



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

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**CITY OF CHICO
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
UPPER BIDWELL PARK ROAD SEDIMENT REDUCTION PROJECT**

October 1, 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Chico intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project described below. The project will be approved administratively unless referred to the City Council for action.

A. UPPER BIDWELL PARK ROAD SEDIMENT REDUCTION PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to implement sediment control practices through reduction of road erosion and sediment delivery from 43 potential erosion sites on Upper Park Road in Upper Bidwell Park located within the Big Chico Creek (BCC) Watershed. To reduce salmonid habitat degradation, and sediment delivery to BCC and ultimately the Sacramento River basin, this project will upgrade and stormproof portions of Upper Park Road within the BCC sub-basin. The Project will implement treatments designated as high or moderate immediacy on this largely unpaved forest road and as identified in the sediment source assessment conducted in 2017 by the City's geologic consultant, Pacific Watershed Associates (PWA).

PWA's action plan recommends treating all 43 features on the 3.42 miles of road for erosion control and prevention. Individual treatment features include 40 stream crossings, 2 ditch relief culverts, and 1 spring, as well as road surface drainage and associated erosion treatments, such as rolling dips. The Project will require a total of 37 stream improvements by upgrading 22 stream crossings with culvert replacements, and 15 stream crossings improved with armored fill installations. Maps and a table of the anticipated erosion treatments and type of work to be conducted at each site is attached as Attachment 1 to the Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND). It is estimated that this Project will reduce and eliminate the potential threat of 3,572 cubic yards of sediment delivery to Big Chico Creek. The construction work will take place in the Summer/Fall of 2022, outside of the wet weather season. Actual construction work is anticipated to take approximately 4 months, weather permitting.

An Initial Study for environmental review has been prepared for the project. Based upon the information within the Initial Study, the Public Works – Operations & Maintenance Department is recommending that a Mitigated Negative Declaration be adopted for the project pursuant to CEQA. A Mitigated Negative Declaration is a determination that a project will not have a significant impact on the environment after the incorporation of specific mitigation measures. A 30-day public review period is being conducted on the Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND). **All comments are due by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday November 2, 2021.**

During this public comment period, the Draft IS/MND shall be available for public review at the City of Chico Public Works – Park Division Office at 965 Fir Street, Chico, California, 95928, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The IS/MND and all documents referenced therein are also available for public review on the City of Chico's website at: <https://chico.ca.us/post/upper-bidwell-park-road-sediment-reduction-project>.

Comments relating to environmental concerns regarding this project and the proposed IS/MND must be filed in writing to the City of Chico Public Works Parks Division at P.O. Box 3420, Chico, CA 95927, or by email at linda.herman@chicoca.gov by 5:00 p.m. November 2, 2021.