

## Sample Summary for Electronic Document Submittal

15 copies of this document may be included when a Lead Agency is submitting electronic copies of environmental impact reports, negative declarations, mitigated negative declarations, or notices of preparation to the SCH. The SCH will still accept other summaries, such as an EIR summary prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123, attached to the electronic copies of the document.

SCH # \_\_\_\_\_

Lead Agency: Town of Woodside

Project Title: Old La Honda Road Bridge Replacement Project (Bridge Number 35C0190)

Project Location: Woodside San Mateo  
*City* *County*

Please provide a Project Description (Proposed Actions, location, and/or consequences).

Project Description: The Town of Woodside proposes to replace the Old La Honda Road Bridge (Bridge Number 35C0190) with an 84-inch diameter culvert. The culvert would be installed under the existing bridge, supported by new headwalls, and the area under the bridge would be filled with lean concrete.

Project Location: The Proposed Project is located within the Town of Woodside at the existing two-lane bridge on Old La Honda Road, approximately 0.1 miles west of the intersection of Old La Honda Road and Portola Road.

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

See Attachment 1: The proposed mitigation measures reduce any potentially significant impacts to less-than-significant levels.

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

None.

Please provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

## **SUMMARY FORM ATTACHMENT 1:**

### **Mitigation measures proposed to reduce any potentially significant impacts to less-than-significant levels.**

#### **Project Description:**

The proposed Project would replace the Old La Honda Road Bridge (Bridge Number 35C0190) with an 84-inch diameter culvert. The culvert would be installed under the existing bridge, supported by new headwalls, and the area under the bridge would be filled with lean (lighter) concrete.

#### **Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation:**

A summary of the potential impacts, and the mitigation measures identified to reduce potential impacts to less-than-significant levels, are included below. For the full discussion of impacts and the associated mitigation measures, please refer to the attached disk which includes a digital copy of the complete Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

#### **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:**

No-special status plants were observed in the study area during surveys completed during the appropriate bloom season. The project study area has the potential to support seven special-status wildlife species, including California red legged frog, California giant salamander, Santa Cruz black salamander, San Francisco garter snake, San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat, Townsend's big-eared bat, and pallid bat. Mitigation is included to address potential impacts to species, as is applicable to the study area, to ensure impacts are less-than-significant. In addition, trees, shrubs, and herbaceous vegetation in the study area could provide nesting habitat for non-listed bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and State Fish and Game Code. The project will also involve the placement of fill in an ephemeral drainage, which qualifies as a water of the U.S. and state, and tree trimming and removal will be required to provide equipment access. The mitigation measures listed below would reduce potential impacts on biological resources to less-than-significant levels.

#### ***Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Conduct Worker Environmental Awareness Training (WEAT)***

Before any work occurs in the proposed Project area, including grading and equipment staging, all construction personnel shall participate in an environmental awareness training regarding special-status species and sensitive habitats present in the proposed Project limits. If new construction personnel are added to the proposed Project, they must receive the mandatory training before starting work. As part of the training, an environmental awareness handout will be provided to all personnel that describes and illustrates sensitive resources (i.e., waters of the U.S. and state, special-status species and habitat [including California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake], nesting birds/raptors) to be avoided during proposed Project construction and lists applicable permit conditions identified by state and federal agencies to protect these resources.

#### ***Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Install Temporary Fencing around Environmentally Sensitive Habitat***

The Town shall ensure that temporary wildlife exclusion fencing is installed between the work area and environmentally sensitive habitat areas, before any ground-disturbing activity occurs within the Project footprint, as appropriate. The exclusion fence shall be buried a minimum of 4 inches below the surface, shall be a minimum of 4 feet tall, and shall include one-way exits to

avoid entrapment of wildlife. Construction personnel and construction activity shall remain within the defined project boundary and avoid areas identified as environmentally sensitive by the fencing. The fencing shall be checked regularly and maintained until all construction is complete. No construction activity shall be allowed until this condition is satisfied.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Stabilize Temporarily Disturbed Areas***

All temporarily disturbed areas shall be stabilized upon completion of construction. These areas will be properly protected from washout and erosion using appropriate erosion control devices including coir netting, hydroseeding, and revegetation.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-4: Conduct a Preconstruction Survey for Special-status Amphibians and Reptiles***

A USFWS-approved biologist shall conduct a preconstruction clearance survey for special-status amphibians and reptiles with potential to occur in the vicinity of the Project (California giant salamander, California red-legged frog, Santa Cruz black salamander, and San Francisco garter snake) within 24 hours prior to any ground disturbance. The qualifications of the biologist(s) will be submitted to the USFWS for review and written approval at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date earthmoving is initiated at the Project site. This survey will consist of walking surveys of the Project footprint and BSA, where accessible. The qualified biologist will investigate all potential cover sites for special status amphibians. This includes an adequate examination of mammal burrows, such as California ground squirrels or gophers. If any of these species are found within the construction work area, the biologist will contact CDFW and/or USFWS, as appropriate, and the species shall be allowed to voluntarily move outside of the work area on its own.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-5: Avoid Peak Dispersal Period for Special-status Amphibians***

No construction-related activities shall occur between November 1 and March 31 to avoid wet, rainy, or humid periods when special-status amphibians, such as California red-legged frog, are most likely to travel between upland and aquatic habitats. To the maximum extent practicable, no construction activities will occur during rain events or within 24-hours following a rain event. A rain event is defined as ½-inch of rain in a 24-hour period. If ground disturbing work must occur during this period, CDFW and USFWS shall be contacted for guidance.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-6: Conduct a Preconstruction Mammal Survey***

The following measures shall be implemented to minimize or avoid potential impacts to special-status mammal species:

- A qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (SSC) and active special-status mammal nests or dens within the Study Area.
- For surveys in inaccessible areas, the surveying biologist shall use binoculars to scan any suitable denning substrate for potential individuals or nests/dens.
- The preconstruction survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days before the initiation of construction activities.
- If an active special-status mammal nest/den is identified within the Study Area, a no-disturbance buffer shall be established around the nest/den to avoid disturbance of the nesting/denning mammal until a qualified biologist determines that the young have dispersed. The extent of these buffers shall be determined by the biologist in coordination

with CDFW and the Town and shall depend on the species identified, level of noise or construction disturbance, line-of-sight between the nest and the disturbance, ambient levels of noise and other disturbances, and other topographical or artificial barriers. In addition to the establishment of buffers, other avoidance measures (determined during agency coordination) may be implemented.

- If any non-denning species are observed in the Study Area, the species will be allowed to move out of harm's way on its own. If needed, a qualified biologist will move the species to the nearest area of suitable habitat outside of the Project area. If applicable, depending on the location and status of the species, agency approval will be obtained before any species is moved.
- If no active nests/dens are found during the preconstruction surveys, then no additional mitigation is required.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-7: Conduct a Preconstruction Survey for Bats.***

During April–September before construction begins, a qualified biologist will survey trees and within the proposed Project area and identify any rock crevices, snags, hollow trees, or other refuge with cavities that may provide suitable roosting habitat for bats. If no suitable roosting sites are found, construction may proceed. If suitable roosting sites are found, they will be examined for roosting bats or their sign. If bats are not found and there is no evidence of use by bats, construction may proceed. If bats are found or evidence of use by bats is present, the qualified biologist will work with CDFW and the Town to implement measures to avoid or minimize disturbance to the colony. Additional measures may include excluding bats from the site before their hibernation period (mid-October to mid-March) and before construction begins.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-8: Conduct a Preconstruction Nesting Migratory Bird and Raptor Survey.***

If vegetation removal will occur during the breeding season for migratory birds and raptors (generally February through August), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction nesting bird and raptor survey prior to the start of vegetation removal and construction activities (including equipment staging). The preconstruction survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days before the initiation of construction activities or vegetation removal. This survey will adhere to all protocol-level survey requirements as described in the *Recommended Timing and Methodology for Swainson's Hawk Nesting Surveys in California Central Valley* (Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee 2000).

If an active bird or raptor nest is identified within the construction work area or an active raptor nest is identified within 250 feet from the construction work area, a no-disturbance buffer shall be established around the nest to avoid disturbance of the nesting birds or raptors until a qualified biologist determines that the young have fledged and are foraging on their own. The extent of these buffers shall be determined by the biologist and shall depend on the species identified, level of noise or construction disturbance, line-of-sight between the nest and the disturbance, ambient levels of noise and other disturbances, and other topographical or artificial barriers. If no active nests are found during the preconstruction surveys, then no buffers or additional mitigation is required.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-9: Monitor during Demolition, Ground Disturbance and Vegetation Removal.***

A USFWS-approved biological monitor will be present during all Project activities requiring demolition (such as removal of the bridge façade), ground disturbance, or vegetation removal within the construction area.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-10: Avoid Harm to California Red-legged Frog and San Francisco Garter Snake.***

The following measures will be implemented to avoid harm to California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake:

- If a California red-legged frog or San Francisco garter snake is observed in the work limits during construction, work will immediately stop, the individual will be allowed to move out of harm's way on its own accord, and USFWS will be contacted within 24 hours.
- To ensure that diseases are not conveyed between work sites by the USFWS-approved biologist, the fieldwork code of practice developed by the Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force will be followed at all times.
- No pets will be permitted at the project site.
- No firearms will be allowed at the project site except those carried by authorized security personnel, or local, State, or Federal law enforcement officials.
- Pipes, conduits, and other materials that are stored onsite and could provide shelter for wildlife shall be stored on an open-top trailer or otherwise elevated above the ground to reduce the potential for wildlife to become trapped.
- All food scraps, paper wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash will be deposited in covered or closed trash containers and removed from the project at the end of each working day to reduce the attraction of predators to the project site.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-11: Provide Escape Ramps or Cover Open Trenches***

To avoid entrapment of wildlife, all excavated steep-walled holes or trenches more than 4 inches deep will be provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks at the end of each workday. If escape ramps cannot be provided, then holes or trenches will be covered with plywood or similar materials. Providing escape ramps or covering open trenches will prevent injury or mortality of wildlife resulting from falling into trenches and becoming trapped. The trenches will be thoroughly inspected for the presence of federally listed species at the beginning of each workday. Any species observed shall be allowed to voluntarily move outside of the work area on its own.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-12: Implement Measures to Reduce the Spread of Invasive Species***

To prevent the accidental introduction or spread of invasive species in the Project area during construction, the following measures would be implemented:

- Only certified noxious weed-free erosion control materials will be used. All straw and seed material will be certified as weed-free prior to being used at the proposed Project area.
- Contractor will wash all construction equipment prior to bringing it onto the job site. Inspection will ensure that equipment arrives on site free of mud and seed-bearing material.

- Any reseeding of disturbed soil areas and newly constructed slopes will use an appropriate native seed mix.
- The Environmental awareness training described under BIO-1 will include information on noxious weeds in the Project area.

***Mitigation Measure BIO-13: Compensate for Permanent Impacts to Waters of the U.S. and State***

To ensure the Project would not result in a net loss of waters of the U.S. and State, the Town shall implement compensation measures required by the Corps, RWQCB, and CDFW during project permitting. These measures will include, but are not limited to, implementing enhancement projects approved by the RWQCB within the San Francisquito Watershed.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

The Old La Honda Road Bridge was determined to be a historic resource pursuant to CEQA; no other historical or archaeological resources were identified within the proposed project area. The proposed project does not include demolition or destruction of the existing bridge, and alterations needed to install the culvert would not change the general integrity of materials, workmanship, design, location, setting, and feeling for this historic resource. Therefore, the project would have a less-than-significant impact on this historic resource. It is possible that previously unknown historical, and/or archaeological resources could be discovered during grading and excavation work associated with new construction. Mitigation measures have therefore been included to ensure that any potential impacts to resources encountered during construction would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

***Mitigation Measure CUL-1: Conduct Worker Environmental Awareness Training (WEAT).***

Prior to any excavation or other substantial subsurface disturbance activities, any individuals conducting the work should be given a cultural resource awareness training session and advised to watch for cultural resource materials during construction activities. This training will cover both the identification of resources that may be encountered during construction and procedures to be followed in the event of a discovery. This training can be conducted concurrently with WEAT for sensitive biological resources (Mitigation Measure BIO-1).

***Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Protect Discovered Cultural Subsurface Resources.***

If any evidence of prehistoric cultural resources (freshwater shells, beads, bone tool remnants or an assortment of bones, soil changes including subsurface ash lens or soil darker in color than surrounding soil, lithic materials such as flakes, tools or grinding rocks, etc.), or historical cultural resources (adobe foundations or walls, structures and remains with square nails, refuse deposits or bottle dumps, often associated with wells or old privies), are inadvertently unearthed during project-related activities, all work must immediately cease within 50 feet of the find, the Town and Caltrans must be notified, and a qualified archaeologist shall be consulted to assess the significance of the cultural materials and recommend appropriate conservation measures. If the find is determined to be potentially significant, the archaeologist, in consultation with the Town, and—if the find is prehistoric or Native American in nature—appropriate Native American group(s), shall develop and implement a treatment plan with an emphasis toward preservation in place.

***Mitigation Measure CUL-3: Procedures for Human Remains.***

In accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5, and the Public Resources Code 5097.98, regarding the discovery of human remains, if human remains are discovered during construction, all work must immediately cease, and the San Mateo County coroner must be contacted. If the Coroner determines that the remains are those of a Native American, the Coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and subsequent procedures shall be followed, according to State Public Resources Code Sections 5097.9 to 5097.99, regarding notification of the Native American Most Likely Descendant.

**GEOLOGY, SOILS, PALEONTOLOGY:**

Mitigation is identified in the event that paleontological resources are encountered during construction.

***Mitigation Measure GEO-1: Protect Discovered Paleontological Resources.***

If any evidence of paleontological resources is inadvertently unearthed during construction, all work will cease within 50-feet of the discovery, the county and the Town of Woodside will be notified, and a qualified paleontologist shall be consulted to assess the significance of the resources and recommend appropriate conservation measures.