
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND INITIAL STUDY

DATE: March 21, 2022

TO: Responsible Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

SUBJECT: **CAL FIRE Growlersburg Conservation Camp Replacement Project — EL DORADO COUNTY**

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency for the proposed CAL FIRE Growlersburg Conservation Camp Replacement Project (Proposed Project). CAL FIRE has directed the preparation of an Initial Study (IS) Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) in compliance with CEQA. A Notice of Intent (NOI) was circulated in the Mountain Democrat on March 9, 2022, and indicated the Draft IS/MND review period would start on the same day. However, the Draft IS/MND was not submitted to the State Clearinghouse on March 9. The NOI will be reposted in the Mountain Democrat on March 21, and the Draft IS/MND public review period will be March 21, 2022 – April 20, 2022.

Project Location: The Project site is located on 80 acres of state-owned property, at 5540 Longview Lane in Georgetown, California. The Camp is located approximately 15 miles north of Placerville and 20 miles east of Auburn. The Project site consists of forested mountain terrain with graded areas scattered throughout the facility and is currently being used to house an inmate population for emergency incidents, such as fires, floods, and earthquakes.

Project Description: The proposed Project includes the replacement/upgrade of the existing Conservation Camp and associated facilities/structures. New facilities to be constructed would include an administration building, 136-bed inmate dorm building, inmate recreation building, inmate hobby building, 6-bed California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)/CAL FIRE barracks building, inmate kitchen and mess hall, multipurpose facility, inmate staging area (with restroom and showers), warehouse, carpentry shop, auto welding shop, vehicle storage building, sawmill shed, sawmill building, planer/assembly building (including dry kilns), pole barn, generator/pump/storage building, covered vehicle rack, and vehicle wash recycling. The Proposed Project would be constructed on property currently controlled by CAL FIRE and an expansion area that is currently part of the camp property.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts: Potentially significant impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, and tribal cultural resources were identified in the IS. All impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level with the implementation of identified mitigation measures.

Hazardous Waste Sites: Pursuant to Section 15087(c)(6) of the Guidelines for California Environmental Quality Act, CAL FIRE acknowledges the non-existence of hazardous waste sites within the Project area reviewed by this Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).

IS/MND Document Review and Availability: The public review and comment period for the Draft IS/MND will extend for 30 days, **starting March 21, 2022 and ending April 20, 2022**. The Draft IS/MND can be viewed and/or downloaded at the following websites:

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<https://www.fire.ca.gov/programs/resource-management/resource-protection-improvement/environmental-protection-program/public-notices/>

or

<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/RES/RESOURCES/Page-Content/Real-Estate-Services-Division-Resources-List-Folder/Information-and-Resources-for-CEQA>

Comments/Questions: Comments and/or questions regarding the IS/MND may be directed to:
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or via email (preferred):

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