

California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 PLANNING
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

June 15, 2022

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Todd Newburger
Stanislaus National Forest
19777 Greenley Road
Sonora, CA 95370

TUO-120-PM R50.354
Under Canvas Inc
US Forest File 2720
SCH 2019029073

Mr. Newburger,

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Under Canvas Incorporated Special Use Permit for temporary access to the site for construction purposes on 1S09 and FR5310 roads. The permits will be issued for a maximum of a 1-year term for a short-term road use permit for commercial timber hauling during the construction process and a special use permit for long term secondary egress during emergencies only using forest service roads 1S09 and FR5310. The primary ingress and egress will be directly off State Route (SR) 120 once primary access to the site is complete and site development is underway. The section of Stanislaus National Forest (STF) road 1S09 and SR 120 to the Under Canvas property is 0.061 miles or 328 feet. Proposed development is located at Hardin Flat and SR 120 intersection on Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 068-120-062 and 068-120-063.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Due to traffic safety concerns and the speed limit at the intersection of SR 120 and Road 1S09, please provide Caltrans with a profile corner sight distance for the heavy trucks exiting the STF forest road.

According to the maps provided and Google Earth, there are large mature trees in the area of the construction site. These trees may provide habitat for nesting birds. If construction will occur during migratory bird season (February 1 – September 30), a pre-construction bird survey will be required. If an active bird nest is observed, a protective buffer will be established to protect the nest until the young have fledged. The size of protective buffers will be determined in coordination with California Dept of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or using applicable species-specific survey and monitoring protocol guidelines.

According to Google Earth and the National Wetland Identifier (NWI) tool, there appears to be possible ephemeral drainages just outside SR 120 at this location. This drainage may have connectivity to the South Fork Tuolumne River just southeast of the

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project limits. If impacts will occur to this feature, correspondence/consultation with CDFW, Army Corps of Engineers, and the California Waterboard may need to occur.

If any project construction activities encroach into Caltrans right of way (ROW), the project proponent must submit an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. Appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with this application. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, and/or other resources within Caltrans ROW at the project site(s). For more information, please visit the Caltrans Website at:

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>

If you have any questions or would like to discuss these comments, please contact Michael Casas at (209) 986-9830 (Email: michael.casas@dot.ca.gov) or me at (209) 483-7234 (Email: gregoria.ponce@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Gregoria Ponce', Chief
Office of Rural Planning

C: State Clearinghouse

Quincy Yaley, Planning Director, Tuolumne County Planning Department
David Ruby, Planning Manager, Tuolumne County Planning Department