



NORTH FORK BICYCLE AND
PEDESTRIAN PATH PROJECT
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

April 2024

PREPARED FOR:



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Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project

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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Summary

This document is the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) on the potential environmental effects of the County of Madera's (County) proposed bicycle and pedestrian path near the community of North Fork, CA (Project). The County is proposing to construct approximately 1,560 feet of bicycle & pedestrian facilities which includes an 8-foot paved bicycle path and 5-foot pedestrian path. The proposed Project is more fully described in Chapter Two – Project Description.

Madera County will act as the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to the *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)* and the *CEQA Guidelines*.

1.2 Document Format

This IS/MND contains five chapters, and appendices. Section 1, Introduction, provides an overview of the project and the CEQA environmental documentation process. Chapter 2, Project Description, provides a detailed description of project components. Chapter 3, Initial Study Checklist, presents the CEQA checklist and environmental analysis for all impact areas, mandatory findings of significance, and feasible mitigation measures. If the proposed Project does not have the potential to significantly impact a given issue area, the relevant section provides a brief discussion of the reasons why no impacts are expected. If the Project could have a potentially significant impact on a resource, the issue area discussion provides a description of potential impacts, and appropriate mitigation measures and/or other requirements that would reduce those impacts to a less than significant level. Chapter 4, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, provides the proposed mitigation measures, completion timeline, and person/agency responsible for implementation. Chapter 5, List of Preparers, provides a list of key personnel involved in the preparation of the IS/MND.

Environmental impacts are separated into the following categories:

Potentially Significant Impact. This category is applicable if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant (as measured against established thresholds), and no feasible mitigation measures can be identified to reduce impacts to a less than significant level. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

Less Than Significant After Mitigation Incorporated. This category applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures would reduce an effect from a “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measure(s), and briefly explain how they would reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from earlier analyses may be cross-referenced).

Less Than Significant Impact. This category is identified when the project would result in impacts below the threshold of significance, and no mitigation measures are required.

No Impact. This category applies when a project would not create an impact in the specific environmental issue area. “No Impact” answers do not require a detailed explanation if they are adequately supported by the information sources cited by the lead agency, which show that the impact does not apply to the specific project (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis.)

Regardless of the type of CEQA document that must be prepared, the basic purpose of the CEQA process as set forth in the CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(a) is to:

- (1) Inform governmental decision makers and the public about the potential, significant environmental effects of proposed activities.
- (2) Identify ways that environmental damage can be avoided or significantly reduced.
- (3) Prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment by requiring changes in projects through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures when the governmental agency finds the changes to be feasible.
- (4) Disclose to the public the reasons why a governmental agency approved the project in the manner the agency chose if significant environmental effects are involved.

According to Section 15070(b), a Mitigated Negative Declaration is appropriate if it is determined that:

- (1) Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by or agreed to by the applicant before a proposed mitigated negative declaration and initial study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur, and
- (2) There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment.

The Initial Study contained in Section Three of this document has determined that with mitigation measures and features incorporated into the Project design and operation, the environmental impacts are less than significant and therefore a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be adopted by the County. The IS/MND will be made available for public review in accord with *CEQA* and the *CEQA Guidelines*.

Chapter 2

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Description

2.1 Project Background

The Madera County Public Works Department (County) proposes to construct a bicycle and pedestrian path along Road 225 and Road 228 near the community of North Fork, CA. The primary goal of the Project is to increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. The Federal Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) and the Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program will provide funding for the Project.

Presently, the community of North Fork consists of mostly scattered residential neighborhoods and commercial businesses. Road 225 is the main road to the east, connecting the North Fork and South Fork communities, including the North Fork Rancheria Community Center and North Fork Elementary School. Currently, Road 225 does not have any pedestrian facilities on either side of the road. There is a need for these facilities in the area to allow pedestrians to commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. This Project will help meet the existing pedestrian facility needs and increase pedestrian safety in the North Fork and South Fork communities.

2.2 Location

The proposed bicycle and pedestrian path will be located near the community of North Fork, CA. The proposed path will start approximately 160 feet west of Willow Creek Drive and continue east on Road 225 to 120 feet west of North Fork Willow Creek. The path will continue on Road 225 from 80 feet east of North Fork Willow Creek east to Road 228, then south on Road 228 to a school bus parking lot. The Project site is in Township 8 South, Range 23 East, Section 18 of the North Fork 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle.

See Figures 1 and 2– Regional Map and Vicinity Map, respectively.

Figure 1
Regional Map



Figure 2
Location Map



2.3 Setting and Surrounding Land Use

The Project site itself has been previously developed and is highly disturbed. The project is bisected by North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial stream flanked by riparian forest. The western half of the project site is surrounded by commercial and residential development to the north, west, and south and riparian forest to the east. The eastern half of the project site is surrounded by paved roads and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the north and east, a revegetated staging area and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the south, and riparian forest to the west. See Figure 2 – Vicinity Map.

2.4 Project Description

The Madera County Public Works Department intends to construct bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. To meet the existing pedestrian facility needs and increase pedestrian safety, the County is proposing to construct approximately 1,560 feet of bicycle & pedestrian facilities which includes an 8-foot paved bicycle path and 5-foot pedestrian path. These facilities will be separated from the roadway. The project will start near Willow Creek Drive and continue east on Road 225, turning south along Road 228. The Class I bike & pedestrian path will continue all the way to reach the school bus parking lot which is located south of the Road 225 and Road 228 intersection. Other improvements include a transit stop with bus shelter, minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

Construction Schedule

Construction is anticipated to occur from August 2024 – October 2024.

2.5 Other Required Approvals

The proposed Project will include, but not be limited to, the following regulatory requirements:

- The adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration by Madera County
- California Department of Transportation – Environmental approvals
- Approval of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Dust Control Plan Approval letter from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- Compliance with other federal, state and local requirements.

Chapter 3

IMPACT ANALYSIS

Initial Study Checklist

3.1 Environmental Checklist Form

Project title: North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project

Lead agency name and address:

Madera County Public Works, Engineering Division
200 W. 4th Street, Suite 3100
Madera, CA 93637

Contact person and phone number:

Haden Hinkle, PE
Madera County Public Works, Engineering Division
(559) 675-7811

Project location:

The proposed bicycle and pedestrian path will be located near the community of North Fork, CA. The proposed path will start approximately 160 feet west of Willow Creek Drive and continue east on Road 225 to 120 feet west of North Fork Willow Creek. The path will continue on Road 225 from 80 feet east of North Fork Willow Creek east to Road 228, then south on Road 228 to a school bus parking lot (see Figure 2).

Project sponsor's name/address:

Madera County Public Works, Engineering Division
200 W. 4th Street, Suite 3100
Madera, CA 93637

Description of project:

The Madera County Public Works Department (County) proposes to construct approximately 1,560 feet of concrete bicycle and pedestrian path along Road 225 and Road 228 near the community of North Fork, CA. The proposed Project is more fully described in Chapter Two – Project Description.

Surrounding land uses/setting:

The Project site is located near the community of North Fork, approximately 10 miles southeast of Oakhurst and approximately 32 miles northeast of City of Madera, in Madera County. The proposed Project setting is fully described in Chapter Two – Project Description.

Other Required Approvals:

- The adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration by Madera County
- California Department of Transportation – Environmental approvals
- Approval of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Dust Control Plan Approval letter from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- Compliance with other federal, state and local requirements.

California Native American Tribal Consultation:

Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the Project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun or is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

In accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52, potentially affected Tribes were formally notified of this Project and were given the opportunity to request consultation on the Project. The County's consultant contacted the Native American Heritage Commission, requesting a contact list of applicable Native American Tribes, which was provided to the County's consultant. Using the NAHC provided contact list, letters were sent and follow-up phone calls were made to identify Native American interests and concerns in the Project area.

3.2 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this Project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources and Forest Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

3.3 Determination

Based on this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Date

I. AESTHETICS

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES

- a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?
- b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

Less Than Significant Impact. A scenic vista is defined as a viewpoint that provides expansive views of highly valued landscape for the benefit of the general public. The community of North Fork is located just west of the transition from foothill to the higher mountainous terrain of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The Sierra Nevada Mountains and foothills as well as the North Fork Willow Creek are the

natural and visual resources in the proposed Project area. The Project is bisected by North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial stream flanked by riparian forest. The Project development consists of construction of a bicycle and pedestrian path along Road 225 and Road 228, to increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. These are ground-level developments which will not substantially damage scenic vista or scenic resources. The Project site is located approximately 12 miles north of State Route 168 which is designated as an Eligible State scenic highway but is not a Designated scenic highway.¹ Therefore, the Project would have *a less than significant impact* on protected scenic vistas or designated scenic resources or highways.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- c. In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and regulations governing scenic quality?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project consists of construction of approximately 1560 feet of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. These facilities will be separated from the existing roadway. The Project will start near Willow Creek Drive and continue east on Road 225, turning south along Road 228. The Class I bike & pedestrian path will continue all the way to reach the school bus parking lot which is located south of the Road 225 and Road 228 intersection. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

The western half of the Project site is surrounded by scattered commercial and residential development to the north, west, and south and riparian forest to the east. The eastern half of the Project site is surrounded by paved roads and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the north and east, a revegetated staging area and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the south, and riparian forest to the west.

The proposed Project involves improvements to the existing roadways, which occur at ground-level, and will generally not be visible from the adjacent roadsides. and as such, will not result in a substantial change to the existing visual nature of the area.

¹ Caltrans California State Scenic Highway System Map.

<https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aaca>. Accessed January 2024.

Therefore, the Project would have *less than significant impacts* on the visual character of the area.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Less Than Significant Impact. Currently the sources of light in the Project area are from vehicles traveling along Road 225 and surrounding roads, and lighting at nearby residences and Adult School. Roadway improvements may include a minimal amount of additional lighting; however, any additional lighting would not be expected to appreciably change any existing glare or lighting conditions because the visibility of the site from residential areas and public spaces and roadways is limited. Nighttime lighting associated with roadways may be necessary to provide and maintain safe, secure, and attractive environments. This lighting will be directed downward and will not result in light “spillage” onto adjacent properties. Accordingly, the proposed Project would not create substantial new sources of light or glare. Potential impacts are *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES

- a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?
- b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?
- c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?
- d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?
- e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact. The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program has not mapped farmland in the North Fork area and as such, the Project does not include conversion of designated farmland to non-farmland. The proposed Project involves bicycle and pedestrian path improvements which will continue all the way to reach the school bus parking lot which is located south of the Road 225 and Road 228 intersection. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

There are no agricultural lands in the District under a Williamson Act Contract. The proposed Project does not include land under a Williamson Act Contract. No conversion of forestland, as defined under Public Resource Code or General Code, as referenced above, would occur as a result of the proposed Project.

All improvements will take place within or near existing roadways. As such, the proposed Project does not have the potential to result in the conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural uses or forestland uses to non-forestland. No portion of the Site is designated, zoned, or utilized for agricultural or forestry use, so the Project will not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production, *no impacts* would occur.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

III. AIR QUALITY

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors or adversely affecting a substantial number of people)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES

- a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?
- b. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?
- c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less than Significant Impact. The proposed Project consists of construction of approximately 1560 feet of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. These facilities will be separated from the existing roadway. The Class I bike & pedestrian path will continue all the way to reach the school bus parking lot which is located south of the Road 225 and Road 228 intersection. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

The proposed Project is located within the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin, which includes San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and parts of Kern counties and is managed by the SJVAPCD.

Air basins are classified as attainment, nonattainment, or unclassified. Attainment is achieved when monitored ambient air quality data is in compliance with the standards for a specified pollutant. Non-compliance with an established standard will result in a nonattainment designation and an unclassified designation indicates insufficient data is available to determine compliance for that pollutant.

Standards and attainment status for listed pollutants in the Air District can be found in Table 1. Note that both state and federal standards are presented.

**Table 1
Standards and Attainment Status for Listed Pollutants in the Air District²**

	Federal Standard	California Standard
Ozone	0.07 ppm (8-hr avg, 2015)	0.07 ppm (8-hr avg) 0.09 ppm (1-hr avg)
Carbon Monoxide	9.0 ppm (8-hr avg) 35.0 ppm (1-hr avg)	9.0 ppm (8-hr avg) 20.0 ppm (1-hr avg)
Nitrogen Dioxide	0.053 ppm (annual avg) 100 ppb (1-hr avg)	0.30 ppm (annual avg) 0.18 ppm (1-hr avg)
Sulfur Dioxide	0.5 ppm (3-hr avg) 0.075 ppm (1-hr avg)	0.04 ppm (24-hr avg) 0.25 ppm (1hr avg)
Lead	0.15 µg/m3 (rolling 3-month avg)	1.5 µg/m3 (30-day avg)
Particulate Matter (PM10)	150 µg/m3 (24-hr avg) Revoked (annual)	20 µg/m3 (annual avg) 50 µg/m3 (24-hr avg)
Particulate Matter (PM2.5)	<u>(2012 standard)</u> 12 µg/m3 (annual avg) 35 µg/m3 (24-hr avg)	12 µg/m3 (annual avg)

µg/m3 = micrograms per cubic meter

Because of the region’s non-attainment status for ozone, PM_{2.5}, and PM₁₀, if the Project-generated emissions of either of the ozone precursor pollutants (ROG or NO_x), PM₁₀, or PM_{2.5} were to exceed the SJVAPCD’s significance thresholds, then the Project uses would be considered to conflict with the attainment plans. In addition, if the Project uses were to result in a change in land use and corresponding

² San Joaquin Valley Attainment Status, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. <https://ww2.valleyair.org/air-quality-information/ambient-air-quality-standards-valley-attainmnet-status/>. Accessed January 2024.

increases in vehicle miles traveled, they may result in an increase in vehicle miles traveled that is unaccounted for in regional emissions inventories contained in regional air quality control plans.

The annual significance thresholds to be used for the Project emissions are as follows³:

Pollutant/ Precursor	Construction Emissions (tpy)	Operational Emissions (permitted) (tpy)	Operational Emissions (non- permitted) (tpy)
CO	100	100	100
NOx	10	10	10
ROG	10	10	10
SOx	27	27	27
PM₁₀	15	15	15
PM_{2.5}	15	15	15

The estimated annual construction and operational emissions are provided below. The California Emissions Estimator (CalEEMod), Version 2020.4.0, was used to estimate construction emissions. Operational emissions directly attributable to the Project are anticipated to be negligible, since the Project involves construction and improvement of bike and pedestrian paths across approximately 0.3 miles. Modeling results are provided in Table 2 and the CalEEMod and Road Construction Emissions Model output files are provided in Appendix A.

**Table 2
Proposed Project Construction Emissions**

Pollutant/Precursor	Construction Emissions (tpy)	Threshold/Exceed?
CO	0.44	100/ N
NOx	0.37	10/ N
ROG	0.05	10/ N
SOx	0.00	27/ N
PM ₁₀	0.03	15/ N
PM _{2.5}	0.02	15/ N
CO ₂	67.65	n/a

As demonstrated in Table 2, estimated construction and operational emissions would not exceed the SJVAPCD’s significance thresholds for ROG, NOx, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}. As a result, the Project uses would

³ San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. March 19, 2015. Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts. <https://www.valleyair.org/transportation/GAMAQI-2015/FINAL-DRAFT-GAMAQI.PDF>. Page 80. Accessed January 2024.

not conflict with emissions inventories contained in regional air quality attainment plans and would not result in a significant contribution to the region's air quality non-attainment status.⁴

Localized high levels of CO are associated with traffic congestion and idling or slow-moving vehicles. The SJVAPCD provides screening criteria to determine when to quantify local CO concentrations based on impacts to the level of service (LOS) of roadways in the Project vicinity.

As further discussed in the Transportation/Traffic checklist evaluation, the Project would not generate substantial traffic that would reduce the level of service on local roadways. Therefore, the Project would not significantly contribute to an exceedance that would exceed state or federal CO standards. Additionally, as the estimated construction emissions are below SJVAPCD thresholds, any cumulative considerable increase in criteria pollutants would be less than significant.

As described above, the Project will not occur at a scale or scope with potential to contribute substantially or cumulatively to existing or projected air quality violations, impacts, or increases of criteria pollutants for which the San Joaquin Valley region is under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors). The proposed Project will comply with all applicable air quality plans. Therefore, no violations of air quality standards will occur and no net increase of pollutants will occur. Any impacts would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

d. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

Less Than Significant Impact. During construction, the various diesel-powered vehicles and equipment in use on-site could create localized odors. These odors would be temporary and are not likely to be noticeable for extended periods of time beyond the Project site. In addition, once the Project is operational, there would be no source of odors from the Project. Therefore, the impact is *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

⁴ Ibid, pg 65.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The County has obtained funding from the Federal Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) and the Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program for design and construction of the Project. The HIP is a federal program that provides funding to states for the restoration, repair, and construction of roads, bridges, and tunnels. The CMAQ is a federal program that provides funding to states for transportation projects designed to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. Due to this federal nexus, issuing funds from the HIP and CMAQ constitutes a federal action, one that requires that the EPA determine whether the proposed action may affect federally protected resources. The Project must therefore comply with requirements of both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and certain federal environmental laws and regulations.

A Natural Environment Study Minimal Impact (NESMI) was prepared on behalf of the proposed Project in July 2023 (see Appendix B). The following analysis directly references the NES report.

RESPONSES:

- a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation. The proposed Project consists of construction of approximately 1560 feet of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. These facilities will be separated from the existing roadway. The Project will start near Willow Creek Drive and continue east on Road 225, turning south along Road 228. The Class I bike & pedestrian path will continue all the way to reach the school bus parking lot which is located south of the Road 225 and Road 228 intersection. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

The western half of the Project site is surrounded by commercial and residential development to the north, west, and south and riparian forest to the east. The eastern half of the Project site is surrounded by paved roads and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the north and east, a revegetated staging area and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the south, and riparian forest to the west.

Results

Searching the USFWS, CNDDDB, and CNPS databases yielded 44 plant species (CNDDDB, CNPS, USFWS 2023, Appendix B), 20 of which have a CNPS California Rare Plant Rank of 1 or 2. None of those species are expected to occur on or near the Project site due to (1) lack of habitat, (2) the Project site being outside the current range of the species, or (3) lack of detection during the 12 April 2023 field survey (Appendix B). The Project is not anticipated to impact special-status plant species.

The USFWS species list for the Project site included eight species listed as threatened, endangered, or candidate under the FESA (see Appendix B). Of those eight species, none are expected to occur on or near the Project site due to (1) the lack of habitat, (2) the Project site being outside the current range of the species, or (3) the presence of development that would otherwise preclude occurrence (see Appendix B). As identified in the species list, the Project site does not occur in USFWS-designated or proposed critical habitat for any species (USFWS 2023a, Appendix B).

Searching the CNDDDB for records of special-status species from the North Fork 7.5-minute USGS topographic quad and the eight surrounding quads produced 246 records of 53 species. Of those 53 species, 10 are known from within 5 miles of the Project site. Of those species, only the CDFW-designated species of special concern northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) could occur on or near the Project site. In addition, the CDFW-designated species of special concern pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) and western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), as well as long-eared myotis (*Myotis evotis*) and long-legged myotis (*Myotis volans*), which lack such designation, were identified in the nine-quad search and could occur on or near the Project site.

The Project could adversely affect northwestern pond turtle that could occur on or near the Project site. Although no impacts to aquatic habitat are anticipated, project activities may impact potential upland

nesting habitat for northwestern pond turtle. Construction activities such as excavating, trenching, or using other heavy equipment that disturbs or harms northwestern pond turtle could constitute a significant impact. **Mitigation measure BIO-1** would reduce the potential impacts to a less than significant level.

The BSA could serve as foraging habitat for long-eared myotis, long-legged myotis, pallid bat, and western mastiff bat. No trees will be removed or permanently altered during the course of the Project, and no impacts to the aerial foraging habitat of the bats are expected. As a result, the Project is not anticipated to impact special-status bat species.

A total of eleven invasive plants identified under the Cal-IPC Invasive Plant Inventory were observed in the BSA. Ground-disturbing activities associated with the Project have the potential to spread seeds or other biological material capable of propagating invasive plant species. **Mitigation measure BIO-2** would reduce the potential impacts to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measures:

BIO – 1 Protect Northwestern Pond Turtle

A pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that northwestern pond turtle will not be impacted during Project construction. The pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of construction activities. During this survey, the qualified biologist shall search all aquatic habitat for turtles and all potential nesting habitat on the Project site for active turtle nests. If a turtle is found, it will be allowed to leave the area on its own. If an active turtle nest is found, the qualified biologist shall determine the extent of a construction-free buffer to be established and maintained around the nest for the duration of the nesting cycle. The biologist shall then work with construction personnel to install wildlife exclusion fencing along the buffer. This fencing should be a minimum of 36 inches tall and toed-in 6 inches below ground prior to construction activities. If fencing cannot be toed-in, the bottom of the fence will be weighed down with a continuous line of long, narrow sandbags (or similar items) to ensure there are no gaps under the fencing where wildlife could enter. One-way exit funnels directed away from construction activities will be installed to allow turtles and other small wildlife to exit the fenced enclosure.

BIO – 2

To avoid or minimize the spread of nonnative plant material, (1) soil and vegetation disturbance should be minimized to the extent feasible; (2) soil, gravel, rock, or other construction materials should be obtained from weed-free sources; (3) certified weed-free straw, mulch, and/or fiber

rolls should be used for erosion control; and (4) any invasive species disturbed or removed during construction activities should be contained and disposed of in a manner that will not promote the spread of invasive species.

- b. 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?

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. The Project site itself has been previously developed and is highly disturbed. The Project Biological Survey Area (BSA) is bisected by North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial stream flanked by riparian forest. The western half of the BSA is surrounded by commercial and residential development to the north, west, and south and riparian forest to the east. The eastern half of the BSA is surrounded by paved roads and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the north and east, a revegetated staging area and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the south, and riparian forest to the west.

Although riparian forest touches the eastern edge of the western section of the BSA and the western edge of the eastern section of the BSA, the Project site is more than 40 feet from the riparian corridor. No direct impacts to the riparian corridor are anticipated. The Project could indirectly affect the riparian corridor through sedimentation, however, if construction-related runoff is allowed to flow downslope. Implementation of **mitigation measure BIO-3** would reduce the potential impacts to less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure:

- BIO - 3** To avoid or minimize indirect impacts to the riparian corridor, construction should occur during dry conditions. In addition, Caltrans' standard Best Management Practices (BMPs), including erosion and dust control measures, should be implemented during Project construction to minimize impacts on downstream water quality.

- c. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

Less than Significant Impact. The Project BSA contained two ephemeral streams and a freshwater pond. The ephemeral streams drain into North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial tributary of the San Joaquin

River, and may be under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW, SWRCB, and USACE. The freshwater pond is isolated and may be under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW and SWRCB.

The freshwater pond is in the BSA but is upslope of the Project site and more than 30 feet from proposed construction activities; no impacts are anticipated. Construction of the proposed bike path may directly impact the ephemeral drainages. Additionally, the ephemeral drainages carry flows into North Fork Willow Creek. The Project could indirectly affect the ephemeral drainages and North Fork Willow Creek if construction-related runoff is allowed to flow down slope.

If Project activities will impact the ephemeral drainages, a Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, Section 401 Water Quality Certification, WDR permit, or a Section 404 permit may be required. The freshwater pond is isolated and may be under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW and RWQCB, however, impacts to the freshwater pond are not anticipated. Additionally, indirect effects to North Fork Willow Creek are possible but can be avoided by implementing BMPs and working during dry periods.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- d. 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?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation. No marine or estuarine fishery resources or migratory routes to and from anadromous fish spawning grounds are present in the BSA. In addition, no EFH, defined by the Magnuson-Stevens Act as those resources necessary for fish spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity, are present in the BSA. Further, review of the NOAA Essential Fish Habitat Mapper indicates that no EFH has been designated near the Project site.

Migratory bird species observed in the BSA during the reconnaissance survey included California scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and spotted towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*). These species and others are expected to nest on or near the Project site. Construction disturbance during the breeding season (February through August) could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings or otherwise lead to nest abandonment.

Implementation of **mitigation measure BIO-4** would reduce the potential impacts to less than significant level.

Mitigation measure:

BIO-4

- To the extent practicable, construction shall be scheduled to avoid the nesting season, which extends from February through August.
 - If it is not possible to schedule construction between September and January, pre-construction surveys for nesting birds shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no active nests will be disturbed during the implementation of the Project. A pre-construction survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the initiation of construction activities. During this survey, the qualified biologist shall inspect all potential nest substrates in and immediately adjacent to the impact areas. If an active nest is found close enough to the construction area to be disturbed by these activities, the qualified biologist shall determine the extent of a construction-free buffer to be established around the nest. If work cannot proceed without disturbing the nesting birds, work may need to be halted or redirected to other areas until nesting and fledging are completed or the nest has otherwise failed for non-construction related reasons.
- e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?
- f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. No biologically sensitive areas will be significantly impacted by the proposed Project. Additionally, there are no adopted local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans adopted for the area. As such, there impact is *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

To assist in the assessment of cultural/historical resources, an intensive Cultural Resources Class III Inventory / Phase I Survey (Report) was prepared for the proposed Project in January 2024 by ASM Affiliates, Inc. (Note: the Report is under separate cover due to confidential information pertaining to cultural resource sites nearby). The following analysis directly references this report. The complete report can be found in Appendix C.

RESPONSES

- a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?
- b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?
- c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation. An archival records search was conducted by SSJVIC staff on 21 November 2022. According to the SSJVIC, eight previous studies had been conducted within the Project APE, and 22 previous studies were identified within the 0.5-mi buffer. The SSJVIC results identified no resources in or adjacent to the Project area of potential effect. Within the 0.5-mi buffer, nine previously recorded resources were identified, including three prehistoric bedrock milling features, three

historic-era structures, and three historic-era structures with associated archaeological sites. The closest of these resources is approximately 0.3-mi from the search area. The detailed results of the SSJVIC records search are available in Appendix C.

No cultural resources of any kind were observed in the Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path APE.

Although no cultural or archaeological resources, paleontological resources or human remains have been identified in the Project area, the possibility exists that such resources or remains may be discovered during Project site preparation, excavation and/or grading activities. Mitigation Measures CUL – 1 and CUL – 2 will be implemented to ensure that Project will result in *less than significant impacts with mitigation*.

Mitigation Measures:

- CUL – 1** Should evidence of prehistoric archeological resources be discovered during construction, the contractor shall halt all work within 25 feet of the find and the resource shall be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If evidence of any archaeological, cultural, and/or historical deposits is found, hand excavation and/or mechanical excavation shall proceed to evaluate the deposits for determination of significance as defined by the CEQA guidelines. The archaeologist shall submit reports, to the satisfaction of Madera County, describing the testing program and subsequent results. These reports shall identify any program mitigation that the Project proponent shall complete in order to mitigate archaeological impacts (including resource recovery and/or avoidance testing and analysis, removal, reburial, and curation of archaeological resources).
- CUL – 2** In order to ensure that the proposed Project does not impact buried human remains during Project construction, the Project proponent shall be responsible for on-going monitoring of Project construction. Prior to the issuance of any grading permit, the Project proponent shall provide Madera County with documentation identifying construction personnel that will be responsible for on-site monitoring. If buried human remains are encountered during construction, further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall be halted until the Madera County Coroner is contacted and the coroner has made the determinations and notifications required pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5. If the coroner determines that Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c) require that he give notice to the Native American Heritage Commission, then such notice shall be given within 24 hours, as required by Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c). In that event, the NAHC will conduct the notifications required by Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. Until

the consultations described below have been completed, the landowner shall further ensure that the immediate vicinity, according to generally accepted cultural or archaeological standards or practices where Native American human remains are located, is not disturbed by further development activity until the landowner has discussed and conferred with the Most Likely Descendants on all reasonable options regarding the descendants' preferences and treatments, as prescribed by Public Resources Code Section 5097.98(b). The NAHC will mediate any disputes regarding treatment of remains in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 5097.94(k). The landowner shall be entitled to exercise rights established by Public Resources Code Section 5097.98(e) if any of the circumstances established by that provision become applicable.

VI. ENERGY

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?
- b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project consists of construction of approximately 1560 feet of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. These facilities will be separated from the existing roadway. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

During construction, the Project would consume energy in two general forms: (1) the fuel energy consumed by construction vehicles and equipment; and (2) bound energy in construction materials, such as asphalt, steel, concrete, pipes, and manufactured or processed materials such as lumber and glass. Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards would provide guidance on construction techniques for the plant house to maximize energy conservation and it is expected that contractors and the County have a strong financial incentive to use recycled materials and products originating from nearby sources in order to reduce materials costs. As such, it is anticipated that materials used in construction and construction vehicle fuel energy would not involve the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy.

Operational Project energy consumption would be minimal, as the main source of energy use would be for any new lighting associated with the pathways. Energy efficient lighting systems would be installed

and would not represent a wasteful and inefficient use of energy. Operational energy would also be consumed during each vehicle trip associated with the proposed use for maintenance or otherwise. Operational Project energy consumption is not anticipated to be directly attributable to the Project.

As discussed in Impact XVII – Transportation/Traffic, the proposed Project would not generate significant on-going additional vehicle trips. However, during construction there will be a temporary increase in vehicular trips to the Project site. The length of these trips and the individual vehicle fuel efficiencies are not known; therefore, the resulting energy consumption cannot be accurately calculated. Adopted federal vehicle fuel standards have continually improved since their original adoption in 1975 and assists in avoiding the inefficient, wasteful, and unnecessary use of energy by vehicles.

As discussed previously, the proposed Project would be required to implement and be consistent with existing energy design standards at the local and state level, such as Title 24. The Project would also be subject to energy conservation requirements in the California Energy Code and CALGreen for the new plant house. Adherence to state code requirements would ensure that the Project would not result in wasteful and inefficient use of non-renewable resources due to building operation.

Therefore, any impacts are *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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iv. Landslides?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the most recently adopted Uniform Building Code

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

a-i. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

a-ii. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking?

a-iii. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

a-iv. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project site is not located in an earthquake fault zone as delineated by the 1972 Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map Act. The nearest known potentially

active fault is the Clovis Fault, located approximately 26 miles south of the site.⁵ No active faults have been mapped within the Project boundaries, so there is no potential for fault rupture. It is anticipated that the proposed Project site would be subject to some ground acceleration and ground shaking associated with seismic activity during its design life. The Project site would be engineered and constructed in strict accordance with the earthquake resistant design requirements contained in the latest edition of the California Building Code (CBC) for seismic zone III, as well as Title 24 of the California Administrative Code, and therefore would avoid potential seismically induced hazards on planned structures. The impact of seismic hazards on the Project would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation. Construction activities associated with the Project involves excavation of soil for installation of infrastructure, footings, trenching, and associated activities. These activities could expose barren soils to sources of wind or water, resulting in the potential for erosion and sedimentation on and off the Project site. During construction, nuisance flow caused by minor rain could flow off-site. The County and/or contractor would be required to employ appropriate sediment and erosion control BMPs as part of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that would be required in the California National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). In addition, soil erosion and loss of topsoil would be minimized through implementation of the SJVAPCD fugitive dust control measures (See Section III). Once construction is complete, the Project would not result in soil erosion or loss of topsoil. Mitigation measure GEO – 1 will ensure that impacts remain *less than significant with mitigation*.

Mitigation Measures:

GEO – 1 In order to reduce on-site erosion due to Project construction and operation, an erosion control plan and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) shall be prepared for the site preparation, construction, and post-construction periods by a registered civil engineer or certified professional. The erosion control plan shall incorporate best management practices consistent with the requirements of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The erosion component of the plan must at least

⁵ California Department of Conservation. Fault Activity Map of California (2010). <http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/>. Accessed January 2024.

meet the requirements of the SWPPP required by the California State Water Resources Control Board.

- c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?
- d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the most recently adopted Uniform Building Code creating substantial risks to life or property?

Less Than Significant Impact. See Section VIa. above. The site is not at significant risk from earthquakes, ground shaking, liquefaction, or landslide and is otherwise considered geologically stable. Expansive soils are soils that expand when water is added and shrink when they dry out. Soils in and around the bicycle and pedestrian path include Holland-Chaix families complex (35 to 65 percent slopes), primarily characterized by sandy loam soil and somewhat excessively drained. These soils have no limitations for load supporting capacity and as such, would not be classified as expansive. Any impacts would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

No Impact. The Project does not include the construction, replacement, or disturbance of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Therefore, there is *no impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Less Than Significant Impact. As identified in the cultural studies performed for the Project site, there are no known paleontological resources on or near the site (See Section V. and Appendix C for more details). Mitigation measures have been added that will protect unknown (buried) resources during construction, including paleontological resources. In addition, the site is substantially disturbed and

graded and there are no unique geological features on site or in the area. Therefore, there is a *less than significant impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:

a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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RESPONSES:

a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Less Than Significant Impact. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published a rule for the mandatory reporting of greenhouse gases from sources that in general emit 25,000 metric tons or more of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per year. As shown in the CalEEMod results (Appendix A), the Project is estimated to produce approximately 67.65 MT/yr of CO₂. Estimated emissions are significantly below the reporting threshold. Additionally, emissions from construction are temporary in nature.

The SJVAPCD has implemented a guidance policy for development projects within their jurisdiction. This policy, “Guidance for Land-use Agencies in Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for New Projects under CEQA,” approved by the Board on December 17, 2009, does not address temporary GHG emissions from construction, nor does this policy establish numeric thresholds for ongoing GHG emissions. Additionally, operational Project emissions are not anticipated to be directly attributable to the Project. Therefore, construction and operations-generated GHGs will have a *less than significant impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

- g. Expose people or structures either directly or indirectly to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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RESPONSES:

- a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?
- b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Less than Significant Impact. The proposed Project consists of construction of approximately 1560 feet of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. These facilities will be separated from the existing roadway. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

While grading and construction activities may involve the limited transport, storage, use or disposal of hazardous materials, such as the fueling/servicing of construction equipment onsite, the activities would be short-term or one-time in nature and would be subject to federal, state, and local health and safety regulations.

Long-term operation of the proposed Project pathways is not anticipated to involve transport, storage, use or disposal of hazardous materials.

There are several federal, state and local requirements and regulations that are designed to minimize risks from accidental releases of hazardous materials and the proposed Project will be in compliance with all applicable requirements and regulations. Hazardous material storage and use areas at the water treatment plant will be built and operated in compliance with the minimum requirements of the Uniform Fire Code and the California Fire Code. Some of the requirements are secondary containment for liquids, fire water sprinklers over inside storage/use areas, and non-combustible building construction.

Additionally, the bicycle and pedestrian paths are designed based on AASHTO and Caltrans Standards and will be constructed in compliance with the California Building Code, which requires design features to resist forces generated by a major earthquake with limited architectural or structural damage and to provide adequate fire protection that precludes accidental releases of hazardous chemicals due to fire.

With implementation of the proposed Project, there are no reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions that would create a significant hazard to the public due to the release of hazardous materials. Impacts are considered *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

No Impact. The primary goal of the Project is to increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. Chawanakee Adult School is located approximately 240 feet south of the proposed Project area and North Fork Elementary School is located approximately 680 feet southeast. As previously described, long-term operation of the proposed Project would involve little or no hazardous materials. Once operational, the Project will not emit hazardous materials.

No impact would occur.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

No Impact. The proposed Project site is not located on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (EnviroStor⁶ and GeoTracker⁷ databases) The search included recorded incidents on the National Priorities List (NPL), State Priority List (SPL), the Superfund Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System List

⁶ California Department of Toxic Substance Control. EnviroStor. <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/> Accessed January 2024.

⁷ California State Water Resources Control Board. GeoTracker. <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/>. Accessed January 2024.

(CERLIS), the EPA's emergency response notification system list (ERNS), and other federal, state, and local agency databases. There is *no impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. There are no public or private airport within two miles of the Project site. The proposed Project is not located within any airport safety zone. The Project will have *no impact* to airport operations.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- f. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project involves construction of bicycle and pedestrian pathways and associated street improvements on and near Road Road 225 in the North Fork community. Construction activities will not cause any road closures that could interfere with any adopted emergency response or evacuation plan. The construction contractor will be required to work with the County (public works, sheriff/fire, etc.) if any roadway diversions are required to ensure that adequate access is maintained for residents and emergency vehicles. As such, any impacts will be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- g. Expose people or structures either directly or indirectly to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

No Impact. Implementation of the Project would not change the degree of exposure to wildfires because no new housing or businesses will be constructed and there are no wildlands in the Project vicinity, thus precluding the possibility of wildfires. Therefore, there is *no impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off- site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

Less than Significant Impact. The proposed Project consists of construction of approximately 1560 feet of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. These facilities will be separated from the existing roadway. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

Excavation, removal of vegetation cover, and soil-impacting activities associated with construction of the Project could temporarily increase runoff, erosion, and sedimentation. Construction activities also could result in soil compaction and wind erosion effects that could adversely affect soils and reduce the revegetation potential at construction sites and staging areas.

Three general sources of potential short-term construction-related stormwater pollution associated with the proposed Project are: 1) the handling, storage, and disposal of construction materials containing pollutants; 2) the maintenance and operation of construction equipment; and 3) earth moving activities which, when not controlled, may generate soil erosion and transportation, via storm runoff or mechanical equipment. Generally, routine safety precautions for handling and storing construction materials may effectively mitigate the potential pollution of stormwater by these materials. These same types of common sense, “good housekeeping” procedures can be extended to non-hazardous stormwater pollutants such as sawdust and other solid wastes.

Poorly maintained vehicles and heavy equipment leaking fuel, oil, antifreeze, or other fluids on the construction site are also common sources of stormwater pollution and soil contamination. In addition, grading activities can greatly increase erosion processes. Two general strategies are recommended to prevent construction silt from entering local storm drains. First, erosion control procedures should be implemented for those areas that must be exposed. Secondly, the area should be secured to control offsite migration of pollutants. These best management practices (BMPs) would be required in the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to be prepared prior to commencement of Project construction activities. When properly designed and implemented, these “good-housekeeping” practices are expected to reduce short-term construction-related impacts to less than significant.

In accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Program, the Project will be required to comply with existing regulatory requirements to prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) designed to control erosion and the loss of topsoil to the extent practicable using BMPs that the RWQCB has deemed effective in controlling erosion, sedimentation, runoff during construction activities. The specific controls are subject to the review and approval by the RWQCB and are an existing regulatory requirement. Preparation of a SWPPP is a regulatory requirement of the Project and thus is not listed as a mitigation measure. Compliance with the NPDES and SWPPP would ensure that the proposed Project would have a *less than significant impact* relative to this topic.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project is intended to increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. All potential development will be required to adhere to all County and State mandated water conservation measures and regulations. The proposed Project would not substantially deplete groundwater resources such that a significant environmental impact would occur. Therefore, the impact is *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:

- i. result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or offsite;
- ii. substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;
- iii. create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or
- iv. impede or redirect flood flows?

Less Than Significant Impact. Development of the Project may result in the addition of impervious surfaces where sections of the proposed bicycle and pedestrians path may involve concrete rather than dirt. However, the paths are relatively narrow and it is expected that once constructed, stormwater will flow similarly to existing conditions. However, during construction, the construction contractor would be required to obtain a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to minimize erosion and potential site runoff. A copy of the SWPPP is retained on-site during construction. All other on-site drainage will be collected and deposited similar to the existing roadway storm drainage system. No construction is proposed within the creek bed. As such, any impacts resulting from drainage patterns would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- d. In flood hazard, tsunami or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?
- e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Project area is bisected by North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial tributary of the San Joaquin River, flanked by riparian forest. The Project does not include any housing or structures that would be subject to flooding either from a watercourse or from dam inundation. The Project will not conflict with any water quality control plans or sustainable groundwater management plan. The creek would not create a potential risk of hazards from seiche, tsunami or mudflow. Implementation of the existing construction procedures and policies regarding flooding and stormwater will ensure a less than significant impact related to flood risks caused by the Project.

The Project is not within a regulatory floodway or within a base floodplain (100 year) elevation. The Project site is not within a 100-year flood plain. The nearest floodplains are approximately 5 miles

southwest of the Project site along Little Fine Gold Creek and approximately 5.5 miles south along the San Joaquin River.

Therefore, impacts are considered *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Physically divide an established community?
- b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No Impact. Construction and operation of the proposed Project paths would not cause any land use changes in the surrounding vicinity nor would it introduce barriers that would divide and established community. The proposed Project involves construction and operation of bicycle and pedestrian pathways aimed at improving connectivity, accessibility and safety and does not conflict with any land use plans, policies or regulations. There are *no impacts*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?
- b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

No Impact. There are no known mineral resources in the Project area and none are identified in the County’s General Plan near the proposed Project site. Therefore, there is *no impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XIII. NOISE

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent 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?
- b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Less than Significant Impact. The proposed Project consists of construction of approximately 1560 feet of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. Chawanakee Adult School is located approximately 240 feet south of the proposed Project area and North Fork Elementary School is located approximately 680 feet southeast. Once operational, the

pathways will not generate noise above levels that currently exist. The proposed pathways are intended to improve transit commute across various public facilities in the area.

Proposed Project construction related activities will involve temporary noise sources. Typical construction related equipment include graders, trenchers, small tractors and excavators. During the proposed Project construction, noise from construction related activities will contribute to the noise environment in the immediate vicinity. Table 3 indicates the anticipated noise levels of the typical construction-related equipment (i.e., graders, trenchers, tractors) based on a distance of 50-feet between the equipment and the sensitive noise receptor.⁸

**Table 3
Typical Construction Noise Levels**

Equipment	Typical Noise Level (dBA) 50 ft from Source
Air Compressor	80
Backhoe	80
Compactor	82
Concrete Mixer	85
Dozer	85
Generator	82
Grader	85
Jack Hammer	88
Loader	85
Paver	85
Truck	84

The distinction between short-term construction noise impacts and long-term operational noise impacts is a typical one in both CEQA documents and local noise ordinances, which generally recognize the reality that short-term noise from construction is inevitable and cannot be mitigated beyond a certain level. Thus, local agencies frequently tolerate short-term noise at levels that they would not accept for permanent noise sources. A more severe approach would be impractical and might preclude the kind of

⁸ The Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual, Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. September 2018. https://www.transit.dot.gov/sites/fta.dot.gov/files/docs/research-innovation/118131/transit-noise-and-vibration-impact-assessment-manual-fta-report-no-0123_0.pdf. Table 7-1. Accessed January 2024.

construction activities that are to be expected from time to time. Most residents recognize this reality and expect to hear construction activities on occasion.

Vibration Levels

Typical outdoor sources of perceptible ground borne vibration are construction equipment, steel-wheeled trains, and traffic on rough roads. Construction vibrations can be transient, random, or continuous. Construction associated with the proposed Project is earthmoving activities associated with pavements, roadwork, stormwater gutters, and related site improvements.

The approximate threshold of vibration perception is 65 VdB, while 85 VdB is the vibration acceptable only if there are an infrequent number of events per day. Table 4 describes the typical construction equipment vibration levels.⁹

Table 4
Typical Construction Vibration Levels

Equipment	VdB at 25 ft
Small Bulldozer	58
Jackhammer	79

Vibration from construction activities will be temporary and not exceed the Federal Transit Authority threshold for the nearest sensitive receptors. As such, any impacts resulting from an increase in noise levels or from groundborne noise levels is *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- e. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact. As there are no airports or airstrips in the vicinity, there is *no impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

⁹ Ibid.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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b. Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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RESPONSES:

a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

b. Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact. There are no new homes associated with the proposed Project, nor would Project implementation displace people or housing. The proposed Project is needed to increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. There is a *less than significant impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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- a. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?

Police Protection?

Schools?

Parks?

Other public facilities?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project would increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. The proposed Project would not directly or indirectly induce population growth and as such, will not increase demand for schools, parks, or other public facilities. Existing Madera County fire and sheriff services will continue to maintain site safety. Any impacts would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XVI. RECREATION

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?
- b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

No Impact. The proposed Project consists of construction of approximately 1560 feet of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. The proposed Project does not include the construction of residential uses or recreational facilities and would not directly or indirectly induce population growth. Therefore, the proposed Project would not cause physical deterioration of existing recreational facilities from increased usage or result in the need for new or expanded recreational facilities. Conversely, the proposed Project will provide additional recreational facilities and is considered beneficial. The Project would have *no impact* to existing parks or recreational facilities.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION/ TRAFFIC

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Result in inadequate emergency access? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

- a. Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?
- b. Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?
- c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?
- d. Result in inadequate emergency access?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project includes construction of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. To meet the existing pedestrian facility needs and increase pedestrian safety, the Project intends to construct approximately 1,560 feet of bicycle & pedestrian facilities which includes an 8-foot paved bicycle path and 5-foot pedestrian path. These facilities will be separated from the roadway. The Project will start near Willow Creek Drive and

continue east on Road 225, turning south along Road 228. The Class I bike & pedestrian path will continue all the way to reach the school bus parking lot which is located south of the Road 225 and Road 228 intersection. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

There are no components of the proposed Project that would increase hazards due to a geometric design feature. As traffic due to construction activities would be temporary in nature, the proposed Project would not cause a substantial increase in traffic or result in inadequate emergency access. Once operational, the new bicycle and pedestrian paths would not generate significant additional traffic trips per day. The pathways would require periodic maintenance, which would generate an insignificant amount of vehicle trips. The Project would not conflict with a program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system and as such, impacts would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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RESPONSES:

a). Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Less Than Significant Impact. In accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52, potentially affected Tribes were formally notified of this Project and were given the opportunity to request consultation on the Project.

On 22 November 2022, ASM contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to request of search of the *Sacred Lands Files*. The NAHC responded on 11 December 2022, with negative results and nine contacts from seven Tribal groups. Outreach letters were sent on 29 March 2023 and follow-up emails were sent on 17 May 2023 to tribal organizations on the NAHC contact list. One response was received from the North Fork Mono Tribe expressing no concern for the Project impacting cultural resources but informing on a cultural site located along Road 225 at the Whisky Creek Bridge, which is located over 1.5-mi east of the APE along Road 225. No other responses were received. The results of the *Sacred Lands Files* search and tribal outreach are available in Appendix C. Therefore, there is a *less than significant impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation. The Project intends to construct approximately 1,560 feet of bicycle & pedestrian facilities which includes an 8-foot paved bicycle path and 5-foot pedestrian path. These facilities will be separated from the roadway. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities. The Project area is bisected by North Fork Willow Creek.

The Project will not require construction of wastewater treatment, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities.

The Project involves construction of bicycle and pedestrian paths along an existing roadway above the North Fork Willow Creek, which may require additional improvements to the stormwater drainage. Associated environmental impacts resulting from the improvements are discussed within this document.

Mitigation Measures: The Project will require multiple mitigation measures as identified throughout this document.

- b. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

No Impact. The proposed Project includes construction and operation of bicycle and pedestrian paths. No new water supplies would be required as a result of the Project. There is *no impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- c. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

No Impact. The proposed Project would not generate additional wastewater, and would not require expanded wastewater treatment facilities. There is *no impact*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

- d. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?
- e. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Less Than Significant Impact. Proposed Project construction and operation will generate minimal amounts of solid waste. The proposed pathways will not generate waste on an on-going basis. The proposed Project will comply with all federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Any impacts will be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

XX. WILDFIRE

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

- c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?
- d. 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 Impact. The proposed Project includes construction of bicycle and pedestrian paths along an existing roadway in the community of North Fork. The community of North Fork is located in the Central Sierra Nevada Foothills, and consists of mostly scattered residential neighborhoods and commercial businesses. The western half of the Project site is surrounded by commercial and residential development to the north, west, and south and riparian forest to the east. The eastern half of the Project site is surrounded by paved roads and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the north and east, a revegetated staging area and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the south, and riparian forest to the west.

According to the Fire Hazard Severity Zone map, the Project area is located in a High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.¹⁰ The proposed pathway development is located adjacent to/near existing roadway, Road 225. There is no increased risk or on-going risk of wildfire beyond existing conditions associated with the Project. To receive relevant construction and building permits, the proposed Project would be required to be in compliance with the adopted emergency response plan. As such, any wildfire risk to the Project structures or people would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

¹⁰ Fire Hazard Severity Zones, OSFM. <https://calfire-forestry.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=988d431a42b242b29d89597ab693d008>. Accessed January 2024.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Would the project:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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a. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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RESPONSES:

- a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Less than Significant Impact With Mitigation. The analyses of environmental issues contained in this Initial Study indicate that the proposed Project is not expected to have substantial impact on the environment or on any resources identified in the Initial Study. Mitigation measures have been incorporated in the Project to reduce all potentially significant impacts to *less than significant*.

- b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

Less than Significant Impact. CEQA Guidelines Section 15064(i) states that a Lead Agency shall consider whether the cumulative impact of a project is significant and whether the effects of the project are cumulatively considerable. The assessment of the significance of the cumulative effects of a project must, therefore, be conducted in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects, and probable future projects. Due to the nature of the Project and consistency with environmental policies, incremental contributions to impacts are considered less than cumulatively considerable. The proposed Project would not contribute substantially to adverse cumulative conditions, or create any substantial indirect impacts (i.e., increase in population could lead to an increase need for housing, increase in traffic, air pollutants, etc.). The impact is *less than significant*.

- c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Less than Significant Impact With Mitigation. The analyses of environmental issues contained in this Initial Study indicate that the Project is not expected to have substantial impact on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Mitigation measures have been incorporated in the Project to reduce all potentially significant impacts to *less than significant*.

Chapter 4

MITIGATION MONITORING & REPORTING PROGRAM

MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been formulated based upon the findings of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project. The MMRP lists mitigation measures recommended in the IS/MND for the proposed Project and identifies monitoring and reporting requirements as well as conditions recommended by responsible agencies who commented on the Project.

The first column of the Table identifies the mitigation measure. The second column, entitled “Party Responsible for Implementing Mitigation,” names the party responsible for carrying out the required action. The third column, “Implementation Timing,” identifies the time the mitigation measure should be initiated. The fourth column, “Party Responsible for Monitoring,” names the party ultimately responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented. The last column will be used by Madera County to ensure that individual mitigation measures have been monitored.

Mitigation Measure	Party responsible for Implementing Mitigation	Implementation Timing	Party responsible for Monitoring	Verification (name/date)
Biological Resources				
<p>BIO – 1</p> <p>A pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that northwestern pond turtle will not be impacted during Project construction. The pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of construction activities. During this survey, the qualified biologist shall search all aquatic habitat for turtles and all potential nesting habitat on the Project site for active turtle nests. If a turtle is found, it will be allowed to leave the area on its own. If an active turtle nest is found, the qualified biologist shall determine the extent of a construction-free buffer to be established and maintained around the nest for the duration of the nesting cycle. The biologist shall then work with construction personnel to install wildlife exclusion fencing along the buffer. This fencing should be a minimum of 36 inches tall and towed-in 6 inches below ground prior to construction activities. If fencing cannot be toed-in, the bottom of the fence will be weighed down with a continuous line of long, narrow sandbags (or similar items) to ensure there are no gaps under the fencing where wildlife could enter. One-way exit funnels directed away from construction activities will be installed to allow turtles and other small wildlife to exit the fenced enclosure.</p>	Madera County	Prior to and/or during construction	Madera County and construction contractor	

Mitigation Measure	Party responsible for Implementing Mitigation	Implementation Timing	Party responsible for Monitoring	Verification (name/date)
<p>BIO – 2</p> <p>To avoid or minimize the spread of nonnative plant material, (1) soil and vegetation disturbance should be minimized to the extent feasible; (2) soil, gravel, rock, or other construction materials should be obtained from weed-free sources; (3) certified weed-free straw, mulch, and/or fiber rolls should be used for erosion control; and (4) any invasive species disturbed or removed during construction activities should be contained and disposed of in a manner that will not promote the spread of invasive species.</p>	Madera County	Prior to and/or during construction	Madera County and construction contractor	
<p>BIO - 3</p> <p>To avoid or minimize indirect impacts to the riparian corridor, construction should occur during dry conditions. In addition, Caltrans' standard Best Management Practices (BMPs), including erosion and dust control measures, should be implemented during Project construction to minimize impacts on downstream water quality.</p>	Madera County	Prior to and/or during construction	Madera County and construction contractor	
<p>BIO-4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the extent practicable, construction shall be scheduled to avoid the nesting season, which extends from February through August. • If it is not possible to schedule construction between September and January, pre-construction surveys for nesting birds shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no active nests will be disturbed during the implementation of the Project. A 	Madera County	Prior to and/or during construction	Madera County and construction contractor	

Mitigation Measure	Party responsible for Implementing Mitigation	Implementation Timing	Party responsible for Monitoring	Verification (name/date)
<p>pre-construction survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the initiation of construction activities. During this survey, the qualified biologist shall inspect all potential nest substrates in and immediately adjacent to the impact areas. If an active nest is found close enough to the construction area to be disturbed by these activities, the qualified biologist shall determine the extent of a construction-free buffer to be established around the nest. If work cannot proceed without disturbing the nesting birds, work may need to be halted or redirected to other areas until nesting and fledging are completed or the nest has otherwise failed for non-construction related reasons.</p>				
<p>Cultural Resources</p>				
<p>CUL – 1</p> <p>Should evidence of prehistoric archeological resources be discovered during construction, the contractor shall halt all work within 25 feet of the find and the resource shall be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If evidence of any archaeological, cultural, and/or historical deposits is found, hand excavation and/or mechanical excavation shall proceed to evaluate the deposits for determination of significance as defined by the CEQA guidelines. The archaeologist shall submit reports, to the satisfaction of Madera County, describing the testing program and subsequent results. These reports shall identify any program mitigation that the Project proponent shall complete in order to mitigate</p>	<p>Madera County</p>	<p>Prior to and/or during construction</p>	<p>Madera County and construction contractor</p>	

Mitigation Measure	Party responsible for Implementing Mitigation	Implementation Timing	Party responsible for Monitoring	Verification (name/date)
archaeological impacts (including resource recovery and/or avoidance testing and analysis, removal, reburial, and curation of archaeological resources).				
<p>CUL – 2</p> <p>In order to ensure that the proposed Project does not impact buried human remains during Project construction, the Project proponent shall be responsible for on-going monitoring of Project construction. Prior to the issuance of any grading permit, the Project proponent shall provide Madera County with documentation identifying construction personnel that will be responsible for on-site monitoring. If buried human remains are encountered during construction, further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall be halted until the Madera County coroner is contacted and the coroner has made the determinations and notifications required pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5. If the coroner determines that Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c) require that he give notice to the Native American Heritage Commission, then such notice shall be given within 24 hours, as required by Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c). In that event, the NAHC will conduct the Residues Created by UOR 7.98. Until the consultations described below have been completed, the landowner shall further ensure that the immediate vicinity, according to generally accepted cultural or archaeological standards or</p>	Madera County	Prior to and/or during construction	Madera County and construction contractor	

Mitigation Measure	Party responsible for Implementing Mitigation	Implementation Timing	Party responsible for Monitoring	Verification (name/date)
<p>practices where Native American human remains are located, is not disturbed by further development activity until the landowner has discussed and conferred with the Most Likely Descendants on all reasonable options regarding the descendants' preferences and treatments, as prescribed by Public Resources Code Section 5097.98(b). The NAHC will mediate any disputes regarding treatment of remains in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 5097.94(k). The landowner shall be entitled to exercise rights established by Public Resources Code Section 5097.98(e) if any of the circumstances established by that provision become applicable.</p>				
<p>Geology</p>				
<p>GEO – 1</p> <p>In order to reduce on-site erosion due to Project construction and operation, an erosion control plan and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) shall be prepared for the site preparation, construction, and post-construction periods by a registered civil engineer or certified professional. The erosion control plan shall incorporate best management practices consistent with the requirements of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The erosion component of the plan must at least meet the requirements of the SWPPP required by the California State Water Resources Control Board.</p>	<p>Madera County</p>	<p>During construction</p>	<p>Madera County and construction contractor</p>	

Appendices

North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project - San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD Air District, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project

San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD Air District, Annual

1.0 Project Characteristics

1.1 Land Usage

Land Uses	Size	Metric	Lot Acreage	Floor Surface Area	Population
Other Asphalt Surfaces	24.00	1000sqft	0.55	24,000.00	0

1.2 Other Project Characteristics

Urbanization	Urban	Wind Speed (m/s)	2.7	Precipitation Freq (Days)	45
Climate Zone	3			Operational Year	2025
Utility Company					
CO2 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0	CH4 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0	N2O Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0

1.3 User Entered Comments & Non-Default Data

Project Characteristics - Project includes construction of bicycle and pedestrian path improvements.

Land Use - Land Use 'Parking, Other Asphalt Surfaces' has been used to represent the Project bicycle and pedestrian path construction.

Table Name	Column Name	Default Value	New Value
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2.0 Emissions Summary

North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project - San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD Air District, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

Quarter	Start Date	End Date	Maximum Unmitigated ROG + NOX (tons/quarter)	Maximum Mitigated ROG + NOX (tons/quarter)
1	1-29-2024	4-28-2024	0.2202	0.2202
2	4-29-2024	7-28-2024	0.1842	0.1842
		Highest	0.2202	0.2202

2.2 Overall Operational

Unmitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Area	2.0700e-003	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Waste						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Water						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total	2.0700e-003	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004

North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project - San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD Air District, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

2.2 Overall Operational

Mitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Area	2.0700e-003	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Waste						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Water						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total	2.0700e-003	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Percent Reduction	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

3.0 Construction Detail

Construction Phase

Phase Number	Phase Name	Phase Type	Start Date	End Date	Num Days Week	Num Days	Phase Description
1	Demolition	Demolition	1/29/2024	2/9/2024	5	10	
2	Site Preparation	Site Preparation	2/10/2024	2/12/2024	5	1	
3	Grading	Grading	2/13/2024	2/14/2024	5	2	

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4	Building Construction	Building Construction	2/15/2024	7/3/2024	5	100
5	Paving	Paving	7/4/2024	7/10/2024	5	5
6	Architectural Coating	Architectural Coating	7/11/2024	7/17/2024	5	5

Acres of Grading (Site Preparation Phase): 0.5

Acres of Grading (Grading Phase): 1.5

Acres of Paving: 0.55

Residential Indoor: 0; Residential Outdoor: 0; Non-Residential Indoor: 0; Non-Residential Outdoor: 0; Striped Parking Area: 1,440 (Architectural Coating – sqft)

OffRoad Equipment

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Type	Amount	Usage Hours	Horse Power	Load Factor
Architectural Coating	Air Compressors	1	6.00	78	0.48
Paving	Cement and Mortar Mixers	4	6.00	9	0.56
Demolition	Concrete/Industrial Saws	1	8.00	81	0.73
Building Construction	Cranes	1	4.00	231	0.29
Building Construction	Forklifts	2	6.00	89	0.20
Grading	Graders	1	6.00	187	0.41
Site Preparation	Graders	1	8.00	187	0.41
Paving	Pavers	1	7.00	130	0.42
Paving	Rollers	1	7.00	80	0.38
Demolition	Rubber Tired Dozers	1	1.00	247	0.40
Grading	Rubber Tired Dozers	1	6.00	247	0.40
Building Construction	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	2	8.00	97	0.37
Demolition	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	2	6.00	97	0.37
Grading	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	7.00	97	0.37
Paving	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	7.00	97	0.37
Site Preparation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	8.00	97	0.37

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EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

Trips and VMT

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Count	Worker Trip Number	Vendor Trip Number	Hauling Trip Number	Worker Trip Length	Vendor Trip Length	Hauling Trip Length	Worker Vehicle Class	Vendor Vehicle Class	Hauling Vehicle Class
Demolition	4	10.00	0.00	0.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Site Preparation	2	5.00	0.00	0.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Grading	3	8.00	0.00	0.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Building Construction	5	10.00	4.00	0.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Paving	7	18.00	0.00	0.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Architectural Coating	1	2.00	0.00	0.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT

3.1 Mitigation Measures Construction

3.2 Demolition - 2024

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Off-Road	3.0800e-003	0.0274	0.0370	6.0000e-005		1.2500e-003	1.2500e-003		1.2000e-003	1.2000e-003	0.0000	5.2104	5.2104	9.4000e-004	0.0000	5.2339
Total	3.0800e-003	0.0274	0.0370	6.0000e-005		1.2500e-003	1.2500e-003		1.2000e-003	1.2000e-003	0.0000	5.2104	5.2104	9.4000e-004	0.0000	5.2339

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EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

3.2 Demolition - 2024

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.4000e-004	9.0000e-005	1.1500e-003	0.0000	4.0000e-004	0.0000	4.0000e-004	1.1000e-004	0.0000	1.1000e-004	0.0000	0.3156	0.3156	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.3184
Total	1.4000e-004	9.0000e-005	1.1500e-003	0.0000	4.0000e-004	0.0000	4.0000e-004	1.1000e-004	0.0000	1.1000e-004	0.0000	0.3156	0.3156	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.3184

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Off-Road	3.0800e-003	0.0274	0.0370	6.0000e-005		1.2500e-003	1.2500e-003		1.2000e-003	1.2000e-003	0.0000	5.2104	5.2104	9.4000e-004	0.0000	5.2339
Total	3.0800e-003	0.0274	0.0370	6.0000e-005		1.2500e-003	1.2500e-003		1.2000e-003	1.2000e-003	0.0000	5.2104	5.2104	9.4000e-004	0.0000	5.2339

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EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

3.2 Demolition - 2024

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.4000e-004	9.0000e-005	1.1500e-003	0.0000	4.0000e-004	0.0000	4.0000e-004	1.1000e-004	0.0000	1.1000e-004	0.0000	0.3156	0.3156	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.3184
Total	1.4000e-004	9.0000e-005	1.1500e-003	0.0000	4.0000e-004	0.0000	4.0000e-004	1.1000e-004	0.0000	1.1000e-004	0.0000	0.3156	0.3156	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.3184

3.3 Site Preparation - 2024

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Fugitive Dust					2.7000e-004	0.0000	2.7000e-004	3.0000e-005	0.0000	3.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	2.5000e-004	2.8000e-003	1.9500e-003	0.0000		1.0000e-004	1.0000e-004		9.0000e-005	9.0000e-005	0.0000	0.4274	0.4274	1.4000e-004	0.0000	0.4309
Total	2.5000e-004	2.8000e-003	1.9500e-003	0.0000	2.7000e-004	1.0000e-004	3.7000e-004	3.0000e-005	9.0000e-005	1.2000e-004	0.0000	0.4274	0.4274	1.4000e-004	0.0000	0.4309

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3.3 Site Preparation - 2024

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.0000e-005	0.0000	6.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0158	0.0158	0.0000	0.0000	0.0159
Total	1.0000e-005	0.0000	6.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0158	0.0158	0.0000	0.0000	0.0159

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Fugitive Dust					2.7000e-004	0.0000	2.7000e-004	3.0000e-005	0.0000	3.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	2.5000e-004	2.8000e-003	1.9500e-003	0.0000		1.0000e-004	1.0000e-004		9.0000e-005	9.0000e-005	0.0000	0.4274	0.4274	1.4000e-004	0.0000	0.4309
Total	2.5000e-004	2.8000e-003	1.9500e-003	0.0000	2.7000e-004	1.0000e-004	3.7000e-004	3.0000e-005	9.0000e-005	1.2000e-004	0.0000	0.4274	0.4274	1.4000e-004	0.0000	0.4309

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3.3 Site Preparation - 2024

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.0000e-005	0.0000	6.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0158	0.0158	0.0000	0.0000	0.0159
Total	1.0000e-005	0.0000	6.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0158	0.0158	0.0000	0.0000	0.0159

3.4 Grading - 2024

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Fugitive Dust					5.3100e-003	0.0000	5.3100e-003	2.5700e-003	0.0000	2.5700e-003	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	9.1000e-004	9.7300e-003	5.5500e-003	1.0000e-005		4.0000e-004	4.0000e-004		3.7000e-004	3.7000e-004	0.0000	1.2380	1.2380	4.0000e-004	0.0000	1.2480
Total	9.1000e-004	9.7300e-003	5.5500e-003	1.0000e-005	5.3100e-003	4.0000e-004	5.7100e-003	2.5700e-003	3.7000e-004	2.9400e-003	0.0000	1.2380	1.2380	4.0000e-004	0.0000	1.2480

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3.4 Grading - 2024

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	1.8000e-004	0.0000	6.0000e-005	0.0000	6.0000e-005	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0505	0.0505	0.0000	0.0000	0.0509
Total	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	1.8000e-004	0.0000	6.0000e-005	0.0000	6.0000e-005	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0505	0.0505	0.0000	0.0000	0.0509

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Fugitive Dust					5.3100e-003	0.0000	5.3100e-003	2.5700e-003	0.0000	2.5700e-003	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	9.1000e-004	9.7300e-003	5.5500e-003	1.0000e-005		4.0000e-004	4.0000e-004		3.7000e-004	3.7000e-004	0.0000	1.2380	1.2380	4.0000e-004	0.0000	1.2480
Total	9.1000e-004	9.7300e-003	5.5500e-003	1.0000e-005	5.3100e-003	4.0000e-004	5.7100e-003	2.5700e-003	3.7000e-004	2.9400e-003	0.0000	1.2380	1.2380	4.0000e-004	0.0000	1.2480

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3.4 Grading - 2024

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	1.8000e-004	0.0000	6.0000e-005	0.0000	6.0000e-005	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0505	0.0505	0.0000	0.0000	0.0509
Total	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	1.8000e-004	0.0000	6.0000e-005	0.0000	6.0000e-005	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0505	0.0505	0.0000	0.0000	0.0509

3.5 Building Construction - 2024

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Off-Road	0.0298	0.2987	0.3534	5.7000e-004		0.0141	0.0141		0.0130	0.0130	0.0000	50.1212	50.1212	0.0162	0.0000	50.5265
Total	0.0298	0.2987	0.3534	5.7000e-004		0.0141	0.0141		0.0130	0.0130	0.0000	50.1212	50.1212	0.0162	0.0000	50.5265

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3.5 Building Construction - 2024

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	2.1000e-004	8.8500e-003	2.6400e-003	4.0000e-005	1.3300e-003	6.0000e-005	1.3800e-003	3.8000e-004	6.0000e-005	4.4000e-004	0.0000	3.8046	3.8046	2.0000e-005	5.7000e-004	3.9745
Worker	1.4500e-003	9.3000e-004	0.0115	3.0000e-005	4.0000e-003	2.0000e-005	4.0200e-003	1.0600e-003	2.0000e-005	1.0800e-003	0.0000	3.1559	3.1559	9.0000e-005	9.0000e-005	3.1840
Total	1.6600e-003	9.7800e-003	0.0141	7.0000e-005	5.3300e-003	8.0000e-005	5.4000e-003	1.4400e-003	8.0000e-005	1.5200e-003	0.0000	6.9604	6.9604	1.1000e-004	6.6000e-004	7.1585

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Off-Road	0.0298	0.2987	0.3534	5.7000e-004		0.0141	0.0141		0.0130	0.0130	0.0000	50.1211	50.1211	0.0162	0.0000	50.5264
Total	0.0298	0.2987	0.3534	5.7000e-004		0.0141	0.0141		0.0130	0.0130	0.0000	50.1211	50.1211	0.0162	0.0000	50.5264

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3.5 Building Construction - 2024

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	2.1000e-004	8.8500e-003	2.6400e-003	4.0000e-005	1.3300e-003	6.0000e-005	1.3800e-003	3.8000e-004	6.0000e-005	4.4000e-004	0.0000	3.8046	3.8046	2.0000e-005	5.7000e-004	3.9745
Worker	1.4500e-003	9.3000e-004	0.0115	3.0000e-005	4.0000e-003	2.0000e-005	4.0200e-003	1.0600e-003	2.0000e-005	1.0800e-003	0.0000	3.1559	3.1559	9.0000e-005	9.0000e-005	3.1840
Total	1.6600e-003	9.7800e-003	0.0141	7.0000e-005	5.3300e-003	8.0000e-005	5.4000e-003	1.4400e-003	8.0000e-005	1.5200e-003	0.0000	6.9604	6.9604	1.1000e-004	6.6000e-004	7.1585

3.6 Paving - 2024

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Off-Road	1.4800e-003	0.0131	0.0176	3.0000e-005		6.1000e-004	6.1000e-004		5.7000e-004	5.7000e-004	0.0000	2.3502	2.3502	6.8000e-004	0.0000	2.3673
Paving	7.2000e-004					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total	2.2000e-003	0.0131	0.0176	3.0000e-005		6.1000e-004	6.1000e-004		5.7000e-004	5.7000e-004	0.0000	2.3502	2.3502	6.8000e-004	0.0000	2.3673

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3.6 Paving - 2024

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.3000e-004	8.0000e-005	1.0400e-003	0.0000	3.6000e-004	0.0000	3.6000e-004	1.0000e-004	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000	0.2840	0.2840	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.2866
Total	1.3000e-004	8.0000e-005	1.0400e-003	0.0000	3.6000e-004	0.0000	3.6000e-004	1.0000e-004	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000	0.2840	0.2840	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.2866

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Off-Road	1.4800e-003	0.0131	0.0176	3.0000e-005		6.1000e-004	6.1000e-004		5.7000e-004	5.7000e-004	0.0000	2.3502	2.3502	6.8000e-004	0.0000	2.3673
Paving	7.2000e-004					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total	2.2000e-003	0.0131	0.0176	3.0000e-005		6.1000e-004	6.1000e-004		5.7000e-004	5.7000e-004	0.0000	2.3502	2.3502	6.8000e-004	0.0000	2.3673

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3.6 Paving - 2024

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.3000e-004	8.0000e-005	1.0400e-003	0.0000	3.6000e-004	0.0000	3.6000e-004	1.0000e-004	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000	0.2840	0.2840	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.2866
Total	1.3000e-004	8.0000e-005	1.0400e-003	0.0000	3.6000e-004	0.0000	3.6000e-004	1.0000e-004	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000	0.2840	0.2840	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.2866

3.7 Architectural Coating - 2024

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Archit. Coating	5.0100e-003					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	4.5000e-004	3.0500e-003	4.5300e-003	1.0000e-005		1.5000e-004	1.5000e-004		1.5000e-004	1.5000e-004	0.0000	0.6383	0.6383	4.0000e-005	0.0000	0.6392
Total	5.4600e-003	3.0500e-003	4.5300e-003	1.0000e-005		1.5000e-004	1.5000e-004		1.5000e-004	1.5000e-004	0.0000	0.6383	0.6383	4.0000e-005	0.0000	0.6392

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3.7 Architectural Coating - 2024

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	1.2000e-004	0.0000	4.0000e-005	0.0000	4.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0316	0.0316	0.0000	0.0000	0.0318
Total	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	1.2000e-004	0.0000	4.0000e-005	0.0000	4.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0316	0.0316	0.0000	0.0000	0.0318

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Archit. Coating	5.0100e-003					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	4.5000e-004	3.0500e-003	4.5300e-003	1.0000e-005		1.5000e-004	1.5000e-004		1.5000e-004	1.5000e-004	0.0000	0.6383	0.6383	4.0000e-005	0.0000	0.6392
Total	5.4600e-003	3.0500e-003	4.5300e-003	1.0000e-005		1.5000e-004	1.5000e-004		1.5000e-004	1.5000e-004	0.0000	0.6383	0.6383	4.0000e-005	0.0000	0.6392

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3.7 Architectural Coating - 2024

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	1.2000e-004	0.0000	4.0000e-005	0.0000	4.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0316	0.0316	0.0000	0.0000	0.0318
Total	1.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	1.2000e-004	0.0000	4.0000e-005	0.0000	4.0000e-005	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-005	0.0000	0.0316	0.0316	0.0000	0.0000	0.0318

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4.0 Operational Detail - Mobile

4.1 Mitigation Measures Mobile

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

4.2 Trip Summary Information

Land Use	Average Daily Trip Rate			Unmitigated	Mitigated
	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Annual VMT	Annual VMT
Other Asphalt Surfaces	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Total	0.00	0.00	0.00		

4.3 Trip Type Information

Land Use	Miles			Trip %			Trip Purpose %		
	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	Primary	Diverted	Pass-by
Other Asphalt Surfaces	9.50	7.30	7.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0

4.4 Fleet Mix

Land Use	LDA	LDT1	LDT2	MDV	LHD1	LHD2	MHD	HHD	OBUS	UBUS	MCY	SBUS	MH
Other Asphalt Surfaces	0.517111	0.052324	0.170980	0.155671	0.027786	0.007423	0.013424	0.026160	0.000649	0.000313	0.023324	0.001439	0.003395

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5.0 Energy Detail

Historical Energy Use: N

5.1 Mitigation Measures Energy

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Electricity Mitigated						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Electricity Unmitigated						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
NaturalGas Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
NaturalGas Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

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5.3 Energy by Land Use - Electricity

Unmitigated

Land Use	Electricity Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kWh/yr	MT/yr			
Other Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

Mitigated

Land Use	Electricity Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kWh/yr	MT/yr			
Other Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

6.0 Area Detail

6.1 Mitigation Measures Area

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	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Mitigated	2.0700e-003	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004
Unmitigated	2.0700e-003	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004

6.2 Area by SubCategory

Unmitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Architectural Coating	5.0000e-004					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Consumer Products	1.5500e-003					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Landscaping	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004
Total	2.0700e-003	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004

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6.2 Area by SubCategory

Mitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Architectural Coating	5.0000e-004					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Consumer Products	1.5500e-003					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Landscaping	2.0000e-005	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004
Total	2.0700e-003	0.0000	2.2000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	4.3000e-004	4.3000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	4.6000e-004

7.0 Water Detail

7.1 Mitigation Measures Water

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	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	MT/yr			
Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

7.2 Water by Land Use

Unmitigated

	Indoor/Outdoor Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	Mgal	MT/yr			
Other Asphalt Surfaces	0 / 0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

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EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

7.2 Water by Land Use

Mitigated

	Indoor/Outdoor Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	Mgal	MT/yr			
Other Asphalt Surfaces	0 / 0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

8.0 Waste Detail

8.1 Mitigation Measures Waste

Category/Year

	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
	MT/yr			
Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

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EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

8.2 Waste by Land Use

Unmitigated

Waste Disposed	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	tons	MT/yr		
Other Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

Mitigated

Waste Disposed	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	tons	MT/yr		
Other Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

9.0 Operational Offroad

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Days/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type
----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	-------------	-------------	-----------

North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project - San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD Air District, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

10.0 Stationary Equipment

Fire Pumps and Emergency Generators

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Hours/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type
----------------	--------	-----------	------------	-------------	-------------	-----------

Boilers

Equipment Type	Number	Heat Input/Day	Heat Input/Year	Boiler Rating	Fuel Type
----------------	--------	----------------	-----------------	---------------	-----------

User Defined Equipment

Equipment Type	Number
----------------	--------

11.0 Vegetation

Appendix B

Biological Assessment

North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project Madera County, California



Natural Environment Study (Minimal Impacts)

Madera County, California
North Fork 7.5-Minute Quadrangle
Township 8 South, Range 23 East, Section 18
Caltrans, District 6
FPN: CML 5941(102)



July 2023

Natural Environment Study (Minimal Impacts)

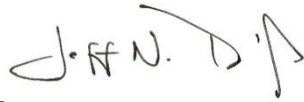
North Fork,
Madera County, California

CML-5941 (102)

July 2023

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Department of Transportation
Madera County Department of Public Works

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Summary

The Madera County Public Works Department (County) proposes to construct a bicycle and pedestrian path along Road 225 and Road 228 in the community of North Fork, Madera County, California. The proposed project (Project) will involve constructing approximately 1430 feet of concrete bicycle and pedestrian path. This project is the first phase of a larger project to connect the North Fork and South Fork communities, including the North Fork Rancheria Community Center and North Fork Elementary School. The purpose of the Project is to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225.

The County has obtained funding from the Federal Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) and the Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program for design and construction of the Project. The HIP is a federal program that provides funding to states for the restoration, repair, and construction of roads, bridges, and tunnels. The CMAQ is a federal program that provides funding to states for transportation projects designed to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. Due to this federal nexus, issuing funds from the HIP and CMAQ constitutes a federal action, one that requires that the EPA determine whether the proposed action may affect federally protected resources. The Project must therefore comply with requirements of both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and certain federal environmental laws and regulations.

To evaluate whether the Project may affect sensitive biological resources, we (1) obtained official lists from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife of special-status species and designated and proposed critical habitat, (2) reviewed other relevant background information such as satellite imagery and topographic maps, and (3) conducted a field reconnaissance survey of the Project site.

This Natural Environment Study, Minimal Impacts summarizes existing biological conditions of the Project site, the potential for special-status species, regulated habitats, and nesting migratory birds to occur on or near the Project site, the potential impacts of the proposed Project on biological resources and regulated habitats, and measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate those potential impacts.

We concluded the Project could affect one special-status wildlife species: northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), a state species of special concern. It could also indirectly affect regulated habitats, nesting migratory birds, and spread invasive plant species, but any such effects can be avoided or minimized.

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
AMSL	Above Mean Sea Level
BMP	Best Management Practice
BSA	Biological Survey Area
Cal-IPC	California Invasive Plant Council
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FE	Federally listed as Endangered
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FP	Fully Protected
FT	Federally listed as Threatened
HIP	Highway Infrastructure Program
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NES MI	Natural Environment Study, Minimal Impacts
NOAA	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
SE	State-listed as Endangered
SSC	Species of Special Concern
ST	State-listed as Threatened
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USC	United States Code
USGS	United States Geological Survey

1 – Introduction

This Natural Environment Study, Minimal Impacts (NES MI) report has been prepared for the North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project (Project). The Madera County Public Works Department (County) proposes to construct a bicycle and pedestrian path along Road 225 and Road 228. The primary goal of the Project is to increase traffic safety to allow pedestrians to safely commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. The Federal Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) and the Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program will provide funding for the Project.

1.1 Project History

On 10 November 2021, the County sought proposals and qualifications for the North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) received the County's Preliminary Environmental Study in support of the Project, approved the Project's Preliminary Environment Study, and requested technical studies, including an NES MI.

1.1.1 Project Purpose and Need

Presently, the community of North Fork consists of mostly scattered residential neighborhoods and commercial businesses. Road 225 is the main road to the east, connecting the North Fork and South Fork communities, including the North Fork Rancheria Community Center and North Fork Elementary School. Currently, Road 225 does not have any pedestrian facilities on either side of the road. There is a need for these facilities in the area to allow pedestrians to commute from North Fork to the town hall, school, and other residential and community facilities along Road 225. This Project will help meet the existing pedestrian facility needs and increase pedestrian safety in the North Fork and South Fork communities.

1.2 Project Description

The Project includes the construction of an 8-foot-wide paved bicycle path and 5-foot-wide pedestrian path. These facilities will be separate from the roadway. Other improvements include minor landscaping and the construction of approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities.

The proposed bicycle and pedestrian path will start approximately 160 west of Willow Creek Drive and continue east on Road 225 to 120 feet west of North Fork Willow Creek. The path will continue on Road 225 from 80 feet east of North Fork Willow Creek east to Road 228, then south

on Road 228 to a school bus parking lot. The Project site is in Township 8 South, Range 23 East, Section 18 of the North Fork 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle (Figures 1–3).



Figure 1. Regional Project Site Map.

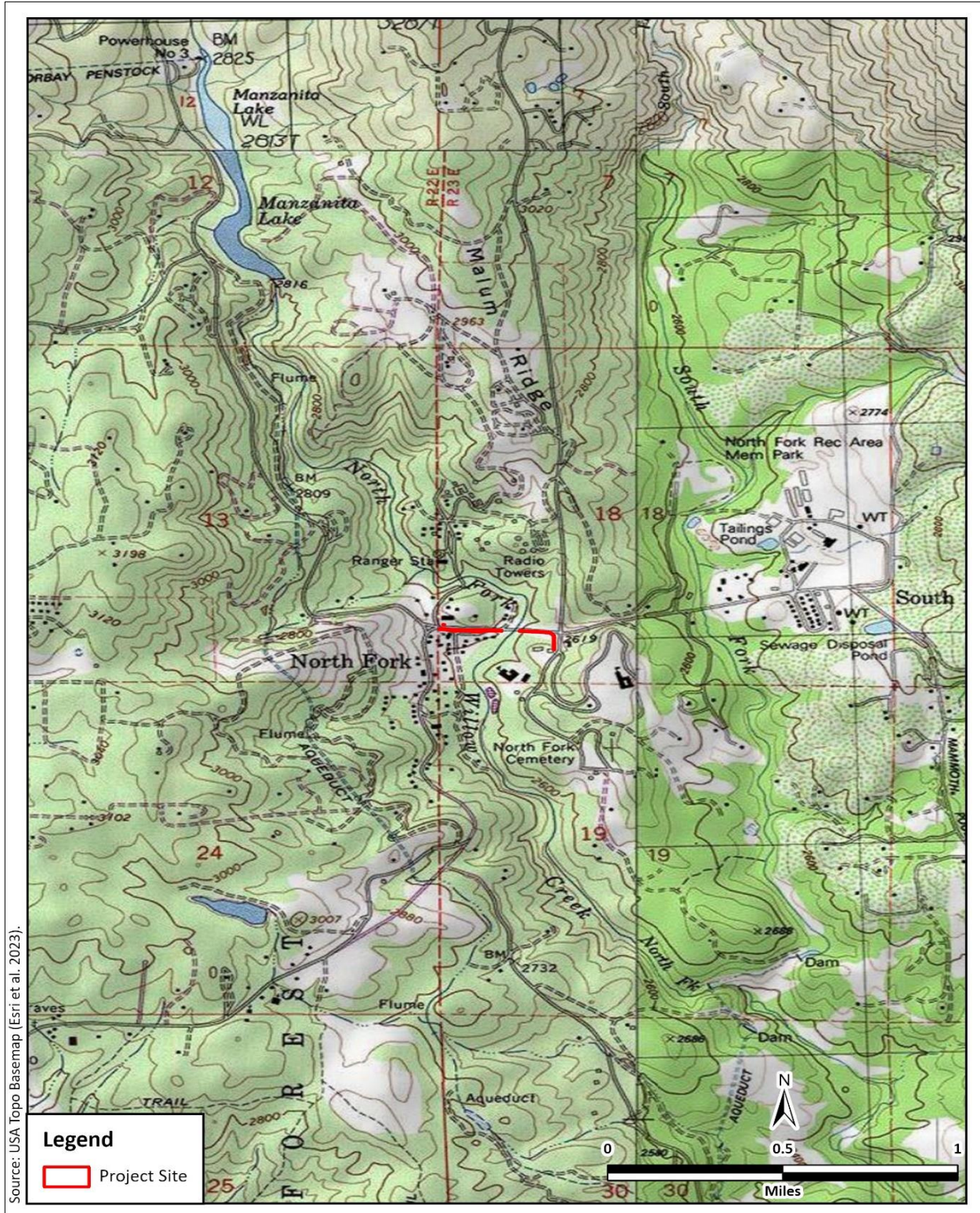


Figure 2. Project Site Topographical Map.



Figure 3. Project Site Map.

2 - Study Methods

Biological surveys were performed to satisfy requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), to document all special-status species that may occur on the Project site, and to identify all potential Project impacts on protected resources. Special-status species include those listed as threatened or endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) or California Endangered Species Act (CESA), plants considered rare by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS), species designated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) as California Species of Special Concern, and species the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) otherwise considers rare or imperiled.

Factors considered in evaluating the effects of the Project on special-status species and critical habitat included the (1) presence of designated or proposed critical habitat in the survey area, (2) potential for the survey area to support special-status species, (3) dependence of any such species on specific habitat components that would be removed or modified, (4) the degree of impact to habitat, (5) abundance and distribution of habitat in the region, (6) distribution and population levels of the species, (7) cumulative effects of the Project and any future activities in the area, and (8) the potential to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects.

Factors considered in evaluating the effects of the Project on migratory birds included the potential for the Project to result in (1) mortality of migratory birds or (2) loss of migratory bird nests containing viable eggs or nestlings.

Factors considered in evaluating the effects of the Project on regulated habitats included the (1) presence of features comprising or potentially comprising waters of the United States, waters of the State, Wild and Scenic Rivers, essential fish habitat (EFH), floodplains, and lakes or streams within the survey area, and (2) potential for the Project to impact such habitats.

2.1 Regulatory Requirements

The relevant federal and state regulatory requirements and policies that guide the impact analysis of the Project are summarized below.

2.1.1 Federal Requirements

Federal Endangered Species Act. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) enforce the provisions stipulated in the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA, 16 USC Section 1531 et seq.). Threatened and endangered species on the federal list (50 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 17.11 and 17.12) are protected from take unless a Section

North Fork Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project Natural Environment Study (Minimal Impacts)
July 2023

10 permit is granted to an entity other than a federal agency or a Biological Opinion with incidental take provisions is rendered to a federal lead agency via a Section 7 consultation. Take is defined as harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct. Pursuant to the requirements of the FESA, an agency reviewing a proposed project within its jurisdiction must determine whether any federally listed species may be present on the project site and determine whether the proposed project may affect such species. Under the FESA, habitat loss is considered to be an impact to a species. In addition, the agency is required to determine whether the project is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any species that is listed or proposed for listing under the FESA or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat proposed or designated for such species (16 USC §1536[3], [4]). Therefore, project-related impacts to these species or their habitats would be considered significant and would require mitigation.

National Environmental Policy Act. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) declares a continuing federal policy “to use all practicable means and measures...to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations.” NEPA directs a “systematic, interdisciplinary approach” to planning and decision-making, and requires environmental statements for “major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.” Implementation regulations by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (Code of Federal Regulations [CFR], title 40, Parts 1500–1508) require federal agencies to identify and assess the reasonable alternatives to proposed actions that will restore and enhance the quality of the human environment and avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts. Federal agencies are further directed to emphasize significant environmental issues in project planning and to integrate impact studies required by other environmental laws and Executive Orders into the NEPA process. The NEPA process should therefore be seen as an overall framework for the environmental evaluation of federal actions.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 United States Code [USC] §703, Supp. I, 1989) prohibits killing, possessing, trading, or other forms of take of migratory birds except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. “Take” is defined as the pursuing, hunting, shooting, capturing, collecting, or killing of birds, their nests, eggs, or young (16 USC §703 and §715n). This act encompasses whole birds, parts of birds, and bird nests and eggs. The MBTA specifically protects migratory bird nests from possession, sale, purchase, barter transport, import, and export, and take. For nests, the definition of take per 50 CFR 10.12 is to collect. The MBTA does not include a definition of an “active nest.” However, the “Migratory Bird Permit Memorandum” issued by the USFWS in 2003 and updated in 2018 clarifies the MBTA in that regard and states that the removal of nests, without eggs or birds, is legal under the MBTA, provided no possession (which is interpreted as holding the nest with the intent of retaining it) occurs during the destruction (USFWS 2018).

United States Army Corps of Engineers Jurisdiction. Areas meeting the regulatory definition of “waters of the United States” (jurisdictional waters) are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (1972) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (1899). These waters may include all waters used, or potentially used, for interstate commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, all interstate waters, all other waters (intrastate lakes, rivers, streams, mudflats, sandflats, playa lakes, natural ponds, etc.), all impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States, tributaries of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States, the territorial seas, and wetlands adjacent to waters of the United States (33 CFR part 328.3). Wetlands on non-agricultural lands are identified using the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* and related Regional Supplement (USACE 1987 and 2008). Construction activities, including direct removal, filling, hydrologic disruption, or other means in jurisdictional waters are regulated by the USACE. The placement of dredged or fill material into such waters must comply with permit requirements of the USACE. No USACE permit will be effective in the absence of state water quality certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The State Water Resources Control Board is the state agency (together with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards) charged with implementing water quality certification in California.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was created by Congress in 1968 (Public Law 90–542; 16 USC § 1271 et seq.) to preserve certain rivers with significant natural, cultural, and recreational values in a free-flowing condition. The Act safeguards the special character of these rivers, while also recognizing the potential for their appropriate use and development.

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) (Public law 94–265; Statutes at Large 90 Stat. 331; 16 USC ch. 38 § 1801 et seq.) establishes a management system for national marine and estuarine fishery resources. This legislation requires that all federal agencies consult the NMFS regarding all actions or proposed actions permitted, funded, or undertaken that may adversely affect “essential fish habitat (EFH).” EFH is defined as “waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity.” The Magnuson-Stevens Act states that migratory routes to and from anadromous fish spawning grounds are considered EFH. The phrase “adversely affect” refers to any impact that reduces the quality or quantity of EFH. Federal activities that occur outside of EFH, but which may have an impact on EFH must also be considered. The Act applies to salmon species, groundfish species, highly migratory species such as tuna, and coastal pelagic species such as anchovies.

Executive Order 11988: Floodplain Management. Executive Order 11988 (42 Federal Register 26951, 3 CFR, 1977 Comp., p. 117) requires federal agencies to avoid to the extent possible the long-term and short-term adverse impacts associated with occupying and modifying flood plains and to avoid direct and indirect support of developing floodplains wherever there is a practicable alternative.

Executive Order 13112: Invasive Species. Executive Order 13112, requires agencies to combat introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States. The Order identifies invasive species as species not native to an ecosystem and whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or is capable of harming human health. This Order also extends to seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating an invasive species.

2.1.2 State Requirements

California Endangered Species Act. The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) of 1970 (Fish and Game Code Section 2050 et seq., and California Code of Regulations [CCR] Title 14, Subsection 670.2, 670.51) prohibits the take of species listed under CESA (14 CCR Subsection 670.2, 670.5). Take is defined as hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill. Under CESA, state agencies are required to consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife when preparing CEQA documents. Consultation ensures that proposed projects or actions do not have a negative effect on state-listed species. During consultation, CDFW determines whether take would occur and identifies “reasonable and prudent alternatives” for the project and conservation of special-status species. CDFW can authorize take of state-listed species under Sections 2080.1 and 2081(b) of Fish and Game Code in those cases where it is demonstrated that the impacts are minimized and mitigated. Take authorized under section 2081(b) must be minimized and fully mitigated. A CESA permit must be obtained if a project will result in take of listed species, either during construction or over the life of the project. Under CESA, CDFW is responsible for maintaining a list of threatened and endangered species designated under state law (Fish and Game Code 2070). CDFW also maintains lists of species of special concern, which serve as “watch lists.” Pursuant to the requirements of CESA, a state or local agency reviewing a proposed project within its jurisdiction must determine whether the proposed project will have a potentially significant impact upon such species. Project-related impacts to species on the CESA list would be considered significant and would require mitigation. Impacts to species of concern or fully protected species would be considered significant under certain circumstances.

California Environmental Quality Act. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Subsections 21000–21178) requires that CDFW be consulted during the CEQA review process regarding impacts of proposed projects on special-status species. Special-status species

are defined under CEQA Guidelines subsection 15380(b) and (d) as those listed under FESA and CESA and species that are not currently protected by statute or regulation but would be considered rare, threatened, or endangered under these criteria or by the scientific community. Therefore species that are considered rare or endangered are addressed in this biological resource evaluation regardless of whether they are afforded protection through any other statute or regulation. The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) inventories the native flora of California and ranks species according to rarity (CNPS 2017). Plants with Rare Plant Ranks 1A, 1B, 2A, or 2B are considered special-status species under CEQA.

Although threatened and endangered species are protected by specific federal and state statutes, CEQA Guidelines Section 15380(d) provides that a species not listed on the federal or state list of protected species may be considered rare or endangered if it can be shown to meet certain specified criteria. These criteria have been modeled after the definition in FESA and the section of the California Fish and Game Code dealing with rare and endangered plants and animals. Section 15380(d) allows a public agency to undertake a review to determine if a significant effect on species that have not yet been listed by either the USFWS or CDFW (i.e., candidate species) would occur. Thus CEQA provides an agency with the ability to protect a species from the potential impacts of a project until the respective government agency has an opportunity to designate the species as protected, if warranted.

California Native Plant Protection Act. The California Native Plant Protection Act of 1977 (California Fish and Game Code Section 1900–1913) requires all state agencies to use their authority to carry out programs to conserve endangered and otherwise rare species of native plants. Provisions of the act prohibit the taking of listed plants from the wild and require the project proponent to notify CDFW at least 10 days in advance of any change in land use, which allows CDFW to salvage listed plants that would otherwise be destroyed.

Nesting birds. California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800 prohibit the possession, incidental take, or needless destruction of birds, their nests, and eggs. California Fish and Game Code Section 3511 lists birds that are “Fully Protected” as those that may not be taken or possessed except under specific permit.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Jurisdiction. The CDFW has regulatory jurisdiction over lakes and streams in California. Streams include intermittent and ephemeral streams, rivers, creeks, dry washes, sloughs, blue-line streams, and watercourses with subsurface flows. Canals, aqueducts, irrigation ditches, and other means of water conveyance can also be considered streams if they support aquatic life, riparian vegetation, or stream-dependent terrestrial wildlife. Activities that divert or obstruct the natural flow of a stream; substantially change its bed, channel, or bank; or use any materials (including vegetation) from the streambed, may require that the

project applicant enter into a Streambed Alteration Agreement with the CDFW in accordance with California Fish and Game Code Section 1602.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act entrusts the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (collectively Water Boards) with the responsibility to preserve and enhance all beneficial uses of California’s diverse waters. The Act grants the Water Boards authority to establish water quality objectives and regulate point- and non-point-source pollution discharge to the State’s surface and ground waters. Under the auspices of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Water Boards are responsible for certifying, under Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act, that activities affecting waters of the United States comply with California water quality standards. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act addresses all “waters of the State,” which are more broadly defined than waters of the United States. Waters of the State include any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state (California Water Code 13050 [e]). They include artificial as well as natural water bodies and federally jurisdictional and federally non-jurisdictional waters. The Water Boards may issue a Waste Discharge Requirement permit for projects that will affect only federally non-jurisdictional waters of the State.

2.2 Studies Required

The studies required for the proposed Project included an initial field reconnaissance survey and habitat evaluation for special-status species, regulated habitats, and nesting migratory birds.

2.2.1 Literature Search

As a framework for evaluation and field review, we obtained an official USFWS species list for the Project (USFWS 2023b, Appendix B) on 29 March 2023. In addition, we searched the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB; CDFW 2023, Appendix C) and the California Native Plant Society’s Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (CNPS 2023) for records of special-status plant and animal species in the vicinity of the Project. Regional lists of special-status species were compiled using USFWS, CNDDDB, and CNPS database searches confined to the North Fork 7.5-minute USGS topographic quad, which encompasses the Project site, and the eight surrounding quads (Ahwahnee, Auberry, Bass Lake, Cascadel Point, Millerton Lake East, Millerton Lake West, O’Neals, and Shuteye Peak). Local lists of special-status species were compiled using CNDDDB records from within 5 miles of the Project site. Species for which the Project site does not provide habitat were eliminated from further consideration. In addition, we reviewed the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service’s (NRCS) soil survey database to assess soils occurring on the Project site. We also

reviewed satellite imagery from Google Earth (Google 2023) and other sources, USGS topographic maps, and relevant literature. The Project site is outside the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries jurisdiction; therefore, we did not obtain an official NOAA Fisheries species list.

2.2.2 Field Reviews

No measurable indirect effects associated with the Project are anticipated outside of the Project footprint. For this reason, the Biological Study Area (BSA) evaluated for biological resources consisted of the proposed Project site and a surrounding 50-foot buffer (Figure 4).

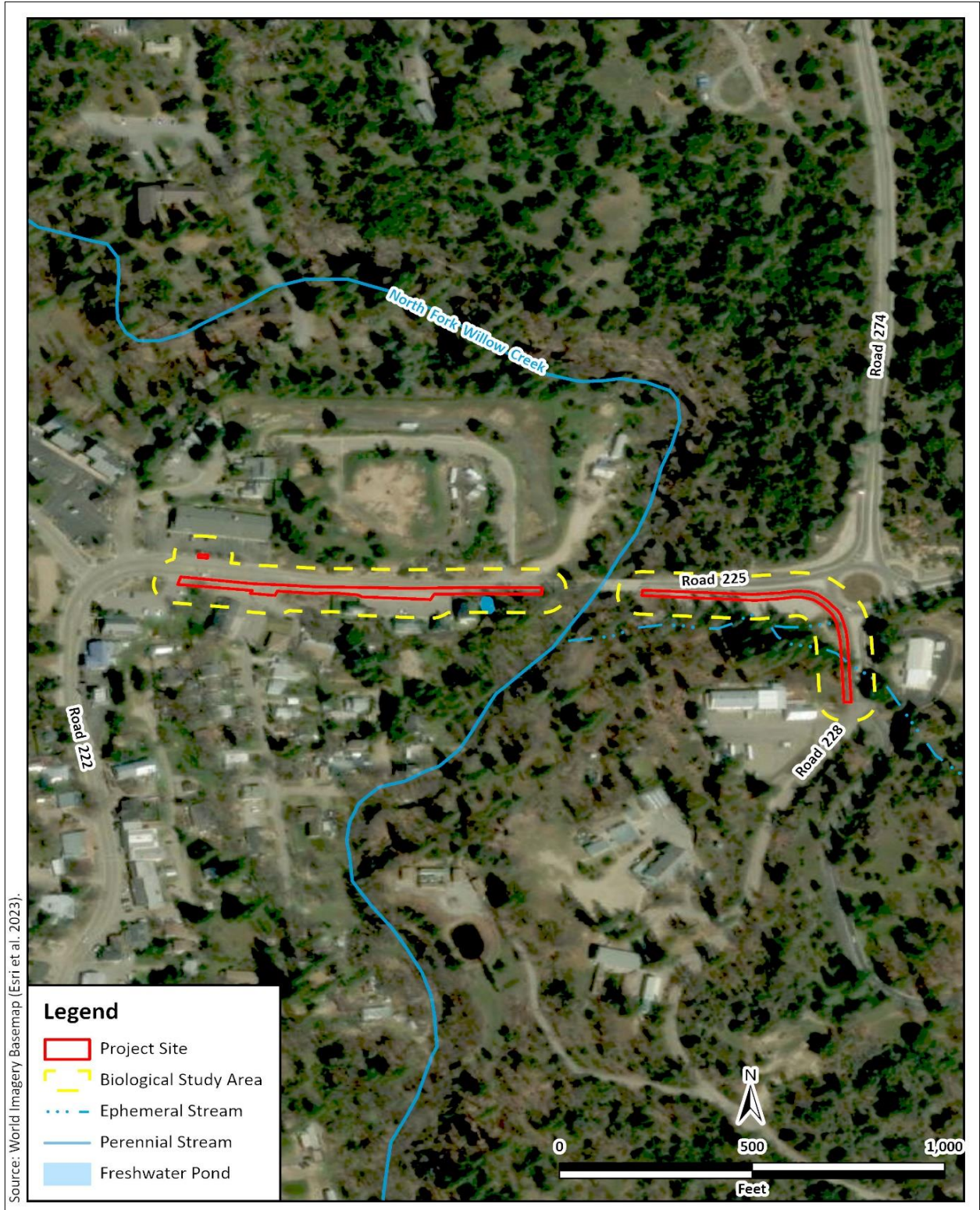


Figure 4. Biological Study Area Map.

2.2.3 Survey Methods

The BSA was walked and thoroughly inspected to evaluate and document the potential for the site to support special-status species, regulated habitats, or nesting migratory birds. All plants except those under cultivation or planted in residential areas and all vertebrate wildlife species observed within the BSA were identified and documented. The BSA was evaluated for the presence of regulated habitats, including lakes, streams, and other waters using methods described in the Wetlands Delineation Manual and regional supplement (USACE 1987, 2008) and as defined by the CDFW (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/lisa>) or under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

2.3 Personnel and Survey Dates

Colibri Senior Scientist Ryan Slezak conducted the field reconnaissance and habitat evaluation survey of the BSA on 12 April 2023.

2.4 Agency Coordination and Professional Contacts

A list of all species listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered and all designated or proposed critical habitat under the FESA that could occur near the Project site was obtained by Colibri Senior Scientist Ryan Slezak from the USFWS website (<https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>) on 29 March 2023. In addition, a special-status species list from the North Fork USGS quad and the eight surrounding quads was generated using CDFW's CNDDDB.

2.5 Limitations That May Influence Results

Scheduling limitations constrained data collection for two species of flowering plant known to occur in the region because the survey was conducted outside of its flowering period. Therefore, field data were interpreted conservatively. However, given the scope of the Project, these limitations are not expected to influence the results or findings of the NES MI.

3 - Results: Environmental Setting

The Project site and BSA are in the unincorporated community of North Fork, Madera County, California within the jurisdiction of Caltrans District 6. North Fork is composed of rural residential development and a concentrated downtown with commercial development. The BSA is within California's Central Sierra Nevada Foothills floristic province, which is characterized by varied topography, oak and pine woodland, and chaparral vegetation communities (Baldwin et al. 2012).

3.1 Description of the Existing Biological and Physical Conditions

3.1.1 Study Area

The BSA, defined as the proposed Project site and a surrounding 50-foot buffer, consists of the extended road shoulder of Road 225 and Road 228 and the surrounding land covers. The Project site itself has been previously developed and is highly disturbed. The BSA is bisected by North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial stream flanked by riparian forest. The western half of the BSA is surrounded by commercial and residential development to the north, west, and south and riparian forest to the east. The eastern half of the BSA is surrounded by paved roads and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the north and east, a revegetated staging area and low-elevation montane conifer forest to the south, and riparian forest to the west (Figure 3; Figures A-1–A-4).

3.1.2 Physical Conditions

The BSA is 2595–2636 feet above mean sea level (Google 2023). The topography in the BSA is flat to gently sloped at the eastern and western ends of the BSA and is moderately sloped in the middle near North Fork Willow Creek. The site is underlain by soil in the Holland-Chaix families complex (NRCS 2023). Holland-Chaix soil is identified by the NRCS Soil Survey (2023) as a well-drained, high-runoff soil composed of residuum of weathered granodiorite. North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial tributary of the San Joaquin River, runs between the eastern and western sections of the BSA approximately 25 feet outside of the BSA (Figure A-5). Two ephemeral drainages cross the east section of the BSA before draining into North Fork Willow Creek (Figures A-6 and A-7). A small artificial pond is adjacent to a residence in the western section of the BSA (Figure A-8).

3.1.3 Biological Conditions in the Study Area

Road shoulders in the BSA were highly disturbed, routinely mowed, and dominated by nonnative grasses and ruderal forbs. Undeveloped areas in the BSA supported low-elevation montane conifer forest and riparian forest. Low-elevation montane conifer forest was dominated by ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), foothill pine (*Pinus sabiniana*), interior live oak (*Quercus wislizeni*), and California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) with an understory of whiteleaf manzanita

(*Arctostaphylos viscida*) and wedgeleaf ceanothus (*Ceanothus cuneatus* var. *cuneatus*). Riparian forest extends laterally 30 feet from North Fork Willow Creek and is dominated by canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*) and white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*) with an understory of white alder shrubs and Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*). Appendix D includes a complete list of plant and animal species observed in the BSA during the reconnaissance survey.

Rural residential and municipal development borders the western section of the BSA to the north, south, and west and the eastern section of the BSA to the south and east. Development includes the Sierra Mono Museum, North Fork Elementary School, and other municipal buildings.

A total of eleven invasive plants identified under the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) Invasive Plant Inventory were observed within the BSA (Cal-IPC 2023, Appendix D). These include one species recognized by the Cal-IPC as a high-impact species, six species recognized as moderate-impact species, and four species recognized as limited-impact species.

3.1.4 Habitat Connectivity

Forested land north and east of the BSA is part of Sierra National Forest, owned and managed by the USDA Forest Service. Forest Service land ownership is patchy in the vicinity of North Fork. However, larger contiguous portions of Forest Service land occur to the north and east of North Fork. The riparian forest along North Fork Willow Creek is adjacent to developed land but may serve as a wildlife movement corridor connecting undeveloped forest north and south of North Fork.

3.2 Regional Species and Habitats and Natural Communities of Concern

The USFWS species list for the Project site included eight species listed as threatened, endangered, or candidate under the FESA (USFWS 2023a, Tables 1 and 2, Appendix B). Of those eight species, none are expected to occur on or near the Project site due to (1) the lack of habitat, (2) the Project site being outside the current range of the species, or (3) the presence of development that would otherwise preclude occurrence (Tables 1 and 2). As identified in the species list, the Project site does not occur in USFWS-designated or proposed critical habitat for any species (USFWS 2023a, Appendix B).

Searching the CNDDDB for records of special-status species from the North Fork 7.5-minute USGS topographic quad and the eight surrounding quads produced 246 records of 53 species (Tables 1 and 2, Appendix C). Of those 53 species, 10 are known from within 5 miles of the Project site (Figure 5). Of those species, only the CDFW-designated species of special concern northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) could occur on or near the Project site (Tables 1 and 2). In addition, the CDFW-designated species of special concern pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) and

western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*) as well as long-eared myotis (*Myotis evotis*) and long-legged myotis (*Myotis volans*), which lack such designation, were identified in the nine-quad search and could occur on or near the Project site (Table 1).

Searching the CNPS inventory of rare and endangered plants of California yielded 44 species (CNPS 2023). None of those species are expected to occur on or near the Project site due to (1) lack of habitat, (2) the Project site being outside the current range of the species, or (3) lack of detection during the 12 April 2023 field survey (Table 2).

3.3 Observed Plant and Animal Species

A total of 55 plant species (34 native and 21 nonnative), one reptile species, and 15 bird species were detected during the reconnaissance survey (Appendix D).

3.4 Regulated Habitats

The BSA contained two ephemeral streams (Figures A-6 and A-7). As streams in California, they are under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW; as surface waters in California, they are under the regulatory jurisdiction of the SWRCB; and as tributaries of North Fork Willow Creek, a navigable water of the United States, they may be under the regulatory jurisdiction of the USACE. A small, isolated freshwater pond is in the BSA and may be subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW and SWRCB (Figure A-8). Riparian forest associated with North Fork Willow Creek is within the BSA and is subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW.

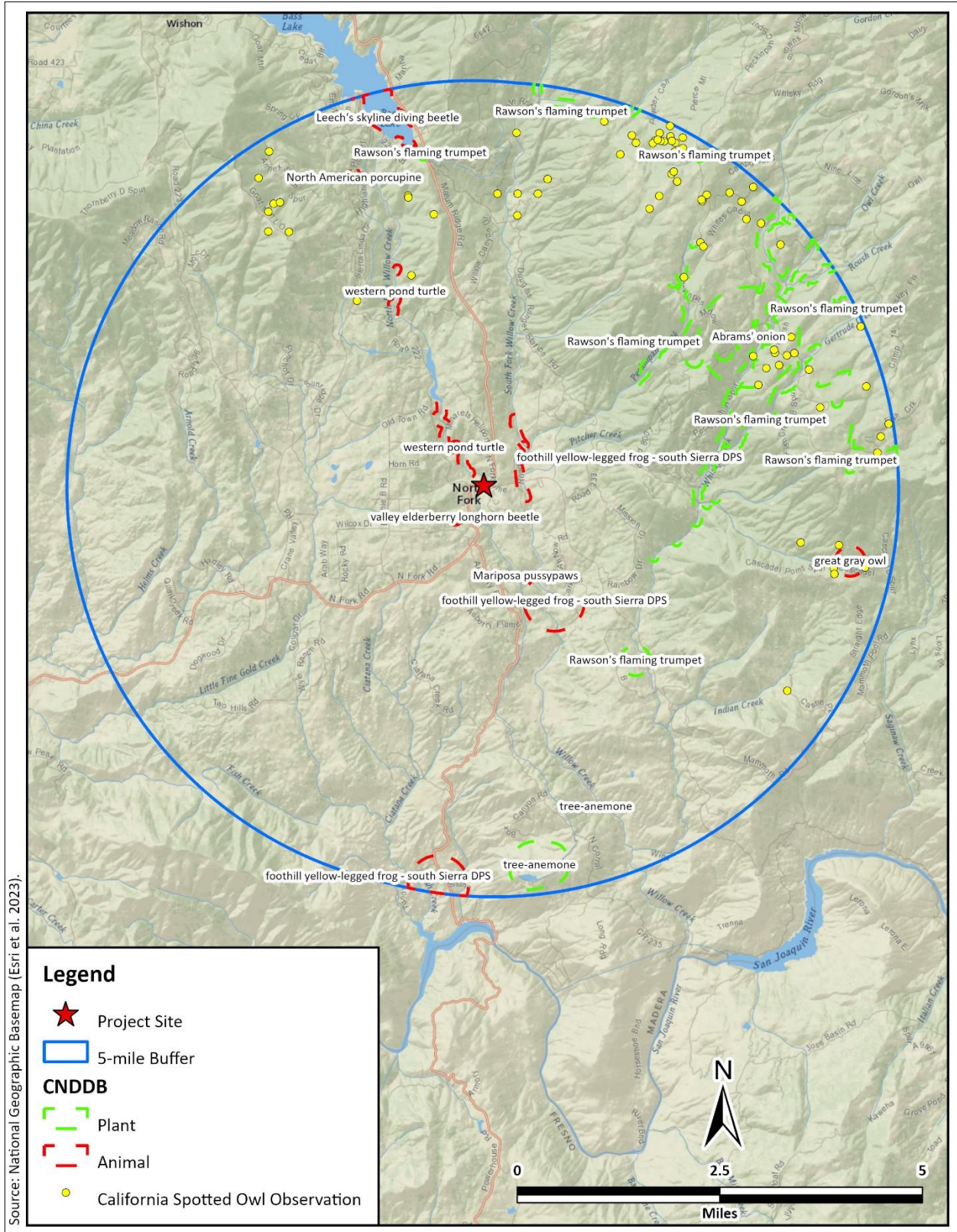


Figure 5. Map of CNDDB Occurrences near the Project Site.

Table 1. Special-Status Wildlife Species Known from the Region Containing the BSA.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status ¹ Federal/State/ CNNDDB	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present/ Absent ²	Rationale
Invertebrates					
A troglobitic asellid; no common name	<i>Calasellus longus</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Freshwater aquatic habitats.	A	Habitat lacking. Pond in the BSA does not hold water year-round and cannot support this species.
An adrenid bee	<i>Andrena macswaini</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Sandy soils with morning-opening yellow-flowered <i>Camissonia</i> species.	A	Habitat lacking.
California linderiella	<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Vernal pools and depressions.	A	Habitat lacking.
Conservancy fairy shrimp	<i>Branchinecta conservatio</i>	FE/--/--	Vernal pools and depressions.	A	Habitat lacking.
Crotch bumble bee	<i>Bombus crotchii</i>	--/SC/--	Open grassland and scrub habitats with <i>Antirrhinum</i> , <i>Phacelia</i> , <i>Clarkia</i> , <i>Dendromecon</i> , <i>Eschscholzia</i> , and <i>Eriogonum</i> as food plants.	A	Habitat lacking.
Dry Creek cliff strider bug	<i>Oravelia pege</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Rocky crevices at the base of sheer rocky cliffs along Dry Creek, Fresno County, CA.	A	Habitat lacking.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status¹ Federal/State/ CNDDB	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present/ Absent²	Rationale
Leech's skyline diving beetle	<i>Hydroporus leechi</i>	--/--/CNDDB	Freshwater aquatic habitats.	A	Habitat lacking. Pond in the BSA does not hold water year-round and cannot support this species.
Molestan blister beetle	<i>Lytta molesta</i>	--/--/CNDDB	Flowering plants often associated with vernal pools.	A	Habitat lacking.
Monarch butterfly – California overwintering population	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	FC/--/--	Groves of trees within 1.5 miles of the ocean that produce suitable micro-climates for overwintering such as high humidity, dappled sunlight, access to water and nectar, and protection from wind.	A	Habitat lacking.
Table Mountain harvestman	<i>Calicina mesaensis</i>	--/--/CNDDB	Found under medium- to large-sized undisturbed rocks in mesic habitats.	A	Habitat lacking.
Tulare cuckoo wasp	<i>Chrysis tularensis</i>	--/--/CNDDB	Open, sunny habitats with abundant flowers and small shrubs.	A	Habitat lacking.
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle	<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	FT/--/--	Riparian forest with host plant, elderberry (<i>Sambucus</i> sp.), having basal stem diameter ≥1 inch.	A	Habitat lacking. No elderberry shrubs within the BSA. BSA outside currently recognized range of species.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status¹ Federal/State/ CNNDDB	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present/ Absent²	Rationale
Vernal pool fairy shrimp	<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	FT/--/--	Vernal pools, some artificial depressions, ditches, stock ponds, vernal swales, ephemeral drainages, and seasonal wetlands.	A	Habitat lacking; ephemeral drainages and artificial pond in the BSA do not hold water long enough to support this species.
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp	<i>Lepidurus packardii</i>	FE/--/--	Vernal pools, clay flats, alkaline pools, ephemeral stock tanks.	A	Habitat lacking.
Western ridged mussel	<i>Gonidea angulata</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Cold creeks, rivers, and lakes from low to mid-elevations with well-oxygenated substrates.	A	Habitat lacking; ephemeral drainages in the BSA do not hold water long enough to support this species.
Amphibians					
California red-legged frog	<i>Rana draytonii</i>	FT/--/SSC	Slow-moving streams, ponds, and marshes for breeding; burrows for upland refuge.	A	Habitat lacking; pond in the BSA is disturbed and in a residential area, no suitable burrows for upland refuge. No species occurrences within 5 miles.
California tiger salamander	<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	FT/ST/--	Vernal pools or other seasonal water sources for breeding; underground refuges for non-breeding.	A	Habitat lacking; pond in the BSA is disturbed and in a residential area, no suitable burrows for upland refuge. No species occurrences within 5 miles.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status ¹ Federal/State/ CNNDB	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present/ Absent ²	Rationale
Foothill yellow-legged frog – South Sierra DPS	<i>Rana boylei</i>	FC/SE/--	Rocky streams and rivers with open sunny banks in forests, chaparral, and woodlands.	A	Habitat lacking; ephemeral drainages in the BSA do not hold water long enough to support this species.
Western spadefoot	<i>Spea hammondi</i>	--/--/SSC	Rain pools for breeding and small mammal burrows or other suitable refugia for nonbreeding upland cover.	A	Habitat lacking; pond in the BSA is disturbed and in a residential area, no suitable burrows for upland refuge. No species occurrences within 5 miles.
Reptiles					
Northwestern pond turtle	<i>Actinemys marmorata</i>	--/--/SSC	Ponds, rivers, marshes, streams, and irrigation ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation. Need basking sites and suitable upland habitat for egg laying.	HP	Nearby pond and North Fork Willow Creek provide potential aquatic habitat. Sandy soils in ephemeral drainages and riparian forest provide potential upland habitat for egg laying.
Birds					
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	--/SE/FP	Large, old-growth trees or snags near water.	A	Habitat lacking.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status ¹ Federal/State/ CNNDB	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present/ Absent ²	Rationale
California condor	<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>	FE/SE/--	Mountain and foothill rangeland with cliffs for nesting and grassland and open woodland for foraging.	A	Habitat lacking.
California spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis occidentalis</i>	FC/--/SSC	Dense old-growth, multi-layered forest stands with large trees and snags.	A	Habitat lacking.
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	--/--/FP	Cliffs or large trees in open areas for nesting; open grassland, desert, savannah, or early-succession forest for foraging.	A	Habitat lacking.
Great gray owl	<i>Strix nebulosa</i>	--/SE/--	Meadows or meadow edges in conifer forests. Requires snags and high canopy closure.	A	Habitat lacking.
Prairie falcon	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Cliff ledges for nesting and open areas for foraging.	A	Habitat lacking.
Mammals					
American badger	<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	--/--/SSC	Grassland and upland scrub.	A	Habitat lacking.
Fisher – Southern Sierra Nevada DPS	<i>Pekania pennanti</i>	FE/ST/--	Large areas of mature, dense forest stands with snags and greater than 50% canopy closure at 4000–9000 feet elevation.	A	Habitat lacking.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status ¹ Federal/State/ CNNDDB	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present/ Absent ²	Rationale
Long-eared myotis	<i>Myotis evotis</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Buildings, rock crevices, loose tree bark, and snags for roosting. A wide variety of habitats, primarily woodlands and conifer forests for foraging.	HP	Trees and snags in the BSA may provide roosting habitat, and woodlands may provide foraging habitat. No records from within 5 miles.
Long-legged myotis	<i>Myotis volans</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Rock crevices, buildings, loose tree bark, snags, mines, and caves for roosting. Over water, close to trees and cliffs, and woodland and forest openings for foraging.	HP	Trees and snags in the BSA may provide roosting habitat, and openings in woodland and forest may provide foraging habitat. No records from within 5 miles.
North American porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Montane conifer, Douglas-fir, alpine dwarf-shrub, and wet meadow habitats	A	Habitat lacking.
Pallid bat	<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	--/--/SSC	Rock crevices, cliffs, buildings, and hollow trees for roosting; open habitats near the ground for foraging.	HP	Trees and snags in the BSA may provide roosting habitat, and open area may provide foraging habitat. No records from within 5 miles.
Sierra Nevada red fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes necator</i>	FC/ST/--	Dense vegetation and rocky areas for cover; den sites in forested areas interspersed with meadows.	A	Habitat lacking.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status ¹ Federal/State/ CNNDDB	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present/ Absent ²	Rationale
Spotted bat	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	--/--/SSC	Rock crevices, caves, and buildings for roosting; areas over water for foraging.	A	Habitat lacking.
Western mastiff bat	<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>	--/--/SSC	Crevices in trees, cliff faces, tunnels, or high buildings for roosting; open forests, woodlands, grasslands, and agricultural lands for foraging.	HP	Trees and snags in the BSA may provide roosting habitat, and open areas may provide foraging habitat. No records from within 5 miles.
Yuma myotis	<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	--/--/CNDDDB	Roosts in buildings, mines, caves, or crevices; aerial insectivore, often foraging over water sources.	A	Habitat lacking.

Status¹:

FC = Federal candidate for listing

FE = Federally listed as Endangered

FT = Federally listed as Threatened

FP = Fully Protected

SC = State candidate for listing

SE = State-listed as Endangered

SSC = State Species of Special Concern

ST = State-listed as Threatened

CNDDDB = Recognized by the CNDDDB, other state or federal agencies, or conservation groups as rare or imperiled but with no formal listing status.

Potential to Occur²

A – Absent. No habitat present and no further work needed.

HP – Habitat Present. Habitat is, or may be present.

HP/SA – Habitat Present/Species Absent; Site conditions consistent with suitable habitat but the species is not expected to occur.

P – Present. the species is present.

Table 2. Special-Status Plant Species Known from the Region Containing the BSA.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status ¹ Federal/State/ CNPS	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present/ Absent ²	Rationale
Abram's onion	<i>Allium abramsii</i>	--/--/1B.2	Sandy, decomposed granite soils in conifer forests; 3200–10,000 feet elevation. Flowers May-July.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Arizona pholistoma	<i>Pholistoma auritum</i> var. <i>arizonicum</i>	--/--/2B.3	Desert scrub at 984–2297 feet elevation. March-April.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop	<i>Gratiola heterosepala</i>	--/SE/1B.2	Shallow water margins of vernal pools. Flowers April-August.	A	Habitat lacking.
Bolander's bruchia	<i>Bruchia bolanderi</i>	--/--/4.2	Damp clay soils along streambanks, meadows, fens, and springs in conifer forests.	A	Habitat lacking.
Brassy bryum	<i>Bryum chryseum</i>	--/--/4.3	Chaparral openings, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland.	HP/SA	Cismontane woodland is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to cismontane woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.

Brook pocket moss	<i>Fissidens aphelotaxifolius</i>	--/--/2B.2	Rocks in stream channels, waterfalls, and splash zones within conifer forests.	A	Habitat lacking.
Coleman's rein orchid	<i>Piperia colemanii</i>	--/--/4.3	Open conifer forest and scrub at 4265–6562 feet elevation. Flowers June-August.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Cut-leaved monkeyflower	<i>Erythranthe laciniata</i>	--/--/4.3	Seeps on granite outcrops below 2953 feet elevation. Flowers April-August.	A	Habitat lacking.
Ewan's larkspur	<i>Delphinium hansenii</i> subsp. <i>ewanianum</i>	--/--/4.2	Cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland. Flowers March-May.	HP/SA	Cismontane woodland is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to cismontane woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.
Fresno ceanothus	<i>Ceanothus fresnensis</i>	--/--/4.3	Cismontane woodland openings, lower montane conifer forest. Flowers May-July.	HP/SA	Cismontane woodland is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to cismontane woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.

Grey-leaved violet	<i>Viola pinetorum</i> <i>var. grisea</i>	--/--/1B.3	Dry mountain peaks and slopes in alpine zone; 6500–12,100 feet elevation. Flowers June-July.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Hall's wyethia	<i>Wyethia elata</i>	--/--/4.3	Cismontane woodland, lower montane conifer forest. Flowers May-August.	HP/SA	Cismontane woodland is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to cismontane woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.
Hartweg's golden sunburst	<i>Pseudobahia bahiifolia</i>	FE/SE/1B.1	Grassland and woodland with clay soil. Flowers March-April.	A	Habitat lacking.
Hoary navarretia	<i>Navarretia eriocephala</i>	--/--/4.3	Heavy soil of seasonally wet flats below 1312 feet elevation. Flowers May-June.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Hoover's cryptantha	<i>Cryptantha hooveri</i>	--/--/1A	Grasslands and inland dunes with coarse sandy soil; 30–500 feet elevation. Flowers April-May.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Jepson's dodder	<i>Cuscuta jepsonii</i>	--/--/1.2	On <i>Ceanothus diversifolius</i> and <i>Ceanothus prostratus</i> at 3900–7550 feet elevation. Flowers July-September.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.

Kettle Dome buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum prattenianum</i> var. <i>avium</i>	--/--/4.2	Granitic outcrops at 3280–9514 feet elevation. Flowers July-August.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Kings River monkeyflower	<i>Erythranthe acutidens</i>	--/--/3.0	Near hillside streams and seeps in partial shade. Flowers April-July.	A	Habitat lacking.
Madera leptosiphon	<i>Leptosiphon serrulatus</i>	--/--/1B.2	Dry slopes of decomposed granite in woodlands and yellow-pine forests. Flowers April-May.	HP/SA	Decomposed granite in woodland and yellow pine forest is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to woodland or yellow pine forest are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.
Mariposa pussypaws	<i>Calyptridium pulchellum</i>	FT/--/1B.1	Exposed areas of chaparral and woodlands with decomposed granite, metamorphic, or sandy soils; 1300–4000 feet elevation. Flowers April-August.	HP/SA	Decomposed granite in woodland is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.

Orange lupine	<i>Lupinus citrinus</i> <i>var. citrinus</i>	--/--/1B.2	Granitic soils in rocky, open areas with flat to rolling terrain in yellow-pine forests. Flowers April-July.	HP/SA	Granitic soils in open, yellow pine forest is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to yellow pine forest are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.
Oval-leaved viburnum	<i>Viburnum ellipticum</i>	--/--/2B.3	Generally north-facing slopes of chaparral and conifer forests; 700–4600 feet elevation. Flowers May-June.	A	Habitat unsuitable.
Rawson's flaming trumpet	<i>Collomia rawsoniana</i>	--/--/1B.2	Stabilized alluvium in riparian forests, conifer forests, meadows, or seeps; 2500–6800 feet elevation. Flowers July-August.	A	Riparian forest is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to riparian forest are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.
San Joaquin Valley Orcutt grass	<i>Orcuttia inaequalis</i>	FT/SE/1B.1	Vernal pools. Flowers April-September.	A	Habitat lacking.

Short-bracted bird's beak	<i>Cordylanthus rigidus</i> ssp. <i>brevibracteatus</i>	--/--/4.3	Granitic openings in upper and lower montane conifer forest, piñon-juniper woodland, and sagebrush scrub. Flowers July-August.	A	Habitat lacking.
Short-leaved hulsea	<i>Hulsea brevifolia</i>	--/--/1B.2	Forest openings and road cuts with granitic or volcanic soils in conifer forests; 4900–10,500 feet elevation. Flowers May-August.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Shuteye Peak fawn lily	<i>Erythronium pluriflorum</i>	--/--/1B.3	Meadows and granitic rocky outcrops and slopes in conifer forests. Flowers May-July.	A	Habitat lacking.
Sierra Nevada monkeyflower	<i>Erythranthe sierrae</i>	--/--/4.2	Granitic, sandy, or gravelly soils of vernal wet depressions and stream banks. Flowers March-July.	A	Habitat lacking.
Slender-stalked monkeyflower	<i>Erythranthe gracilipes</i>	--/--/1B.2	Disturbed places with granitic soil in chaparral, woodland, and conifer forest. Flowers April-June.	HP/SA	Disturbed places with granitic soil in woodland are present in the BSA, but habitat is marginal. No impacts to woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.

Small-flowered monkeyflower	<i>Erythranthe inconspicua</i>	--/--/4.3	Near hillside streams and seeps in partial shade within chaparral, cismontane woodland, or lower montane conifer forest. Flowers May-July.	A	Habitat lacking.
Southern Sierra woolly sunflower	<i>Eriophyllum lanatum</i> var. <i>obovatum</i>	--/--/4.3	Open conifer forest at 4265–8202 feet elevation. Flowers June-July.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Spiny-sepaled button-celery	<i>Eryngium spinosepalum</i>	--/--/1B.2	Vernal pools, swales, or roadside ditches. Flowers April-May.	A	Habitat lacking.
Streambank spring beauty	<i>Claytonia parviflora</i> subsp. <i>grandiflora</i>	--/--/4.2	Cismontane woodland with rocky microhabitats. Flowers February-April.	HP/SA	Cismontane woodland is present in the BSA but is habitat is marginal. No impacts to woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.
Subalpine fireweed	<i>Epilobium howellii</i>	--/--/4.3	Wet meadows and mossy seeps in conifer forests; 6500–10,200 feet elevation. Flowers July-August.	A	Project site outside known elevation range.
Succulent owl's clover	<i>Castilleja campestris</i> subsp. <i>succulenta</i>	FT/SE/1B.2	Vernal pools. Flowers April-May.	A	Habitat lacking.

Three-ranked hump moss	<i>Meesia triquetra</i>	--/--/4.2	Bogs, fens, meadows, and seeps in subalpine and upper montane conifer forest. Flowers in July.	A	Habitat lacking.
Tracy's eriastrum	<i>Eriastrum tracyi</i>	--/SR/3.2	Open areas with gravelly shale or clay soils in chaparral, woodlands, or grassland communities; 1030–7900 feet elevation. Flowers June-July.	A	Habitat lacking.
Tree-anemone	<i>Carpenteria californica</i>	--/ST/1B.2	Localized endemic; well-drained granitic soils in north-facing ravines and drainages within montane woodland or chaparral; 1100–4400 feet elevation. Flowers May-July.	A	Habitat lacking.
Western waterfan lichen	<i>Peltigera gowardii</i>	--/--/4.2	Rocky areas in cold water creeks with little or no sediment or disturbance within riparian forests.	A	Habitat lacking.
Wine-colored tufa moss	<i>Plagiobryoides vinosula</i>	--/--/4.2	Cismontane woodland, Mojave Desert scrub, meadows and seeps, Piñon-juniper, and riparian woodlands, usually with granitic rock or soils.	HP/SA	Cismontane woodland is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to cismontane woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.

Yosemite evening-primrose	<i>Camissonia sierrae</i> subsp. <i>sierrae</i>	--/--/4.3	Cismontane woodland, lower montane conifer forest. Flowers April-June.	HP/SA	Cismontane woodland is present in the BSA but is highly disturbed. No impacts to cismontane woodland are anticipated. Not detected during the 4/12/2023 site assessment, and this species is not expected to occur.
Yosemite tarplant	<i>Jensia yosemitana</i>	--/--/3.2	Meadows and seeps in lower montane conifer forest. Flowers May-July.	A	Habitat lacking.

Status¹:

FE = Federally listed as Endangered
 FT = Federally listed as Threatened
 FP = Fully Protected
 SE = State-listed as Endangered
 SR = State Rare
 ST = State-listed as Threatened

CNPS California Rare Plant Rank:

1A – plants extirpated in California and rare or extinct elsewhere.
 1B – plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.
 2B – plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere.
 3 – plants about which more information is needed
 4 – plants with limited distribution in California.

Potential to Occur²

A – Absent. No habitat present and no further work needed.
 HP/SA – Habitat Present/Species Absent
 HP – Habitat Present. Habitat is, or may be present.
 P – Present. the species is present.

Threat Ranks:

0.1 – seriously threatened in California (> 80% of occurrences).
 0.2 – moderately threatened in California (20-80% of occurrences).
 0.3 – not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences).

4 - Results: Biological Resources, Discussion of Impacts, & Mitigation

4.1 Habitats and Natural Communities of Special Concern

4.1.1 Essential Fish Habitat

Survey Results

No marine or estuarine fishery resources or migratory routes to and from anadromous fish spawning grounds are present in the BSA. In addition, no EFH, defined by the Magnuson-Stevens Act as those resources necessary for fish spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity, are present in the BSA. Further, review of the NOAA Essential Fish Habitat Mapper indicates that no EFH has been designated near the Project site (NOAA 2023).

Project Impacts

No EFH is present in or near the BSA; no direct or indirect impacts to EFH are anticipated.

4.1.2 Riparian Corridor

Survey Results

Riparian forest touches the edges of the BSA. North Fork Willow Creek and the associated riparian forest, which extends laterally about 30 feet from North Fork Willow Creek, serve as a potential movement corridor for wildlife. The riparian corridor connects undisturbed oak and pine forest upstream and downstream of North Fork and provides uninterrupted cover for wildlife moving through the community. The dense understory of the riparian forest provides cover for herpetofauna and small mammals. The multi-layered canopy and diverse vegetation provide nesting and foraging habitat for migratory birds.

Project Impacts

Although riparian forest touches the eastern edge of the western section of the BSA and the western edge of the eastern section of the BSA, the Project site is more than 40 feet from the riparian corridor. No direct impacts to the riparian corridor are anticipated. The Project could indirectly affect the riparian corridor through sedimentation, however, if construction-related runoff is allowed to flow downslope.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

To avoid or minimize indirect impacts to the riparian corridor, construction should occur during dry conditions. In addition, Caltrans' standard Best Management Practices (BMPs), including

erosion and dust control measures, should be implemented during Project construction to minimize impacts on downstream water quality.

4.1.3 Jurisdictional Wetlands or Waters of the United States and State

Survey Results

The BSA contained two ephemeral streams and a freshwater pond. The ephemeral streams drain into North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial tributary of the San Joaquin River, and may be under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW, SWRCB, and USACE. The freshwater pond is isolated and may be under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW and SWRCB.

Project Impacts

The freshwater pond is in the BSA but is upslope of the Project site and more than 30 feet from proposed construction activities; no impacts are anticipated. Construction of the proposed bike path may directly impact the ephemeral drainages. Additionally, the ephemeral drainages carry flows into North Fork Willow Creek. The Project could indirectly affect the ephemeral drainages and North Fork Willow Creek if construction-related runoff is allowed to flow down slope.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

If the Project will directly impact the ephemeral drainages, further consultation with the CDFW, SWRCB, and USACE will be required. To avoid or minimize indirect impacts to North Fork Willow Creek, construction should occur during dry conditions. In addition, Caltrans' standard BMPs, including erosion and dust control measures, should be implemented during Project construction to minimize impacts on downstream water quality.

4.1.4 Wild and Scenic Rivers

Survey Results

The nearest stretch of river designated as Wild and Scenic is along the Merced River, about 30 miles northwest of the Project site (USFWS 2023b). The San Joaquin River, with no Wild and Scenic designation, is about 5.5 miles south of the Project site.

Project Impacts

No impacts to Wild and Scenic rivers are anticipated.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

Because no Wild and Scenic rivers will be impacted, no Avoidance and Minimization Efforts or Compensatory Mitigation are warranted.

4.1.5 Floodplain Management

Survey Results

The Project site is not within a 100-year flood plain (Federal Emergency Management Agency 2023). The nearest floodplains are approximately 5 miles southwest of the Project site along Little Fine Gold Creek and approximately 5.5 miles south along the San Joaquin River.

Project Impacts

No impacts to any 100-year flood plains are anticipated.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

Because no 100-year flood plains will be impacted, no Avoidance and Minimization Efforts or Compensatory Mitigation are warranted.

4.2 Special-Status Plant Species

Survey results

Searching the USFWS, CNDDDB, and CNPS databases yielded 44 plant species (CNDDDB, CNPS, USFWS 2023, Appendix B and C), 20 of which have a CNPS California Rare Plant Rank of 1 or 2 (Table 2). None of those species are expected to occur on or near the Project site due to (1) lack of habitat, (2) the Project site being outside the current range of the species, or (3) lack of detection during the 12 April 2023 field survey (Table 1)..

Project Impacts

The Project is not anticipated to impact special-status plant species.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

Because no special-status plant species will be impacted, no Avoidance and Minimization Efforts or Compensatory Mitigation are warranted.

4.3 Special-Status Animal Species

Survey Results

The USFWS species list for the Project site included eight species listed as threatened, endangered, or candidate under the FESA (USFWS 2023a, Tables 1 and 2, Appendix B). Of those eight species, none are expected to occur on or near the Project site due to (1) the lack of habitat, (2) the Project site being outside the current range of the species, or (3) the presence of development that would otherwise preclude occurrence (Table 1). As identified in the species list, the Project site does not occur in USFWS-designated or proposed critical habitat for any species (USFWS 2023a, Appendix B).

Searching the CNDDDB for records of special-status species from the North Fork 7.5-minute USGS topographic quad and the eight surrounding quads produced 246 records of 53 species (Tables 1 and 2, Appendix C). Of those 53 species, 10 are known from within 5 miles of the Project site (Figure 5). Of those species, only the CDFW-designated species of special concern northwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) could occur on or near the Project site (Tables 1 and 2). In addition, the CDFW-designated species of special concern pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) and western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), as well as long-eared myotis (*Myotis evotis*) and long-legged myotis (*Myotis volans*), which lack such designation, were identified in the nine-quad search and could occur on or near the Project site (Table 1).

Project Impacts

Potential Project related impacts are considered below.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

Potential avoidance and minimization and compensatory mitigation efforts for special-status animal species are considered below.

4.3.1 Northwestern Pond Turtle

Survey Results

There are three species occurrence records of northwestern pond turtle from within 5 miles of the BSA. The nearest is a 2017 CNDDDB occurrence record in North Fork Willow Creek approximately 0.3 miles from the BSA. North Fork Willow Creek and the freshwater pond in the BSA may provide aquatic habitat for northwestern pond turtle. Sandy soils within the ephemeral drainages and along the banks of North Fork Willow Creek provide potential upland nesting habitat. No northwestern pond turtles were observed during the 12 April 2023 survey.

Project Impacts

The Project could adversely affect northwestern pond turtle that could occur on or near the Project site. Although no impacts to aquatic habitat are anticipated, project activities may impact potential upland nesting habitat for northwestern pond turtle. Construction activities such as excavating, trenching, or using other heavy equipment that disturbs or harms northwestern pond turtle could constitute a significant impact. Avoidance and minimization measures would reduce the potential impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

We recommend that the below mitigation measures be included in the conditions of approval to reduce the potential impacts to a less-than-significant level.

A pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that northwestern pond turtle will not be impacted during Project construction. The pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of construction activities. During this survey, the qualified biologist shall search all aquatic habitat for turtles and all potential nesting habitat on the Project site for active turtle nests. If a turtle is found, it will be allowed to leave the area on its own. If an active turtle nest is found, the qualified biologist shall determine the extent of a construction-free buffer to be established and maintained around the nest for the duration of the nesting cycle. The biologist shall then work with construction personnel to install wildlife exclusion fencing along the buffer. This fencing should be a minimum of 36 inches tall and towed-in 6 inches below ground prior to construction activities. If fencing cannot be toed-in, the bottom of the fence will be weighed down with a continuous line of long, narrow sandbags (or similar items) to ensure there are no gaps under the fencing where wildlife could enter. One-way exit funnels directed away from construction activities will be installed to allow turtles and other small wildlife to exit the fenced enclosure.

4.3.2 Bat Species

Survey Results

The BSA could serve as foraging habitat for long-eared myotis, long-legged myotis, pallid bat, and western mastiff bat.

Project Impacts

No trees will be removed or permanently altered during the course of the Project, and no impacts to the aerial foraging habitat of the bats are expected. As a result, the Project is not anticipated to impact special-status bat species.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

Because no habitat that could potentially support bats will be impacted, no Avoidance and Minimization Efforts or Compensatory Mitigation are warranted.

4.4 Nonnative Invasive Species

Survey Results

A total of eleven invasive plants identified under the Cal-IPC Invasive Plant Inventory were observed in the BSA (Cal-IPC 2023, Appendix C). These species include Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) recognized by Cal-IPC as a high-impact species; greater periwinkle (*Vinca major*), Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), annual dogtail (*Cynosurus echinatus*), Italian rye grass (*Festuca perennis*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), and slender oat (*Avena barbata*), recognized by Cal-IPC as moderate-impact species; and California burclover (*Medicago polymorpha*), rose clover (*Trifolium hirtum*), redstem stork's bill (*Erodium cicutarium*), and English plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) recognized as limited-impact species.

Project Impacts

Ground-disturbing activities associated with the Project have the potential to spread seeds or other biological material capable of propagating invasive plant species.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

To avoid or minimize the spread of nonnative plant material, (1) soil and vegetation disturbance should be minimized to the extent feasible; (2) soil, gravel, rock, or other construction materials should be obtained from weed-free sources; (3) certified weed-free straw, mulch, and/or fiber rolls should be used for erosion control; and (4) any invasive species disturbed or removed during construction activities should be contained and disposed of in a manner that will not promote the spread of invasive species.

4.5 Migratory Birds

Survey Results

Migratory bird species observed in the BSA during the reconnaissance survey included California scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and spotted towhee

(*Pipilo maculatus*) (Appendix D). These species and others are expected to nest on or near the Project site.

Project Impacts

Construction disturbance during the breeding season (February through August) could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings or otherwise lead to nest abandonment.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts/Compensatory Mitigation

We recommend that the below mitigation measures be included in the conditions of approval to reduce the potential impacts to a less-than-significant level.

To the extent practicable, construction shall be scheduled to avoid the nesting season, which extends from February through August.

If it is not possible to schedule construction between September and January, pre-construction surveys for nesting birds shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no active nests will be disturbed during the implementation of the Project. A pre-construction survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the initiation of construction activities. During this survey, the qualified biologist shall inspect all potential nest substrates in and immediately adjacent to the impact areas. If an active nest is found close enough to the construction area to be disturbed by these activities, the qualified biologist shall determine the extent of a construction-free buffer to be established around the nest. If work cannot proceed without disturbing the nesting birds, work may need to be halted or redirected to other areas until nesting and fledging are completed or the nest has otherwise failed for non-construction related reasons.

5 - Conclusions & Regulatory Determination

5.1 Federal Endangered Species Act Consultation Summary

An official species list of federally designated special-status species with potential to occur near the Project site was generated on 29 March 2023 (USFWS 2023a, Appendix B). This list included eight species: California condor, California red-legged frog, California spotted owl, California tiger salamander, Conservancy fairy shrimp, fisher, monarch butterfly, and vernal pool fairy shrimp. Habitat within the Project site and BSA was evaluated during a field reconnaissance survey, and it was determined that no habitat is present that could support these species. This Project is located outside of NOAA Fisheries jurisdiction; therefore, a NOAA Fisheries species list is not required and no effects to NOAA Fisheries species are anticipated.

5.2 California Endangered Species Act

The Project will have no effect on the following state-listed plant and animal species, since no habitats for these species occur on the Project site or in the BSA, the species weren't observed in the BSA, and no direct impacts to these species or their habitats will occur as a result of the Project: bald eagle, Boggs lake hedge-hyssop, California tiger salamander, Crotch bumblebee, foothill yellow-legged frog, great gray owl, golden eagle, Hartweg's golden sunburst, San Joaquin Valley Orcutt grass, Sierra Nevada red fox, succulent owl's clover, and tree-anemone.

5.3 Regulated Habitats

5.3.1 Essential Fish Habitat Consultation Summary

Due to the absence of EFH on or near the Project site and in or near the BSA, no consultation is warranted.

5.3.2 Wetlands and Other Waters Coordination Summary

The BSA contained two ephemeral streams and a freshwater pond. The ephemeral streams drain into North Fork Willow Creek, a perennial tributary of the San Joaquin River, and may be under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW, RWQCB, and USACE. If Project activities will impact the ephemeral drainages, a Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, Section 401 Water Quality Certification, WDR permit, or a Section 404 permit may be required. The freshwater pond is isolated and may be under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CDFW and RWQCB, however, impacts to the freshwater pond are not anticipated. Additionally, indirect effects to North Fork Willow Creek are possible but can be avoided by implementing BMPs and working during dry periods.

5.3.3 Invasive Species

The Project could cause the spread of nonnative invasive plant species. Any such impacts can be avoided or minimized by implementing the measures identified in Section 4.4.

5.3.4 Wild and Scenic Rivers

Due to the absence of designated Wild and Scenic rivers in or near the Project site and BSA, no consultation is warranted.

5.3.5 Floodplain Management

Due to the absence of a 100-year flood plain in or near the Project area and BSA, no consultation is warranted.

5.4 Migratory Birds

If construction occurs during the nesting bird season (February through August), impacts to nesting migratory birds could occur. Impacts to nesting birds can be avoided or minimized by surveying for active bird nests, implementing construction-free buffers if a nest is found, or halting or stopping work if work cannot proceed without disturbing nesting birds.

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Appendix A. Reconnaissance survey photos.



Figure A-1. Photo of the western end of the Project site, facing east along Road 225.



Figure A-2. Photo of the Project site, facing west along Road 225 towards North Fork Willow Creek.



Figure A-3. Photo of the Project site, facing west from the intersection of Road 225 and Road 228.



Figure A-4. Photo of the Project site, facing south from the intersection of Road 225 and Road 228.



Figure A-5. Photo of North Fork Willow Creek and associated riparian forest, facing east from Road 225.



Figure A-6. Photo of an ephemeral drainage in the western section of the BSA, facing north.



Figure A-7. Photo of an ephemeral drainage crossing the western section of the BSA, facing northwest (downstream).



Figure A-8. Photo of a freshwater pond in the western section of the BSA, facing south.

Appendix B. Official list of threatened and endangered species and critical habitats.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2023-0062274
Project Name: North Fork Bicycle Path Project

March 29, 2023

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2))

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations.php>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/executive-orders/e0-13186.php>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office

Federal Building

2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605

Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

(916) 414-6600

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0062274

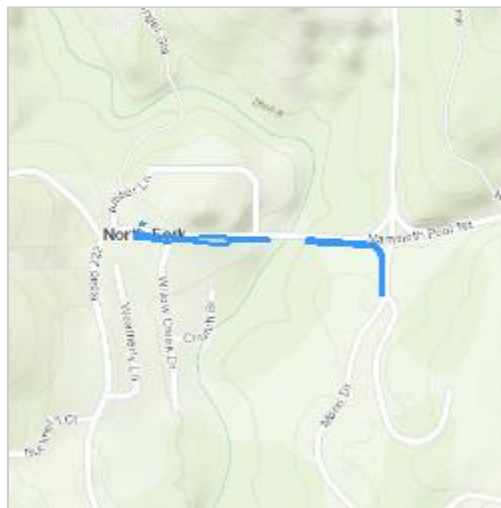
Project Name: North Fork Bicycle Path Project

Project Type: Recreation - New Construction

Project Description: The Madera County Public Works Department proposes to construct a bicycle and pedestrian path project in North Fork, Madera County, California. The project will involve constructing an approximately 1560-foot concrete bicycle and pedestrian path. The path will extend from Willow Creek Drive east on Road 225 to 120 feet west of North Fork Willow Creek. The path will continue east on Road 225 from 80 feet east of North Fork Willow Creek to Road 228, then south on Road 228 to a school bus parking lot.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@37.229287799999994,-119.50754054887017,14z>



Counties: Madera County, California

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 8 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Fisher <i>Pekania pennanti</i> Population: SSN DPS There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3651	Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
California Condor <i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> Population: U.S.A. only, except where listed as an experimental population There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193	Endangered
California Spotted Owl <i>Strix occidentalis occidentalis</i> Population: Sierra Nevada No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7266	Proposed Threatened

AMPHIBIANS

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891	Threatened
California Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> Population: U.S.A. (Central CA DPS) There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRUSTACEANS

NAME	STATUS
Conservancy Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta conservatio</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8246	Endangered
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498	Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Colibri Ecological Services
Name: Ryan Slezak
Address: 9493 N Ft Washington Rd
City: Fresno
State: CA
Zip: 93730
Email: rslezak@colibri-ecology.com
Phone: 5592426178

Appendix C. CNDDDB occurrence records.



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria: Quad< IS > (Auberry (3711914)< OR > Millerton Lake East (3711915)< OR > Millerton Lake West (3711916)< OR > Cascadel Point (3711924)< OR > North Fork (3711925)< OR > Bass Lake (3711935)< OR > Shuteye Peak (3711934)< OR > O'Neals (3711926)< OR > Ahwahnee (3711936))

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Allium abramsii</i> Abrams' onion	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	3,660 5,500	22 S:6	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	2	6	0	0
<i>Ambystoma californiense pop. 1</i> California tiger salamander - central California DPS	G2G3T3 S3	Threatened Threatened	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	471 1,453	1271 S:20	3	3	6	0	1	7	5	15	19	1	0
<i>Andrena macswaini</i> An andrenid bee	G2 S2	None None		1,280 2,150	7 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> pallid bat	G4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	1,360 1,360	420 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> golden eagle	G5 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	2,400 2,400	325 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Bombus crotchii</i> Crotch bumble bee	G2 S2	None Candidate Endangered	IUCN_EN-Endangered	700 2,000	437 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> vernal pool fairy shrimp	G3 S3	Threatened None	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	476 2,340	796 S:6	1	1	0	0	0	4	1	5	6	0	0
<i>Bruchia bolanderi</i> Bolander's bruchia	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 4.2 USFS_S-Sensitive	6,300 6,300	28 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Calasellus longus</i> An isopod	G1 S1	None None		5,370 5,370	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Calicina mesaensis</i> Table Mountain harvestman	G1 S1	None None		760 760	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Calyptridium pulchellum</i> Mariposa pussypaws	G1 S1	Threatened None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1	2,300 3,690	9 S:7	0	3	4	0	0	0	3	4	7	0	0
<i>Carpenteria californica</i> tree-anemone	G1? S1?	None Threatened	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_UCBG-UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley USFS_S-Sensitive	1,100 3,920	13 S:8	1	4	1	0	1	1	5	3	7	0	1
<i>Castilleja campestris var. succulenta</i> succulent owl's-clover	G4?T2T3 S2S3	Threatened Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	430 2,300	99 S:8	3	1	0	1	0	3	7	1	8	0	0
<i>Central Valley Drainage Hardhead/Squawfish Stream</i> Central Valley Drainage Hardhead/Squawfish Stream	GNR SNR	None None		1,080 1,200	11 S:2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0
<i>Central Valley Drainage Rainbow Trout/Cyprinid Stream</i> Central Valley Drainage Rainbow Trout/Cyprinid Stream	GNR SNR	None None		2,400 2,400	2 S:1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Central Valley Drainage Resident Rainbow Trout Stream</i> Central Valley Drainage Resident Rainbow Trout Stream	GNR SNR	None None		3,600 3,600	5 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Chrysis tularensis</i> Tulare cuckoo wasp	G1G2 S2	None None		3,290 3,290	5 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Collomia rawsoniana</i> Rawson's flaming trumpet	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	2,560 6,400	24 S:18	2	5	1	0	0	10	13	5	18	0	0
<i>Cryptantha hooveri</i> Hoover's cryptantha	GH SH	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1A	1,200 1,200	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
<i>Cuscuta jepsonii</i> Jepson's dodder	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	3,570 3,570	28 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database



Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i> valley elderberry longhorn beetle	G3T2T3 S3	Threatened None		1,160 2,800	271 S:9	2	3	1	1	0	2	8	1	9	0	0
<i>Emys marmorata</i> western pond turtle	G3G4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	1,000 4,100	1424 S:17	2	3	3	2	0	7	11	6	17	0	0
<i>Epilobium howellii</i> subalpine fireweed	G4 S4	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 4.3	6,500 6,635	99 S:3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0
<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i> North American porcupine	G5 S3	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern	3,309 5,301	523 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0
<i>Eriastrum tracyi</i> Tracy's eriastrum	G3Q S3	None Rare	Rare Plant Rank - 3.2 USFS_S-Sensitive	3,708 3,708	119 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
<i>Eryngium spinosepalum</i> spiny-sepaled button-celery	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	1,800 1,800	108 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
<i>Erythranthe gracilipes</i> slender-stalked monkeyflower	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	2,280 4,200	13 S:5	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	5	0	0
<i>Erythronium pluriflorum</i> Shuteye Peak fawn lily	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	7,260 8,000	6 S:3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	0
<i>Euderma maculatum</i> spotted bat	G4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	500 500	68 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat	G4G5T4 S3S4	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	700 2,000	296 S:6	0	0	1	0	0	5	6	0	6	0	0
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> prairie falcon	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	2,100 2,100	451 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Fissidens aphelotaxifolius</i> brook pocket moss	G3G4 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 USFS_S-Sensitive	6,400 6,400	2 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
<i>Gonidea angulata</i> western ridged mussel	G3 S2	None None	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	563 563	157 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Gratiola heterosepala</i> Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop	G2 S2	None Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive	1,800 2,414	99 S:6	2	0	1	0	0	3	5	1	6	0	0
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> bald eagle	G5 S3	Delisted Endangered	BLM_S-Sensitive CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	1,430 3,600	332 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0
<i>Hulsea brevifolia</i> short-leaved hulsea	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	6,758 6,800	64 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0
<i>Hydroporus leechi</i> Leech's skyline diving beetle	G1? S2S3	None None		3,437 3,437	13 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Lepidurus packardii</i> vernal pool tadpole shrimp	G4 S3	Endangered None	IUCN_EN-Endangered	1,980 1,980	329 S:1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
<i>Leptosiphon serrulatus</i> Madera leptosiphon	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	600 1,800	27 S:7	0	1	0	0	0	6	6	1	7	0	0
<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i> California linderiella	G2G3 S2S3	None None	IUCN_NT-Near Threatened	1,940 1,940	508 S:1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Lupinus citrinus var. citrinus</i> orange lupine	G2T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	1,250 5,020	57 S:33	2	6	9	3	0	13	27	6	33	0	0
<i>Lytta molesta</i> molestan blister beetle	G2 S2	None None		1,740 2,200	17 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Myotis evotis</i> long-eared myotis	G5 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	2,022 2,022	139 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Myotis volans</i> long-legged myotis	G4G5 S3	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern	2,026 2,026	117 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Myotis yumanensis</i> Yuma myotis	G5 S4	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	2,026 2,026	265 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Northern Basalt Flow Vernal Pool</i> Northern Basalt Flow Vernal Pool	G3 S2.2	None None		1,400 1,900	28 S:4	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	4	0	0
<i>Oravelia pege</i> Dry Creek cliff strider bug	G1 S1	None None		1,600 1,600	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Orcuttia inaequalis</i> San Joaquin Valley Orcutt grass	G1 S1	Threatened Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1	1,850 2,475	47 S:2	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0
<i>Peltigera gowardii</i> western waterfan lichen	G4? S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 4.2 USFS_S-Sensitive	4,900 5,800	26 S:5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0
<i>Pseudobahia bahiifolia</i> Hartweg's golden sunburst	G1 S1	Endangered Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	450 500	27 S:2	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
<i>Rana boylei pop. 5</i> foothill yellow-legged frog - south Sierra DPS	G3T2 S2	Proposed Endangered Endangered	BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	1,169 3,370	271 S:12	0	1	1	0	6	4	9	3	6	2	4
<i>Spea hammondi</i> western spadefoot	G2G3 S3S4	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_NT-Near Threatened	430 1,380	1425 S:18	0	3	1	0	0	14	3	15	18	0	0
<i>Strix nebulosa</i> great gray owl	G5 S1	None Endangered	CDF_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	4,720 4,720	79 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	1,200 1,200	594 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database



Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Viburnum ellipticum</i> oval-leaved viburnum	G4G5 S3?	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	3,300 3,520	39 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
<i>Viola pinetorum ssp. grisea</i> grey-leaved violet	G4G5T3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_CalBG/RSABG- California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden		90 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Vulpes vulpes necator pop. 2</i> Sierra Nevada red fox - Sierra Nevada DPS	G5TNR S1	Endangered Threatened	USFS_S-Sensitive	3,000 3,500	102 S:3	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	3	0

Appendix D. Plant and animal species observed during the reconnaissance survey.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Plants		
Family Agavaceae		
Wavyleaf soap plant	<i>Chlorogalum pomeridianum</i>	Native
Family Apocynaceae		
Greater periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	Cal-IPC Moderate
Family Asteraceae		
California goldfields	<i>Lasthenia californica</i>	Native
California mugwort	<i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>	Native
Common dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Nonnative
Italian thistle	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	Cal-IPC Moderate
Family Betulaceae		
White alder	<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	Native
Family Boraginaceae		
Common fiddleneck	<i>Amsinckia intermedia</i>	Native
Rusty popcornflower	<i>Plagiobothrys nothofulvus</i>	Native
Family Brassicaceae		
Fringe pod	<i>Thysanocarpus curvipes</i>	Native
Shepherd's purse	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Nonnative
Whitlow grass	<i>Draba verna</i>	Nonnative
Family Caryophyllaceae		
Chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>	Nonnative
Family Cupressaceae		
Incense cedar	<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	Native
Family Cyperaceae		
Sedge	<i>Carex</i> sp.	Native
Family Ericaceae		
Whiteleaf manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos viscida</i>	Native
Family Fabaceae		
California burclover	<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Cal-IPC Limited
Hairy vetch	<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Nonnative
Miniature lupine	<i>Lupinus bicolor</i>	Native
Rose clover	<i>Trifolium hirtum</i>	Cal-IPC Limited
Sweet pea	<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	Nonnative
Western redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Native
Yellow sweetclover	<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	Nonnative
Family Fagaceae		
California black oak	<i>Quercus kelloggii</i>	Native
Canyon live oak	<i>Quercus chrysolepis</i>	Native
Interior live oak	<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>	Native
Family Geraniaceae		
Longbeak stork's bill	<i>Erodium botrys</i>	Nonnative
Redstem stork's bill	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Cal-IPC Limited
Family Hydrophyllaceae		
White nemophila	<i>Nemophila heterophylla</i>	Native
Family Juncaceae		
Pacific woodrush	<i>Luzula subsessilis</i>	Native
Family Montiaceae		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Streambank springbeauty	<i>Claytonia parviflora</i> ssp. <i>parviflora</i>	Native
Family Papaveraceae		
California poppy	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	Native
Family Pinaceae		
Foothill pine	<i>Pinus sabiniana</i>	Native
Ponderosa pine	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Native
Family Plantaginaceae		
English plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Cal-IPC Limited
Family Poaceae		
Annual dogtail	<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>	Cal-IPC Moderate
Bulbous bluegrass	<i>Poa bulbosa</i>	Nonnative
Crabgrass	<i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i>	Nonnative
Italian rye grass	<i>Festuca perennis</i>	Cal-IPC Moderate
Ripgut brome	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Cal-IPC Moderate
Slender oat	<i>Avena barbata</i>	Cal-IPC Moderate
Family Polemoniaceae		
Slender phlox	<i>Microsteris gracilis</i>	Native
Family Polygonaceae		
California dock	<i>Rumex californicus</i>	Native
Naked buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum nudum</i> var. <i>deductum</i>	Native
Family Pteridaceae		
Goldenback fern	<i>Pentagramma triangularis</i> ssp. <i>triangularis</i>	Native
Family Rhamnaceae		
California coffeeberry	<i>Frangula californica</i>	Native
Hollyleaf redberry	<i>Rhamnus ilicifolia</i>	Native
Wedgeleaf ceanothus	<i>Ceanothus cuneatus</i> var. <i>cuneatus</i>	Native
Family Rosaceae		
Himalayan blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	Cal-IPC High
Sticky cinquefoil	<i>Drymocallis glandulosa</i>	Native
Family Rubiaceae		
Common bedstraw	<i>Galium aparine</i>	Native
Family Salicaceae		
Arroyo willow	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	Native
Family Sapindaceae		
California buckeye	<i>Aesculus californica</i>	Native
Family Typhaceae		
Broadleaf cattail	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Native
Family Viscaceae		
American mistletoe	<i>Phoradendron leucarpum</i>	Native
Reptiles		
Family Phrynosomatidae		
San Joaquin fence lizard	<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i> <i>biseriatus</i>	--
Birds		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Family Accipitridae		
Cooper's hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Cathartidae		
Turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Columbidae		
Eurasian collared-dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	--
Family Corvidae		
California scrub-jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Common raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Fringillidae		
House finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Parulidae		
Yellow-rumped warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Passerellidae		
California towhee	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Dark-eyed junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Spotted towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Passeridae		
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	--
Family Picidae		
Acorn woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Regulidae		
Ruby-crowned kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Trochilidae		
Anna's hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Turdidae		
American robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	MBTA, CFGC

MBTA: Protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC § 703 et seq.)

CFGC = Protected under the California Fish and Game Code (FGC §§ 3503 and 3513)

Cal-IPC: California Invasive Plant Council Invasive Plant Inventory Rank.

Appendix C

Cultural Assessment

Draft

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT
ROAD 225 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PATH
PROJECT, NORTH FORK, MADERA COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA**

CML-5491(102)

Caltrans District 6, Madera County

Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path, Willow Creek Drive to Road 228

Prepared by



30 January 2024

Date

Peter A. Carey, M.A., RPA
SOI Qualified Prehistoric and Historical Archaeologist
ASM Affiliates
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Reviewed by

Date

Principal Investigator Archaeologist
Caltrans District 6

Reviewed and
Approved by

Date

Environmental Branch Chief
Caltrans District 6
1352 W Olive Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728

North Fork, California USGS 7.5-minute Topographic Quadrangle;
4-acres; negative archaeological survey

January 2024
PN 36790.12

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

An intensive Class III cultural resources inventory/Phase I survey was conducted for the CML-5491(102) Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project (Project), North Fork, Madera County, California. The Project is located in Section 18, Township 18 South, Range 23 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian. ASM Affiliates conducted this study, with Peter A. Carey, M.A., RPA, serving as Principal Investigator. The study was undertaken to assist with compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the Project consists of the proposed route for the bicycle and pedestrian path with an added 50-foot (ft) buffer. The APE did not include existing paved roadways or paved pull-outs and other existing infrastructure that would not be affected by the Project. The APE for the Project totals approximately 4-acre (ac).

A records search of site files and maps was conducted at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Archaeological Information Center (SSJVIC), California State University, Bakersfield. According to the SSJVIC, eight previous studies have been conducted within the Project APE, and 22 previous studies were identified within the 0.5-mile (mi) buffer. The SSJVIC results identified no resources in or adjacent to the APE. Within the 0.5-mi buffer, nine previously recorded resources were identified, including three prehistoric bedrock milling features, three historic-era structures, and three historic-era structures with associated archaeological sites.

ASM also contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to request of search of the *Sacred Lands Files*. The NAHC responded on 11 December 2022, with negative SLF results and nine contacts from seven Tribal groups. Outreach letters were sent on 29 March 2023 and follow-up emails were sent on 17 May 2023 to tribal organizations on the NAHC contact list. One response was received from the North Fork Mono Tribe expressing no concern for the Project impacting cultural resources but informing on a cultural site located along Road 225 at the Whisky Creek Bridge, which is located over 1.5-mi east of the APE along Road 225. No other responses were received.

The Class III inventory/Phase I survey fieldwork was conducted on 12 July 2023 with parallel transects spaced at 10-meter (m) intervals walked across the water distribution system. No cultural resources were identified within the APE during the field study.

There are no known significant historical resources or historic properties within the APE. The CML-5491(102) Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project therefore does not have the potential to result in adverse impacts or effects to significant historical resources or historic properties.

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1. INTRODUCTION AND REGULATORY CONTEXT

1.1 INTRODUCTION

ASM Affiliates was retained by Crawford & Bowen Planning, Inc. to conduct a Class III inventory/Phase I survey and prepare an Archaeological Survey Report (ASR) for the proposed CML-5491(102) Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project (Project), North Fork, Madera County, California. The study was undertaken to assist with compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and the California Environmental Protection Act (CEQA).

This current study included:

- A background records search and literature review to determine if any known cultural resources were present in the project zone and/or whether the area had been previously and systematically studied by archaeologists;
- A search of the NAHC *Sacred Lands Files* to determine if any traditional cultural places, cultural landscapes or tribal cultural resources have been identified within the area;
- An on-foot, intensive inventory of the study area to identify and record previously undiscovered cultural resources and to examine known sites; and
- A preliminary assessment of any such resources found within the subject property.

Peter A. Carey, M.A., RPA, served as Principal Investigator; Senior Archaeologist Dustin Merrick, M.A., served as a contributing author; and Assistant Archaeologist Maria Silva, B.A., conducted the fieldwork. Mr. Carey has over 14 years of prehistoric and historic archaeological experience in California and exceeds the Secretary of the Interior's Qualification Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology. Mr. Merrick has over 10 years of experience in prehistoric and historic archaeology and exceeds the Secretary of the Interior's Qualification Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology. Ms. Silva has four years of experience in prehistoric and historic archaeology.

This document constitutes a report on the survey. Subsequent chapters provide background to the investigation, including historic context studies; the findings of the archival records search; Native American outreach; a summary of the field surveying techniques employed; and the results of the fieldwork.

1.2 REGULATORY CONTEXT

1.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA is applicable to discretionary actions by state or local lead agencies. Under CEQA, lead agencies must analyze impacts to cultural resources. Significant impacts under CEQA occur when "historically significant" or "unique" cultural resources are adversely affected, which occurs when such resources could be altered or destroyed through project implementation. Historically

significant cultural resources are defined by eligibility for or by listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). In practice, the federal NRHP criteria (below) for significance applied under Section 106 are generally (although not entirely) consistent with CRHR criteria (see PRC § 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852 and § 15064.5(a)(3)).

Significant cultural resources are those archaeological resources and historical properties that:

- (A) Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- (B) Are associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- (C) Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represent the work of an important creative individual, or possess high artistic values; or
- (D) Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Unique resources under CEQA, in slight contrast, are those that represent:

An archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
- (2) Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
- (3) Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person (PRC § 21083.2(g)).

Preservation in place is the preferred approach under CEQA to mitigating adverse impacts to significant or unique cultural resources.

1.2.2 National Historic Preservation Act Section 106

NHPA Section 106 is applicable to federal undertakings, including projects financed or permitted by federal agencies regardless of whether the activities occur on federally managed or privately-owned land. Its purpose is to determine whether adverse effects will occur to significant cultural resources, defined as "historical properties" that are listed in or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The criteria for NRHP eligibility are defined at 36 CFR § 60.4 as follows:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and that:

- (A) are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

- (B) are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- (C) embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- (D) have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

There are, however, restrictions on the kinds of historical properties that can be NRHP listed. These have been identified by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), as follows:

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- (a) A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- (b) A building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- (c) A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life.
- (d) A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- (e) A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- (f) A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
- (g) A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance. (ACHP n.d.)

1.2.3 National Register Criteria for Evaluation

The criteria for evaluation of NRHP eligibility are outlined at 36 CFR Part 60.4. A district, site, building, structure, or object must generally be at least 50 years old to be eligible for consideration as a historic property. That district, site, building, structure, or object must retain integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feelings, and association as well as meet one of

the following criteria to demonstrate its significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. A district, site, building, structure, or object must:

(A) be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history; or

(B) be associated with the lives of people significant in our past; or

(C) embody the distinct characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

(D) have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

A site must have integrity and meet one of the four criteria of eligibility to demonstrate its historic associations in order to convey its significance. A property must be associated with one or more events important in the history or prehistory in order to be considered for listing under Criterion A. Additionally, the specific association of the property, itself, must also be considered significant. Criterion B applies to properties associated with individuals whose specific contributions to the history can be identified and documented. Properties significant for their physical design or construction under Criterion C must have features with characteristics that exemplify such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork. Criterion D most commonly applies to properties that have the potential to answer, in whole or in part, important research questions about human history that can only be answered by the actual physical materials of cultural resources. A property eligible under Criterion D must demonstrate the potential to contain information relevant to the prehistory and history (National Register Bulletin 15).

A district, site, building, structure, or object may also be eligible for consideration as a historic property if that property meets the criteria considerations for properties generally less than 50 years old, in addition to possessing integrity and meeting the criteria for evaluation.

1.3 PROJECT LOCATION, DESCRIPTION, AND AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

The CML-5491(102) Madera County Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project is located within the census designated place of North Fork in Madera County (Figure 1 and 2). This places the Project in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Elevation within the Project area ranges from 2,595-feet (ft) above mean sea level (amsl) near the center on Road 225 to approximately 2,635-ft amsl on the east end at Road 228. Specifically, the Project is located in Section 18, Township 18 South, Range 23 East (T18S/R23E), Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM).

The Madera County Public Works Department intends to construct bicycle and pedestrian path improvements adjacent to Road 225 near the community of North Fork. To meet the existing pedestrian facility needs and increase pedestrian safety, the County is proposing to construct

approximately 1,560-ft of bicycle and pedestrian facilities which includes an 8-ft paved bicycle path and 5-ft pedestrian path. These facilities will be separated from the roadway. The project will start near Willow Creek Drive and continue east on Road 225, turning south along Road 228. The Class I bicycle and pedestrian path will continue all the way to reach the school bus parking lot which is located south of the Road 225 and Road 228 intersection. Other improvements include minor landscaping, approach ramps, retaining walls, and stormwater drainage facilities. A bus stop will be added on Road 225. The maximum depth of excavation is anticipated to be 6-ft. Private property owner right of way (ROW) will be required, parcel 07. Vegetation and tree removal are proposed.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the Project consists of the proposed route for the bicycle and pedestrian paths with an added 50-ft buffer. The APE did not include existing paved roadways or paved pull-outs and other existing infrastructure that would not be affected by the Project. The APE for the Project totals approximately 4-ac.

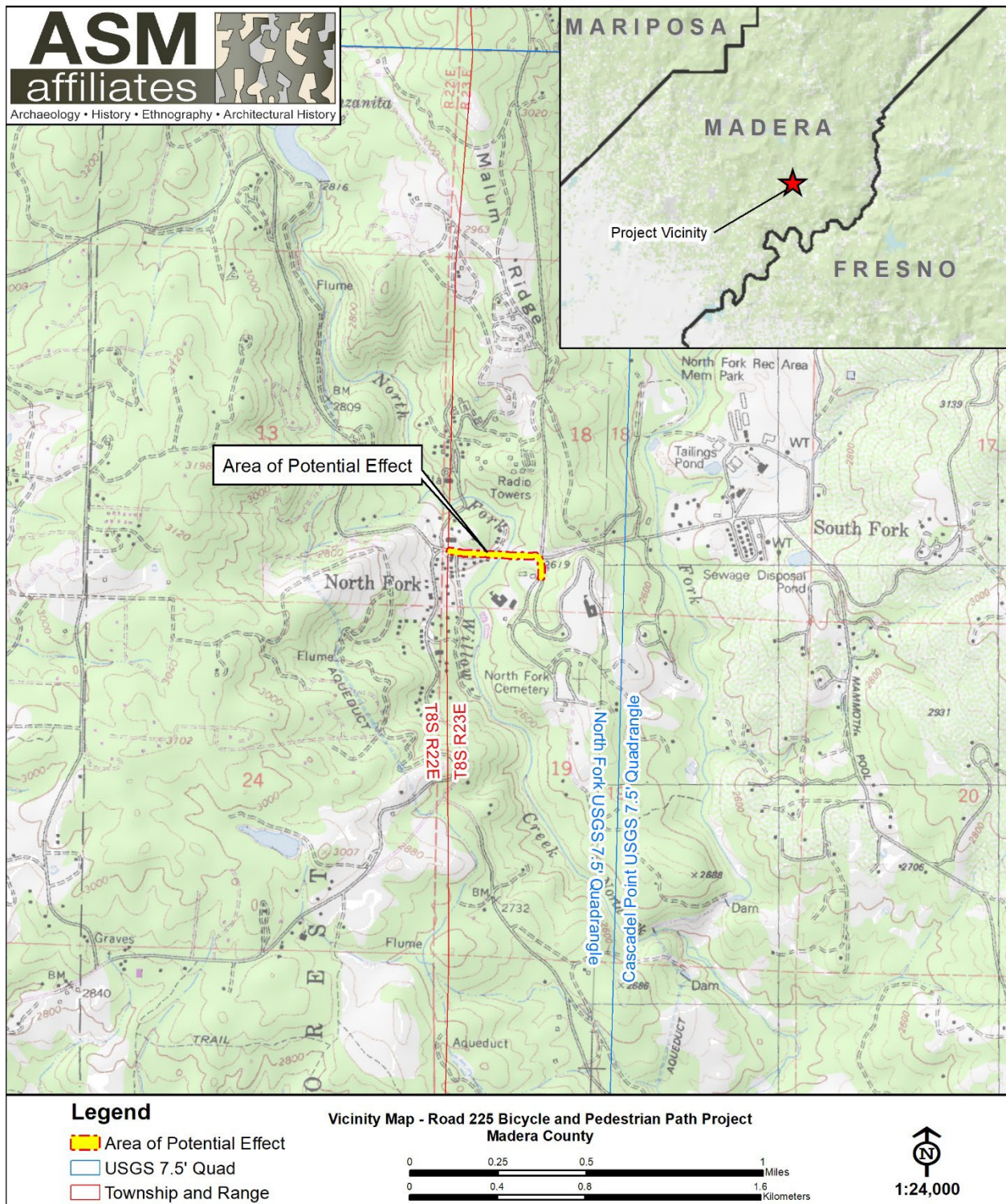


Figure 1. Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project vicinity map, Madera County, California.

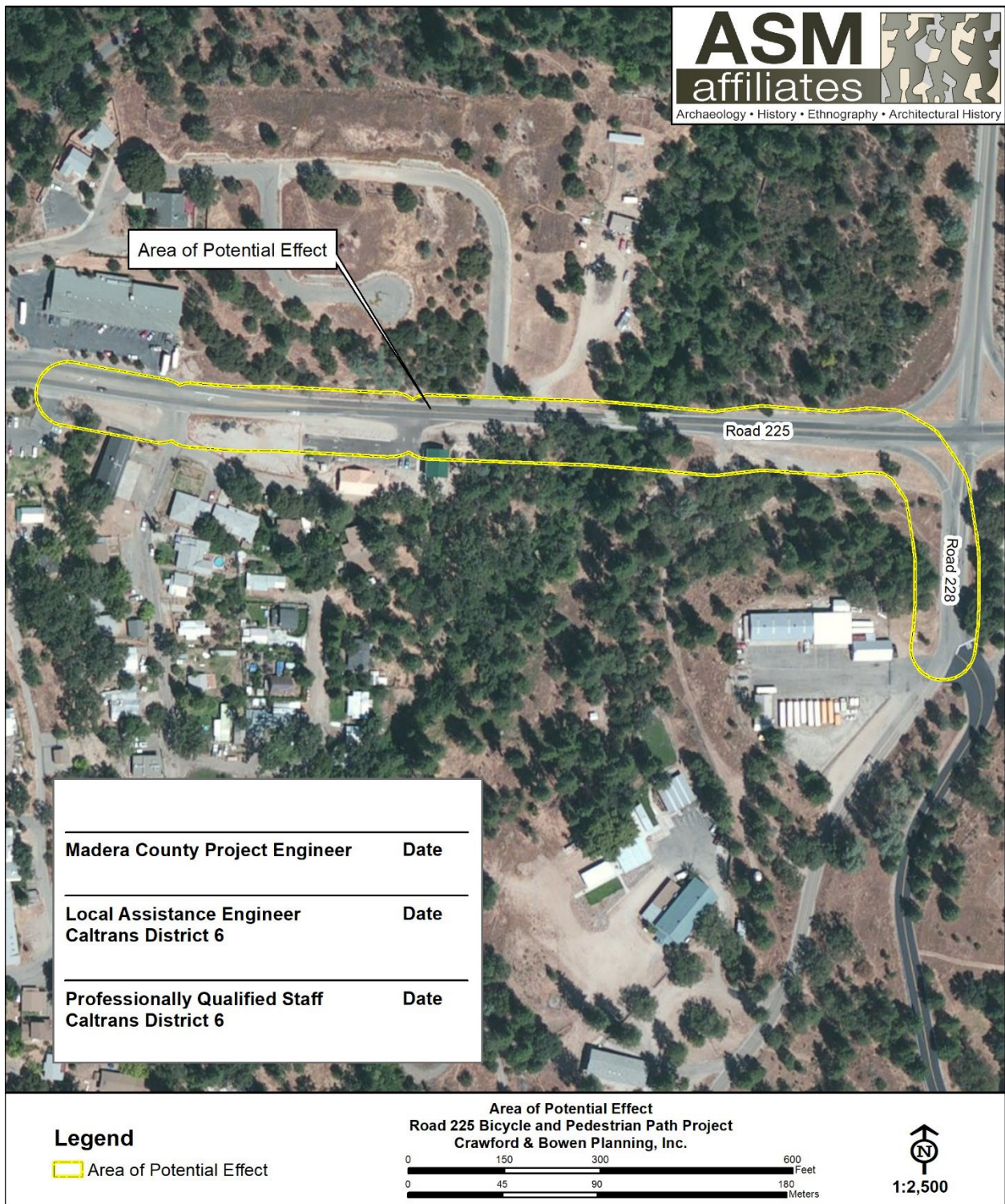


Figure 2. Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project APE, Madera County, California.

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2. ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL BACKGROUND

2.1 LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

As noted above, the Project is located within the census designated place of North Fork in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. This area can best be described geomorphologically as hills crosscut, sometimes steeply, by drainages.

This location currently supports scrub oak and pine forest (Preston 1981). Manzanita Lake, approximately one mile north of the APE, is an artificial reservoir created by damming North Fork Willow Creek. The San Joaquin River runs east to west approximately 5-mi south of the APE. Historically, and likely prehistorically, riparian environments would have been present along the San Joaquin River and North Fork Willow Creek.

2.2 ETHNOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

Numic-speaking Western Mono (or Monachi) tribal groups occupied the Sierra Nevada foothills around the San Joaquin, Kings, and Kaweah river drainages. The Western Mono were separated by the High Sierra from the Eastern Mono, occupying the east side of the Sierra and portions of the Owens Valley. Penutian-speaking Yokut tribal groups occupied the lower Sierra Nevada foothills to the west and south of the Western Mono, and the Sierra Miwok occupied the foothills to the north. The most northern of the Western Mono were the North Fork Mono (or Nium, the people [Aldern and Goode 2014]), occupying the land to the north of San Joaquin River drainage (Gifford 1932). Though the North Fork Mono themselves stress that they were interconnected to places and people through trail systems and, as such, strict boundaries did not exist (Aldern and Goode 2014). Ethnographic information on the North Fork Mono specifically was collected from Aldern and Goode (2014) and Gifford (1932).

Though the Western Mono shared a language family with the Eastern Mono, their way of life was more similar to that of the nearby Foothill Yokuts and Sierra Miwok than the Eastern Mono. Much of the dissimilarity in lifeways to the Eastern Mono is related to the differing geography the groups inhabited (Gifford 1932). The Western Mono inhabited the more well-watered western foothills of the Sierra Nevada, while the Eastern Mono lived to the east of the Sierra Nevada, which was dominated by more xeric conditions. The North Fork Mono chose to inhabit springs and small streams on south facing slopes. The San Joaquin River proper was utilized for fishing but not long-term occupation.

The North Fork Mono settlement pattern was largely consistent with other Western Mono groups to the south. The North Fork Mono were organized into hamlets or camps made up of between 1 to 39 individuals occupying between 1 and 8 huts. There were no hamlet chiefs, and each hamlet was generally occupied by multiple family groups. The make-up of each hamlet could, and often did, change regularly due to seasonality, deaths, or merely for the sake of change. The change in personnel was facilitated by the absence of ownership or resources as all North Fork Mono had

equal rights to food resources and gathering locations (Gifford 1932). Gifford (1932) recorded 67 occupied sites in the North Fork Mono region at contact. According to Gifford (1932), the nearest hamlet to the study area was *Muchupiwe*, which was the name of a spring between the South Fork and North Fork creeks.

The North Fork Mono were divided into two moieties: *pakwihu* or “turkey vulture” and *yayanchi* or “golden eagle.” Each moiety also contained two subdivisions. For *pakwihu* the divisions were *puzaoats* (*puzaochi*) and *tübahinagatu*. *Yayanchi* subdivisions were *dakats* (*dakachi*) and *kunugechi*. Each moiety was headed by a chief (*bohenap*) with an assistant chief (*nitdenap*). Chieftanship was patrilineal and they primarily served a ceremonial role.

Shamanism is a religious system common to most Native American tribes. It involves a direct and personal relationship between the individual and the supernatural world enacted by entering a trance or hallucinatory state (usually based on the ingestion of psychotropic plants, such as jimsonweed or more typically native tobacco). Shamans were considered individuals with an unusual degree of supernatural power, serving as healers or curers, diviners, and controllers of natural phenomena (such as rain or thunder). Shamans also produced the rock art of this region, depicting the visions they experienced in vision quests believed to represent their spirit helpers and events in the supernatural realm (Whitley 1992, 2000).

Throughout Native California, and the North Fork Mono territory in general, the acorn was a primary dietary component, along with a variety of gathered seeds and hunted or captured game. As mentioned above, the North Fork Mono augmented this diet with fish from streams and the San Joaquin River (Gifford 1932). As with many Native California tribes, the settlement and subsistence rounds included the winter aggregation into a few large villages, where stored resources (like acorns) served as staples, followed by dispersal into smaller camps, often occupied by extended families, where seasonally available resources would be gathered and consumed.

Trails and travel have always been important aspects of North Fork Mono lifeways. These trails connected the North Fork Mono to both people and places. The North Fork Mono Tribe’s petition for federal recognition identified trails extending west to the Pacific Ocean, east over the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and both north and south throughout the mountains. These trails and the lands they followed and led to were cared for through systematic burning, a practice that was stopped by the U.S. Forest Service around the turn of the 20th century (Aldern and Goode 2014).

2.3 PRE-CONTACT ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The following section provides a regional chronology for the Sierra Nevada foothills and adjacent San Joaquin Valley by providing a categorization of prehistoric time periods in terms of cultural stages describing archaeological resources and cultural patterns for each time frame.

The Sierra Nevada foothills, adjacent San Joaquin Valley, have a long and complex cultural history with distinct regional patterns that extend back in time for more than 11,000 years (McGuire 1995). The region's physical landscape was characterized by grasslands and riparian forests with a large, diverse mammalian population. The inhabitants of the Central Valley were likely large game hunters. Evidence of early use of the San Joaquin Valley and the Sierra Nevada foothills is represented by the discovery of distinctive, fluted, and stemmed points (e.g., Clovis points), found

margins of extinct lakes in the valley, including Tulare Lake, approximately 50 mi. southeast of the project. The hunters who used these points existed only between 11,200 and 10,900 B.P. The complex of artifacts characteristic of this period is often called the Clovis complex.

Most researchers believe that another widespread cultural complex followed the Clovis Complex, often termed Early Archaic. The indicative artifacts of this period, which has also been called by its geological name, the Early Holocene period, consist of stemmed spear points rather than the fluted points that typify the Clovis Complex. This poorly defined early cultural tradition is best known from a small number of sites in the San Joaquin Valley and the Sierra Nevada foothills and is thought to date from 8000 to 10,000 B.P.

The increase in food-grinding implements found in archaeological sites indicates that approximately 8,000 years ago, many California cultures shifted the focus of their subsistence strategies from hunting to seed gathering. Recent studies suggest that this cultural pattern is more widespread than initially assumed. In addition, archaeological sites at the base of the Sierra Nevada foothills consist of large artifact assemblages of millingslabs, handstones, and various cobble-core tools, representing “frequently visited camps in a seasonally structured settlement system” (Rosenthal et al. 2007:152), further indicating the reliance on plant foods during this time. Radiocarbon dates associated with this period vary between 8000 and 2000 B.P., and cluster in the 6000 to 4000 B.P. range.

Cultural patterns as reflected in the archaeological record have become better defined for archaeological cultures dating to the last 3,000 years. The archaeological record indicates increasing complexity as specialized adaptations to locally available resources develop and populations expand. Many sites dated to this period contain mortars and pestles or are associated with bedrock mortars, suggesting that the occupants used acorns intensively.

The range of resources used for subsistence increased, and exchange systems expanded significantly from the previous period. Along the coast and in the Central Valley, archaeological evidence of social stratification and craft specialization is indicated by well-made artifacts, such as charm stones and beads, which were often found with burials (US Department of Interior 2008).

2.4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Some of the earliest nonindigenous explorations of the Sierra Nevada mountains include Euro American explorers and fur trappers such as Jedediah Smith, Kit Carson, and Joseph Walker. The earliest of these nonindigenous expeditions and explorations took place in 1827 with Jedediah Smith and continued into the 1840s with small group expeditions trekking across the Sierra Nevada. Cartographers and explorers continued to explore the Sierra Nevada throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with Yosemite Valley becoming the first federally protected region of the Sierra in 1864 (Farquhar 1925).

The discovery of gold in northern California in 1848 resulted in a dramatic increase in population, consisting of a good portion of fortune seekers and gold miners who began to scour other parts of the state. After 1851, when gold was discovered in the Sierra Nevada mountains in eastern Kern County, the area's population snowballed. In California in 1848, with the exclusion of indigenous inhabitants, the population was 10,000 residents, and in just over five years, that number increased

to 250,000 residents (Dilsaver 1983). Some new immigrants began ranching in the San Joaquin Valley to supply the miners and mining towns. Ranchers grazed cattle and sheep, and farmers dry-farmed or used limited irrigation to grow grain crops, leading to the creation of small agricultural communities throughout the valley (JRP Historical Consulting 2009). The influx of miners into the Sierra Nevada foothills resulted in the formation of mining camps and towns to provide lodging as well as goods and services.

The thrill and accessibility of easy gold was mostly gone by the mid-1850s as focus changed from panning to lode and hydraulic mining, leaving only labor-intensive mining operations remaining. Many of the once sprawling mining towns and camps amongst the foothills became ghost towns by the end of the 1860s. The towns that remained were those that had served as hubs during the Gold Rush and were not tied to the success of a specific mine.

The town of North Fork was originally inhabited by the North Fork Mono who called the place Wa-up (Sierra News Online 2024; Southern Yosemite Visitors Bureau 2024). European immigrants began inhabiting what is now North Fork in the 1850s to mine for gold. In the mid-nineteenth century, one of these miners, Milton Brown, constructed a cabin that became a popular stopping point and eventually evolved into a small European settlement. In 1888, a post office was established, and the town was officially founded. Throughout the mid to late nineteenth century, the town began to rise in population as the lumber and ranching industries increased, eclipsing the mining industry. This increase in industry and in population displaced many of the North Fork Mono who still reside in the area to this day. By the turn of the 20th century, North Fork was a flourishing town with a number of hotels, restaurants, and saloons, as well as a library, a school, and a church.

Charles Shinn established the headquarters for the Forest Reserve in North Fork in 1903. Mr. Shinn was then appointed as the Forest Supervisor for the Sierra National Forest. Throughout the early and mid-twentieth century, timber boomed in the North Fork town with notable businesses in the vicinity during this time including Nolen and Roberts Mill, the Sugar Pine Lumber Company, and Associated Lumber and Box. During the mid-twentieth century the demand for lumber waned and the population of North Fork decreased. By 1993, the timber industry had all but disappeared. Today North Fork remains a popular tourist area attracting visitors for its history and scenic nature (Southern Yosemite Visitors Bureau 2024).

3. SOURCES CONSULTED

3.1 ARCHIVAL RECORDS SEARCH

In order to determine whether the Project APE had been previously surveyed for cultural resources, and/or whether any such resources were known to exist within or near to it, an archival records search was conducted by SSJVIC staff on 21 November 2022. The records search was completed to determine: (i) if pre-contact or historic-era cultural resources had previously been recorded within the Project APE; (ii) if the Project APE had been systematically surveyed by archaeologists prior to the initiation of this fieldwork; and/or (iii) whether the area surrounding the proposed Project was known to contain archaeological sites or built environment resources and to thereby be culturally sensitive. Records examined included archaeological site files and maps, the NRHP, Historic Property Data File, California Inventory of Historic Resources, and the California Points of Historic Interest. The records search included the Project APE and a 0.5-mi buffer.

According to the SSJVIC, eight previous studies had been conducted within the Project APE, and 22 previous studies were identified within the 0.5-mi buffer (Table 1). The SSJVIC results identified no resources in or adjacent to the APE. Within the 0.5-mi buffer, nine previously recorded resources were identified, including three prehistoric bedrock milling features, three historic-era structures, and three historic-era structures with associated archaeological sites. The closest of these resources is approximately 0.3-mi from the APE (Table 2). The results of the SSJVIC records search are available in Confidential Appendix A.

Table 1. Previous Studies within the Records Search Area

Report #	Year	Author	Title	APE Relationship
MA-00031	1994	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Explosives Magazine on North Fork Compound	Outside
MA-00109	1994	Budd, Jon	Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Federal Highway Administration Road Improvements on North Fork Road Federal Highway 74	Outside
MA-00174	1999	Varner, Dudley	Cultural Resource Study of Property in North Fork, Madera County, California	Within
MA-00297	1990	Mogge, Marie	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the North Fork Pasture Brush Removal Project	Outside
MA-00322	1979	Peak, Ann, Gerry, Robert, and Peak, Melinda	Cultural Resource Assessment of the Prather Property, Madera County, California	Outside
MA-00325	1977	Unknown	Cultural Resource Assessment of the North Fork Water Treatment Project, Madera County, California	Within
MA-00339	1990	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Waterline for the Barn	Outside
MA-00412	1979	Wren, Donald	Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Report for the Deer Park Survey	Outside
MA-00499	1998	Mogge, Marie	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Skunk Hollow Salvage	Outside
MA-00506	1990	Mogge, Marie	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Ponderosa Telephone Line Replacement	Outside
MA-00541	1996	Nota, Christina	Ponderosa Cable Vision Permit	Outside

3. Archival Records Search

Report #	Year	Author	Title	APE Relationship
MA-00559	1997	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the New Auto Shop Project	Outside
MA-00560	1996	Nave, Thomas	The North Fork Supervisors Compound Radio Towers Historic Evaluation and Determination of Significance	Outside
MA-00585	1988	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Cedars Interpretive Trail Extension	Within
MA-00586	1988	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Cedars Interpretive Trail Toilet	Outside
MA-00649	1994	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Explosive Magazine on North Fork Compound	Outside
MA-00711	1992	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the North Salvage Sale	Outside
MA-00776	1984	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Ponderosa Telephone Lines Permit	Outside
MA-00794	1987	Popelish, Constance	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the North Fork Compound Water System	Outside
MA-00820	1995	Nota, Christine	North Fork Pasture Fence Replacement	Within
MA-00847	1995	Mogge, Marie	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the North Fork Hazard Salvage Sale	Outside
MA-00853	1995	Nota, Christine	New Office Utilities and Parking	Outside
MA-00888	1989	McNiel, Steve	Historic Architecture and Landscape Evaluation of North Fork Supervisor's Headquarters/North Fork Compound, Minaret's Ranger District, Sierra National Forest (Volume I - III)	Within
MA-00888A	1989	McNiel, Steve	Volume I: Historic Architecture and Landscape Evaluation of North Fork Supervisor's Headquarters/North Fork Compound, Minaret's Ranger District, Sierra National Forest	Outside
MA-00888B	1989	McNiel, Steve	Volume II: Landscape Survey, Supervisor's Office and Residence Forms and Drawings	Outside
MA-00888C	1989	McNiel, Steve	Volume III: Service Buildings and Garage/Woodsheds Forms and Drawings	Outside
MA-01086	2010	Potter, Erin	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the North Fork Compound Fuels Reduction Project, Madera County, California	Outside
MA-01088	2010	Potter, Erin	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Pacific Gas and Electric Wood Pole Replacement, PM 30752260	Outside
MA-01102	2007	Varner, Dudley	A Cultural Resource Study for the Penny Property in North Fork, Madera County, California	Outside
MA-01169	2011	Hagen, David and Potter, Erin	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the RAWS Stations at Jerseydale, Batterson, North Fork	Outside
MA-01191	2013	Potter, Erin	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for North Fork Pole Barn Decommissioning	Outside
MA-01195	2008	Popelish, Constance	Photographs, Written Historical, and Descriptive Data Field Notes	Outside
MA-01262	2017	Baloian, Mary	Historic Property Survey Report Single-Lane Roundabout Installation at the Intersection of Road 225 and Road 274 near North Fork in Madera County, California	Outside
MA-01262A	2017	Baloian, Mary and Jones, Jessica	Archaeological Survey Report Single-Lane Roundabout Installation at the Intersection of Road 225 and Road 274 near North Fork in Madera County, California	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Resources

Primary #	Type	Description	Eligibility Status	APE Relationship
P-20-000602	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling feature	Unknown	Outside
P-20-001612	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling feature	Unknown	Outside
P-20-002234	Historic-era site	North Fork Civilian Conservation Corps Camp	Determined ineligible	Outside
P-20-002517	Historic-era site and structure	North Fork Supervisor's Headquarters	Determined eligible	Outside
P-20-002902	Historic-era site structure and district	Chilkoot Dam	Unknown	Outside
P-20-003200	Historic-era Structure	Unpaved road	Unknown	Outside
P-20-003201	Historic-era structure	Unpaved road	Unknown	Outside
P-20-003209	Historic-era Structures	Structure pad and a dam with an associated retaining pond	Unknown	Outside
P-20-003212	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling feature	Unknown	Outside

3.2 SACRED LANDS FILES SEARCH AND TRIBAL OUTREACH

On 22 November 2022, ASM contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to request of search of the *Sacred Lands Files*. The NAHC responded on 11 December 2022, with negative results and nine contacts from seven Tribal groups. Outreach letters were sent on 29 March 2023 and follow-up emails were sent on 17 May 2023 to tribal organizations on the NAHC contact list. One response was received from the North Fork Mono Tribe expressing no concern for the Project impacting cultural resources but informing on a cultural site located along Road 225 at the Whisky Creek Bridge, which is located over 1.5-mi east of the APE along Road 225. No other responses were received. The results of the *Sacred Lands Files* search and tribal outreach are available in Confidential Appendix A.

Given the absence of previously recorded resources in the immediate vicinity of the APE and the nature of the bicycle and pedestrian path project, the APE appeared to have low potential for cultural resources.

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4. METHODS AND RESULTS

4.1 FIELD METHODS

An intensive Class III inventory/Phase I survey of the CML-5491(102) Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project APE was conducted by ASM Assistant Archaeologist Maria Silva, B.A., on 12 July 2023. The field methods employed included intensive pedestrian examination of the ground surface for evidence of archaeological sites in the form of artifacts, surface features (such as bedrock mortars, historical mining equipment), and archaeological indicators (e.g., organically enriched midden soil, burnt animal bone); the identification and location of any discovered sites, should they be present; tabulation and recording of surface diagnostic artifacts; site sketch mapping; preliminary evaluation of site integrity; and site recording, following the California Office of Historic Preservation Instructions for Recording Historic Resources, using DPR 523 forms.

Since the APE consists of disturbed shoulders of existing paved roads, survey transects no wider than 10-m were walked along the roads. The paved roads and turnouts themselves were excluded from the APE. Special attention was paid to rodent back-dirt piles to assess the potential for subsurface cultural resources.

4.2 SURVEY RESULTS

As noted above, the study area consists of paved roads and disturbed shoulders (Figure 3). No cultural resources of any kind were observed in the Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path APE.

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5. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

An intensive Class III archaeological inventory/Phase I survey was conducted for the CML-5491(102) Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project, North Fork, Madera County, California. A records search was conducted at the SSJVIC that indicated eight previous studies had been conducted within the Project APE, with an additional 22 previous studies conducted within a half mile radius. No cultural resources were known to exist within the APE, though nine previously recorded resources were identified within the half mile radius.

The NAHC *Sacred Lands Files* were also consulted with negative results. Outreach letters and follow-up calls were sent to tribal organizations on the NAHC contact list. One response was received from the North Fork Mono Tribe expressing no concern for the Project impacting cultural resources but informing on a cultural site located along Road 225 at the Whisky Creek Bridge, which is located over 1.5-mi east of the APE along Road 225. No other responses were received.

The Class III inventory/Phase I survey fieldwork was conducted with parallel transects spaced at 10-m intervals along the APE. No cultural resources of any kind were identified within the APE.

5.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

An intensive Class III inventory/Phase I survey demonstrated that the CML-5491(102) Road 225 Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Improvements Project APE does not contain significant or unique historical resources or historic properties. A determination of no effect is therefore recommended for proposed work within the APE.

It is recommended that Caltrans be contacted if any additional cultural resources are encountered during Project construction.

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX A