoid or mitigate an environmental effect. **No Impact** to Land Use and Planning would occur.

2.12 MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

Nevada County was part of the California Gold Rush in the late 1840s and early 1850s with numerous historic mines. The Project area is designated as a significant Mineral Resource Area (MRZ-2), but no mineral extraction is currently occurring within in the Dog Bar Bridge Project area.

DISCUSSION

- a) *Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?*

No Impact. The Project will not result in any loss of known mineral resources.

- b) *Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?*

No Impact. The Project will not result in the loss of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site.

FINDINGS

The Project will have **No Impact** on mineral resources.

2.13 NOISE

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the Project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REGULATORY SETTING

In accordance with State and Nevada and Placer County guidelines, noise is defined as unwanted sound with different thresholds depending on specific areas. Sound levels usually are measured and expressed in decibels (dB), with 0 dB being the threshold of hearing. Decibel levels range from 0 to 140: 50 dB for light traffic is considered a low decibel level, whereas 120 dB for a jet takeoff at 200 feet (ft.) is considered a high decibel level.

Local Requirements

Nevada County

Under the Nevada County Land Use Development Code, Chapter 11, Zoning Regulations, Section L-II, 4.1., Noise, construction activity is exempt from the County's noise standards.

Placer County

Under the Placer County Code, Chapter 9 Public Peace, Safety and Welfare, Article 9.36 Noise, construction (e.g., construction, alteration or repair activities) between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, and between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday are exempt from the County code provided that all construction equipment is fitted with factory installed muffling devices and that all construction equipment is maintained in good working order.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The Project is located within unincorporated Nevada and Placer Counties. Temporary construction easements are needed for construction staging, which would take place within County right-of-way and adjacent privately owned parcels. Minor permanent right-of-way acquisitions are anticipated for the new bridge abutments upstream. Construction activity would occur adjacent to low population-density rural areas zoned Forest (Nevada County) and Farm (Placer County), which would be most similar to that of a "rural suburban" setting. The closest sensitive receptors (residences) are located approximately 650 feet southeast of the bridge site surrounded by vegetation. The table below describes different ambient noise levels based on population density.

Table 5: Population Density and Ambient Noise Levels

Population Density	dBA, Ldn
Rural Suburban	40–50
Quiet suburban residential or small town	45–50
Normal suburban residential urban	50–55
Normal urban residential	60
Noisy urban residential	65
Very noisy urban residential	70
Downtown, major metropolis	75–80
Under flight path at major airport, 0.5 to 1 mile from runway	78–85
Adjoining freeway or near a major airport	80–90
Sources: Cowan 1984, Hoover and Keith 1996	

DISCUSSION

- a) *Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the Project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?*

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. Generally, noise levels at construction sites can vary from 55 dBA to a maximum of nearly 90 dBA when heavy equipment is used. During construction of the Project, noise from construction activities may intermittently dominate the noise environment in the immediate area of construction.

Construction noise from this Project would be intermittent, and noise levels would vary depending on the type of construction activity. The loudest construction activities may include engine noise from construction vehicles, jack hammering, and pile driving. For this Project, the lowest construction equipment-related noise levels would be 55 dBA at a distance of 50 feet for sound from a pick-up truck. The highest noise levels would be up to 90 dBA (at a distance of 50 feet) for pile-driving and for equipment involved in general bridge demolition activities. Noise impacts are anticipated to be less than significant with the implementation of NOI-1.

- b) *Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?*

Less than Significant Impact. Groundborne vibration would increase temporarily during construction activities, specifically pile driving, but would not expose people to such vibration due to the remote location of the site. Pile driving will occur during construction to install footings of the replacement bridge. The closest sensitive receptors (residences) are over a hill and

surrounded by contiguous vegetation located approximately 650 feet southeast from where pile driving would occur.

- c) *For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels?*

No Impact. The Project is not located within or adjacent to an airport land use plan, or where such a plan has not been adopted, or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport; therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation is required.

AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND/OR MITIGATION MEASURES

NOI-1: To minimize the construction-generated noise, the abatement measures below shall be followed by the construction contractor:

- Construction shall occur only between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays, and not at any time on Sundays, with the exception that equipment may be operated within the project limits outside of these hours to:
 - Service traffic control facilities
 - Service construction equipment
- Equip an internal combustion engine with the manufacturer recommended muffler.
- Do not operate an internal combustion engine on the job site without the appropriate muffler.

FINDINGS

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. Construction noise from this project would be intermittent, and noise levels would vary depending on the type of construction activity. The loudest construction activities may include engine noise from construction vehicles, jack hammering, and pile driving. For this project, the lowest construction equipment-related noise levels would be 55 dBA at a distance of 50 feet for sound from a pick-up truck. The highest noise levels would be up to 90 dBA (at a distance of 50 feet) for piledriving and for equipment involved in general bridge demolition activities. However, due to the variation in topography and distance to the nearest sensitive receptor, no adverse noise impact from construction would be anticipated and construction activities would be conducted in accordance with Nevada and Placer County requirements.

2.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REGULATORY SETTING

CEQA requires the analysis of a project's potential to induce growth. CEQA guidelines, Section 15126.2(d), require that environmental documents "...discuss the ways in which the Project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment."

DISCUSSION

- a) *Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?*

No Impact. The Project will replace a one-lane bridge with a two-lane bridge to increase safety and access. The replacement bridge will not induce substantial population growth in or around the area.

- b) *Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?*

No Impact. The Project would not displace any existing housing or necessitate the construction of replacement housing since there are no residential units in the area.

FINDINGS

The construction of a new bridge and the demolition of the existing bridge will have **No Impact** on population and housing in or around the area.

2.15 PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the Project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) *Would the Project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, and/or other public facilities?*

No Impact. The Project is located on Dog Bar Road and would replace a one-lane bridge with a two-lane bridge, which would have no adverse physical impacts associated with government facilities or public services since the existing bridge will remain open until the new bridge is completed.

FINDINGS

The Project would have **No Impact** on public services.

2.16 RECREATION

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the Project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the Project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) *Would the Project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?*

No Impact. The Project would not increase the use of existing parks or other recreational facilities due to the location and nature of the Project.

- b) *Does the Project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?*

No Impact. The Project does not include other recreational facilities, nor does it require the construction or expansion of other recreational facilities.

FINDINGS

The Project would have **No Impact** on any parks or recreational facilities.

2.17 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the Project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) *Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?*

No Impact. The Project will not conflict or hinder the circulation system in any way.

- b) *Would the Project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?*

The Project is a transportation project that is presumed to have a **Less than Significant Impact** as recommended under section 15064.3(b) guidelines since it would have no impact on vehicle miles traveled.

- c) *Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?*

No Impact. The Project will change the approach on both sides of the bridge thus eliminating two sharp turns that are currently present on the existing one-lane bridge.

- d) *Result in inadequate emergency access?*

No Impact. The Project would have no effect on emergency access during project construction since the existing bridge would remain open until the new bridge is complete. The Project will have a beneficial impact on emergency access during the operational phase as the new two-lane bridge will be able to accommodate two-way traffic during an emergency or evacuation situation.

FINDINGS

The Project would improve circulation by replacing a one-lane bridge with a new, two-lane bridge, thus improving traffic circulation, and would have **Less than Significant Impact**.

2.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the Project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

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b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

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REGULATORY SETTING

Effective July 1, 2015, CEQA was revised to include early consultation with California Native American tribes and consideration of tribal cultural resources (TCRs). These changes were enacted through Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52). By including TCRs early in the CEQA process, AB 52 intends to ensure that local and Tribal governments, public agencies, and project proponents would have information available, early in the project planning process, to identify and address potential adverse impacts to TCRs. CEQA now establishes that a “project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a TCR is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment” (PRC § 21084.2).

To help determine whether a project may have such an adverse effect, the PRC requires a lead agency to consult with any California Native American tribe that requests consultation and is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of a proposed project. The consultation must take place prior to the determination of whether a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report is required for a project (PRC § 21080.3.1). Consultation must consist of the lead agency providing formal notification, in writing, to the tribes that have requested notification or proposed projects within their traditionally and culturally affiliated area. AB 52 stipulates that the NAHC shall assist the lead agency in identifying the California Native American tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated within the project area. If the tribe wishes to engage in consultation on the project, the tribe must respond to the lead agency within 30 days of receipt of the formal notification. Once the lead agency receives the tribe’s request to consult, the lead agency must then begin the consultation process within 30 days. If a lead agency determines that a project may cause a substantial adverse change to TCRs, the lead agency must consider measures to mitigate that impact. Consultation concludes when either: 1) the parties agree to measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect, if a significant effect exists, on a TCR, or 2) a party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached (PRC § 21080.3.2). Under existing law, environmental documents must not include information about the locations of an archaeological site or sacred lands or any other information that is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to the Public Records act. TCRs are also exempt from disclosure. The term “tribal cultural resource” refers to either of the following:

Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:

- Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources
- Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5020.1
- A resource determined by a California lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of the PRC Section 5024.1.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The horizontal area of potential effects (APE) was established as the area of direct and indirect effects and consists of an approximately 11.2-acre area. This includes all staging areas, vegetation/tree removal, approach roadway realignment, bridge replacement, ground disturbance, and temporary construction easements. The APE extends approximately 600 feet along Dog Bar Road from both sides of the bridge and approximately 200 feet northeast of the bridge and approximately 500 feet wide.

The vertical APE consists of a maximum of 20 feet of depth below the existing ground surface (bgs) to accommodate grading for the construction of bridge abutments. The minimum depth of ground disturbance is approximately 5 feet bgs, required for all roadway approach realignment, vegetation removal, and fill compaction. The Project does not involve relocation of any buried utilities.

Native American Consultation

To help determine whether the Project may have an effect, Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 requires the CEQA lead agency to consult with any California Native American tribe that requests consultation and is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of a proposed Project.

On November 11, 2018, and July 28, 2020, Dokken Engineering sent a letter and a map depicting the project vicinity to the NAHC in West Sacramento, asking the NAHC to review the Sacred Lands File (SLF) for any Native American cultural resources that might be affected by the project. The request to the NAHC seeks to identify any Native American cultural resources within or adjacent to the project area. A list of Native American individuals who might have information or concerns about the Project was also requested. Gayle Totton, NAHC Associate Governmental Program Analyst, and Nancy Gonzalez-Lopez, NAHC Cultural Resource Analyst, responded on December 4, 2018, and July 29, 2020, respectively, via digital fax that a review of the SLF failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the Project area or within a one-mile radius. Native American contact lists were included with both replies.

On August 12, 2020, initial consultation letters were sent to the Native American individuals on the list provided by the NAHC. The letters provided a summary of the project and requested information regarding comments or concerns the Native American community might have about the project. For those individuals that did not reply to the letter, emails were sent on October 6, 2020. The following descriptions below present a summary of consultation in which a response as received.

Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe, Pamela Cubbler, Treasurer. No response to the initial letter was received. A follow-up email was sent on October 6, 2020 and a response was received

on October 12, 2020 requesting a site visit and attendance during the cultural survey. A site visit took place on October 26, 2020 which involved partial survey of the APE. No Native American cultural resources were identified during the site visit. While Ms. Cubbler did not request that a tribal monitor be present during construction activities, she did request that the Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe be notified of the date of construction and be granted permission to conduct a follow-up survey after vegetation clearing and grubbing had been completed. She further requested to be notified should any Native American cultural resources be discovered.

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria, Antonio Ruiz, Tribal Heritage Specialist. A response was received via email from Anna Starkey, Cultural Regulatory Specialist, on September 16, 2020, informing the County of the Tribe's concern of the cultural sensitivity of the project area. The Tribe asked to participate in the cultural resources survey and review the draft environmental document, cultural report, and records search. The records search and site photos were provided to Ms. Starkey on October 5, 2020, and she was informed that the survey had been conducted with negative results. Ms. Starkey replied on October 5, 2020, that the project had low sensitivity, provided measures to be included in the environmental document prepared for the Project, and stated that no additional consultation was warranted. The measures included halting work in the event that Native American cultural resource was discovered during construction activities; contacting a Native American tribal representative traditionally and culturally affiliated with the Project area to make resource evaluation and treatment recommendations; stating that preservation in place is the preferred treatment of a discovery; and that work at the discovery location would resume after the resource has been fully assessed and treated.

DISCUSSION

- a) *Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)*

Less than Significant with Mitigation. The project is not anticipated to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a Tribal Cultural Resource (TCR) listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historic resources as defined by the Public Resource Code section 21074. No cultural resources were identified during the visual survey, record search and Native American consultation. No impacts to archaeological resources are anticipated as a result of the project. However, with any project involving ground disturbance, there is a possibility that cultural resources may be unearthed during construction. This impact would be considered potentially significant. Implementation of measures **CUL-1** through **CUL-3** would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

- b) *A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.*

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. The project is not anticipated to cause adverse impact to any resources considered significant to a California Native American tribe or other resources in the California Register that meet the Public Resource Code Section 5024.1 subdivision (c) criteria. No cultural resources were identified during the visual survey, record search and Native American consultation. However, with any project involving ground disturbance, there is a possibility that a TCR may be unearthed during construction. This impact

would be considered potentially significant and implementation of measures **CUL-1** through **CUL-3** would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND/OR MITIGATION MEASURES

To reduce potentially significant impacts to previously undiscovered TCRs within the Project Area to a less than significant level, the measures below shall be implemented.

- CUL-1:** Prior to construction, environmental awareness training will be provided to all construction workers onsite regarding the possibility of encountering subsurface cultural resources. Native American groups have expressed concerns regarding the Native American resources in the immediate area. Continued consultation will continue throughout the course of the Project.
- CUL-2:** If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, work shall be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find and develop a plan for documentation and removal of resources, if necessary. Additional archaeological survey will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits.
- CUL-3:** Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code protect Native American burials, skeletal remains and grave goods, regardless of age and provide method and means for the appropriate handling of such remains. If human remains are encountered, California Law requires that work shall halt in that vicinity and the Nevada County Coroner shall be notified immediately to assess the remains. If the coroner determines the human remains to be of Native American origin, the coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within twenty-four hours of such identification. The NAHC shall then determine the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) of the human remains and contact the MLD immediately. The County, the MLD, and a professional archaeologist retained by the County shall then consult to determine the appropriate plans for treatment and assessment of the human remains and any associated grave goods.

FINDINGS

The Project would reduce impacts to **Less than Significant with Mitigation** should any unanticipated findings be discovered during Project implementation.

2.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) *Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?*

No Impact. The Project would not require relocation of utility or service facilities.

- b) *Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?*

No Impact. The Project would not result in the need for new or expanded water supplies.

- c) *Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?*

No Impact. The Project would not include the construction of any wastewater-generating uses.

- d) *Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?*

Less than Significant Impact. Solid waste associated with demolition of the existing bridge will occur with Best Management Practices incorporated by the construction contractor, which would dispose or recycle waste at an appropriate waste disposal or recycling facility.

- e) *Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?*

No Impact. The Project would comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

FINDINGS

The Project will have a **Less than Significant Impact** on utilities and service systems within the project area and local vicinity.

2.20 WILDFIRE

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones:

Would the Project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose Project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The Project is on the Nevada and Placer County border within a mapped area of a Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) in a State Responsibility Area (SRA). The area is zoned as having a High degree of fire hazard on the Nevada County side and a Very High degree of fire hazard on the Placer County side.

DISCUSSION

a) *Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

No Impact. The Project would not impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan since the existing bridge will remain open during construction of the new bridge. The new bridge will include an additional lane and eliminate the sharp turn at both ends, which will result in beneficial impacts to emergency access. However, the road to and from the bridge on each side will remain the same.

b) *Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose Project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?*

No Impact. The Project is a bridge replacement project and would not exacerbate long-term wildfire risks.

c) *Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?*

No Impact. The Project would not require infrastructure that may exacerbate fire risk.

d) *Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?*

No Impact. The Project would not expose people or structures to downslope or downstream flooding or landslides as the Project is designed to reduce the risk of flooding.

FINDINGS

The Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement Project would have **No Impact** to risks associated with wildfire in the area.

2.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the Project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the Project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the Project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) *Does the Project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?*

Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation. Implementation of the Project would have the potential to impact the quality of the existing environment. Potential impacts have been identified related to Air Quality (2.3), Biological Resources (2.4), Cultural Resources (Section 2.5), Energy (Section 2.6), Geology and Soils (Section 2.7), Hazards and Hazardous Materials (Section 2.9), Water Quality (Section 2.10), Noise (Section 2.13), and Tribal Cultural Resources (Section 2.18). Mitigation measures have been identified related to individual resource-specific impacts to reduce impacts to the greatest extent possible. The Project has the potential to have impacts to wildlife species including the FYLF; however, specific mitigation measures would reduce the level of Project-related impacts to the species and habitat to less than significant levels.

- b) *Does the Project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a Project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past Projects, the effects of other current Projects, and the effects of probable future Projects)?*

No Impact. The Project would not have significant environmental impacts. Past projects in the project vicinity have been cleared through the CEQA process and potentially significant impacts from those previous projects would have already been mitigated. No cumulative effects are anticipated because no resources would be adversely affected by the project, or project impacts would be localized and of limited extent.

- c) *Does the Project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?*

No Impact. The Project would have no adverse effects, directly or indirectly, on humans.

FINDINGS

The Dog Bar Bridge Replacement Project **does not** have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory; nor have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable; nor have environmental effects which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Therefore, there are no significant determinations for mandatory findings of significance.

3.0 Comments and Coordination

This chapter summarizes Nevada County's efforts to identify, address and resolve project-related issues through early and continuing coordination.

3.1 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH PUBLIC AGENCIES

Consultation and/or coordination with the following agencies was, or will be initiated for the Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement Project:

- California Department of Fish & Wildlife
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board
- Nevada Irrigation District

3.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public comment period for the Project will occur from March 26, 2021 to April 26, 2021. All written comments received by Nevada County will be incorporated into the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and added in an appendix. Any additions or corrections to the IS/MND subsequent to public comments will be addressed within the final document.

4.0 Distribution List

A Notice of Availability was distributed to all residences within a 0.5-mile radius of the project area and to the following agencies and interested parties.

Federal Government

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825

US Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
ATTN: Regulatory Branch
1325 J Street, Room 1480
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

State Government

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

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 4
1234 E. Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710

Central Valley Flood Protection Board
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 170
Sacramento, CA 95821

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

Local Agencies

Nevada County Clerk-Recorder
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Nevada Irrigation District
1036 W Main Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Placer County Public Works
3091 County Center Drive, Suite 220
Auburn, CA 95603

Nevada County Historical Society
161 Nevada City Hwy
Nevada City, CA 95959

5.0 List of Preparers

Dokken Engineering

Chris Aguirre, Public Outreach Director

Hanna Shelton, Environmental Planner/Biologist

Michelle Campbell, Senior Environmental Planner/Archaeologist

Nevada County

Jessica Hankins, Project Manager

6.0 References

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Nevada County Community Development. General Plan. Approved 1996. Amended 2014. Available at: <https://www.mynevadacounty.com/1065/General-Plan> (accessed December 2020).

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Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District. Guidelines for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts of Land Use Projects. 2009. Available at: <https://www.mynevadacounty.com/DocumentCenter/View/15131/NSAQMD-Attachment-Land-Use-Guidelines-PDF> (accessed January 2021).

State Water Resources Control Board. GeoTracker. Available at: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?CMD=runreport&myaddress=nevada+county> (accessed December 2020).

State Water Resources Control Board. Impaired Water Bodies. Available at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/integrated2014_2016.shtml (accessed December 2020).

Thomson Reuters Westlaw. California Code of Regulations. Available at: <https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Index?transitionType=Default&contextData=%28sc.Default%29&bhcp=1> (accessed December 2020).

Appendix A: CNDDDB, USFWS, and CNPS Special Status Species Database Results



Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria: Quad> IS < (Lake Combie (3912111)> OR < Colfax (3912018)> OR < Wolf (3912112)> OR < Grass Valley (3912121)> OR < Chicago Park (3912028)> OR < Auburn (3812181))

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Allium jepsonii</i> Jepson's onion	PMLIL022V0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Ammonitella yatesii</i> tight coin (=Yates' snail)	IMGASB0010	None	None	G1	S1	
<i>Andrena subapasta</i> An andrenid bee	IIHYM35210	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<i>Banksula galilei</i> Galile's cave harvestman	ILARA14040	None	None	G1	S1	
<i>Bombus caliginosus</i> obscure bumble bee	IIHYM24380	None	None	G4?	S1S2	
<i>Bombus morrisoni</i> Morrison bumble bee	IIHYM24460	None	None	G4G5	S1S2	
<i>Bombus occidentalis</i> western bumble bee	IIHYM24250	None	Candidate Endangered	G2G3	S1	
<i>Calystegia stebbinsi</i> Stebbins' morning-glory	PDCON040H0	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Carex xerophila</i> chaparral sedge	PMCYP03M60	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Chlorogalum grandiflorum</i> Red Hills soaproot	PMLIL0G020	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<i>Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae</i> Brandegee's clarkia	PDONA05053	None	None	G4G5T4	S4	4.2
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i> Townsend's big-eared bat	AMACC08010	None	None	G3G4	S2	SSC
<i>Cosumnoperla hypocrena</i> Cosumnes stripetail	IIPLE23020	None	None	G2	S2	
<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i> valley elderberry longhorn beetle	IICOL48011	Threatened	None	G3T2	S2	
<i>Emys marmorata</i> western pond turtle	ARAAD02030	None	None	G3G4	S3	SSC
<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i> American peregrine falcon	ABNKD06071	Delisted	Delisted	G4T4	S3S4	FP
<i>Fremontodendron decumbens</i> Pine Hill flannelbush	PDSTE03030	Endangered	Rare	G1	S1	1B.2
<i>Fritillaria eastwoodiae</i> Butte County fritillary	PMLIL0V060	None	None	G3Q	S3	3.2
<i>Juncus digitatus</i> finger rush	PMJUN013E0	None	None	G1	S1	1B.1



Selected Elements by Scientific Name
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Natural Diversity Database



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i> California black rail	ABNME03041	None	Threatened	G3G4T1	S1	FP
<i>Lathyrus sulphureus var. argillaceus</i> dubious pea	PDFAB25101	None	None	G5T1T2Q	S1S2	3
<i>Margaritifera falcata</i> western pearlshell	IMBIV27020	None	None	G4G5	S1S2	
<i>Pekania pennanti</i> fisher - West Coast DPS	AMAJF01021	Endangered	Threatened	G5T2T3Q	S2S3	SSC
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> coast horned lizard	ARACF12100	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	SSC
<i>Poa sierrae</i> Sierra blue grass	PMPOA4Z310	None	None	G3	S3	1B.3
<i>Rana boylei</i> foothill yellow-legged frog	AAABH01050	None	Endangered	G3	S3	SSC
<i>Rhynchospora capitellata</i> brownish beaked-rush	PMCYP0N080	None	None	G5	S1	2B.2
<i>Sidalcea stipularis</i> Scadden Flat checkerbloom	PDMAL110R0	None	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Viburnum ellipticum</i> oval-leaved viburnum	PDCPR07080	None	None	G4G5	S3?	2B.3

Record Count: 29



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713



In Reply Refer To:
Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2020-SLI-2820
Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-08643
Project Name: Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement

September 04, 2020

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office

Federal Building

2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605

Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

(916) 414-6600

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2020-SLI-2820

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2020-E-08643

Project Name: Dog Bar Road Bridge Replacement

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Bridge replacement

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/39.062263637583584N121.00366196309045W>



Counties: Nevada, CA | Placer, CA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/205/office/11420.pdf	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321	Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Stebbins' Morning-glory <i>Calystegia stebbinsii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3991	Endangered

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.



Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants

*The database used to provide updates to the Online Inventory is under construction. [View updates and changes made since May 2019 here.](#)

Plant List

25 matches found. [Click on scientific name for details](#)

Search Criteria

Found in Quads 3912121, 3912028, 3912112, 3912111 3912018 and 3812181;

[Modify Search Criteria](#) [Export to Excel](#) [Modify Columns](#) [Modify Sort](#) [Display Photos](#)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Blooming Period	CA Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
Allium jepsonii	Jepson's onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Aug	1B.2	S2	G2
Allium sanbornii var. congdonii	Congdon's onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jul	4.3	S3	G4T3
Allium sanbornii var. sanbornii	Sanborn's onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Sep	4.2	S3S4	G4T3T4
Arctostaphylos mewukka ssp. truei	True's manzanita	Ericaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Feb-Jul	4.2	S3	G4?T3
Azolla microphylla	Mexican mosquito fern	Azollaceae	annual / perennial herb	Aug	4.2	S4	G5
Brodiaea sierrae	Sierra foothills brodiaea	Themidaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Aug	4.3	S3	G3
Calystegia stebbinsii	Stebbins' morning-glory	Convolvulaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Apr-Jul	1B.1	S1	G1
Carex xerophila	chaparral sedge	Cyperaceae	perennial herb	Mar-Jun	1B.2	S2	G2
Chlorogalum grandiflorum	Red Hills soaproot	Agavaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jun	1B.2	S3	G3
Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae	Brandegee's clarkia	Onagraceae	annual herb	May-Jul	4.2	S4	G4G5T4
Claytonia parviflora ssp. grandiflora	streambank spring beauty	Montiaceae	annual herb	Feb-May	4.2	S3	G5T3
Eryngium jepsonii	Jepson's coyote thistle	Apiaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Aug	1B.2	S2?	G2?
Fremontodendron decumbens	Pine Hill flannelbush	Malvaceae	perennial evergreen	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S1	G1

			shrub				
<u>Fritillaria eastwoodiae</u>	Butte County fritillary	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Mar-Jun	3.2	S3	G3Q
<u>Juncus digitatus</u>	finger rush	Juncaceae	annual herb	(Apr)May-Jun	1B.1	S1	G1
<u>Lathyrus sulphureus var. argillaceus</u>	dubious pea	Fabaceae	perennial herb	Apr-May	3	S1S2	G5T1T2Q
<u>Lilium humboldtii ssp. humboldtii</u>	Humboldt lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jul(Aug)	4.2	S3	G4T3
<u>Monardella follettii</u>	Follett's monardella	Lamiaceae	perennial shrub	Jun-Sep	1B.2	S2	G2
<u>Perideridia bacigalupii</u>	Bacigalupi's yampah	Apiaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Aug	4.2	S3	G3
<u>Plagiobothrys glyptocarpus var. modestus</u>	Cedar Crest popcornflower	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	3	SH	G3THQ
<u>Poa sierrae</u>	Sierra blue grass	Poaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Apr-Jul	1B.3	S3	G3
<u>Rhynchospora capitellata</u>	brownish beaked-rush	Cyperaceae	perennial herb	Jul-Aug	2B.2	S1	G5
<u>Sidalcea gigantea</u>	giant checkerbloom	Malvaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	(Jan-Jun)Jul-Oct	4.3	S3	G3
<u>Sidalcea stipularis</u>	Scadden Flat checkerbloom	Malvaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jul-Aug	1B.1	S1	G1
<u>Viburnum ellipticum</u>	oval-leaved viburnum	Adoxaceae	perennial deciduous shrub	May-Jun	2B.3	S3?	G4G5

Suggested Citation

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Appendix B:

Special Status Species Table

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale	
Amphibian Species						
California red-legged frog	Rana draytonii	Fed: State: CDFW:	T -- SSC	Inhabits lowlands and foothills in or near permanent sources of deep water with dense, shrubby or emergent riparian vegetation. Requires 11-20 weeks of permanent water for larval development and must have access to estivation habitat; estivation occurs late summer-early winter. Breeds from late November to early April. Occurs from elevations near sea level to 5,200 ft.	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA does not contain deep pool habitat suitable for the species to breed in but Bear River, which flows through the BSA, may serve a dispersal habitat for the species. There are documented CNDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent occurrence is located approximately 8 miles southeast of the BSA and was recorded in 2009. The species was observed in an ephemeral drainage contain small pools and wet areas. The occurrence encompasses a large area, approximately 27,000 acres, and does not offer detail on the exact location or number of individuals found. Due to the lack of suitable breeding habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences along Bear River, the water feature present within the BSA, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Foothill yellow-legged frog	Rana boylei	Fed: State: CDFW:	-- T --	Inhabits shallow streams and riffles with rocky substrate and open, sunny banks in in a variety of habitats including chaparral and woodland forests. Tadpoles require water for at least three or four months to complete development. Breeds March - May and occurs from elevations near sea level to 6,700 ft.	HP	Presumed Present: The BSA contains freshwater stream habitat with rocky substrate and riffles, as well as adjacent woodland habitat that supports the species. There are more than 30 CNDDB documented occurrences of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest and most recent occurrence is from 2019 and is located approximately one-mile northeast of the BSA, upstream of Bear River. The species was found resting on a moss-covered rock in a small creek that connects to Bear River. Due to the presence of suitable habitat and the number of local recent occurrences, the species is presumed present within the BSA. The population of foothill yellow-legged frog within this portion of the state is known as the Northeast/Northern Sierra clade and is State listed as threatened.
Bird Species						

Common Name	Species Name	Status		General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
American peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	FP -- --	Inhabits riparian areas and coastal and inland wetland habitats yearlong. During the breeding season, species occurs near wetlands, lakes, rivers, or other water where it nests on high cliffs, banks, dunes, and mounds; may nest on man-made structures and occasionally tree or snag cavities. Nesting location must contain protected cliffs or ledges for cover. Nests are usually scrapes on a depression or ledge in an open site. The species breeds from early March to late August.	A	Presumed Absent: The riparian habitat within the BSA is potentially suitable foraging habitat for the species but lacks open cliff ledges for nesting. The nearest, most recent CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 4.2 miles south of the Project area and was recorded in 2015. The occurrence encompasses approximately 2,000 acres. Due to the lack of suitable nesting habitat within the BSA, the species is presumed absent.
California black rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	-- T --	A rare, yearlong California resident of brackish and freshwater emergent wetlands in delta and coastal locations, including the San Francisco Bay area, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Morro Bay, the Salton Sea, and lower Colorado River. The species is extirpated from San Diego County and the majority of coastal southern California. Occurs in tidal emergent wetlands dominated by pickleweed, in brackish marshes dominated by bulrushes with pickleweed, and in freshwater wetlands dominated by bulrushes, cattails, and saltgrass. Species prefers high wetland areas, away from areas experiencing fluctuating water levels. Requires vegetation providing adequate overhead cover for nesting. Eggs are laid from March through June.	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks freshwater emergent wetlands near delta and coastal habitat required by the species. There are documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent occurrence is located approximately 4.3 miles north of the BSA and was recorded in 2007. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Fish Species						
Central Valley Spring Run Chinook ESU	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	T T --	Spring-run Chinook enter the Sacramento-San Joaquin River system to spawn, requiring larger gravel particle size and more water flow through their reeds than other salmonids. Remaining runs occur in	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA is outside of the known range of the species and there are no CNDDDB documented occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Furthermore, the South Sutter Water District Diversion Dam prevents the

Common Name	Species Name	Status		General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
				Butte, Mill, Deer, Antelope, and Beegum Creeks, tributaries to the Sacramento River. Known to occur in Siskiyou and Trinity counties.		species from migrating up the watershed and into Bear River. Due to the impassible barrier downstream from Bear River; the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Central Valley Steelhead DPS	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> pop. 11	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: --	T -- --	This species is known to occur along most of the California coast line and inhabits freshwater streams and tributaries in northern and central California. The preferred habitat consists of estuaries, freshwater streams and near shore habitat with productive costal oceans. Spawning occurs in small freshwater streams and tributaries occurs from January through March and could extend into spring. Spawning occurs where cool, well oxygenated water is available year-round. Approximately 550-1,300 eggs are deposited in an area with good intergravel flow. The fry emerge from the gravel about 4-6 six weeks after hatching and remain in shallow protected areas associated with stream margin. Juveniles may remain in freshwater for the rest of their life cycle or return to the ocean. The principal remaining wild populations spawn annually in Deer and Mill Creeks in Tehama County, in the lower Yuba River, and a small population in the lower Stanislaus River.	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA is outside of the known range of the species and there are no CNDDDB documented occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Furthermore, the South Sutter Water District Diversion Dam prevents the species from migrating up the watershed and into Bear River. Due to the impassible barrier downstream from Bear River, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Delta smelt	<i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: --	T E --	Occurs within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and seasonally within the Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait and San Pablo Bay. Most often occurs in partially saline waters.	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA is outside of the known range of the species and there are no documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Furthermore, the South Sutter Water District Diversion Dam prevents the species from migrating up the watershed and into Bear River. Due to the impassible barrier downstream from Bear River, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Invertebrate Species						
Western bumble	<i>Bombus occidentalis</i>	Fed: --	--	Once common throughout California,	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA is within the

Common Name	Species Name	Status		General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
bee		State: CDFW:	CE --	now found mostly in the Coastal Mountain Ranges, San Francisco Bay, and Sierra Nevada Mountains. Populations are highly localized and current distribution is not well understood. Inhabits meadows and grasslands with abundant floral resources. Requires undeveloped areas with underground refuge for over wintering queens and a variety of flowering plants that provide nectar and pollen throughout the colony life cycle (February-November). The species is largely confined to high elevation sites and a few occurrences have been documented on the northern California coast.		current range of the species but lacks the suitable meadow and grassland habitat that supports abundant floral resources required for the species. There is one documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, located approximately 4.3 miles northeast of the BSA and was recorded in 1951. Although, the local distribution of the species is not well understood, and presence of the species cannot be easily disproved, the BSA lacks suitable habitat that supports abundant floral species and therefore the species is presumed absent.
Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle	<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	T -- --	Species requires red or blue elderberry (<i>Sambucus</i> sp.) as host plants. Typically occurs in moist valley oak woodlands associated with riparian corridors in the lower Sacramento River and upper San Joaquin River drainages. Adults are active, feeding, and breeding from March until June (sea level-3,000 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks red and blue elderberry shrubs that are required to support the species. The nearest, most recent documented CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 2.9 miles south of the BSA and was recorded in 2010. Several exit holes were found on an elderberry shrub, but the species was no observed. No red or blue elderberry shrubs were identified within the BSA during biological surveys. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Mammal Species						
Fisher- Coast DPS	West <i>Pekania pennanti</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	-- T SSC	Inhabits mature, dense habitats of north coast coniferous forest and old growth and riparian forest communities with a high percent of canopy closure, large trees and snags with cavities and other deformities, large diameter downed wood and multiple canopy layers. Forest structural composition is critical for species; diversity in tree size and shape, light gaps and	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA is outside of the known range of the species and is outside of the preferred elevation range for the species. There is one documented CNDDDB occurrence within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, located approximately 6.3 miles east of the BSA and was recorded in 1973. This observation was recorded prior to the species listing in 2004. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences, the species is

Common Name	Species Name	Status		General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
				associated understory vegetation, natural structures (downed trees, broken limbs, snags, etc.) and limbs close to the ground. Breeds from late February to late April (found at 1,970-8,530 ft.). In the Southern Sierra Nevada, the species is not found at elevations below 4,500 feet.		presumed absent from the BSA.
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: --	SSC	Species occurs throughout California in all habitats except subalpine and alpine communities. Requires caves, mines tunnels, buildings or man-made structures for day and night roosts. Rarely roosts in tree cavities, limited to males and non-reproductive females. Young born May-June (0-10,800 ft. elevation).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks suitable man-made structures, caves or mine tunnels required for the species. Dog Bar Bridge is present within the BSA but does not exhibit the structural elements that create roosting habitat suitable for bat species. There is one documented CNDDB occurrence within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, located approximately 9.3 miles southwest of the BSA and was recorded in 1950. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Reptile Species						
Coast horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: --	SSC	Inhibits open areas of sandy soil within valley-foothill hardwood, conifer and riparian habitats, as well as pine-cypress, juniper and annual grasslands with sandy areas, washes or flood plains (sea level - 8,000 ft. elevation). The species is typically found near ant hills, as this is their main source of prey.	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA contains valley-foothill and conifer communities in which the species is known to occur. However, lacks the loose, sandy soils required for the species. There are documented CNDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent documented CNDDB occurrence is located approximately 2.9 miles east of the BSA and was recorded in 1995. Due to the lack of suitable habitat, and the lack of local, recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Western pond turtle	<i>Emys marmorata</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: --	SSC	A fully aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams and irrigation ditches with aquatic vegetation. Requires basking sites, including logs, rocks and cattail mats and suitable (sandy banks or grassy open field) upland habitat for	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA does contain river habitat but lacks aquatic vegetation required by the species. There are documented CNDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent occurrence is located approximately 7.7 miles southwest of the

Common Name	Species Name	Status		General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
				reproduction (found up to 6,500 ft.).		BSA and was recorded in 2010. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Plant Species						
Brownish beaked rush	<i>Rhynchospora g</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 2B.2		A perennial herb found in wet meadows, fens, seeps and marshes. Blooms July-August (0-6,600 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks wet meadows, fens, seeps and marshes that support the species. Additionally, there are no CNDDDB documented occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and lack of local, recent occurrence, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Butte County fritillary	<i>Fritillaria eastwoodiae</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 3.2		A perennial bulbiferous herb inhabiting chaparral, cismontane woodland, and openings of lower montane coniferous forest. Sometimes in serpentine soil. Flowers March-June (164-4,921 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA contains potentially suitable cismontane woodland habitat capable of supporting the species. The nearest, most recent CNDDDB documented occurrence, within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, is located approximately 8.8 miles southeast of the BSA and was recorded in 1967. Due to the lack of local, recent occurrences and the fact that the species was not observed during biological surveys, the species is presumed absent.
Cedar Crest popcornflower	<i>Plagiobothrys glyptocarpus modestus</i> var.	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 3		An annual herb native to California inhabiting mesic soils, seeps, and moist openings in valley/foothill grassland, ponderosa pine forest, wetland-riparian, and foothill woodland communities. Flowers April-June (160-2,900 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks seeps, moist grassland and wetland habitat preferred by the species. Furthermore, there are no documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Chaparral sedge	<i>Carex xerophila</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.2		A perennial herb native to California, inhabiting serpentine or dry, gabbroic soils of chaparral, cismontane woodland, or lower montane coniferous forest communities. Flowers March-June (1,480-2,530 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA contains cismontane woodland habitat in which the species is known to occur. There is one documented CNDDDB occurrence within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, located approximately 9.6 miles north of the BSA and was recorded in 2014. The species was found within openings of chaparral in rocky gabbro soils. Due to the lack of local, recent occurrences and the fact that the species was not observed during biological surveys, the species is presumed absent.

Common Name	Species Name	Status		General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
Dubious pea	<i>Lathyrus sulphureus</i> <i>var. argillacea</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- -- 3	A perennial herb inhabiting foothill woodlands to fir forests, cismontane woodlands, lower montane coniferous forests, and upper montane coniferous forests. Flowers April-May (500-3,000 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA contains potentially suitable cismontane woodland habitat capable of supporting the species. There are documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent CNDDDB documented occurrence, within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, is located approximately 8.4 miles west of the BSA and was recorded in 2001. The species was found within blue oak woodland and chaparral habitat. Due to the lack of local, recent occurrences and the fact that the species was not observed during biological surveys, the species is presumed absent.
Finger rush	<i>Juncus digitatus</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- -- 1B.1	A perennial grasslike herb inhabiting wetlands. Blooms May-June (2,205 ft.- 4,000 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks wetland habitat required by the species and the BSA is outside of the known elevation range of the species. Furthermore, there are no documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Follett's monardella	<i>Monardella follettii</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- -- 1B.2	A shrub, endemic to California, inhabiting serpentine soils and yellow pine forest communities. Blooms June-September (1,969 ft.- 6,562 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks serpentine soils required by the species and the BSA is outside of the known elevation range of the species. Furthermore, there are no documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Jepson's coyote thistle	<i>Eryngium jepsonii</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- -- 1B.2	A perennial herb inhabiting moist clay soils within valley and foothill grassland and vernal pool communities. Flowers April-August (0-1,640 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks valley and foothill grassland habitat and vernal pool habitat required by the species. Furthermore, there are no CNDDDB documented occurrences of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. For these reasons, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Jepson's onion	<i>Allium jepsonii</i>	Fed:	--	A perennial bulb inhabiting open,	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks flats of

Common Name	Species Name	Status		General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
		State: CNPS:	-- 1B.2	serpentine or volcanic slopes, and flats of chaparral, cismontane woodland, and lower montane coniferous forest communities. Flowers April-August (980-4,330 feet).		cismontane woodland and chaparral preferred by the species. There is one documented CNDDDB occurrence within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, located approximately 8.1 miles southwest of the BSA and was recorded in 2003. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Oval-leaved viburnum	<i>Viburnum ellipticum</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- -- 2B.3	A perennial deciduous shrub inhabiting chaparral, cismontane woodland, and lower montane coniferous forests. Flowers May-June (700-4,500 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA contains chaparral and cismontane woodland habitat in which the species is known to occur. There are documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent occurrence is located approximately 8.2 miles south of the BSA and was recorded in 2013. Due to the lack of local, recent occurrences and the fact that the species was not observed during biological surveys, the species is presumed absent.
Pine Hill flannelbush	<i>Fremontodendron decumbens</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	E -- 1B.2	A perennial evergreen shrub inhabiting rocky, gabbroic, or serpentinite soils of chaparral, cismontane woodland, and pine woodland communities. Flowers April-July (1,400-2,500 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA contains rocky areas of chaparral and cismontane woodland potentially suitable for the species. There are documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent occurrence is located approximately 9.3 miles north of the BSA and was recorded in 2016. The two CNDDDB occurrences of the species are found within Nevada County. Due to the lack of local, recent occurrences and the fact that the species was not observed during biological surveys, the species is presumed absent.
Red Hills soaproot	<i>Chlorogalum grandiflorum</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- -- 1B.2	A perennial bulbiferous herb inhabiting open shrubby or wooded hills of chaparral, cismontane woodland, and lower montane coniferous forest communities. Occurs frequently within serpentine or gabbro soils; known to occur on non-ultramafic soils. Flowers May-June (800-4,070 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA contains cismontane woodland and chaparral communities suitable for the species. There are documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent occurrence is located approximately 2.8 miles east of the BSA and was recorded in 2010. Due to the lack of local, recent occurrences and

Common Name	Species Name	Status		General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
						the fact that the species was not observed during biological surveys, the species is presumed absent.
Scadden Flat checkerbloom	<i>Sidalcea stipularis</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- E 1B.1	A perennial herb endemic to Nevada County, California inhabiting freshwater wetlands, marshy habitat and wetland riparian habitat. There are only two occurrences known on Scadden Flat in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Blooms from July-August (2,348-2,512 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks freshwater wetland and marshy habitat inhabited by the species. Furthermore, the BSA is outside of the species known range and known elevation range. There are documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent occurrence is located approximately 4.3 miles north of the BSA and was recorded in 2008. Due to the lack of suitable habitat, the fact the BSA is outside of the species known range and the lack of local, recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Sierra blue grass	<i>Poa sierrae</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- -- 1B.3	A perennial rhizomatous herb found on shady moist slopes in canyons or in forests within the Sierra Nevada. Blooms April-June (1,100-4,700 ft.).	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA contains potentially suitable shady, moist slope habitat for the species. There is one documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, located approximately 5.7 miles east of the BSA and was recorded in 1952. Due to the lack of local, recent occurrences and the fact that the species was not observed during biological surveys, the species is presumed absent.
Stebbins' morning-glory	<i>Calystegia stebbinsii</i>	Fed: State: CNPS:	-- -- 1B.1	A perennial rhizomatous herb inhabiting gabbroic or serpentinite soils of chaparral openings and cismontane woodland communities. Flowers April-July (600-3,600 ft.). Known from fewer than 20 occurrences in El Dorado and Nevada Counties.	A	Presumed Absent: The BSA lacks serpentinite soils preferred by the species but is known to occur in El Dorado and Nevada counties. There are documented CNDDDB occurrences within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. The nearest, most recent occurrence is located approximately 9.2 miles north of the BSA and was recorded in 2015. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and the lack of local, recent occurrences; the species is presumed absent from the BSA.

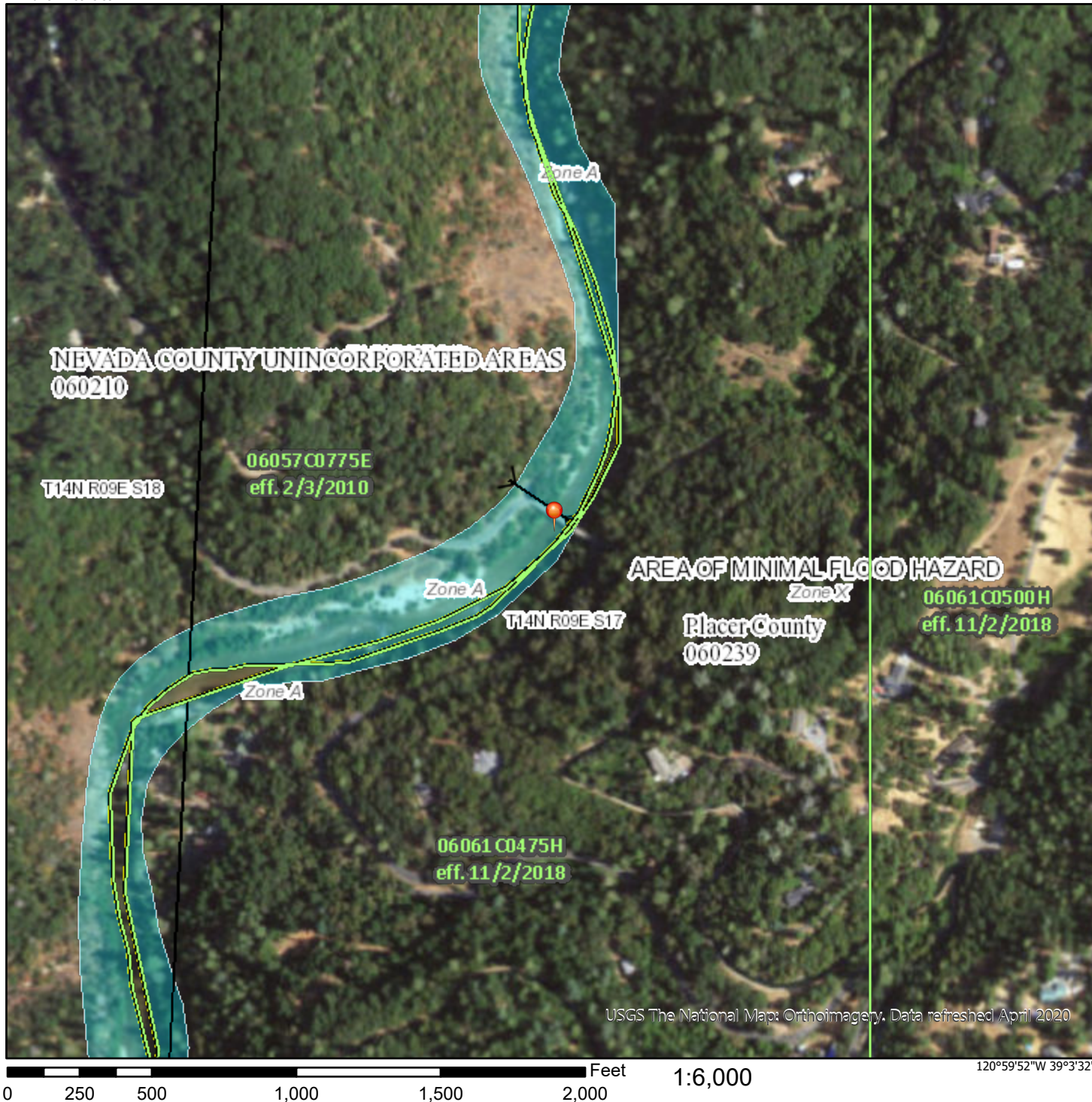
Appendix C:

FEMA Firmette Maps

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMMette



121°0'29"W 39°3'59"N



Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
OTHER FEATURES		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
		Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
MAP PANELS		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped



The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 9/17/2020 at 12:17 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

USGS The National Map: Orthoimagery. Data refreshed April 2020

120°59'52"W 39°3'32"N

0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet 1:6,000

Appendix D:

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

**MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE
DOG BAR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

Mitigation Measure	Reporting Milestone	Reporting / Responsible Party	VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE	
			Initials	Date
AIR QUALITY				
AQ-1: Prior to the start of construction, a Fugitive Dust Control Plan issued by the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District shall be obtained.	Prior to Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES				
BIO-1: Best Management Practices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing vegetation would be protected where feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation. Vegetation would be preserved by installing temporary fencing, or other protection devices, around sensitive biological resources. Exposed soils would be covered by loose bulk materials or other materials to reduce erosion and runoff during rainfall events. Exposed soils would be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the Project site caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities. All concrete curing activities would be conducted to minimize spray drift and prevent curing compounds from entering the waterway directly or indirectly. All construction materials, vehicles, stockpiles, and staging areas would be situated outside of the stream channel as feasible. All stockpiles would be covered, as feasible. All erosion control measures, and storm water control measures would be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state. All disturbed areas would be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated, where applicable, either through hydroseeding or other means, with native or approved non-invasive exotic species. All construction materials would be hauled off-site after completion of construction. 	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-2: All construction personnel shall be provided with environmental awareness training prior to being allowed to work on the job site. The training shall include an overview of sensitive habitats and special status species that are present within or adjacent to the Project area, including foothill yellow-legged frog, and Project specific protective measures that must be adhered to. The training will also include a description of the legal penalties for violating protective measures.	During Construction	Lead Agency		
BIO-3: Prior to the start of construction activities, the Project limits in proximity to jurisdictional waters and foothill riparian habitat shall be marked with high visibility Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) fencing or staking to ensure construction plans do not further encroach into waters or sensitive habitats. The Project biologist shall periodically inspect the ESA to ensure sensitive locations remain undisturbed.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		

**MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE
DOG BAR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

BIO-4:	Refueling or maintenance of equipment shall not be permitted to occur on the temporary trestle and must occur at least 40 feet from Bear River. All onsite refueling and maintenance shall occur over plastic sheeting or other secondary containment measures to capture accidental spills before they can contaminate the soil. Secondary containment must have a raised edge (e.g. sheeting wrapped around wattles).	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-5:	Equipment shall be checked daily for leaks and will be well maintained to prevent lubricants and any other deleterious materials from entering Bear River and the associated riparian area.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-6:	Vehicle maintenance, staging and storing equipment, materials, fuels, lubricants, solvents, and other possible contaminants shall remain outside of sensitive habitat marked with high-visibility fencing. Any necessary equipment washing must occur where the water cannot flow into sensitive habitat communities.	Prior to Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-7:	A chemical spill kit shall be kept onsite and available for use in the event of a spill.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-8:	Secondary containment consisting of plastic sheeting or other impermeable sheeting shall be installed underneath all stationary equipment to prevent petroleum products or other chemicals from contaminating the soil or from spilling directly into the Bear River. Secondary containment must have a raised edge (e.g. sheeting wrapped around wattles).	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-9:	Vegetation clearing shall only occur within the delineated Project boundaries (impact areas). An ESA fence will be shown on the final plans to delineate which trees can be saved and which will be removed. Where possible and with the guidance of the Project biologist, trees shall be trimmed rather than removed fully. In areas that will be subject to re-vegetation, plants will only be cleared where necessary and when feasible and will be cut above soil level.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-10:	The construction contractor shall revegetate affected areas of foothill riparian habitat in the western portion of the BSA with a native seed mix approved by the Project biologist. The northwestern and northeastern portion of impacted foothill riparian habitat will be re-vegetated starting approximately 15 feet upland of the ordinary-high water mark. Additionally, the lead agency shall mitigate for the net loss of foothill riparian habitat at a 2:1 ratio at an approved mitigation bank in coordination with permitting agencies.	Post Construction	Construction Contractor & Lead Agency		
BIO-11:	Prior to ground disturbing activities or in-water work, exclusion fencing shall be established on the edge of the Project boundary within foothill riparian habitat and upstream and downstream of Bear River (Riverine) within the Project limits. The final plans will include exclusion fencing within foothill riparian habitat that shall consist of silt fencing, or a similar plastic material, at least 3 feet high. The top few inches of the fence must be curved away (outside) from the construction area to curtail climbing frogs and shall be dug at least 6 inches into the ground. Exclusion fencing within Bear River shall consist of a ¼-inch mesh or smaller opening material and must be sufficiently anchored to the streambed with rocks and gravel to prevent immigration of frogs and tadpoles underneath into the construction area. The exclusion fencing shall be installed as soon as possible after cessation of winter flows and before the frogs begin to breed.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		

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BIO-12: Prior to vegetation removal an agency-approved biologist shall first inspect all areas where ground disturbing activity is anticipated. The agency-approved biologist shall observe all vegetation clearing and grubbing and will have stop work authority. If a FYLF is spotted within an active work area, the agency-approved biologist shall immediately stop work activities. The Permittee, or authorized Permittee representative, of the ITP shall notify CDFW of the finding and take the appropriate actions as included in the final ITP that will be acquired for the Project.	Prior to Construction	Lead Agency		
BIO-13: The agency-approved biologist shall perform daily clearance sweeps of all in stream areas and surrounding foothill riparian areas of construction activity prior to the commencement of work.	During Construction	Lead Agency		
BIO-14: The agency-approved biologist shall keep daily monitoring logs of construction activities and FYLF activities.	During Construction	Lead Agency		
BIO-15: Upon completion of construction activities, any barriers to flow shall be removed, with oversight from the agency-approved biologist, in a manner that would allow flow to resume with the least disturbance to the substrate.	Post Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-16: All construction crew members will allow wildlife enough time to escape initial clearing and grubbing activities. Initial clearing and grubbing must be accomplished through the use of hand tools.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-17: Prior to arrival at the Project site and prior to leaving the Project site, construction equipment that may contain invasive plants and/or seeds shall be cleaned to reduce the spreading of noxious weeds.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-18: If hydroseed and plant mixes are used during or post-construction, plant species must consist of a biologist approved plant palette seed mix of native species sourced locally to the Project area.	Post Construction	Lead Agency		
BIO-19: The construction contractor shall avoid removing any vegetation during the nesting bird season (February 15 –August 31). If vegetation must be removed within the breeding season, a pre-construction nesting bird survey must be conducted no more than 3 days prior to vegetation removal. The vegetation must be removed within 3 days from the nesting bird survey. A minimum 100-foot no-disturbance buffer will be established around any active nest of migratory birds and a minimum 300 foot no-disturbance buffer will be established around any nesting raptor species. The contractor must immediately stop work in the nesting area until the appropriate buffer is established and is prohibited from conducting work that could disturb the birds (as determined by the Project biologist and in coordination with the city) in the buffer area until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged. A reduced buffer can be established if determined appropriate by the Project biologist and approved by the County.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-20: The contractor shall dispose of all food-related trash in closed containers and must remove it from the Project area each day during construction. Construction personnel must not feed or attract wildlife to the Project area.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
BIO-21: The contractor shall not apply rodenticide or herbicide within the BSA during construction.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		

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CULTURAL RESOURCES					
CUL-1:	Prior to construction, environmental awareness training shall be provided to all construction workers onsite regarding the possibility of encountering subsurface cultural resources. Native American groups have expressed concerns regarding the Native American resources in the immediate area. Continued consultation will continue throughout the course of the Project.	During Construction	Lead Agency		
CUL-2:	If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, work shall be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find and develop a plan for documentation and removal of resources, if necessary. Additional archaeological survey will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
CUL-3:	Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code protect Native American burials, skeletal remains and grave goods, regardless of age and provide method and means for the appropriate handling of such remains. If human remains are encountered, California Law requires that work shall halt in that vicinity and the Nevada County Coroner shall be notified immediately to assess the remains. If the coroner determines the human remains to be of Native American origin, the coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within twenty-four hours of such identification. The NAHC shall then determine the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) of the human remains and contact the MLD immediately. The County, the MLD, and a professional archaeologist retained by the County shall then consult to determine the appropriate plans for treatment and assessment of the human remains and any associated grave goods.	Prior to and During Construction	Lead Agency and Construction Contractor		
HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS WASTE					
HAZ-1:	The contractor shall prepare a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Program (SPCCP) prior to the commencement of construction activities. The SPCCP shall include information on the nature of all hazardous materials that shall be used on-site. The SPCCP shall also include information regarding proper handling of hazardous materials, and clean-up procedures in the event of an accidental release. The phone number of the agency overseeing hazardous materials and toxic clean-up shall be provided in the SPCCP.	Prior to During Construction	Construction Contractor		

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HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY				
<p>WQ-1: BMPs will be incorporated into project design and project construction to minimize impacts on the environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area of construction and disturbance shall be limited to as small an area as feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation. • Measures shall be implemented during land-disturbing activities to reduce erosion and sedimentation. These measures may include mulches, soil binders and erosion control blankets, silt fencing, fiber rolls, temporary berms, sediment desilting basins, sediment traps, and check dams. • Existing vegetation shall be protected where feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation. Vegetation shall be preserved by installing temporary fencing, or other protection devices, around areas to be protected. • Exposed soils shall be covered by loose bulk materials or other materials to reduce erosion and runoff during rainfall events. • Exposed soils shall be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the Project site. This is caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities. • All construction roadway areas shall be properly protected to prevent excess erosion, sedimentation, and water pollution. • All vehicle and equipment maintenance procedures shall be conducted off-site. In the event of an emergency, maintenance would occur in a staging area away from the river. • All concrete curing activities shall be conducted to minimize spray drift and prevent curing compounds from entering the waterway directly or indirectly. • All construction materials, vehicles, stockpiles, and staging areas shall be situated outside of the river channel. All stockpiles must be covered, as feasible. • Energy dissipaters and erosion control pads would be provided at the bottom of slope drains. Other flow conveyance control mechanisms may include earth dikes, swales, or ditches. Riverbank stabilization measures will also be implemented, if necessary. • All erosion control measures and stormwater control measures shall be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state. • All disturbed areas shall be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated, either through hydroseeding or other means, with native species. • All construction materials shall be hauled off-site after completion of construction. 				
	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
<p>WQ-2: Any requirements for additional avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures will be contained in the permits obtained from required regulatory agencies.</p>				
	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
<p>WQ-3: The Project limits in proximity to Bear River will be marked as an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) or either be staked or fenced with high visibility material to ensure construction activities will not encroach further beyond established limits.</p>				
	During Construction	Construction Contractor		

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WQ-4: The proposed Project will require a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit for Discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) or Water Pollution Control Plan (WPCP) will also be developed and implemented as part of the Construction General Permit.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
WQ-5: The construction contractor shall adhere to the SWRCB Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ NPDES Permit pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA. This permit authorizes stormwater and non-stormwater discharges from construction activities. As part of this Permit requirement, an SWPPP or WPCP will be prepared prior to construction consistent with the requirements of the RWQCB. This SWPPP shall incorporate all applicable BMPs to ensure that adequate measures are taken during construction to minimize impacts to water quality.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
WQ-6: Design pollution prevention BMPs will be evaluated based on effectiveness and feasibility and incorporated into the final design as applicable.	Prior to Construction	Construction Contractor & Lead Agency		
WQ-7: Stormwater systems will be designed to prevent the release of toxins, chemicals, petroleum products, exotic plant materials or other elements that might degrade or harm biological resources.	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
NOISE NOI-1: To minimize the construction-generated noise, the abatement measures below shall be followed by the construction contractor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction shall occur only between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays, and not at any time on Sundays, with the exception that equipment may be operated within the project limits outside of these hours to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Service traffic control facilities ○ Service construction equipment • Equip an internal combustion engine with the manufacturer recommended muffler. • Do not operate an internal combustion engine on the job site without the appropriate muffler. 	During Construction	Construction Contractor		
TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES Follow CUL-1 – CUL-3 under Cultural Resources above.	During Construction	Lead Agency and Construction Contractor		