

PLEASE PUBLISH THE FOLLOWING LEGAL AD on June 10, 2020. Please send the Affidavit of Publication and bill to Trinity County Planning. Call Bella Hedtke at 623-1351, Ext. 5, with any questions.

PUBLICATION DATE: June 10, 2020

Trinity County Department of Planning

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT TO ADOPT
A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Indian Creek Connectivity and Restoration Project**

The Trinity County Planning Department is providing notice of the availability of and intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration of environmental impact for the Indian Creek Connectivity and Restoration Project Floodplain Development Permit. The Trinity County Planning Department, with federal co-lead agencies the Bureau of Land Management and the Yurok Tribe prepared an Environmental Assessment/Initial Study for the Project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and California Environmental Quality Act. The Environmental Assessment/Initial Study is available for review.

Project Description: The applicant is seeking a Floodplain Development Permit to restore a 3,300-foot reach of Indian Creek in Trinity County, California. In addition to a Floodplain Development Permit, the Project requires a 401 Water Quality Certification from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 404 Water Quality Permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers, and an Encroachment Permit from the Trinity County Department of Transportation for the proposed activities.

The 29.25-acre Project area encompasses a 3,300 linear reach of Indian Creek, an access road, equipment staging areas, water drafting location, and areas proposed for restoration within and adjacent to Indian Creek.

The proposed restoration design involves the following:

- Re-grading the valley bottom to create a laterally-flat valley bottom that slopes downstream at a near-constant gradient.
- Cutting and filling approximately 32,700 cubic yards of material to create the proposed geomorphic grade surface.
- Revegetating graded areas with willow and cottonwood pole plantings. Mature vegetation will be retained on site to the extent possible.

Project Location: The Indian Creek Project site is located adjacent to Indian Creek Road in Section 25 of Township 32 North, Range 9 West, Mount Diablo Meridian, in western Trinity County and is visible on the Bully Choop USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle map. The downstream end of the Project area is located approximately 200 feet northwest of where Indian Creek Road Bridge 5C-046 crosses Indian Creek. From the downstream boundary, the Project extends upstream encompassing approximately 3,300 linear feet of Indian Creek and a total of 29.25 acres on both sides of the creek. The downstream (west) half of the Project area is located entirely on BLM-administered public land, whereas the upstream half is about evenly split between BLM land and portions of two private parcels.

Environmental Topics Evaluated: The joint NEPA/CEQA document, an Environmental Assessment/Initial Study, examines the potential impacts of the proposed project to the environment, and includes mitigation measures to reduce environmental impacts of the proposed project to a less than significant level.

Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement): Trinity County, as Lead Agency for the proposed project, has discretionary authority over the primary project proposal. To implement this project, the applicant may need to obtain the following discretionary permits/approvals from other agencies:

- Trinity County Department of Transportation – Encroachment Permit
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board – 401 Water Quality Certification

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- California Department of Fish & Wildlife (Region 1) – Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement
- US Army Corps of Engineers – 404 Water Quality Permit
- Bureau of Land Management – Finding of No Significant Impact

A copy of the Draft IS/MND is available for review at the Trinity County Planning Department, 61 Airport Road, Weaverville, California, weekdays 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. An electronic version is available at <https://www.trinitycounty.org/Planning>.

The 30-day public comment period begins on June 10, 2020 and will end on July 10, 2020 at 3:00 PM. Written comments can be emailed to dcolbeck@trinitycounty.org or mailed to the attention of David Colbeck, Trinity County, Department of Transportation, PO BOX 2490, Weaverville, CA 96093.