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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Upper Bidwell Park Road Sediment Reduction Project

Lead Agency: City of Chico

Contact Name: Linda Herman

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Project Location: Upper Bidwell Park in Chico, Butte County
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

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 salmonoid habitat degradation, and sediment delivery to BCC and ultimately the Sacramento River basin, this project will upgrade and storm proof portions of Upper Park Road within the BCC sub-basin. The action plan includes treating 43 features on the 3.42 miles of road for erosion control and sediment 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. Rolling dips, water bars, outsloping and other typical road drainage treatments will also be installed.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Based on the initial study/environmental analysis, potential impacts could occur related to Biological, Historic, Cultural/Tribal Resources. Although the potential for nesting bird and roosting species to be present in the project area are low, disturbances during construction could result in significant impacts. The potential for impacts to previously unknown buried archaeological or paleontological resources is also low; however, impacts to such resources, if they are unearthed during construction, could be significant.

The proposed project would not restrict the range or population levels of a plant or animal community, substantially reduce biological habitats, affect rare or endangered species or eliminate important historic or prehistoric resources. In addition, the project would not result in direct or indirect adverse effects on human beings that would result in cumulatively considerable contributions to cumulative impacts.

With the implementation of avoidance where possible, Best Management Practices, and mitigation measures (MM Biology D.1-D.5 and Cultural/Tribal E.1-E.5.) identified in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, the project's potential biological, historic and tribal impacts would be Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. Furthermore, it is expected that the project will result in improvements to the Upper Park Road, water quality, natural streamflow function, and public safety access.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

An Assessment of trees that may be removed from the Project was conducted by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) (See Appendix A of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration). The purpose was to document the species, size, diameter measured at breast height (DBH), and general health of trees that could be impacted by the Project. Approximately 44 trees directly in the project area may need to be removed during construction. However, over half of the trees proposed for removal are smaller (i.e., 6-inch diameter at breast height (DBH) or less) or are a non-native species, with a large proportion of all trees experiencing stress and/or compromised health due to overcrowding. However, 31 trees will be planted to mitigate these tree removals.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
Butte County Air Quality Management District