



*We will reflect the National Treasure in which we live”*

## **DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

**State Clearinghouse Number:** Enter State Clearinghouse Number

**Project: Bijou Park Creek Watershed Restoration Project**

---

### **Project Description**

The Project has been proposed by the City of South Lake Tahoe (City) to address frequent flooding and stormwater management challenges in the Bijou Park Creek watershed. The Project will address declining water quality, nuisance flooding, and degradation of the Bijou Park Creek Stream Environment Zone (SEZ) that has occurred due to the past development impacts on the watershed. These goals would be achieved by improving stormwater drainage and treatment infrastructure and restoring and enhancing the function of the SEZ in the eastern portion of the City. The City is considering restoration activities in two sections of Bijou Park Creek as well as nine additional stormwater conveyance and treatment upgrades to achieve the Project objectives of improving water quality, reducing nuisance flooding, and restoring function of the Bijou Park Creek SEZ. Collectively, the proposed improvements will achieve the Project objectives by improving water quality, reducing nuisance flooding, and restoring function of the Bijou Park Creek SEZ.

---

### **Determination**

An Initial Study has been prepared by the City of South Lake Tahoe. On the basis of this environmental review it is determined that the proposed action (Project) with the incorporation of the identified mitigation measures will not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

To minimize potentially significant impacts, the following mitigation measures were prescribed:

- **Biological Resources Mitigation Measure No. 1 (BIO-1):** If it is concluded that direct or indirect impacts are possible to sensitive or listed species and/or their habitat, the need for protocol-level surveys will be determined in consultation with state (CDFW) and federal (USFWS) agencies and other stakeholders. The type and intensity of surveys will depend on the listed species in question and the potential habitat present for that species. During the appropriate survey timeframe specific to the target species, qualified biologists would resurvey habitat areas utilizing state and federal protocol to detect presence and determine distribution of the species within the Project Area. Based on survey

results, consultation will also be undertaken to determine whether further compensatory mitigation actions are required.

- Biological Resources Mitigation Measure No. 2 (BIO-2): Prior to completion of final design of the Project, a qualified biologist would perform a wetland delineation for the Project Area. The delineation would conform to the USACE Wetlands Delineation Manual and Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region (Version 2.0). Following delineation of wetlands and waters that would be impacted by the Project the Project design will be modified to avoid impacts to the delineated wetland or the City will comply with the permitting regulations of Section 404 of the CWA to minimize and mitigate for the loss of jurisdictional wetlands and waters.
- Traffic/Transportation/Circulation Mitigation Measures No. 1 (TR-1): A Project-specific Traffic Control Plan shall include measures to ensure coordination with emergency services to address and mitigate project impacts to emergency services and evacuations. Such measures may include appropriate use of signage, flaggers, traffic calming, and alternative routes to accommodate local and through traffic. In addition, local residents shall be advised of schedules for construction traffic detours through signage, press releases, and distribution of flyers in area neighborhoods well in advance of construction initiation. Access will not be prohibited, at any time, for local residents, school busses or emergency vehicles, only delayed. In case of emergency, the contractor will be required to have traffic rated plates on site to allow access to be restored during trenching.

**Signature**

---

Jason Burke  
Stormwater Program Coordinator  
City of South Lake Tahoe

---

Date