

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.*

**Governor's Office of Planning & Research**

**APR 29 2020**

April 29, 2020

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

Amanda Watson, Planner  
Amador Resource Conservation District  
1220 Airport Road #B  
Jackson, CA 95642

**AMA-88-PM 51.644  
Three Meadows  
Restoration Project  
SCH 2020040118**

Dear Ms. Watson,

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Initial Study Mitigated Negative Declaration State Clearinghouse 2020040118. The projects General Plan Designation - Timberland Agricultural Area, Zoning: FR-160 (Forest Resource, 160-acre minimum).

The Three Meadow Restoration Project would restore the natural morphology of three relatively small, high elevation meadows in Amador County, California. The purpose of the project is to improve hydrologic functions of the meadow systems by improving water quality, timing of flows, recovery of sediment deposition, and arrest channel head cutting. Implementation of these actions would also increase and prolong the duration of late season flows for the benefit of flora and fauna and downstream users by reducing downstream flood peaks. The proposed project would halt the encroachment of upland plant species, particularly lodgepole pine, while increasing the extent and quality of wet meadow and riparian vegetation.

The proposed project is located in the Eldorado National Forest, south of State Route (SR) 88 in Amador County. Amador Ranger District El Dorado County, T09N, R16E, Sections 29, 30 and 31.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Due to the occurrence of sensitive resources near the project area(s), no staging will be permitted in Caltrans Right of Way (ROW). If project construction activities

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will encroach into Caltrans ROW, an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans Permit Office is required. 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 right of way at the project site(s). Please include California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation with supporting technical studies when submitting the Encroachment Permit. 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) 948-7475 (Email: [michael.casas@dot.ca.gov](mailto:michael.casas@dot.ca.gov)) or me at (209) 948-7325 (Email: [gregoria.ponce@dot.ca.gov](mailto:gregoria.ponce@dot.ca.gov)).

Sincerely,

*Gregoria Ponce'*

Gregoria Ponce, Chief  
Office of Rural Planning

cc: Jered Reinking, Director, Amador County Public Works  
State Clearinghouse