

**Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
for the proposed
WOODLEAF YOUNG LIFE TIMBERLAND CONVERSION
Yuba County, California
State Clearinghouse Number:**



Prepared for:

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
The Lead Agency Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CAL FIRE Resource Management – Forest Practice Program
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June 23, 2021

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MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Introduction and Regulatory Context

Stage of CEQA Document Development

- Administrative Draft.** This CEQA document is in preparation by California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) staff.
- Public Document.** This completed CEQA document has been filed by CAL FIRE at the State Clearinghouse on June 23, 2021 and is being circulated for a 30-day agency and public review period. The public review period ends on July 22, 2021. Instructions for submitting written comments are provided in this document.
- Final CEQA Document.** This Final CEQA document contains the changes made by the Department following consideration of comments received during the public and agency review period. The changes are displayed in strike-out text for deletions and underlined text for insertions. The CEQA administrative record supporting this document is on file, and available for review, at CAL FIRE's Sacramento Headquarters, Forest Practice Program, which is located in the Natural Resources Building, 1416 Ninth Street, 15th Floor, Sacramento, California.

Introduction

This Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) describes the environmental impact analysis conducted for the proposed project. This document has been prepared by the project proponent for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) utilizing information gathered from several sources including research and field review of the proposed project area and consultation with environmental planners and other experts on staff at other public agencies. Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Lead Agency, CAL FIRE, has reviewed, and analyzed the IS/MND and declares that the statements made in this document reflect CAL FIRE's independent judgment as Lead Agency pursuant to CEQA. CAL FIRE further finds that the proposed project, which includes revised activities and mitigation measures designed to minimize environmental impacts, will not result in significant adverse effects on the environment.

Regulatory Guidance

This MND has been prepared by the project proponent for CAL FIRE to evaluate and mitigate potential environmental effects which could result following implementation of the proposed project. This document has been prepared in accordance with current CEQA Statutes (Public Resources Code [PRC] §21000 *et seq.*) and current CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations [CCR] §15000 *et seq.*).

An Initial Study (IS) was prepared by the project proponent to determine if the project may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR § 15063[a]), and thus, to determine the appropriate environmental document. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15070, a "public agency shall prepare ... a proposed negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration ... when: (a) The Initial Study shows that there is no substantial evidence ... that the project may have a significant impact upon the environment, or (b) The Initial Study identifies potentially significant effects but revisions to the project plans or proposal are agreed to by

the applicant and such revisions will reduce potentially significant effects to a less-than-significant level.” In this circumstance, the lead agency prepares a written statement describing its reasons for concluding that the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This draft MND conforms to these requirements and to the content requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15071.

Purpose of the Draft MND

CAL FIRE has primary authority for carrying out the proposed project and is the lead agency under CEQA. The purpose of this Draft MND is to present to the public and reviewing agencies the environmental consequences of implementing the proposed project and describe the adjustments made to the project to avoid significant environmental effects or reduce them to a less-than-significant level. This disclosure document is being made available to the public, and reviewing agencies, for review and comment. The Draft MND is being circulated for public and agency review and comment for a review period of 30 days as indicated on the **Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration** (NOI). The 30-day public review period for this project begins on June 23, 2021.

The requirements for providing an NOI are found in CEQA Guidelines §15072. These guidelines require CAL FIRE to notify the general public by utilizing at least one of the following three procedures:

- Publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the proposed project,
- Posting the NOI on and off site in the area where the project is to be located, or
- Direct mailing to the owners and occupants of property contiguous to the project.

The Project Proponent's consultant has elected to mail all owners and occupants of property contiguous to the project, as well as publication in a newspaper as this method best serves notice to those most closely affected by operations associated with the project.

A complete copy of this CEQA document was made available for review by any member of the public requesting to see it at Locations #1 and #3 above. An electronic version of the NOI and the CEQA document were made available for review for the entire 30-day review period through their posting on CAL FIRE's Internet Web Pages at: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/programs/resource-management/resource-protection-improvement/environmental-protection-program/public-notices/>.

If submitted prior to the close of public comment, views and comments are welcomed from reviewing agencies or any member of the public on how the proposed project may affect the environment. Written comments must be postmarked or submitted on or prior to the date the public review period will close (as indicated on the NOI) for CAL FIRE's consideration. Written comments may also be submitted via email (using the email address which appears below), but comments sent via email must also be received on or prior to the close of the 30-day public comment period. Comments should be addressed to:

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After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, CAL FIRE will consider those comments and may (1) adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the proposed project; (2) undertake additional environmental studies; or (3) abandon the project. If the project is approved and funded, the project proponent could design and construct all or part of the project.

Project Description and Environmental Setting

Project Location: The project area is located on the Clipper Mills U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle in a rural area of Yuba County, California. La Porte Road travels through the middle of the subject property and is East of the plan area. The project area is located at the Yuba/Butte County boundary lines. The legal description includes: portions of section 9, T19N, R7E, M.D.B.M. This project area is part of Yuba County Assessor's parcel number 050-050-022.

Background and Need for the Project: This property has been historically used for recreation but also for sustainable forest management utilizing the existing NTMP to harvest timber since 2000 and even earlier with THPs. The love of outdoors and comradery has been the centerpiece of this camp and growing large healthy trees and practicing uneven aged management has been a goal of the landowners as part of the ambiance they strive to give the camp participants.

The Landowner wishes to conduct conversion activities on approximately 42.7 acres of land classified as timberland and convert those areas to commercial recreational purposes. The intention of this conversion is to improve the camp infrastructure by demolishing existing cabins used to house the camp participants and to construct larger more modern cabins. In additions, expansion and modernization of the kitchen facilities used to feed the camp participants as well as improvement and widening of existing roads and trails and wastewater systems is needed to account for the planned additional camp participants. Tree removal is required to increase the existing structure footprints and widening of roads.

Project Objectives: The objectives of this project is to increase housing, feeding, traffic and recreating capacity of the summer camp so as to make the camp more financially sustainable and less dependent on donations. Also modernization of the existing infrastructure is intended to increase the interest in the camp and draw in more participants and to promote outdoor activities and recreation while also promoting Christian values. The present Yuba County zoning of these parcels is Agricultural Exclusive. The intended use is already covered under Yuba County's General Plan which outlines Permitted Uses of the County Zoning Ordinance (Title XII of the Yuba County Code). The County does not require an EIR or negative declaration to use lands of this type of zoned parcel. According to the Yuba County General Plan, the purpose of the AE zone is to:

Rural Community: The intent of this element is to provide rural residential opportunities with supportive services and tourism oriented uses consistent with the General Plan and as defined in community plans. The proposed conversion is consistent with these goals.

Natural Resources: The intent of this element is to conserve and provide natural habitat, watersheds, scenic resources, cultural resources, recreational amenities, agricultural and forest resources, wetlands, woodlands, minerals, and other resources for sustainable use, enjoyment, extraction, and processing. The proposed

conversion is consistent with these goals.

Project Start Date: Implementation of this project will begin immediately following all necessary project approvals in July 2021.

Project Description: The proposed project involves the demolition of the existing small and dilapidated cabins and reconstruction of several larger new dorm cabins within and beyond the existing building footprints for camp participants, as well as construction of completely new cabin structures. Remodeling and expansion of camp facilities such as the kitchen building and recreational buildings is proposed as well. Widening, rocking and/or paving of existing roads, foot trails, hardscape installation, bike and go kart trail construction within the proposed conversion area is proposed, as well as installation of any wastewater treatment structures as permitted by Yuba County. Relocation of any recreational structures such as playgrounds, rope courses, etc. is also proposed. The exact number and nature of every activity is not known at this time and the only solidified plans are stated above and are currently dependent on outside donations. The success of the future activities are dependent on the increased revenue derived from the initial activities proposed designed to increase camp occupancy. The large area encompassed by the conversion area is intended to allow for flexibility in any new plans or ideas that are developed during the life of the TCP/THP but all the potential activities would be similar or identical to the above mentioned activities. Tree removal may be required for any of these activities but not all of them.

Suitable forest products such as sawlogs will be the primary stage of the resource removed from the project area(s), however, based on current market conditions at the time of timber harvest, a commercial timber sale may not be possible due to the small quantities of logs as well as the difficulty of removal of these trees. Because of this, trees that are removed will likely be taken down in small, sub-merchantable lengths. Tractor logging will be the timber yarding method utilized within the conversion area, as well as cable/crane operations to remove difficult hazard trees. There are several Class III, seasonal watercourses, one Class II, perennial stream, and one Class IV/II perennial man-made lake within the timberland conversion area (as defined by the California Forest Practice Rules).

Timber operations proposed as a part of this timberland conversion shall be done in conformance with the California Forest Practice Rules. Existing seasonal roads and permanent paved and/or rocked roads on the plan area will be used to access timber. Generally, minimal tractor blade and grader use will be required to provide for passage of log trucks on the existing roads. The only road construction proposed is reconstruction of an existing road to facilitate paving wider turnouts for large passenger vehicular traffic such as school buses.

The entire conversion area will be harvested using standard tractor skidding and shovel logging style operations. Skidding activities will take place on gentle slopes, as the conversion units are generally located on less than 10% slopes. There are NO slopes that exceed 50% or on unstable areas as a part of the proposed operation.

Following removal of commercial forest products, the remaining non-merchantable or non-commercial timber, other vegetation, and stumps will be removed and piled in a central location by dump truck and excavator. Logging slash and clean residual vegetation may be chipped for use elsewhere within the project

area for erosion control purposes. Otherwise, stumps and roots will be mechanically concentrated in piles and/or windrows and burned or chipped or removed completely from the site. This material will generally be piled on the contour, away from the commercial recreational infrastructure but somewhere within the conversion area(s). If burn piles are used, construction of burn piles will be done so as to minimize the inclusion of non-organic material so that the piles burn most efficiently. Following piling, the ground surface slopes will be left in as near their natural position as possible. Large holes created by stump removal will be backfilled and smoothed to facilitate construction operations. These land clearing operations will be done after timber harvesting and before winter rains. If the winter period is approaching and land clearing cannot be completed prior to October 15th of the operations season, skid trails used during timber operations will be waterbarred and cover crops or seeding and mulching will be applied to exposed soil where appropriate to lessen the potential for erosion. Land clearing or preparation may take place in the winter period according to the outline of the Winter Operating Plan provided in the submitted and CAL FIRE reviewed THP. The California Forest Practice Rules concerning water quality protection will apply to the land clearing and preparation phase of the project.

During the land-clearing phase, surface disturbance will be smoothed wherever possible so that dozer tracks, berms, or other ground disturbance do not channel water causing erosion. Piles will be burned at the soonest practicable time, depending on safety, weather and regulatory requirements.

Once the land clearing is complete, the next phase of building construction and/or road reconstruction will be the grading and paving or laying of concrete support structures. Initial infrastructure development will consist of removal of all organic material and compaction of the soil surface to facilitate a good surface for road and structure foundation.

Slash and woody debris may not be burned by open outdoor fires except under permit from the appropriate fire protection agency, the local air pollution control district or air quality management district.

The conversion area is land proposed for conversion to commercial recreational purposes (specifically youth summer camp) development and has been selected because of the favorable topography and climate. Soils and the already existing infrastructure are appropriate for such uses. A water supply for all the facilities is already established. Recorded history of this area of Yuba County indicates that much of the land area around Woodleaf was used for timber and lumber production as well as for mining gold. Once the lumber production ceased in the 1960's the property was bought and converted into a youth summer camp dedicated to educating young children while maintaining a sustainable tree farm which it has remained ever since.

Findings: Soils within the project area are considered to be good timber growing ground for the majority of the conversion area. The Sites soil type which is located in the center, comprising approximately 80% of the area of this project is site class III Douglas-fir and Ponderosa pine ground composed of silty to gravelly loam. The isolated areas to the North East of the main area is classified as Woodleaf soil type with gravelly loam structure and is suitable for growing trees, but is at best low Site class II to Site Class III. This is according to the "UC Davis, NRCS, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Soilweb" website and the "NRCS Web Soil Survey" website, and professional observations.

If burning operations shall be conducted, they shall be in conformance with the Yuba County Air Pollution Control District and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection rules and regulations. Smaller

branches, leaves and other smaller woody vegetation may be left on the ground and cultivated into the soil with tractor implements. This soil amendment process will attempt to retain the natural biomass on the project site as much as possible.

All stumps will be removed and burned thus preventing stump sprouting as a revegetation problem within the development conversion area. During the operational phase, natural woody growth and weed growth within the conversion area will be prevented through a combination of methodologies (natural, mechanical and chemical), depending on the specific site and situation. Most areas will have vegetation permanently removed through paving, concrete installation or rock and gravel application.

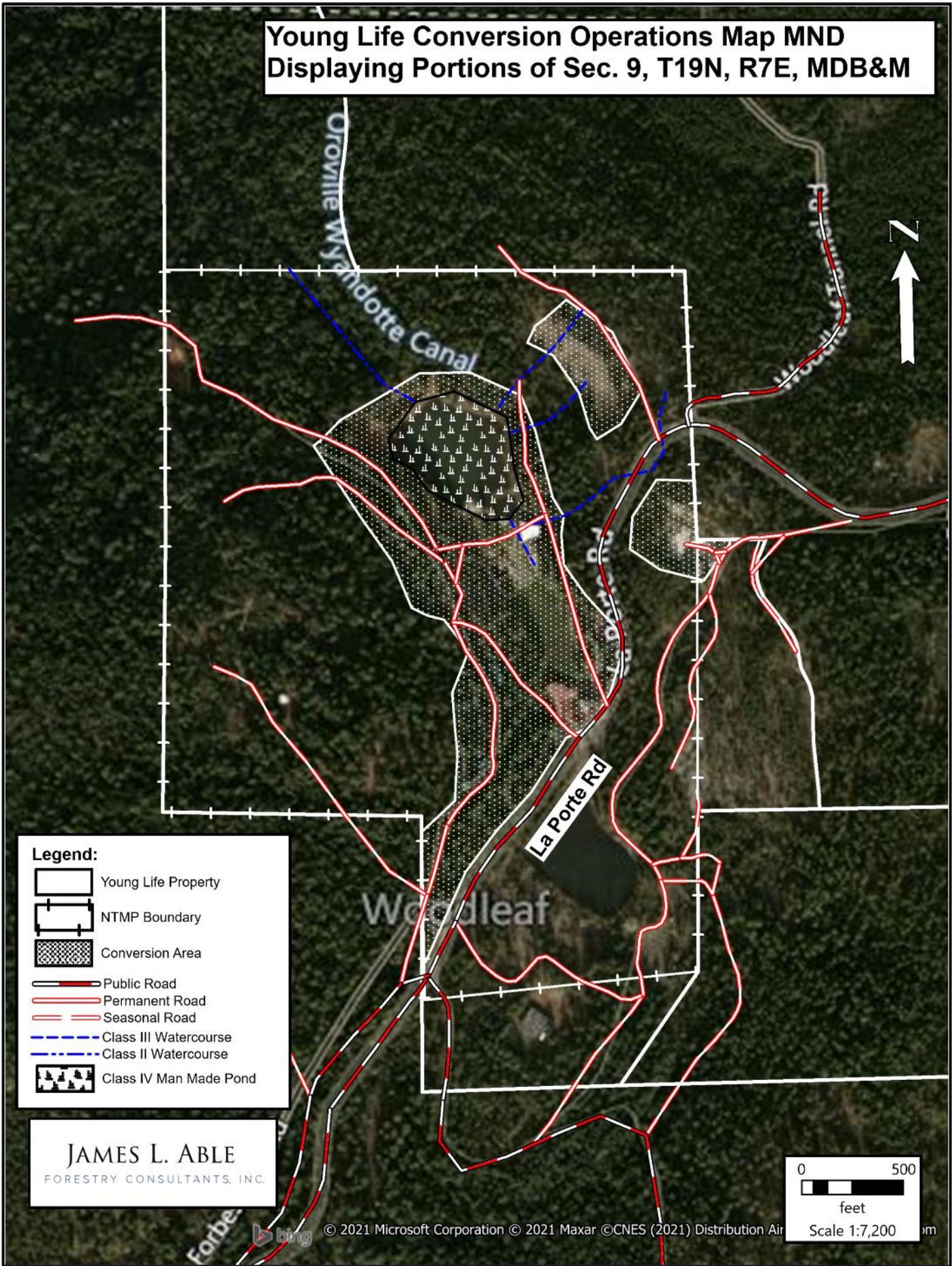
Environmental Setting of the Project Region: There are several watercourses located within the entire 238 acre ownership, and several of these watercourses are within the proposed conversion area. Several ephemeral streams run through the conversion area into a man-made lake that was constructed in the early 2000's. This lake drains into a Class II perennial watercourse directly downstream that eventually runs into Woodleaf Creek, a tributary of the South Fork Feather River and eventually Ponderosa Reservoir. The conversion area to the South West does not have any watercourses but that area drains into Indian Creek and eventually runs into the New Bullard's Bar Reservoir. New Bullards Bar Reservoir is impounded by the 645-foot (197 m) New Bullards Bar Dam. Very soon after leaving the dam it joins with the Middle Yuba to form the Yuba River.

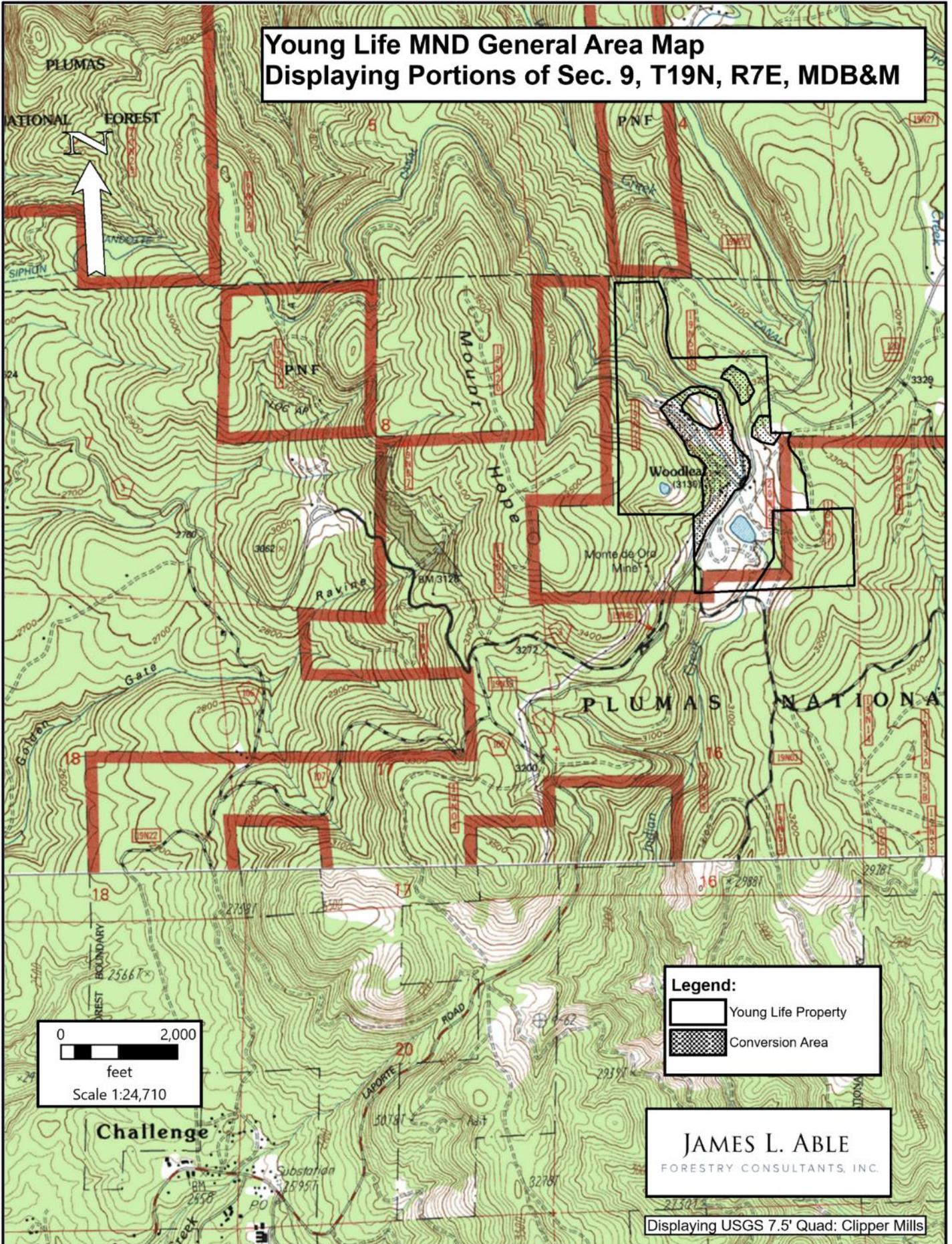
Within the eventual submission of the Timber Harvesting Plan and Timberland Conversion plan associated with this document, biological resources (both flora and fauna) have been well scoped in section IV, cumulative watershed effects analysis. There are no habitat conditions of major concern as there are no waterways with pools and riffles, large woody material in the stream or near-water vegetation associated with the proposed project area. As the conversion area will have minimal tree removal, and the existence of an operational commercial recreation facility, stream side shade and loss of habitat for animals will be minimal. Snags for the most part will not be retained within the conversion area due to safety concerns for the infrastructure and for fire protection. However, snags will be retained in the areas where safety is not a concern throughout the rest of the property covered by the existing NTMP. Since the entire ownership is covered under an NTMP that outlines a plan to retain trees in various diameter classes and ages for aesthetics and wildlife purposes, habitat improvement throughout the property will more than mitigate any detrimental impacts to habitat in the conversion area. There is no late seral stage forest conditions within the entire ownership, thus none will be affected by operations associated with this project. Multi-storied canopy exists throughout the property, and the conversion area shall mostly consist of this as well following operations. I, the RPF, have evaluated the entire property and considered all wildlife species that could possibly be present within the project area. The highest probability of special concern species in the general area around the THP area will most likely be limited to birds of prey. There is a large presence of human activity and noise disturbance at this location due to the commercial recreational activities and may preclude very much nesting on-site. I have completed a thorough stand search of the entire conversion area and have found no raptor nest sites. But, there is always a chance that any of a number birds could be present in any given year such as hawks (including the merlin or Northern goshawk), and/or flycatchers could easily perch temporarily on-site or forage in various spots. Birds of prey prefer edges, openings, and natural and human-created clearings in otherwise relatively dense forests and also occupy semi-open forests. The association with openings and edges extends to the entire landscape, as these birds are more abundant in broad areas with a matrix containing clear-cuts or otherwise highly fragmented forest than in less-fragmented or unfragmented landscapes.

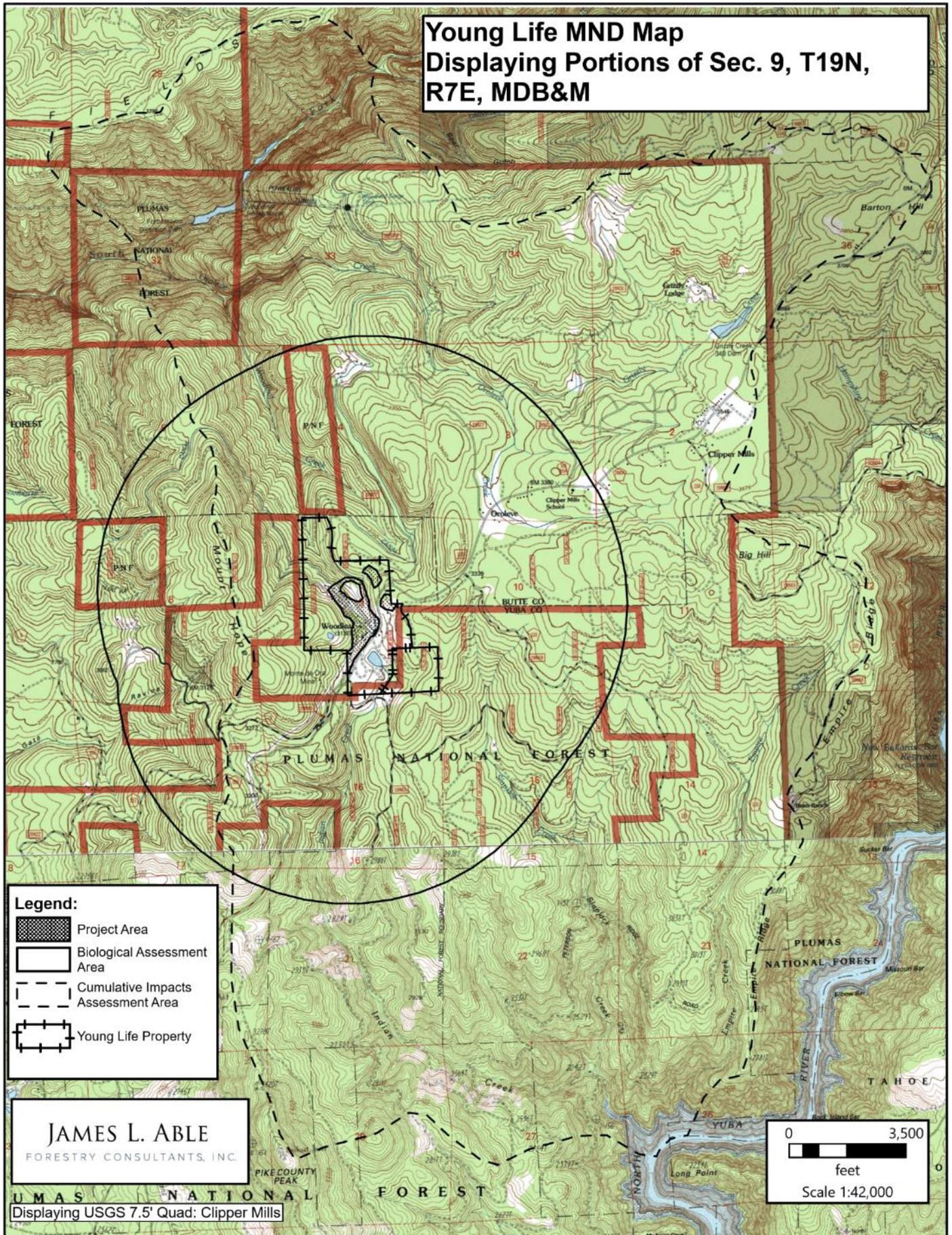
Description of the Local Environment: The entire 238 acre ownership is surrounded by rural and vacant properties. The closest community to the project area is Challenge, California (3.2 miles south west) with a population of 1,148 (2010) and Clipper Mills (2.7 miles north east), population of 142 (2010). There is a mix in the general area of year round residents and those who either vacation here or are living in the general area on a temporary basis. There are no major businesses in the general vicinity and the largest employer within the general area is the U.S. Forest Service Yuba River Ranger District Office. The conversion area is composed of second growth Sierra mixed conifer forest and is found on low to moderate slopes. The principal trees species are ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, white fir, incense cedar and tanoak. The elevation ranges from 3,000 to 3,450' above sea level.

Current Land Use and Previous Impacts: Land use involves the management and modification of natural environment or wilderness into built environment such as settlements used for habitation and commercial recreational uses, and semi-natural habitats such as arable fields, pastures, and managed woods. Current and present land uses for this property has been for commercial recreational, timber production, lumber production, and mining. When the gold miners of the mid to late 1800's arrived they cleared the forests and small communities sprung up everywhere in this general area. As the mines and creeks ran out of gold, so left the miners. With minimal waterways on this parcel, no previous impact from mining can be found on-site. The footprint of the old mill site still exists on the property as well as holding ponds and other infrastructure.

Young Life Conversion Operations Map MND Displaying Portions of Sec. 9, T19N, R7E, MDB&M







Conclusion of the Mitigated Negative Declaration

Environmental Permits

The proposed project may require the following additional environmental/use permits:

- Timberland Conversion Permit and Timber Harvesting Plan approved by CAL FIRE
- Waste Discharge Reporting to Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB)
- Yuba County Building, Grading, Demolition, Road and Utility Encroachment permits
- California Department of Fish & Wildlife Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement

With the actual zoning of the conversion area being Agriculture Exclusive, the County of Yuba does not require a CEQA approval document to use lands of this type of zoned parcel for commercial recreational operations.

Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be implemented by CAL FIRE to avoid or minimize environmental impacts. Implementation of these mitigation measures will reduce the environmental impacts of the proposed project to a less than significant level.

All mitigation measures are incorporated into the Young Life Timberland Conversion Permit and Young Life Timber Harvesting Plan (2-21-00059-YUB). These documents are or will be on file with CAL FIRE in Sacramento and Redding, California.

Summary of Findings

This Draft MND has been prepared to assess the project's potential effects on the environment and an appraisal of the significance of those effects. Based on this draft MND, it has been determined that the proposed project will not have any significant effects on the environment after implementation of mitigation measures. This conclusion is supported by the following findings:

1. The proposed project will have no effect related to: air quality, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, land use planning, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, and utilities and service systems.
2. The proposed project will have a less than significant impact on: geology and soils, biological resources, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, aesthetics, and agriculture and forest resources.
3. The proposed project will have a less than significant with mitigation incorporated to reduce potentially significant impacts related to aesthetics, and hydrology and water quality.

The Initial Study/Environmental Checklist included in this document discusses the results of resource-specific environmental impact analyses which were conducted by the Department. This Initial Study revealed that potentially significant environmental effects could result from the proposed project; however, the project proponent's consultant revised its project plans and has developed mitigation measures which will eliminate

impact or reduce environmental impacts to a less than significant level. CAL FIRE has found, in consideration of the entire record, that there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project as currently revised and mitigated would result in a significant effect upon the environment. This draft MND is therefore the appropriate document for CEQA compliance.

INITIAL STUDY/ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

PROJECT INFORMATION					
1. Project Title:	Young Life Timberland Conversion Project				
2. Lead Agency Name and Address:	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection P.O. 944246 Sacramento, CA 94244-2460				
3. Contact Person and Phone Number:	Jonathan Szecsei (RPF#3077); (707) 445-4130				
4. Project Location:	11359 La Porte Rd, Challenge, CA 95925				
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:	Young Life (Land and timber owner) 11359 La Porte Rd, Challenge, CA 95925				
6. General Plan Designation:	Natural Resources (Yuba County)				
7. Zoning:	Agriculture Exclusive				
8. Description of Project:	See Pages 6-8 of this document				
9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:	Refer to pages 8-9 of this document				
10: Other public agencies whose approval may be required:	Yuba County, CVRWQCB, CDFW				
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:					
<p>The environmental factors checked below are the ones which would potentially be affected by this proposed project and were more rigorously analyzed than the factors which were not checked. The results of this analysis are presented in the detailed Environmental Checklist which follows.</p>					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture and Forestry Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geology / Soils
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hazards & Hazardous Materials	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation / Traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilities / Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION

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 proposed project **COULD** have a significant effect on the environment, there **WILL NOT** be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier **EIR** or **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier **EIR** or **NEGATIVE DECLARATION**, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Eric Huff, Staff Chief
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Date Signed

ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. Aesthetics. Will the project:				
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) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a) *Will the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? For purposes of determining significance under CEQA, a scenic vista is defined as “a viewpoint that provided expansive views of highly valued landscape for the benefit of the public”. In addition, some scenic vistas are officially designated by public agencies, or informally designated by tourist guides. A substantial adverse effect to such a scenic vista is one that degraded the view from such a designated view spot.*

There are no scenic vistas within or adjacent to the plan area. The 42.7 acre area presently has an approximate 50% canopy closure. That will be reduced to approximately a 1% canopy due to limited tree removals.

b) *Will the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? Due to limited tree removals, existing infrastructure etc. no damage to any scenic resources shall occur. In addition, the historic buildings that are part of the national registry cannot be degraded or damaged and all existing infrastructure that will be demolished and rebuilt are relatively recent structures with no historical significance. The project associated with the conversion and the THP will not substantially damage any scenic resources listed above in the long or short term and has been assessed as “no impact”.*

c) *Will the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings? Please read responses to both (a) and (b) above. The project, as planned, will not substantially degrade any existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. And, as stated, since the acquisition of the property by the current landowners, the area has had its visual character enhanced.*

d) *Will the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area Because the Landowner plans to remove very little timber as part of this conversion project, operations associated with the activities of this conversion will not create new sources of substantial light or glare that would affect day or night time views of passersby.*

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. Agriculture and Forest Resources.				
<p>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, as updated) prepared by the California Department 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:</p>				
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 §12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code §4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code §51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) *Would the project 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? **No impact.***
- b) *Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract? **No Impact.***
- c) *Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code §12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code §4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code §51104(g))? **No impact.***

d) *Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? Less than Significant Impact.*

The proposed project includes the removal of a minimum of 5-10 conifer and hardwood trees. A Registered Professional Forester on staff at CAL FIRE has determined this proposed tree removal constitutes timber operations which are subject to the California Forest Practice Rules. Specifically, less than three acres of timberland would be converted to commercial recreational use and no longer available for growing trees. The current landowner has already used a less than 3 acre conversion exemption and therefore this document as well as a TCP/THP has been prepared and submitted. This is not considered a significant environmental effect; however, because adherence to the Forest Practice Rules would minimize impacts and the proposed land use will still have timber production and management as a goal of the landowner.

e) *Would the project 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? No Impact*

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. Air Quality.

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

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) 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 (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Information about Air Quality

Discussion

a) *Will the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? No impact.*

b) *Will the project violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? No impact.*

c) Will the project 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 (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? **No impact.**

d) Will the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? **No impact.**

e) Will the project create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people? **No impact.**

This project area is located in Zone 4 of the Feather River Air Quality Management District. Zone 4 in Yuba County coincides with the boundaries of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) and is under CAL FIRE and US Forest Service jurisdiction. A burn permit shall be secured by the leading responsible agency. If a burn permit is obtained during the burning season the following conditions shall be met:

It may become necessary to burn slash and debris. In the case where it becomes necessary to burn piles of debris it shall be done as follows:

(a) Piles and concentrations shall be sufficiently free of soil and other noncombustible material for effective burning.

(b) The piles and concentrations shall be burned at a safe time during the first wet fall or winter weather or other safe period following piling and according to laws and regulations. Piles and concentrations that fail to burn sufficiently to remove the fire hazard shall be further treated to eliminate that hazard. All necessary precautions shall be taken to confine such burning to the piled slash.

Notification of Burning: The local representatives of CAL FIRE and USDA Forest Service shall be notified in advance of the time and place of any burning of slash. Any burning shall be done in the manner provided by Law.”

No burning will be allowed in Yuba Zone 4 while CAL FIRE burn permits are suspended for the season.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. Biological Resources. Will 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 Game or the 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, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (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"/> |
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Information about Biological Resources

Discussion

- a) *Would the project 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 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

Less than significant impact with mitigations.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) was used to conduct a search for wildlife and plant occurrences within the watershed and biological assessment area shown on the map on Page 12 and as part of the associated THP (2-21-00059-YUB). There have been no observations or occurrences of species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species within the project area. California red-legged frog, Southern mountain yellow-legged frog, Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, Foothill yellow-legged frog, Bald eagle, Great gray owl, Northern goshawk, Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, and Osprey were identified within the assessment areas and habitat exists within the project areas for these species. Due to the current development and land use associated with the project area, most of these species are not likely to occur within the project area. Specific protection requirements related to the detection of certain species are as follows:

General Animal Protection Measures:

Procedure if a listed or sensitive species is discovered during operations:

- 1. If any occupied nests of a listed bird species, including non-listed raptor species (other than as indicated in the plan) are detected within or adjacent to the plan area or if individuals or populations of other listed animal or plant species are detected during the preparation or operation of this THP, the LTO and/or the RPF shall notify the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and CAL FIRE in compliance with 14 CCR 939.2 and appropriate protection will be provided. As per 14 CCR 939.2 (d) – “When an occupied nest site of a listed species or non-listed raptor species is discovered during timber operations, the timber operator shall protect the nest tree, screening trees, perch trees and replacement trees and shall apply the provisions of subsections (b) and (c) above and shall immediately notify the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and CAL FIRE. An amendment that shall be considered a minor amendment to the timber harvesting plan shall be filed reflecting such additional protection as is agreed between the operator and Director after consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife”.***

Habitat for the Gray Wolf is present within the THP and the BAA (Biological Assessment Area). The Gray Wolf was listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) by the California Fish and Game Commission on Jun 4, 2014. The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) does not show any occurrences of the Gray Wolf within or adjacent to the BAA. No protection measures are proposed at this time. Prior to operations, known wolf locations will be checked on the state website and if new information becomes available that indicates wolves could be using habitat within the THP area, the RPF shall consult with CDFW and CAL FIRE to develop appropriate protection measures and operations will be suspended within 100 feet of the sighting. If the Gray Wolf is observed or a detection of a den/rendezvous site is made within the THP area, the CDFW and CAL FIRE shall be notified.

The foothill yellow legged frog, California Red legged frog, and Sierra Nevada yellow legged frog were surveyed for by walking the watercourses, springs, seeps within or adjacent to the harvest plan units during plan preparation by qualified individuals. Habitat preferred by some of these species was observed within the streams, lake and seeps adjacent to the THP area. None of these frogs were observed within any of the concerned watercourses, springs, seeps, or talus areas. Due to the lack of presence of these species on the site, protection measures will not be utilized to ensure habitat retention. The implementation of watercourse protection zones and equipment limitation zones along all streams is considered sufficient protections for these species.

There are also protection measures for many of these species in the already existing and approved NTMP (2-00NTMP-002-YUB). Additionally, prior to operations, a walk-through survey is required as part of the associated THP to ensure no protected species are present.

- b) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? *No Impact.***

Riparian areas within the conversion area have been used for recreational uses for years. No significant change in usage is proposed within these areas. In addition, both the California Natural Plant Society and the CNDDDB queries were run for the Clipper Mills USGS 7.5' quadrangle and the eight quadrangles surrounding it to ensure complete coverage in the generation of a rare plant scoping list to assess impact on rare plant communities. Prior to commencement of operations, the conversion area will be surveyed for rare plants in a manner consistent with the Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities (CDFW, 2018). The rare plant survey(s) and reporting will be completed by a qualified botanist.

General Protection Measures for Rare Plants are as follows:

Results of the botanical survey will be submitted to CAL FIRE and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) no less than 10 working days prior to operations to allow review of the survey results and proposed mitigations (if applicable). If a mutually agreeable time is available, a pre-consultation with CDFW may be conducted in order to develop appropriate, site-specific mitigations for rare plant populations identified within the plan area. Plant surveys will be conducted once per THP basis.

A California Native Species Field Survey Form will be completed for all positive detections of rare plant species and provided to the landowner for inclusion into the CNDDDB. Information sharing is at the

discretion of the landowner. Able Forestry does not retain permission to submit confidential information on behalf of the landowner.

If individuals or a population(s) of special status plant species are detected during the monitoring or operation of this THP, the LTO and/or the RPF shall notify CAL FIRE and CDFW in compliance with 14 CCR 939.2 and appropriate protections will be provided. Operations may continue outside of a 50' no-operations buffer around the species of concern until the above consultation is completed.

- c) *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? **No impact.***
- d) *Would the project 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? **No impact.***
- e) *Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? **No Impact. No local tree preservation policy exists in this portion of Yuba County. As stated in the section discussing environmental permits, the tree felling would be subject to the requirements of the Forest Practice Rules, but the project would not conflict with those rules.***
- f) *Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan? **No Impact. The proposed project site is not within the boundaries of a Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other habitat conservation plan. The project does not conflict with implementation of any such plan in this part of Yuba County.***

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
V. Cultural Resources. Will the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 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 Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) 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"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Information about Cultural Resources

Discussion

a) **a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5? **No impact.****

A historic site, Woodleaf Hotel is situated directly adjacent to La Porte Rd and next to other recently

constructed buildings. The hotel is in excellent condition and is approximately 25 meters in length and 10 meters wide. It appears to be made of brick and timber and is currently used at the camp office building.

Across the road from the hotel, approximately 10 meters outside of the proposed conversion area is the Falck House. It is located in a mixed coniferous forest with Incense cedar, Sugar and Ponderosa Pine, Douglas-fir and White fir. The building is in fair condition and is approximately 13 meters in length and 11 meters wide.

Neither structure will be significantly affected by the conversion activities as they are structures that are used daily for camp operations and are not proposed for demolition.

b) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5? **No impact**

No prehistoric resources were located within the conversion area.

c) Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? **No impact.**

There are no unique paleontological resources or geological sites found within the entire project area.

d) Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? **No impact**

If cultural materials are encountered during the land clearing phase, work will be halted in the area until a qualified archaeologist is hired from the Society of California Archaeology to evaluate the find. If the selected archaeologist determines the discovery is important, appropriate mitigation measures will be formulated and implemented. Furthermore, the State Health and Safety Code (Section 7050.5) states that if human remains are exposed during construction, no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to their origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code 5097.98.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VI. Geology and Soils. Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to 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 California Geological Survey Special Publication 42.)

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

iv) Landslides?

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that will 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994, as updated), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a) *Would the project expose people or structures to 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 California Geological Survey Special Publication 42.)* **There are no known faults within the general vicinity of the project area.**

ii) *Strong seismic ground shaking?* **No impact**

iii) *Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?* **No impact**

iv) *Landslides?* **There are no known landslides with the vicinity of the project area.**

b) *Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?* **Less Than Significant With Mitigation**

Skidding logs and other tractor activity could cause organic matter and surface soil displacement, however, the use of preexisting truck road and skid trail patterns already in place that can be used to access the timber in most of the project area, the proper placement of water bars following logging use of these roads and trails, as well as the dispersal of chips and other erosion control measures onto disturbed areas should keep surface soil and organic matter loss to a minimum. In addition, the intent of the landowner is to remove a minimal amount of trees resulting in minimal soil disturbance from skidding operations and no road construction is proposed. Landscaping activities will also include addition of organic material into the topsoil and will improve soil structure.

c) *Would the project 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?* **No impact.**

d) *Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994, as updated), creating substantial risks to life or property?* **No impact**

e) *Would the project 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?* **No impact**

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions. 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Information about Greenhouse Gas Emissions

a) Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? *Less than significant effect*

Forest activities can result in emissions through harvesting, wildfire, pest mortality and other natural and anthropogenic events. However, forestry is a net sink for carbon, the primary greenhouse gas. Plants absorb CO2 from the air, and use the carbon as a building block of plant tissue through the process of photosynthesis. The most recent draft Greenhouse Gas Inventory shows the forestry sector to be a net sink with emissions of 6.1 MMT CO2 EQ. and emissions reductions of 21 MMT CO2 EQ (Bemis, 2006).

This project, alone or in combination with other harvest plans in the watershed, ownership, Humboldt County, or State of California is not expected to have an adverse impact on global warming. Carbon from trees harvested will be sequestered for decades or longer in the form of the wood products cut from the logs. Importantly, additional carbon will be sequestered in the future as newly planted, sprouting, and growing crop trees occupy and grow on the site.

The total emissions for the entire project area is 2,96 Metric Tonnes of CO2 per acre while the net sequestration is 5.48 Metric Tonnes of CO2 per acre.

Based on the Green House Gas Calculator, and the Project Sequestration Summary below, it was determined that the proposed conversion will have an immediate short term impact on both sequestered carbon and carbon contributed to the atmosphere through harvest. Through the calculations, it is indicated that the carbon stocks will be recovered from this initial harvest in 11 years.

These calculations include live tree carbon (including growth), harvested wood products and landfill waste as indicated. Reduction of timberlands reduces the carbon absorption that trees provide. However, with the requirements of CalFire to maintain defensible space and in conjunction with thinned stands from the forestry operations, a reduction in wildfire hazards is obtained thus reducing the potential for catastrophic emissions.

At the project scale, the beneficial impacts on carbon sequestration and the project-related CO2 emissions related to global warming are negligible and undetectable at the global scale. The CO2 emissions from vehicles used to implement the project over several weeks or months are dwarfed by the CO2 emissions from other routine daily activities engaged in by all Californians such as a single morning commute for even one city. Also, impacts from transportation will be further mitigated by the implementation of new standards for diesel engines recently adopted by the CARB (CARB 2008). When considering the impacts of this project on climate it is doubtful that a measurable change could be detected, even at the micro climate level.

b) *Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? **No impact.***

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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, will 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 for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, Would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) 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"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a) *Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? **No impact.***

b) *Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment? **No impact.***

c) *Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? **No impact.***

d) *Would the project be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? **No impact.***

- 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 for people residing or working in the project area? **No impact.**
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? **No impact.**
- g) Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? **No impact.**
- h) Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands? **No impact.**

At this point there is no intentions to use chemicals for this project. Some burning of slash and debris will be necessary at some point. If so the following guidelines shall be strictly adhered to:

This project area is located in Zone 4 of the Feather River Air Quality Management District. Zone 4 in Yuba County coincides with the boundaries of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) and under CAL FIRE and US Forest Service jurisdiction. A burn permit shall be secured by the leading responsible agency. If a burn permit is obtained during the burning season the following conditions shall be met:

(a) Piles and concentrations shall be sufficiently free of soil and other noncombustible material for effective burning.

(b) The piles and concentrations shall be burned at a safe time during the first wet fall or winter weather or other safe period following piling and according to laws and regulations. Piles and concentrations that fail to burn sufficiently to remove the fire hazard shall be further treated to eliminate that hazard. All necessary precautions shall be taken to confine such burning to the piled slash.

Notification of Burning: The local representatives of CAL FIRE and USDA Forest Service shall be notified in advance of the time and place of any burning of slash. Any burning shall be done in the manner provided by Law."

No burning will be allowed in Yuba Zone 4 while CAL FIRE burn permits are suspended for the season.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. Hydrology and Water Quality. Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there will be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells will drop to a level that will not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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, in a manner which will result in substantial on- or off-site erosion or siltation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in on- or off-site flooding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Result in inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a) *Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? **The plan for this project is to maintain and expand an existing summer youth camp. Water quality is at the forefront for consideration and this will be addressed on a constant basis. Through the continuous monitoring or road crossings, continuous road maintenance, sediment trap in the form of the man made lake that 99% of the area drains into, there should be a less than significant impact to water quality and waste discharge. The project area is 42.7 acres, and the completion of the project will, at most, entail the actual working of just a few acres.***

b) *Would the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level that would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)? **As part of the county permitting process, water use and a feasibility analysis has been completed to ensure additional***

infrastructure can be supported by the available water supply. No watercourses are proposed for permanent dewatering or reduction of flow for the purposes of this project.

- c) *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial on- or off-site erosion or siltation? **These operations will have no effect on existing drainage patterns and will not result in on- or off-site erosion or siltation.***
- d) *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in on- or off-site flooding? **There will be no on- or off-site flooding associated with this project.***
- e) *Would the project create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? **No impact.***
- f) *Would the project otherwise substantially degrade water quality? **Please see a).***
- g) *Would the project place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map? **No impact.***
- h) *Would the project place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows? **No impact.***
- i) *Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam? **No impact.***
- j) *Would the project result in inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow? **No impact.***

The proposed project area has several Class III and one class II watercourse and one class IV lake. In general, the watercourses have a gentle gradient and shallow channels. Furthermore, the streams are generally stable with varying amounts and types of streamside vegetation. The Class II watercourses contain limited amounts of aquatic habitat with some pool structure and large woody debris. The Class III watercourses contain limited large woody debris, little or no pool structure, and no aquatic habitat.

In preparation for the timber harvest plan and CEQA review of this entire project I considered impacts from runoff from the proposed project site. This includes canyon drainages, natural open channels, lined drainage channels, springs, creeks (ephemeral, perennial, intermittent), rivers, surface reservoirs, and groundwater basins. I have intently studied available maps, including Yuba County General Plan (Resources Element), USGS topographic maps, Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan), and aerial photos.

I also studied the latest 303D list which discusses water bodies and pollutants that exceed protective water quality standards.

303(d) Impaired Watersheds

Based on an assessment of cumulative impacts of a proposed project on any portion of a waterbody that is located within or downstream of the proposed timber operation and that is listed as water quality limited under Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act (USEPA Approval Date of the list is November 12, 2010) the following items were evaluated and submitted to be used in conjunction with the timber harvest plan associated with activities of this project.

Name of waterbody affected: Feather River, South Fork and New Bullards Bar Reservoir

Name of hydrologic unit where plan area is located, size affected, and priority: Oroleve Creek (Calwater ID# 5518.220204 consisting of 6,098 acres), LOW priority, Indian Creek (Calwater ID# 5517.510203), LOW priority

Pollutant/stressor of affected hydrologic unit (source notes): Oroleve Creek: PCBs and Toxicity, Indian Creek/New Bullards Bar Reservoir: Mercury

*The degree to which the proposed operations will result in impacts that may combine with existing stressors to impair the waterbody's beneficial use: **Less Than Significant Impact***

Land use will not significantly change with the proposed project. Tree removal may occur but mitigations outlined below will reduce impacts to insignificant levels

Feasible mitigation references implemented within the plan area to reduce impacts from the plan to a level of insignificance: Strict enforcement of the WLPZ rules should provide protection enough to reduce impacts to Oroleve Creek, Indian Creek and Bullards Bar Reservoir.

Conclusion: Based on the above discussion, the entire project, as proposed, will not combine with any listed impairments to contribute to significant negative effects on this watershed, including additions of mercury, PCBs or toxicity into the environment.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. Land Use and Planning. Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, a general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) *Would the project physically divide an established community? **No impact.***
- b) *Would the project conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, a general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? **No Impact. The proposed project does not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project.***
- c) *Would the project conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? **No Impact. The proposed project site is not within the boundaries of a Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other habitat conservation plan. The project does not conflict with implementation of any such plan in this part of Yuba County.***

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. Mineral Resources. 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) *Would the project 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? **No impact.***
- b) *Would the project 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? **No impact.***

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. Noise. Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or in other applicable local, state, or federal standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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, will the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, will the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) *Would the project create exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or in other applicable local, state, or federal standards? **No Impact. The proposed project will not generate noise levels in excess of established standards.***
- b) *Would the project create exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or ground borne noise levels? **No Impact. The proposed project will not generate excessive ground borne vibration or noise levels.***
- c) *Would the project create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? **No Impact. The proposed project will not increase permanent ambient noise levels above those without the project.***
- d) *Would the project create a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? **Less than significant impact. The proposed project will increase temporary ambient noise levels above those without the project only during the land clearing and construction phase. This could come about with the use of heavy machinery (used for the timber harvesting) and chippers during the subsequent site preparation for the conversion area.***
- 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 expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? **No impact.***

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? **No impact.**

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII. Population and Housing. Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing homes, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a) Would the project induce substantial 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)? **No impact.**

b) Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing homes, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? **No impact.**

c) Would the project displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? **No impact.**

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV. Public Services. Would the project:				
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a) *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the 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? **No impact.***

*Police protection? **No impact.***

*Schools? **No impact.***

*Parks? **No impact.***

*Other public facilities? **No impact.***

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. Recreation. Would the project:				
a) 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

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? **No impact. The subject property is currently a recreational facility and increased use and degradation of those facilities are in the business plan of the current landowners and will not result in the degradation of recreational facilities nearby.***

b) *Would the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? **No impact. The subject property is in fact a recreational facility and the proposed project includes the construction and expansion of the existing recreational infrastructure however, all facilities are being built and can be supported by the existing septic systems, water systems and will not have a negative physical effect on the environment from the increased usage.***

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. Transportation/Traffic. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) *Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit? **No impact.***
- b) *Would the project conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways? **No impact.***
- c) *Would the project result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks? **No impact.***
- d) *Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? **No impact.***
- e) *Would the project result in inadequate emergency access? **No impact.***
- f) *Would the project conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities? **No impact.***

The proposed project would generate traffic from temporary logging operations and on-going commercial recreational activities. Logs would be hauled off the conversion THP area via a private

road system to La Porte Road. As part of the timber harvest plan, a small segment of road re-construction will allow for a much improved access to the project area (for timber harvesting and later for access to the camp facilities), allowing for a better line-of-sight at the confluence of the La Porte Road and the private access road.

On-going summer camp operations would result in increased traffic along the haul route intermittently throughout the year however traffic will not be significantly increased compared to operations in the past. In addition the reconstructed road will alleviate and streamline access issues making road congestion less of an issue in the future at the points of entry and exit. The traffic to and from the site would be limited to vehicular traffic and would not result in a change in air traffic patterns. Therefore, no impact would occur..

Because of all that is stated above, all discussed impacts would be considered no impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. Utilities and Service Systems. Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a) *Would the project exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? **No impact.***

b) *Would the project require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? **No impact.***

- c) *Would the project require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? **No impact.***
- d) *Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed? **No impact.***
- e) *Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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? **No impact.***
- f) *Would the project be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project’s solid waste disposal needs? **No impact.***
- g) *Would the project comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste? **No impact.***

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVIII. Mandatory Findings of Significance.

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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 an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Does the project have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Authority: Public Resources Code Sections 21083 and 21083.05.
 Reference: Government Code Section 65088.4, Public Resources Code Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21083.05, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21095, and 21151; *Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino*, (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d 296; *Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors* (1990), 222 Cal.App.3d 1337; *Eureka Citizens for Responsible Government v. City of Eureka* (2007) 147 Cal.App.4th 357; *Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency* (2004) 116 Cal.App.4th at 1109; *San Franciscans Upholding the Downtown Plan v. City and County of San Francisco* (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 656.

Discussion

- a) *Would the project have the potential to substantially 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 an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? **No impact. The land is currently being used for the use that is proposed as part of this MND so no significant alterations of the current environment will occur.***

- b) *Would 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.)* **No impact. The project does not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.**
- c) *Would the project have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?* **The project will have no impact on environmental effects that could cause substantial adverse effects on humans.**
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REFERENCE MATERIAL

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Appendix A

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) for the Timberland Conversion Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Yuba County, California

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(d), when adopting a mitigated negative declaration, the lead agency will adopt a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) that ensures compliance with mitigation measures required for project approval. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is the lead agency for the above-listed project and has developed this MMRP as a part of the final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) supporting the project. This MMRP lists the mitigation measures developed in the IS/MND which were designed to reduce environmental impacts to a less-than-significant level. This MMRP also identifies the party responsible for implementing the measure, defines when the mitigation measure must be implemented, and which party or public agency is responsible for ensuring compliance with the measure.

Potentially Significant Effects and Mitigation Measures

The following is a list of the resources that will be potentially affected by the project and the mitigation measures made part of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Mitigation Measure #1: Erosion control structures shall be monitored and maintained by the landowner.

Schedule: Through the prescribed maintenance period established in the THP review process.

Responsible Party: Davy Washburn, Young Life

Verification of Compliance:

Monitoring Party: CAL FIRE Initials: _____ Date: _____

Mitigation Measure #2: Measures to Ensure Protection of Raptors and Migratory Nesting Birds and Amphibians

(a) Tree-felling to take place within the project area will occur during the non-nesting season for migratory birds. This period will be from September 1 through January 30.

OR

(b) Tree-felling to take place within the project area during the potential nesting period for migratory birds (February 1 through August 31), shall be preceded by a nesting bird survey no later than two weeks prior to vegetation removal and completed within the area of potential effect by a qualified biologist, forester, or ornithologist. If any nesting activity of any listed or sensitive birds within the project area is identified, CAL FIRE shall consult with CDFW to develop protection measures.

AND

(c) amphibian surveys will be conducted at a maximum of 2 days prior to heavy equipment use in relations to timber operations within the WLPZ as specified in the THP/TCP by a qualified individual.

Schedule: Two Weeks to Two Days Prior to Tree Removal.

Responsible Party: CAL FIRE shall be responsible to carry-out this mitigation measure.

Verification of Compliance:

Monitoring Party: CAL FIRE

Initials: _____

Date: _____

Mitigation Measure #3: Procedures for Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains

In accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are discovered during ground-disturbing activities, CAL FIRE and/or the project contractor(s) shall immediately halt potentially damaging excavation in the area of the burial and notify the Trinity County Coroner and a qualified professional archaeologist to determine the nature and significance of the remains. The coroner is required to examine all discoveries of human remains within 48 hours of receiving notice of a discovery on private or state lands (Health and Safety Code Section 7050[c]). Following the coroner’s findings, the archaeologist and the Most Likely Descendent (designated by the Native American Heritage Commission) shall determine the ultimate treatment and disposition of the remains and take appropriate steps to ensure that additional human interments are not disturbed. The responsibilities of Trinity County and CAL FIRE to act upon notification of a discovery of Native American human remains are identified in PRC § 5097.

Schedule: Immediately if human remains are discovered.

Responsible Party: CAL FIRE shall be responsible to carry-out this mitigation measure.

Verification of Compliance:

Monitoring Party: CAL FIRE

Initials: _____

Date: _____