



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
 Northern Region  
 601 Locust Street  
 Redding, CA 96001  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

**GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor**  
**CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director**



Governor's Office of Planning & Research

February 14, 2022

**Feb 14 2022**

## STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Peter J. Connelly, Jr., Branch Chief  
 Environmental Planning Section  
 California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation  
 P.O. Box 942883  
 Sacramento, CA 94283  
[Peter.Connelly@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:Peter.Connelly@cdcr.ca.gov)

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL CENTER, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER 2022010136, ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER 117-510-06-11 AND 117-150-01-11, NEAR SUSANVILLE, LASSEN COUNTY**

Dear Peter J. Connelly, Jr.:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) signed on January 10, 2022, for the above-referenced project (Project). As a trustee for the State's fish and wildlife resources, the Department has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and their habitat. As a responsible agency, the Department administers the California Endangered Species Act and other provisions of the Fish and Game Code that conserve the State's fish and wildlife public trust resources. The Department offers the following comments and recommendations on this Project in our role as a trustee and responsible agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.

### Project Description

The Project as described is a "California State Assembly and California State Senate, as well as the Legislative Analyst's Office, of two specific State-owned and -operated prisons proposed for closure. Accordingly, CDCR has identified the California Correctional Center (CCC) for closure. CDCR would cease operations at CCC and retain a reduced staff to ensure that the facility is maintained in operating condition. Operation of neighboring High Desert State Prison (HDSP) would continue, with the responsibility of operating some facilities that HDSP shares with CCC to be transferred to HDSP. To facilitate facility closure, incarcerated persons would be transferred from the CCC facility to other CDCR institutions that meet the needs of the incarcerated person.

*Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870*


Peter J. Connelly, Jr., Branch Chief  
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation  
February 14, 2022  
Page 2

*Additionally, CDCR and California Correctional Health Care Services would work with CCC staff to facilitate staff transfers to other CDCR institutions, including to HDSP as appropriate, to minimize loss of State employment. After all existing incarcerated individuals are transferred to other institutions, the CCC facility would enter a phase of maintenance and security characterized as a “warm shutdown.” This transition to a fully closed facility would result in the retention of approximately 10 staff to maintain/minimize deterioration of critical facility infrastructure, such as electrical systems, heating/ventilation equipment, plumbing, building exteriors, and grounds.”*

Based on existing information for the closure of the California Correctional Center, the DEIR is not anticipated to analyze Biological Resources, Hydrology/Water Quality, or Wildfire; therefore, the Department has no further comment. If the Project description changes in any way or additional biological resource information becomes available, the Department should be notified and provided an opportunity to offer comments regarding the updated information.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Henderson, Senior Environmental Scientist, at (530) 598-7194, or by email at [R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
1D82ADE7303A474...

Tina Bartlett, Regional Manager  
Northern Region

ec: State Clearinghouse  
[State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov](mailto:State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov)

Amy Henderson  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Habitat Conservation Planning Branch