



County of Calaveras Department of Planning

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Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration
Review Period: June 23, 2021 to July 23, 2021

Initial Study ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

For: Jay Woods
TPM 2020-017
Assessor's Parcel No. 048-025-292

1. Project Title: 2020-017 Tentative Parcel Map for Jay Woods
2. Lead Agency Name and Address: Calaveras County Planning Department
891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249
3. Contact Person: Madeleine Flandreau, Planner II
mflandreau@co.calaveras.ca.us
(209)754-6394
4. Project Location: 5567 Amos Lane, Burson APN: 048-025-292
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: VVH Consulting Engineers (VVHCE)
430 10TH Street
Modesto, CA 95354
6. General Plan Designation: Rural Transition B
7. Zoning: Rural Residential (RR)
8. Project Description: The applicant is requesting approval of a Tentative Parcel Map to divide a 14.31-acre parcel into two parcels, 9.31 acres and 5 acres in size. The subject parcel is currently developed with a single family residence and a barn, and is located at 5567 Amos Lane, in Burson. APN: 048-025-292 is located in Southeast ¼ of Section 1, T04N, R10E, MDM.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting: (Briefly describe the project's surroundings.)

Location	General Plan Designation	Zoning	Land Use
North	Rural Transition B	Rural Residential (RR)	Single Family Dwellings
South	Rural Transition B	Rural Residential (RR)	Single Family Dwellings
East	Rural Transition B	General Agriculture (A1)	Single Family Dwellings
West	Rural Transition B	Rural Residential (RR)	Single Family Dwellings

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required: Calaveras County Environmental Management Agency, Calaveras County Public Works Department, Calaveras County Building Department, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

11. Have California Native American Tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.1?

No. Both the Calaveras Band of Miwuk Indians and the California Valley Miwok Tribe have been notified of this project. No requests for consultation have been received as of the date of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact", as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

DETERMINATION (To be completed by Lead Agency):

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that, although the original scope of the proposed project **COULD** have had a potentially significant effect on the environment, there **WILL NOT** be a significant effect because revisions/mitigations to the project have been made by or agreed to by the applicant. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a potentially significant effect on the environment and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** or its functional equivalent will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a potentially significant impact on the environment. However, at least one impact has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document, pursuant to applicable legal standards, and has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis, as described in the report's attachments. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the impacts not sufficiently addressed in previous documents.

I find that, although the proposed project could have had a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, pursuant to applicable standards, and have been avoided or mitigated, pursuant to an earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, all impacts have been avoided or mitigated to a less-than-significant level and no further action is required

Madeleine Flandreau

Madeleine Flandreau, Planner II
Project Planner

Date 6/16/2021

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

Figure 1 – Location Map

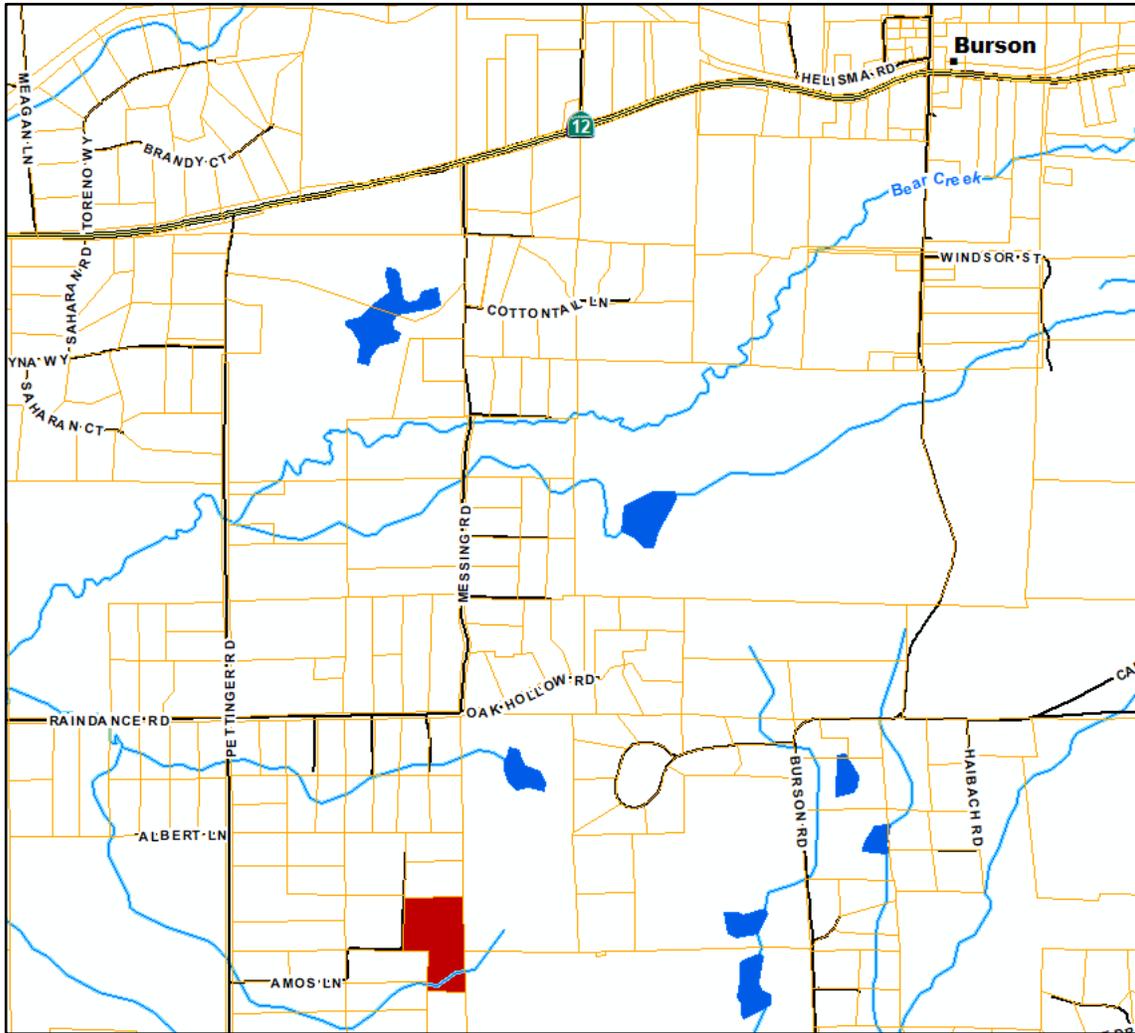


Figure 2 – June 2020 County Aerial Image (parcel boundaries are approximate)

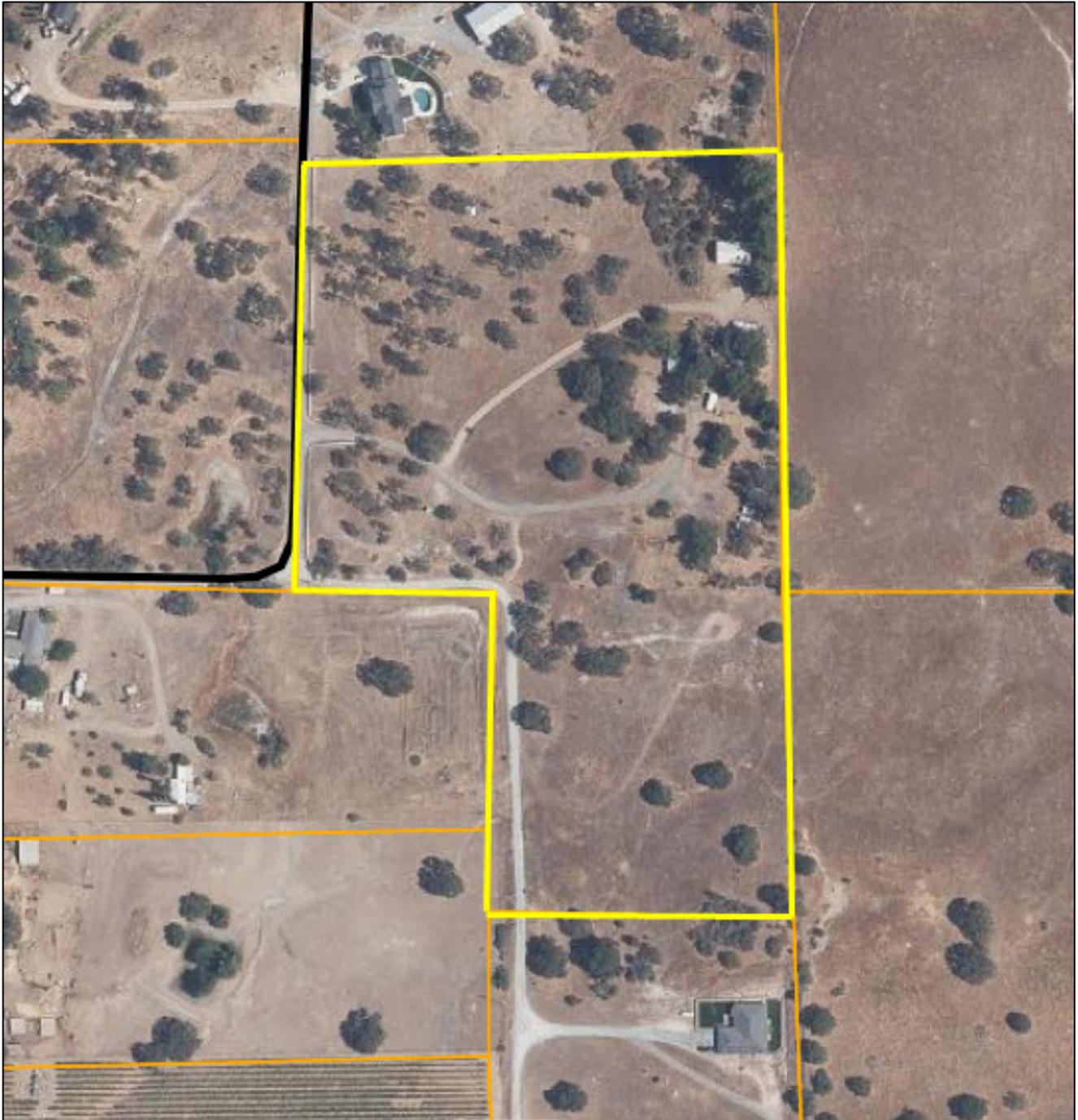
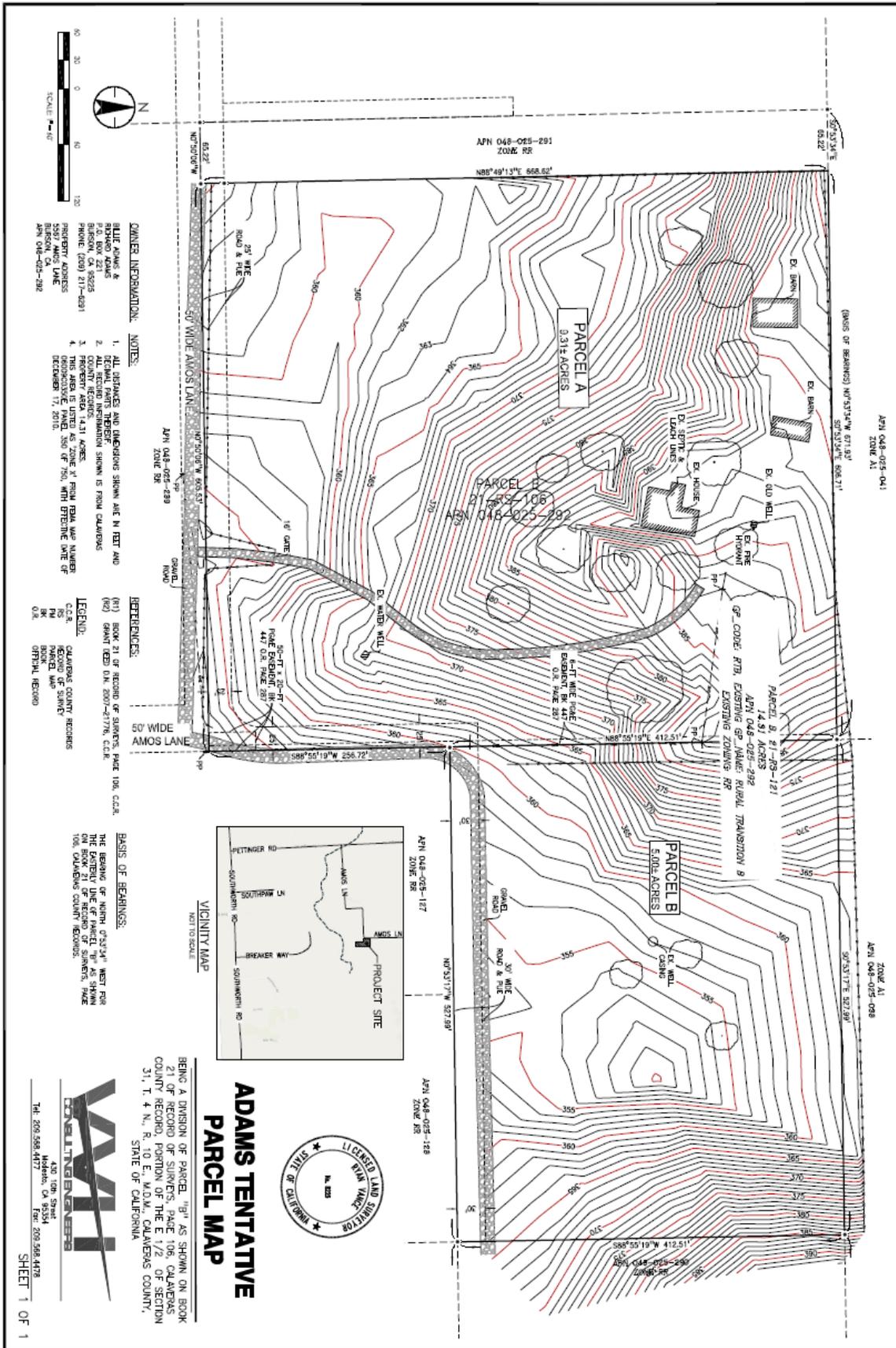


Figure 3 – Tentative Parcel Map



(Note: North arrow on map is incorrect, map has been rotated to orient with North up)

Figure 4 - CTS Critical Habitat Map

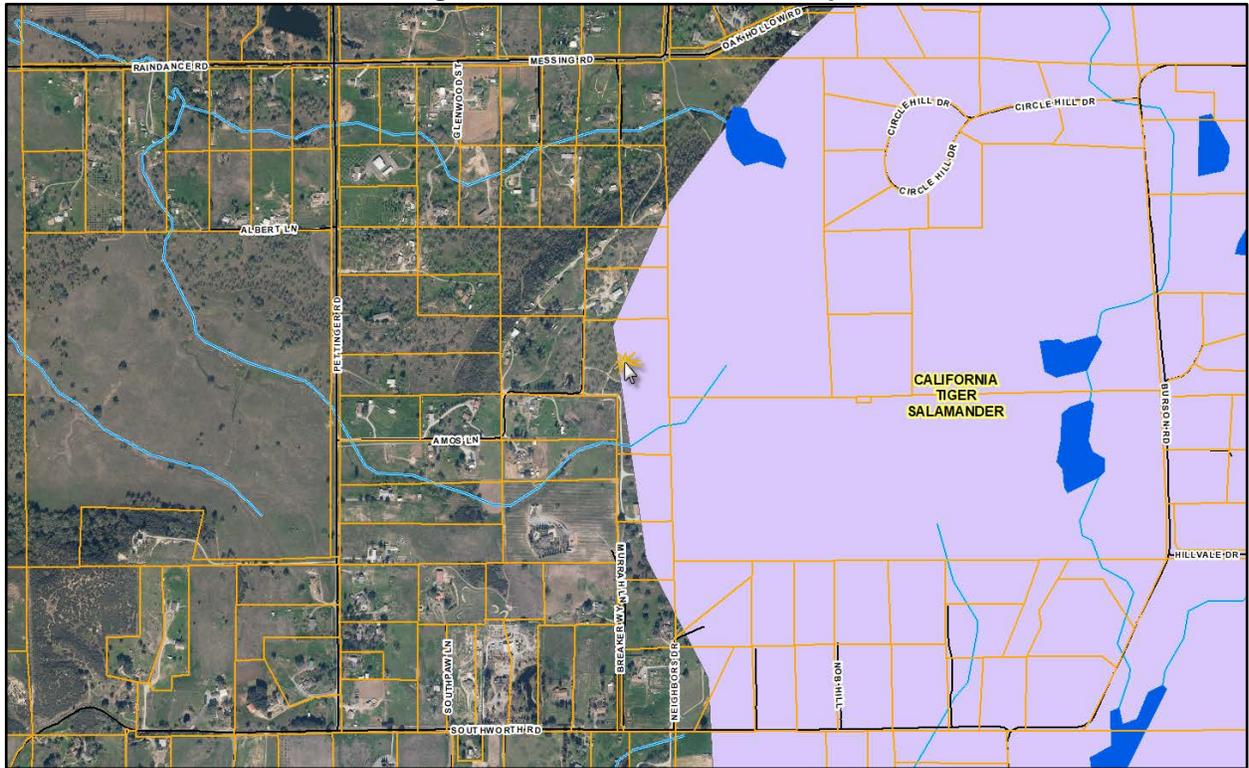


Figure 5: View from Amos Lane looking northeast towards the driveway



Figure 6: View of proposed Parcel B looking east



Environmental Impact Analysis:

The proposed project is an application for a Tentative Parcel Map for Jay Woods, to subdivide a 14.31-acre parcel into two parcels of 9.31 acres and 5 acres in size for the purpose of residential development. The subject parcel is currently developed with two wells, a barn and a single family residence and is located on Amos Lane in Burson. APN: 048-025-292 is in the Southeast ¼ of Section 1, T04N, R10E, MDM. The parcel has a General Plan land use designation of Rural Transition B and is zoned Rural Residential.

The division of the parcel is consistent with the Calaveras County General Plan¹ and meets the zoning requirements of a minimum of 5 acre parcels for the RR zone. The project site has been adequately conditioned by all appropriate departments and agencies to ensure compliance with local and State codes and regulations.

The proposed land division would allow for the future construction of one single family residence as well as accessory structures and other activities associated with construction such as grading, tree removal, road/driveway improvements and fire clearance measures. Access to the proposed parcel will require the improvement of the current encroachment. New construction may also require the future use of public services such as school, police, hospitals or parks.

The parcel is located in Critical Habitat designated for the California Tiger Salamander. In addition with the presence of a blue line stream through the parcel and the proximity of wetlands on adjacent parcels, the applicant has submitted a Biological Survey that includes an assessment of wetlands and a Tiger Salamander Protocol Survey to the Planning Department.

I. AESTHETICS

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Except as provided in Public Resources Code §21099, would the project:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publically accessible vantage points). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) **No Impact** – The Conservation and Open Space element of the Calaveras County General Plan¹ considers scenic vistas to include forests, rolling hills, ranches, agricultural land, historic landscapes, oak woodlands, rock formations, and other unique topographical features, river corridors, lakes, and streams. The parcel consists of lowland foothills grassland with sparse pine and oak trees, and one seasonal drainage in the southern portion of proposed Parcel B. The purpose of the lot split is for residential construction on proposed Parcel B, however, with the proposed parcel being 5 acres in size, it is large enough to develop residentially while still retaining the natural landscape necessary to maintain the rural character and scenic beauty of the property.
- b) **No Impact** – The only state highway in the area is State Highway 12, which is 1.5 miles to the north. According to Caltrans², this portion of State Highway 12 is not designated as a state scenic highway.

- c) **No Impact** – Any future development on the newly created parcels would be in accordance with the permitted uses of the Rural Residential zoning district and would have no impact on the current character or quality of the site and its surroundings.
- d) **Less Than Significant Impact** – The addition of a new parcel, and therefore a potential new light source from an additional single-family residence would not add a significant increase to the light or glare that currently exists in the area, nor would any views be adversely affected by the addition of any light that would be associated with a single-family residence on the property. Outdoor lighting for future development would be subject to Building Code, which requires that residential lighting be located, adequately shielded, and directed such that no direct light falls outside the property perimeter, or into the public right-of-way. With the adherence to outdoor lighting regulations at the time of development, the proposed project would not create new sources of substantial lighting or glare that would generate a significant impact.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

Would the project:

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)),				

timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

DISCUSSION

- a) **No Impact** - The subject parcel is currently zoned Rural Residential (RR) and a request is being made to subdivide the land into 2 parcels 9+ and 5 acres in size. The subject property is not designated as prime, unique or farmland of statewide importance. The property is not currently being used for any type of agricultural operations or being converted to a non-agricultural use nor does the property qualify for the Agriculture Preserve under the Williamson Act.
- b) **No Impact** - The subject property is not currently under a Williamson Act Contract per the County Assessor’s office records. The division of land does not conflict with any agriculture use of the property. The property is not currently used for agriculture production and the proposed land division is consistent with parcels adjacent to and surrounding the subject property.
- c-d) **No Impact** - This parcel is currently zoned Rural Residential which is intended for residential uses. The parcel is not compatible with forestry uses and has historically not been used as such. The project site is not considered to be forest land by the County’s General Plan or Zoning Ordinance, and therefore, the proposed project would not result in loss or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use.
- e) **No Impact** - The proposed project is consistent with the County’s Zoning Ordinance, and the use defined under Chapter 17.22 of the Zoning Ordinance. The project site is not considered to be agricultural land by the County’s General Plan or Zoning Ordinance. The land division would not cause additional changes in the existing environment that could result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses or forest land to non-forest land. The requested entitlement or potential to construct a new single family dwelling on one the proposed new lot would not diminish the production of existing agricultural uses in the area or have an impact on adjacent forest land.

III. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

Calaveras County is part of the Mountain Counties Air Basin (MCAB). Air quality within the County is under the jurisdiction of the Calaveras County Air Pollution Control District (CCAPCD). The County has been classified as a non-attainment area for the State and Federal ozone standards (1-hour and 8-hour) and particulate matter standards (PM2.5 and PM10). To become designated as a non-attainment area for the State and Federal standards, there must be at least one monitored violation of the ambient pollutant standards within the area's boundaries. An area is designated in attainment of the State standard if concentrations for the specified pollutant are not exceeded. An area is designated in attainment for the Federal standards if concentration for the specified pollutant is not exceeded on average more than once per year.

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact** - The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that projects be consistent with the local management plan and the State Implementation Plan (SIP). A consistency determination plays an essential role in local agency project review by linking local planning and unique individual projects to the County General Plan and the SIP in the following ways: (1) it fulfills the CEQA goal of fully informing local agency decision-makers of the environmental costs of the project under consideration at a stage early enough to ensure that air quality concerns are fully addressed; and (2) it provides the local agency with ongoing information assuring local decision-makers that they are making real contributions to clean air goals contained in the SIP. Projects that are consistent with the local general plan are, therefore, considered consistent with the air quality management plan. As proposed, the project represents an adjacent development in an existing residential area. No significant air quality impacts have been identified for either construction or operation of the project. As such, the project is consistent with the goals of County General Plan, the SIP, and does not present a significant air quality impact.

b) **Less Than Significant Impact - Construction Impacts:** – Air quality impacts may occur during site preparation and construction activities required to implement the proposed land use. Major sources of emissions during construction include exhaust emissions, fugitive dust generated as a result of soil and material disturbance during site preparation and grading activities, and the emission of ROG's during the painting of the structures. As noted, the project involves the construction of a single-family residential unit. CCAPCD's Rule 205 governs fugitive dust emissions from construction projects. This rule includes Dust Management techniques that must be undertaken for all construction projects to ensure that no dust emissions from the project are visible beyond the property boundaries. Adherence to Rule 205 is mandatory and as such, does not have to be denoted as mitigation under CEQA. The following analysis assumes the use of the minimal measures specified in Rule 205. The emissions associated with the heavy equipment for paving activities are considered by the model in the construction of the project. Note that all emissions are well within their respective threshold values and the impact is less than significant.

Table 1 represents the established CCAPCD thresholds for land use.

Table 1

Thresholds of Significance (lbs / day)			
	ROG	NOx	PM ₁₀
Construction Emissions	150	150	150
Operational Emissions	150	150	150

Table 2 represents the estimated emissions for the project. The emissions listed are the estimated values from the CalEEMod program (2014 version) supplied by the California Air Resources Board which is the accepted program for calculating such values. As the specific parameters for construction of the residence has not been identified at this stage, a representative residence was used to estimate the emissions during construction. This model assumes that construction will take ~200 days with an assumed square footage of 3500 square feet, and includes a driveway, garage, patio, and landscaping.

Table 2

Source	ROG	NOx	CO	SO ₂	PM ₁₀ Dust	PM ₁₀ Exhaust	PM ₁₀ Total	PM _{2.5} Dust	PM _{2.5} Exhaust	PM _{2.5} Total
Site Preparation										
Off Road Diesel	2.54	26.89	17.01	0.02	1.17	1.47	2.64	0.6	1.35	1.95
Worker Trips	0.04	0.06	0.61	0	0.09	0	0.09	0.02	0	0.02
Totals	2.58	26.95	17.62	0.02	1.26	1.47	2.73	0.62	1.35	1.97
Grading										
OffRoad Diesel	2.07	21.94	14.09	0.01	0.98	1.2	2.18	0.51	1.1	1.61
Worker Trips	0.04	0.06	0.61	0	0.09	0	0.09	0.02	0	0.02
Totals	2.11	22	14.7	0.01	1.07	1.2	2.27	0.53	1.1	1.63

Building Construction										
Off Road Diesel	3.6	21.56	15	0.02	0	1.49	1.49	0	1.43	1.43
Vendor Trips	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Worker Trips	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	3.6	21.56	15	0.02	0	1.49	1.49	0	1.43	1.43
Asphalt Paving										
Off Road Diesel	1.4	14.6	9.17	0.01	0	0.89	0.89	0	0.82	0.82
Worker Trips	0.07	0.09	0.99	0	0.15	0	0.15	0.04	0	0.04
Totals	1.477	14.69	10.16	0.01	0.15	0.89	1.04	0.04	0.82	0.86
Coating										
Off-Gas	2.76	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Off Road Diesel	0.41	2.57	1.9	0	0	0.22	0.22	0	0.22	0.22
Worker Trips	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coating Totals	3.17	2.57	1.9	0	0	0.22	0.22	0	0.22	0.22
Totals										
Totals All	12.93	87.77	59.38	0.06	2.48	5.27	7.75	1.19	4.92	6.11
Daily Threshold	150	150	x	x	x	x	150	x	x	x
Exceeds	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

As shown in the Table 2, the project falls well below the established thresholds that were used to determine if impacts would be created or air quality standards violated, therefore, it would have a less than significant impact related to the items discussed above.

- c) **Less Than Significant Impact** - The proposed project, which upon build out, can have two residential units, which do not typically expose sensitive receptors (i.e. schools, residential neighborhoods, etc.) to substantial pollutant concentrations. Construction activities, such as improvements of the access road and the development of residential units will create temporary emissions of dust and automobile exhaust (i.e. construction equipment). However, these activities are not considered to be significant and are temporary in nature. Future development of the site would be required by CCAPCD to have best management practices in place for construction to minimize dust and construction emissions.
- d) **No Impact** - The proposed project would not create any objectionable odors and is not near any sensitive receptors.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

a-b) **Less Than Significant Impact** – The majority of the subject parcel is located at the western edge of an area designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as Critical Habitat for the California Tiger Salamander (CTS). The designated Critical Habitat is Unit 5, Indian Creek Unit, of the Central Valley Geographic Region, which includes 3,128 acres. The Unit is bordered by State Route 26 on the south and east, Warren Road on the west, and State Route 12 on the north. A California Tiger Salamander Habitat Assessment was conducted by Dudek in September 2020 to assess potential CTS habitat on the subject parcel. A review of the California Natural Diversity Database was conducted as well as other relevant sources to determine the number and distribution of documented CTS occurrences within 2 kilometers (1.24 miles) of the subject parcel, as well as a reconnaissance level field survey.

There are 2 documented CTS occurrence records in the vicinity, one breeding pond 0.60 miles to the east, and another breeding pond 0.80 miles to the southeast, both of which are still considered to have species present. According to Dudek’s assessment, the presence of adult CTS generally declines with increased distance from breeding habitats, and their determination was that there is low likelihood for CTS from the two breeding sites to utilize the subject parcel as habitat.

There are two seasonal drainages on the subject parcel, one in the northwestern portion of proposed Parcel A, and another in the southern portion of proposed Parcel B. Both drainages are narrow, lack pools and contain vegetated bed and banks. According to the Habitat Assessment both drainages are typically dry by March, and do not provide suitable breeding habitat for CTS.

The Assessment by Dudek delineates a 0.51-acre building envelope which is located in the north-central portion of proposed Parcel B that lacks suitable upland habitat (see Figure 3 of the Assessment). Based on the Critical Habitat Assessment, impacts to CTS or its habitat are not anticipated if ground-disturbance activities are restricted to the mapped building envelope and the existing access roads as shown on Figure 3 of the September 28, 2020 Assessment by Dudek. Mitigation Measure BR-1 is provided to reduce this potential impact to less than significant with mitigation.

MITIGATION MEASURE BR-1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ In order to avoid impacts to CTS, all ground disturbing activities shall be restricted to the building envelope and existing access roads as shown on Figure 3 of the California Tiger Salamander Habitat Assessment conducted by Dudek in September 2020. Before recordation, the Final Tentative Parcel Map shall include the building envelope outlining the area restricting ground-disturbing activities.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife reviewed the Assessment by Dudek and had no questions or concerns.

- c) **No Impact** – The subject property neither contains, nor is adjacent to, any federally protected wetlands.
- d) **No Impact** – No migratory wildlife corridors, or native wildlife nursery sites are known to exist on the property. The property is currently developed and the proposed expansion of development will not interfere with the local wildlife to a significant degree when compared to the existing baseline of the current structures on the parcel and in the surrounding area.
- e) **No Impact** – There are currently no local ordinances that apply to this project concerning preserving or conserving biological resources, as this property is small in size and currently developed.
- f) **No Impact** – The proposed project is not located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved regional or statewide conservation plan.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

Cultural resources include buildings, archaeological sites, structures, objects and districts important in local, state, or national history. A detailed history of Calaveras County shows the County's cultural resources are generally representative of the County's history relative to: Prehistoric Native American Occupation, Mining, Agriculture, Water, Transportation and Communications, Ethnicity and Social Systems, Industry, Commerce, and Tourism.

a-c) **No Impact** – No known cultural resources to have value to local cultural groups have been identified for the project site. The project application was circulated to the local Native American representatives with no response. Local Native American groups were involved in the application and CEQA process for which no potential resource were noted to exist. Under the 1996 General Plan, the site was listed in a low resource sensitivity area; distinguishing that the discovery of significant sites is unlikely. There is always potential with the development of any land that buried archaeological remains could be present. As earth-moving activities commence on the site, the potential to unearth human buried remains increases. Standard construction practices prevail and all earth movement would be halted immediately and appropriate authorities notified. Authorities would include the County Coroner if human remains are discovered or a qualified archaeologist if prehistoric or historic-period artifacts are found.

VI. ENERGY

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

DISCUSSION

- a) **Less than Significant Impact** –The proposal is to create one additional parcel for future residential development. All new homes in California must comply with energy efficient building standards, reducing energy usage. Public transportation is available in Calaveras County, but services are limited. Goods and Services are limited in this area of County presuming that shopping will be completed while residents are away from home during the day, resulting in fewer vehicle trips. The increased energy usage resulting from an additional residential parcels is incremental when compared to the existing baseline in the surrounding area.
- b) **No Impact** – Calaveras County has not adopted a local renewable energy or energy efficient plan. All new construction must comply with adopted State Regulations.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

DISCUSSION

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact** – Calaveras County is in an area of historically low seismic activity within the Sierra Block of Seismic Risk Zone 3. The County is not in, adjacent to, or crossed by, an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The County’s potentially active faults include the Bear Mountain and Melones Fault Zones, part of the Foothills Fault System, which pass through the western County near Valley Springs, Mokelumne Hill and south of Copperopolis. More distant is the Sierra Frontal Fault System along the eastern edge of the Sierra Nevada Range with a low likelihood of generating seismic activity in the County. Although the County has felt ground shaking from earthquakes with epicenters located elsewhere, no major earthquakes have been recorded within the County. Based on estimates of the Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment for California completed by the California Geological Survey, PGA in Calaveras County could reach or exceed less than 0.1 to 0.2 g (1 chance in 475 of being exceeded each year). Such levels of ground shaking would equate to an intensity value of I, which few people recognize as earthquakes when felt⁵. Based on the information above and the topography of the parcel, permitted uses in the RR zone would have a less significant impact on causing seismic actions or landslides.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact** – According to the National Resource Conservation Service, there are two soil types mapped on the subject parcel: Amador sandy loam, 2-5% slopes, and Pardee cobbly loam, 2-15% slopes. Amador sandy loam consists of 10-20 inches of sandy loam overlaying paralithic bedrock, and is the dominant soil type mapped on subject parcel. Pardee cobbly loam, is limited to the hill with the onsite residence and consists of 10-20 inches of cobbly loam overlaying lithic bedrock. Soil erosion and loss of topsoil is expected during future construction/development of the site. Existing codes and Best Management Practices that regulate erosion control would be implemented during wet winter months and during future grading and development of the property in compliance with Title 8 as it pertains to the County’s grading ordinance and improvement standards. The project site would undergo some grading and potentially fill in certain areas and soil erosion from water runoff is very remote. If there are site specific concerns by Public Works, further investigations would be required during the grading, improvement and building permit process. The project site will utilize separate on-site wastewater disposal systems. Environmental Health has not indicated via a comment letter that the project is unable to support wastewater disposal systems.

- c) **Less Than Significant Impact** – The development potential for the Rural Residential zone is limited to utilize the land primarily for residential use. Any grading that is needed at any point will require the utilization of Best Management Practices (BMP’s) to reduce the risk of erosion.
- d) **Less Than Significant Impact** – During the Plan Check process, building plans are examined for compliance with the uniform building code. This process requires a soils report be submitted with all construction plans to ensure the proposed structure will not be compromised do to unstable soil conditions.
- e) **Less Than Significant Impact** – Prior to the approval of the final map, the Applicant shall meet the County Environmental Management Agency’s conditions of approval. The Applicant must receive written approval from the Onsite Wastewater Department that the waste disposal requirement of “acceptable individual waste disposal systems” has been completed pursuant to Ordinance 2921 & Resolution 10-147.
- f) **No Impact** – The site does not consist of any rock outcroppings or geologic features. See discussion under Cultural Resources above for further details.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

SB 375, (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008) links land use planning, transportation planning, affordable housing and CEQA to greenhouse gas reduction. The state-wide target is to reduce emission levels by 2020 to those of 1990. While it is unlikely that programs Calaveras County may adopt will play a significant part in overall reductions, every jurisdiction must play its part in addressing the issue. SB 375 does not apply to Calaveras County because it is not a part of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). However, as a part of the environmental review of this project, air quality and greenhouse gas emission impacts must be addressed. Development of a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) is a primary tool to identify and achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals. Additionally, vegetation, open space, and natural resource lands have the ability to sequester carbon. Management activities that sequester carbon also provide additional benefits such as protection of watersheds, enhanced wildlife habitat, and reduced soil erosion.

a-b) **Less than Significant Impact** – Based on the air quality modeling estimate for residential housing units, short-term construction impacts would not result in significant impacts based on the Calaveras County Air Pollution Control District regional thresholds of significance (reference BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, May 2017). In terms of proposed Project construction related impacts and operations related local impacts, the proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable state or county plan, policy, or regulation currently in place, or violate any air quality standard, or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. An incremental increase in greenhouse gas emissions may be generated through construction due to construction equipment operations and heating and cooling of residences after construction. Building standards contained in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (California Building Standards Code) dictate high-efficiency, materials and construction for residential and non-residential buildings. Emissions from new construction are therefore already reviewed under the standards contained in Title 24. However, auto emissions are the primary source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Calaveras County. The County has not adopted a plan or program to reduce GHGs, therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any such plan. The State of California has adopted legislation to reduce GHGs and charge local jurisdictions to develop plans for such reductions. While the County has not yet developed such a plan, construction of a single family residence and accessory structures would have an insignificant impact by itself.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

DISCUSSION

- a-b) **Less than Significant Impact** – The Rural Residential zoning will permit various agricultural operations to be conducted on the property. Hazardous material are not routinely used in livestock/small scale farming operations and therefore, will not create a significant hazard to the public. Materials such as pesticides and fertilizers may be routinely used in general farming activities. Pesticide use is regulated by permit through the County Agricultural Commissioner’s office to ensure safe handling of the materials. Depending on the operation, a Waste Discharge Permit may be required through the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- c) **No Impact** – There are no existing or proposed schools within one quarter mile of the subject parcel.
- d) **No Impact** – There are no closed, illegal or abandoned (CIA) Solid Waste Sites on the parcel.
- e) **No Impact** – The subject parcel is not within an airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport.
- f) **No Impact** – This action will not physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or an approved evacuation plan.
- g) **Less than Significant Impact** – According to The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP), this area of the county has a moderate fire risk. Topography and natural vegetation in the form of dry grasses pose fire hazards, especially to structures located near wildlands if adjacent clearing is not done. However, introduction of residential development could reduce the amount of fire fuels on the property. At the time of a building permit and/or grading permit, the Building Department and Public Works Department will ensure structures and driveways are in compliance with current fire and safety regulations.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>			

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site; | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or offsite; | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (iv) impede or redirect flood flows? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

DISCUSSION

- a) **Less than Significant Impact** – The action of the creating one additional parcel would not have a direct impact to water quality or storm water drainage systems; however the potential of future development could result in minimal runoff and small amounts of erosion. These issues could occur with the grading and/or construction of a residence or outbuildings. The County’s Public Works Department and Environmental Management Agency have reviewed the proposed project, and provided conditions that will ensure the project complies with water quality standards and waste discharge requirements. These conditions will be placed on the proposed project’s Tentative Parcel Map. The Rural Residential zone permits various agricultural operations, some of which may need a waste discharge permit from the Central Valley Water Quality Control Board. If the agriculture operation will result in the discharge of waste, the property owner shall consult with the Board to determine if a permit is needed.

b) **Less than Significant Impact** – The subject parcel is currently served by a domestic well which draws from the East San Joaquin Groundwater Basin, an alluvial aquifer. The East San Joaquin Groundwater Basin is estimated to cover 70 square miles of the County and is part of the larger San Joaquin Valley Basin as identified in the Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118-80. The basin is currently in a state of overdraft. According to the Calaveras County Local Agency Ground Water Protection Program, all of the wells reaching into the East San Joaquin Groundwater Basin are very similar in regard to depth to water and yield.

Prior to the approval of the final map, the Applicant shall prepare and submit water studies (i.e. Source Capacity Pump Test/Report, identification of groundwater zones, Storage Capacity Report) for review by the County Environmental Management Agency prior to residential development. These studies will ensure the proposed project does not significantly deplete groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge.

c) **Less than Significant Impact** – Drainage will be slightly altered with the development of the project site. Any grading that were to take place must comply with the Calaveras Grading and Drainage Ordinance, which addresses standards for all grading construction. The Ordinance helps to maintain safe grading conditions and erosion control in order to avoid potentially significant impacts related to property, the public, and environmental health. Impacts resulting from residential and accessory structures would be minimal on a single 5 acre parcel.

d) **No Impact** – The proposed project is not located near any large body of water that would result in inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

e) **Less than Significant Impact** – In 2014, the California Legislature passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) which tasked local agencies authorities with managing their groundwater resources in a sustainable manner. The SGMA requires preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan to address measures necessary to attain sustainable conditions in the Subbasin. The East San Joaquin Groundwater Authority was created to develop and implement the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan to insure ongoing SGMA compliance within the Basin. The GSP does not propose or require the monitoring of domestic wells, and therefore, the project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

DISCUSSION

a-b) **No Impact** – The proposed project is located within an established, developed neighborhood in Burson, and therefore, the project will not physically divide an established community. The proposed project is consistent with the existing land use and zoning designations and is not requesting any changes or deviations. The proposed land division is consistent with the current County General Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

a-b) **No Impact** – The mine location and mineral resources figures in the General Plan do not indicate the presence of a known mineral resource in the project area. The project would not cause a direct impact to the loss of any known resource locally or region and state wide.

XIII. NOISE

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial, temporary, or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

DISCUSSION

- a-b) **Less than Significant Impact** – The County’s General Plan Noise Element identifies major noise sources as traffic noise, railroad noise, airport noise, and fixed noise sources (i.e. industrial related process). Noise levels contributed by the proposed project would include temporary construction noise during future build-out of the resultant parcel and the improvements of the access road. Construction noise associated with development will primarily be from the use of heavy equipment, generators, and power tools which would be temporary, and would not result in long-term noise impacts. Potentially, ground borne vibrations and/or noise could occur during preparation of construction or a small scale agricultural use which would also be temporary. Other than existing residential dwellings, there are no known potential noise generators in the area.
- c) **No Impact** – The subject property is not located in the airport land use plan, nor is there a public or private airstrip within 2 miles.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) **Less than Significant Impact** – The proposed project will create 1 additional parcel that, upon subdivision, will permit residential development in accordance with Chapter 17.22 of the County’s Zoning Ordinance. Chapter 17.22 permits the development of one primary residence per parcel and one accessory dwelling, limited to 1,200 square feet in size as well as usual and customary accessory structures and uses associated with a residence. Based on a review of the County’s Housing Element of the General Plan, dated September, 2019, the County’s household size is 2.32 persons per household. Therefore, the proposed project may result in the population increase of six persons (2.32 x 2 = 4.64).

The increase in population created as a result of the proposed project is not considered significant.

- b) **No Impact** – The project does not involve the demolition or relocation of any existing housing on or adjacent to the project site. Therefore, the proposed project will not result in the displacement of the local population.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact** – The proposed project could result in two additional residential units, which could affect fire and police services. The proposed project is located within the jurisdiction of the Calaveras Consolidated Fire District, and is provided police services by the Calaveras County Sheriff’s Department. The improvements to the access road will comply with the County’s Road Ordinance with respect to providing adequate access for emergency fire equipment. The proposed project has the potential to result in the addition of four persons, of which some may attend schools within the Calaveras Unified school districts. However, any new construction of residences as a result of the proposed project will be required to pay the appropriate school impact fees required by the State. These fees are intended to mitigate any impacts created as a result of new students entering the impacted School District. The proposed project is located within a rural portion of the county where there are no parks or other public facilities in the vicinity.

XVI. RECREATION

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact** – Increase in the demand for recreational facilities is typically associated with substantial increases in population. The proposed project will generate minimal growth when residential units are constructed on the resultant parcel. The project may result in a less than significant increase in the use of county parks and recreational facilities.
- b) **No impact** – The proposed project does not include plans for additional recreational facilities, nor would it require expansion of existing recreational facilities. Therefore, the project would not result in any adverse physical effects on the environment from construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) **No Impact** – The project will not conflict with any adopted policies, plans or programs related to public transit, bicycle or pedestrian features. Goals, policies and implementation programs regarding Calaveras County’s transportation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities are contained with the Circulation Element of the 2019 General Plan. Public transit is provided by Calaveras Transit, however, there are no transit stops in the project vicinity. There are no sidewalks or bike lanes in the project vicinity, so there would not be any loss, nor are these facilities required as part of this project. In addition, the project has been reviewed for consistency with the applicable road standards found in Title 12 and 15 of the County Code.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact** – The proposed project has the potential to introduce new residences as well as accessory uses which would generate long-term changes in traffic volumes. On average one home could generate 10 trips per day which in this case would have an increase of 20 trips. Public Works did not indicate that this increase in traffic would require any further studies (traffic study). Although the Calaveras County Council of Governments (CCOG) is in the process of preparing SB 743 vehicle miles traveled (VMT) implementation guidelines, no CEQA thresholds have been adopted at this time. However, the County’s Traffic Impact Study Guidelines includes an existing daily forecast of Vehicle Miles Travelled per Capita of 42.6. As this project will only create one additional residential parcel, and allow for two additional dwelling units, no further analysis related to vehicle miles traveled is required.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact** – The subject parcel currently has an existing encroachment off of Amos Lane, which is a non-county maintained roadway and is a dead end road off of Pettinger Road. Proposed Parcel B will take access from a driveway to be located from the dedicated 30 feet wide road and public utility easement paralleling the parcel to the south. Prior to development of the property, the project applicants will be required to meet the provisions of all applicable County Codes in effect at the time. These include the Road Impact Mitigation fee, County Road Ordinance (Chapter 12.02), the Encroachment Ordinance (Chapter 12.08), the Storm Water Quality Ordinance (Chapter 13.01), and the Grading and Drainage Ordinance (Chapter 15.05). Compliance with these will ensure that the project will not increase traffic hazards due to visibility.
- d) **Less Than Significant Impact** – The proposed encroachment will be designed and constructed in accordance with all applicable regulations contained in Titles 12 and 15 of the County Code and the California Fire Code to allow for sufficient emergency vehicle access. The Calaveras Consolidated Fire Protection District and Sheriff’s Department reviewed the proposed project and no objection was provided regarding the creation of an additional parcel significantly altering response times or other performance objectives.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
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- a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
- b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

a-b) **No Impact** – In accordance with AB 52, County staff initiated consultation with tribes that have requested formal notification of proposed projects within their geographic area of traditional and cultural affiliation per AB 52 Notification Request, Public Resources Code Section 21080.3(b). Both the Calaveras Band of Miwuk Indians and the California Valley Miwok Tribe have been notified of this project. No responses were received from either tribe.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

a-e) **Less than Significant Impact** – The resultant parcels are not currently serviced by a water or waste water treatment facility, and shall therefore require the construction of on-site domestic well water and on-site septic system. Prior to the recordation of the map, the proposed project shall comply with all conditions from the Environmental Health and Onsite Wastewater Departments and submit information that an adequate water supply can be developed. The project site is located in a rural area and is not serviced by a storm water drainage facility, nor shall any such facilities be constructed. There are no on-site utilities that will need to be re-located or otherwise impacted by the project.

The Paloma Transfer Station is the nearest disposal site to the project site. The facility has adequate capacity to serve the solid waste disposal needs of the additional residential parcels. The project would not require expansion of the facility to accommodate its needs. Calaveras County Code Title 8, Chapter 8.20 requires the property owner/occupant to appropriately collect, store, and arrange for the disposal of solid waste generated on-site.

This project may result in an incremental increase in materials deposited at local transfer stations and to landfills, but it is not expected to occur on a scale that would impact the capacity of landfills accepting waste. The proposed project will comply with all federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, the proposed project will have a less than significant impact.

XX. WILDFIRE

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) **Less than Significant Impact** – The project site is located in an area of the county classified as a moderate fire hazard area. Residential development on an additional Rural Residential parcel will not impair existing emergency response or evacuation plans. The project will not result in the re-location of existing roads or be required to build new roads to serve the project. The proposed parcels will be served by individual driveways required to meet fire life safety standards set forth in Section 8.10.34 of County Code.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact** – The creation of a new parcel will result in the reduction of fire fuels which will slow or stop the spread of wildfire. Prior to developing each site, the property will be cleared of flammable vegetation for the development of roads and structures. Although defensible space is required to be maintained at all times, homeowners are more

likely to maintain defensible space because doing so will improve their homes survival of a wildfire.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact** – The project will not result in conditions to further maintenance of infrastructure which might exacerbate the risk of fire.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact** – The project site is comprised of soil group 7. Group 7 soils are described as moderately coarse, acid soils over weathered granite. These soils have a moderate to high erosion hazard. Areas with slopes greater than 20” may be susceptible to erosion, instability, or landslides, especially during periods of high rainfall or snowmelt. In respect to areas recently affected by wildfires, steep slopes can be the site of fast-moving, highly destructive debris flows in response to heavy rains. Slopes on the project site are less than 20%, posing a less than significant risk to landslides.

IX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	<u>POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION</u>	<u>LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT</u>
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION

- a) **Less than Significant Impact** – Through the use of best management practices and compliance with established County Code, the project does not have the potential to significantly degrade the quality of the environment. As discussed in the biological resources section of this document, impacts to CTS or its habitat will be reduced to a level

of less than significant with mitigation measures. The site does not contain any wetlands or water features with characteristics for habitat of species or rare plant life.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact** – The project would not create a cumulative impact to any of the items discussed above. The proposed land division is consistent with the General Plan land use designation and zoning. The impacts discussed above are either minor in nature or can be addressed either through the implementation of best management practices or compliance with County standards. Any impacts to the area are minor in nature and do not trip established thresholds or create significant and unavoidable impacts.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact** – The analysis of environmental issues contained in this Initial Study indicate that the project is not expected to have substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Best management practices, compliance with standard regulations, and conditions of approval will reduce any impacts to a level of less than significant.

REFERENCES

1. Calaveras County General Plan adopted November 12, 2019.
2. Calaveras County Municipal Code.
3. Calaveras County Planning Department, Land Use Application completed by Jay Woods, dated May 14, 2020.
4. California Tiger Salamander Habitat Assessment for 5567 Amos Lane, Calaveras County, California, by Dudek, dated September 28, 2020.
5. Calaveras County Air Quality Management District, Best Management Practices, 2004.
6. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. CEQA Project Analysis Levels <https://www.valleyair.org/transportation/ceqaanalysislevels.htm>
7. United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. Web Soil Survey. <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>
8. California Department of Transportation. California Scenic Highway Mapping System <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways>
9. California Department of Forestry. *Fire Hazard Severity Zones in State Responsibility Areas*. Adopted by CAL FIRE on November 7, 2007.
10. California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology. Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment for the State Of California; CDOC/DMG Open File Report 96-08 and USDI/USGS Open File Report 96-706; prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey; 1996.