

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 #: 2022110035

Project Title: UC Berkeley Cal Softball Field Renovation Project

Lead Agency: The Regents of the University of California

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Project Location: Berkeley

City

Alameda

County

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

UC Berkeley proposes to renovate and improve the existing Cal Softball Field, which is the home for the UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletic (IA) Women's Softball Program. The project site is located within the Hill Campus West of UC Berkeley and the Strawberry Canyon Recreation Area at the site of the existing Cal Softball Field. The project would preserve and upgrade the existing softball facility to meet modern safety and competition standards for the IA Women's Softball Program and Recreational Sports Intramural softball players, as well as support campus compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 through the provision of equitable athletics facilities for male and female student athletes. The primary physical changes associated with the project would include providing additional permanent spectator seats in place of temporary bleachers, a press box, spectator concourse, replacement competition-grade lights, restrooms, public address system, expanded playing field dimensions, team and locker rooms, a ticket booth, improved training facilities (e.g., batting cages), entry plaza, landscaping, sustainable design features, access and bus stop improvements, and utilities. The proposed project will remove approximately 85 parking spaces and retain approximately 25 parking spaces in the existing Witter Lot, and upgrade the existing sidewalk along the project frontage. The proposed project also includes the implementation of applicable project-specific UC Berkeley university continuing best practices, a project-specific transportation demand management plan and a project-specific wildfire protection plan.

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

Please see attached summary table.

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

Aesthetics. Lighting impacts on nearby residents during softball games and practices; cumulative lighting impacts from other athletic facilities in the project area.

Biological Resources. Noise and lighting impacts on wildlife; potential habitat impacts.

Cultural Resources. Potential impacts related to the Panoramic Hill Historic District and Strawberry Canyon.

Noise. Impacts related to operational noise during softball games and practices; potential impacts related to the "canyon" setting of the project area; cumulative noise impacts for instances that multiple athletic events occur simultaneously in the project area.

Transportation. Existing and future traffic conditions; pedestrian and bicyclist safety, particularly for those accessing the project site and adjacent Strawberry Canyon Recreation and Pool; emergency access and evacuation.

Wildfire. Potential impacts related to emergency evacuation planning and response.

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

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Trustee Agency)

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS

Impact	Level of Significance Prior to Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Aesthetics			
Impact AES-1: Scenic Vistas. The proposed project would not result in a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista.	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
Impact AES-2: Visual Character. The proposed project is in a non-urbanized area and would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views.	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
Impact AES-3: Light and Glare. The proposed project would not create a new source of substantial light and glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
Impact AES-4: Cumulative Impacts Related to Aesthetics. The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result in a significant cumulative impact related to aesthetics.	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
Biological Resources			
Impact BIO-1: Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Species. The proposed project would have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on a species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS.	Potentially Significant	<p>MM BIO-1: Within 14 days prior to the onset of any vegetation removal or demolition activities at the southeastern corner of the site, a qualified biologist shall determine if the San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat stick houses shown in Figure 4.3-5 are active using peer-accepted methods (e.g., mimicking woodrat “tail rattle” and listening for a response). If the biologist determines that the houses are unoccupied, no further action would be required. If the biologist determines that the houses are occupied or potentially occupied and that project activities could result in woodrat mortality, the following measures would be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The biologist shall consult with the contractor to determine if the houses can be avoided. If so, the contractor, under direction of the biologist, shall install a 10-foot-radius exclusion zone around each house using pin flags, orange safety cones, wood lathe, or similar in which no activity would occur until the project is complete. 	Less than Significant

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<p>Impact BIO-2: Riparian Habitat or Other Sensitive Natural Communities. The proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.</p>	Less than Significant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If the house(s) cannot be avoided, the contractor, under direction of the biologist, shall dismantle the houses by hand or using small machinery and move the woody materials to similar habitat outside the project footprint. These dismantling activities shall only occur in the early morning during the non-breeding (October to February), however, so that any adults or non-dependent young would be able to escape into adjacent habitat during the dismantling activity. 	Less than Significant
<p>Impact BIO-3: State or Federally Protected Wetlands. The proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.</p>	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
<p>Impact BIO-4: Resident or Migratory Fish and Wildlife Movement and Native Wildlife Nursery Sites. The proposed project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.</p>	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
<p>Impact BIO-5: Cumulative Impacts on Biological Resources. The proposed project, in combination</p>	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant

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with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in less-than-significant cumulative impacts with respect to biological resources.			
Cultural Resources			
Impact CUL-1: Built Environment Historical Resources. The proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a (built environment) historical resource.	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
Impact CUL-2: Archaeological Resources. The proposed project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of unique archaeological resources or historical resources of an archaeological nature.	Potentially Significant	<p>MM CUL-1: For project ground-disturbing activities (including, but not limited to, soil removal, parcel grading, new utility trenching, and foundation-related excavation), UC Berkeley shall implement the following measures to ensure impacts to archaeological resources will be less than significant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prior to soil disturbance, UC Berkeley shall confirm that contractors have been notified of the procedures for the identification of federal- or State-eligible cultural resources, and that the construction crews are aware of the potential for previously undiscovered archaeological resources or tribal cultural resources on site, of the laws protecting these resources and associated penalties, and of the procedures to follow should they discover cultural resources during project-related work. ▪ If a resource is discovered during construction of the project (whether or not an archaeologist is present), the following measures shall be implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All soil disturbing work within 35 feet of the find shall cease. ▪ UC Berkeley shall contact a qualified archaeologist to provide and implement a plan for survey, subsurface investigation as needed to define the deposit, and assessment of the remainder of the site within the project area to determine whether the resource is significant and would be affected by the project. ▪ Any previously undiscovered resources found during construction activities shall be recorded on appropriate California Department of Parks and Recreation forms and evaluated for significance in terms of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) criteria by a qualified archaeologist. ▪ If the resource is a tribal cultural resource, the consulting archaeologist shall consult with the appropriate tribe to evaluate the significance of the resource and to recommend appropriate and feasible avoidance, testing, preservation or 	Less than Significant

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<p>Impact CUL-3: Human Remains. The proposed project may disturb human remains interred outside of dedicated cemeteries.</p>	Less than Significant	<p>mitigation measures, in light of factors such as the significance of the find, proposed project design, costs, and other considerations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If avoidance is infeasible, other appropriate measures (e.g., data recovery) may be implemented. ▪ If the resource is a non-tribal resource determined significant under CEQA, the qualified archaeologist shall prepare and implement a research design and archaeological data recovery plan that will capture those categories of data for which the site is significant. ▪ The archaeologist shall also perform appropriate technical analyses; prepare a comprehensive report complete with methods, results, and recommendations; and provide for the permanent curation of the recovered resources if appropriate. ▪ The report shall be submitted to the lead agency for regulatory compliance, California Historic Resources Information System Northwest Information Center, and the State Historic Preservation Office, if required. 	Less than Significant
<p>Impact CUL-4: Tribal Cultural Resources. The proposed project may result in a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource.</p>	Potentially Significant	Implement MM CUL-1 (see Impact CUL-2 above for a description of this measure).	Less than Significant
<p>Impact CUL-5: Cumulative Cultural Resource and Tribal Cultural Resource Impacts. The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in a cumulative impact related to cultural resources and tribal cultural resources.</p>	Less than Significant	Implement MM CUL-1 (see Impact CUL-2 above for a description of this measure).	Less than Significant
Noise			
<p>Impact NOI-1: Temporary or Permanent Increase in Ambient Noise. The proposed project could generate a substantial temporary</p>	Significant (Construction Noise)	<p>MM NOI-1: Construction Noise. The proposed project shall implement the following measures related to construction noise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Restrict demolition/construction activities and use of equipment that have the potential to generate significant noise levels (e.g., use of concrete saw, mounted 	Significant and Unavoidable (Construction Noise)

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<p>increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies, but would not generate a substantial permanent increase in such ambient noise levels.</p>	<p>Less than Significant (Operational Noise)</p>	<p>impact hammer, jackhammer, rock drill, etc.) to between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction equipment and vehicles shall be fitted with efficient, well-maintained mufflers that reduce equipment noise emission levels at the project site. Internal-combustion-powered equipment shall be equipped with properly operating noise suppression devices (e.g., mufflers, silencers, wraps) that meet or exceed the manufacturer’s specifications. Mufflers and noise suppressors shall be properly maintained and tuned to ensure proper fit, function, and minimization of noise. ▪ Pumps that are not submerged and aboveground conveyor systems shall be located within acoustically treated enclosures, shrouded, or shielded to prevent the propagation of sound into the surrounding areas. ▪ Portable and stationary site support equipment (e.g., generators, compressors, rock crushers, and cement mixers) shall be located as far as possible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors. ▪ Impact tools shall have the working area/impact area shrouded or shielded whenever possible, with intake and exhaust ports on power equipment muffled or suppressed. This may necessitate the use of temporary or portable, application-specific noise shields or barriers. ▪ Construction equipment shall not be idled for extended periods (i.e., 5 minutes or longer) of time in the immediate vicinity of noise-sensitive receptors. ▪ A temporary noise barrier shall be erected along the construction site perimeter, of a minimum height of 12 feet. Such a temporary noise barrier will be constructed with solid material with a density of at least 1.5 pounds per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the temporary noise barrier and may be lined on the construction side with an acoustical blanket, curtain, or equivalent absorptive material. 	<p>Less than Significant (Operational Noise)</p>
<p>Impact NOI-2: Excessive Vibration. The proposed project would not result in excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact NOI-3: Cumulative Noise Impacts. The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result in a significant cumulative impact related to noise.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>

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Transportation			
<p>Impact TRA-1: Conflict with a Program, Plan, Ordinance, or Policy Addressing the Circulation System. The proposed project would not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, and bicycle facilities. However, the proposed project could conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system related to pedestrian facilities.</p>	Potentially Significant	<p>MM TRA-1: UC Berkeley shall implement measures to improve pedestrian safety and connectivity along Stadium Rim Way, Centennial Drive, and portions of Canyon Road leading to the Cal Softball Field, in order facilitate safe egress and ingress of spectators before and after typical and maximum events. Specific measures shall be posted on the UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics (IA) website to provide spectators with several pedestrian travel routes to/from adjacent parking facilities. UC Berkeley shall also monitor the implementation of the measures and will refine such measures when warranted. Specific measures include, but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stadium Rim Way (north of Centennial Drive) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Missing bollards along the stadium side of the road shall be replaced and maintained. ▪ Wayfinding signage leading from the Stadium Garage to the Cal Softball Field shall be installed to lead pedestrians along the stadium edge towards the Stadium Rim Way/Centennial Drive intersection. ▪ Painted pedestrian markings and rumble strips shall be installed to provide cohesive walkways from the existing Stadium Rim Way sidewalk and staircases from the Stadium Garage to and across the Stadium Rim Way/Centennial Drive intersection. ▪ Stadium Rim Way/Canyon Road (south of Centennial Drive) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Missing bollards along the stadium side of the road shall be replaced and maintained. ▪ Wayfinding signage leading from parking areas from the south to the Cal Softball Field shall be installed to lead pedestrians along the stadium edge towards the Stadium Rim Way/Centennial Drive intersection. ▪ Painted pedestrian markings and rumble strips shall be installed to provide cohesive walkways from the existing Canyon Road sidewalk. ▪ Stadium Rim Way/Centennial Drive intersection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intersection shall be repainted with new striping, markings, and new stop-signs. ▪ Vegetation along the southeast corner of the intersection shall be trimmed and managed to enhance visibility of pedestrians to oncoming traffic. ▪ With the discretion of IA, a temporary crossing guard may be used to facilitate pedestrian traffic during maximum events. 	Less than Significant

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<p>Impact TRA-2: Vehicle Miles Traveled. The proposed project could conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, Subdivision (b).</p>	Potentially Significant	No feasible mitigation measures identified.	Potentially Significant and Unavoidable
<p>Impact TRA-3: Geometric Design Hazards. The proposed project would not substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible use.</p>	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
<p>Impact TRA-4: Emergency Access. The proposed project would not result in inadequate emergency access.</p>	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
<p>Impact TRA-5: Cumulative Transportation Impacts. The proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, could result in a significant cumulative impact related to transportation from vehicle miles traveled.</p>	Potentially Significant	None	Potentially Significant and Unavoidable

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS

Impact	Level of Significance Prior to Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation
Wildfire			
Impact WF-1: Impairment of Emergency Response or Evacuation Plan. The proposed project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
Impact WF-2: Exacerbate Wildfire Risks. The proposed project would not exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire, due to slope, prevailing winds, or other factors.	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
Impact WF-3: Fire Risk Associated with Infrastructure. The proposed project would not exacerbate fire risk or cause temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment due to the installation or maintenance of infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities).	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant
Impact WF-4: Expose People or Structures to Significant Environmental Risks. The proposed project would not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.	Less than Significant	None	Less than Significant

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<p>Impact WF-5: Expose People or Structures to Significant Environmental Risks from Wildfire. The proposed project would not expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires.</p>	Less than Significant	None		Less than Significant
<p>Impact WF-6: Cumulative Wildfire Impacts. The proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact with regard to wildfire.</p>	Less than Significant	None		Less than Significant