

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR THE
SCOTTS VALLEY CASINO AND TRIBAL HOUSING PROJECT

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Department of the Interior has released an Environmental Assessment (EA) dated July 2024 for the Scotts Valley Casino and Tribal Housing Project. The EA has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 United States Code [USC] §4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines for Implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and the BIA NEPA guidebook (59 Indian Affairs Manual 3-H) and assesses the environmental impacts that could result from the acquisition by the BIA of a 160-acre property (Project Site) into federal trust status for the benefit of the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians (Tribe) for gaming purposes (Proposed Action), the subsequent development by the Tribe of a casino facility, Tribal housing, Tribal administration building, and associated parking and infrastructure on the Project Site (Proposed Project).

The Project Site consists of four parcels (Assessor Parcel Numbers 0182010010, 0182020020, 0182020080, 0182020010) within the City of Vallejo in Solano County, California. The Project Site is bordered by I-80 to the west; Columbus Parkway and commercial development to the south; undeveloped land to the north; and undeveloped land, City water tank, electrical substation, and Vallejo Fire Station #27 to the east. The Project Site is undeveloped except for several unpaved ranch roads and a horse boarding facility.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to facilitate tribal self-sufficiency, self-determination, and economic development, thus satisfying both the Department of the Interior's (Department) land acquisition policy as articulated in the Department's trust land regulations at 25 CFR Part 151, and the principal goal of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 USC § 2701). Based on the analysis and impacts discussed in the EA and comments received during the public review period, the BIA will decide whether to reach a Finding of No Significant Impact, direct further work on the EA, or initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

The public comment period for the EA will be open for 30 days, beginning on July 8, 2024 and ending on August 7, 2024. An online virtual public meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. until the final comment is heard. Instructions for participation in the public hearing are available online at www.scottsvalleycasinoea.com.

For additional information, please contact Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region, at (916) 978-6165 or by email at chad.broussard@bia.gov. Written comments should be emailed to chad.broussard@bia.gov or mailed to the following address:

Amy Dutschke, Regional Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2820, Sacramento, CA 95825

Copies of the EA are available for public review on the internet at www.scottsvalleycasinoea.com or at the Vallejo Springstowne Library, located at 1003 Oakwood Avenue, Vallejo, CA 94591.