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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

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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: Cooks Valley Events - Northern Nights Music Group & Mateel Community Center

Lead Agency: Humboldt County Planning & Building Department

Contact Name: Steven Lazar

Email: slazar@co.humboldt.ca.us Phone Number: (707)268-3741

Project Location: Cooks Valley / Piercy (*City*) Humboldt & Mendocino (*County*)

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

A five-year renewal and modification of two previously approved Conditional Use PermitsThe County Line Ranch and Cooks Valley Campground span both Humboldt and Mendocino Counties and will serve as the principal venue for all events. One Use Permit (PLN-2023-18107) is being requested by the Northern Nights Music Group to allow temporary use of County Line Ranch (APN 033-271-033) for two annual events. One event includes camping and parking at the County Line Ranch during a three or four-day, 8,000-person event, ordinarily held on the third weekend of July, known as the Northern Nights Music Festival. The second event includes entertainment, camping and parking provisions for an additional one-day, 3,000-person event ordinarily held on a weekend in either July or September. The other Use Permit (PLN-2023-18108) is being requested by the Mateel Community Center to allow two events annually in a similar size and fashion. One event is the Summer Arts and Music Festival which occurs over two days and is ordinarily held during the third weekend in June. The event was first operated at the County Line Ranch in 2022 and the applicant is seeking to increase attendance from 4,000 to 5,000 persons under the modification request. The second 8,000-person event is Reggae on the River, which occurs over three days and is ordinarily held during the first weekend in August.

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

The project includes camping and parking of vehicles within the flood plan and riverbar of the Southe Fork of the Eel River, which abuts the parcels where events will occur. The project includes a variety of mitigation measures to avoid impacts to water quality in the river by vehicles and event attendees, as well as protections for biological resources such as the Yellow Legged Frog and Killdeer. Mitigation measures addressing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Vehicle Miles Traveled are also included, as well as measures addressing noise and wildfire.

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

Concerns over event-related water use have previously been raised during prior permitting. The event includes offsetting mitigation design to ensure that no additional water withdrawal from the South Fork will occur as a result of the four proposed events

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

California Department of Fish & Widlife
State Department of Parks and Recreation