

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.*

8/25/2020

August 18, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**Aug 19 2020**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

**AMA-88-PM 14.33  
Jackson Creek  
Annual Cleaning  
Initial Study MND  
SCH 20200070475**

Susan Peters, City Planner  
City of Jackson  
33 Broadway  
Jackson, CA 95642

Dear Ms. Peters:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Notice of Intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the City of Jackson Annual Jackson Creek Cleaning. The annual cleaning of the Jackson Creek and the tributaries will consist of removing excess vegetation, debris and some silt to reduce potential flooding over a 12-year period. The cleanup work will be limited to the driest time within the creek channels, typically during the fall months for no more than eight weeks. The annual cleanup is in areas along State Route (SR) 49 and SR 88 in the City of Jackson in Amador County.

Caltrans has the following comments regarding the IS/MND:

If any project activities encroach into Caltrans Right of Way including traffic control measures an Encroachment Permit will need to be submitted. In addition, if work does occur within Caltrans Right of Way, there are large mature trees along SR 49 and SR 88. These trees may provide habitat for nesting birds. If removal of these trees will occur during migratory bird season (February 15 – September 1), 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 Department of Fish and Wildlife or using applicable species-specific survey and monitoring protocol guidelines.

If an Encroachment Permit is required, appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with the application. These studies will include an analysis of potential

Susan Peters  
August 18, 2020  
Page 2

impacts to any cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, and/or other resources within Caltrans Right of Way at the project site. 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 question or would like to discuss these comments, please contact Michael Casat (209) 986-9830 (email: [michael.casas@dot.ca.gov](mailto:michael.casas@dot.ca.gov)) or me at (209) 986-9635 (email: [kevin.schroder@dot.ca.gov](mailto:kevin.schroder@dot.ca.gov)).

Sincerely,

*Kevin Schroder*

Kevin Schroder, Acting Branch Office Chief  
Office of Rural Planning