

California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 PLANNING
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

NOV 4 2022

November 3, 2022

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

Elizabeth Merchant-Wells
Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD)
18885 Nugget Boulevard
Sonora, CA 95370

**TUO-108-PM 14.652 Zone 4
Tank & Pump Station Project
Initial Study (IS)
SCH: 2022100037**

Dear Ms. Merchant-Wells,

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Tank and Pump Station project which includes constructing a new water storage tank and pump station. The existing White Fir Tank and pump station would be removed and install new 6-inch water mains within the current road section of White Fir Drive and Live Oak Street. The storage tank and pump station would connect Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) 's existing water mains on Sugar Pine Road and Jeffrey Lane.

The proposed project site is located within the unincorporated community of Sugarpine, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 028-051-026, approximately 11 miles northeast of the City of Sonora. The primary access to the project site is via White Fir Drive.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Environmental

If any construction-related activities encroach into Caltrans Right of Way (ROW), the project proponent must apply for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans Encroachment Permit Office. All California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation, with supporting technical studies, must be submitted with the Encroachment Permit Application. These studies will analyze potential impacts on cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, scenic highways, and/or other environmental resources within Caltrans ROW at the project site(s). Evidence of consultation with local Native American tribes and interested parties will need to be presented within the technical documents to approve encroachment in the Caltrans ROW. Mature trees within and/or near Caltrans ROW could provide suitable nesting habitats. If work occurs between February 1 and September 30 of any year, a pre-construction bird survey must be conducted by a qualified biologist before any construction-related activities in Caltrans ROW. A protective buffer must be established

around the nest if an active nest is observed per California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines. No work is allowed within the protective buffer limits until the young have fledged and until authorized by the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office.

Hydrology

At this time, the proposed project will not result in significant changes to the existing drainage patterns or runoff quantities. Additional review will be needed if drainage plans are updated.

There is one state owned culvert located near the project site. The applicant needs to ensure there is no damage to the existing culvert on State Route (SR) 108 at Post Mile (PM) 14.52.

- Inlet Coordinates: 38.06247 -120.19738
- Outlet Coordinates: 38.06256 -120.19747

If any future project activities encroach into Caltrans ROW, the project proponent must submit an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. Appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with this application. These studies will analyze potential impacts to any cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, and/or other resources within Caltrans ROW at the project site(s). For more information, please visit the Caltrans Website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>

Please contact Paul Bauldry at (209) 670-9488 (paul.bauldry@dot.ca.gov), or me at (209) 483-7234 (Gregoria.Ponce@dot.ca.gov) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Gregoria Ponce'

Gregoria Ponce', Chief
Office of Rural Planning