

# Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

**Form F**

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: South Tahoe Greenway - Upper Truckee River Bridge at Johnson Meadow

Lead Agency: El Dorado County - Department of Transportation

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Project Location: South Lake Tahoe

El Dorado

*City*

*County*

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

The Project is in the City of South Lake Tahoe, located entirely within eastern El Dorado County, California. Specifically, the Project Area is in Township 12 north, Range 18 east, Sections 3 and 4 of the South Lake Tahoe U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle map. The Project is bound by South Avenue and Barton Memorial Hospital to the west, U.S. Highway 50/Lake Tahoe Boulevard (US 50) to the north, Lake Tahoe Airport to the south, and Sierra Boulevard to the east.

The Project would build upon the overall shared-use path network on the south shore of Lake Tahoe by constructing approximately 1.2 miles of Class 1 shared-use path and replacing a heavily trafficked bridge over the Upper Truckee River damaged by the 2017 winter storms. The Project would construct approximately 5,075 linear feet of asphalt path in forested upland, approximately 935 linear feet of elevated boardwalk through Johnson Meadow, and replace the damaged bridge in the Upper Truckee River with a 140-foot bridge on a new alignment that entirely spans the river.

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

Based on the environmental evaluation performed for IS/MND/IEC, the proposed Project would have:

- No Impact on Mineral Resources, Transportation, Population and Housing;
- Less than Significant Impact on Aesthetics, Cultural Resources, Energy, Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Public Services, Recreation, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire; and,
- Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated on Agricultural and Forestry Resources, Biological Resources, Geology and Soils, and Tribal Cultural Resources. The Project will implement mitigation measures as described herein to reduce potential impacts to a Less Than Significant level.

The County has agreed to implement the following mitigation measures to reduce Project impacts to a "Less than Significant" level:

- Mitigation Measure AFR-1: Implement Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-4, and BIO-9.
- Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Prior to the start of construction activities, the limits of construction shall be clearly marked and sensitive or regulated habitats within the Project limits shall be marked with high visibility fencing or staking to ensure construction will not further encroach into waters or sensitive habitats. These areas shall be marked on the Project plans. (continued, separate attachment)

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A qualified biologist shall periodically inspect the Project Area to ensure environmentally sensitive areas remain undisturbed.

- Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Heavy equipment shall avoid entering the river as much as is possible during bridge removal. Fueling, maintenance, and staging of equipment shall occur in designated upland staging areas only.
- Mitigation Measure BIO-3: BMPs used in the Upper Truckee River shall be installed with consideration for fish passage. Turbidity curtains or downstream screens shall be installed in a manner that allows for the passage of fish beneath or around the BMP. BMPs shall consist of materials that prevent fish and other wildlife from becoming entangled, trapped, or otherwise harmed. BMPs used in the river shall be approved for use by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and inspected daily by a qualified biologist.
- Mitigation Measure BIO-4: Prior to the start of construction activities, high visibility vegetation protection fencing shall be installed around the dripline of trees and snags in the Project Area that are not planned for removal. Trees and snags shall be marked on the Project plans for avoidance and periodically inspected by a qualified biologist to ensure they remain undisturbed.
- Mitigation Measure BIO-5: A pre-construction plant survey of the entire Project Area shall be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to construction and during the appropriate survey window(s) necessary to identify special status plants with the potential to occur. Results of the pre-construction plant survey shall be provided to the Project proponent, CDFW, and the LTBMU. If special-status plant species are detected, their locations shall be pin-flagged, and a minimum 25-foot buffer shall be marked with high visibility fencing or staking around the individual or population. A qualified biological monitor shall inspect the special status plant species and buffer(s) on a weekly basis to ensure no impacts occur because of the Project.
- Mitigation Measure BIO-6: No more than 14 days prior to construction, an SNYLF visual encounter survey shall be conducted by a USFWS-approved biologist to ensure SNYLF are absent in the Project Area, including upstream and downstream areas or suitable habitat features within 100 feet of the Project. If a frog is observed during any point of the Project, all work shall immediately halt, all equipment shall be powered off, and work shall not continue until the frog can be identified by a qualified biologist. If the frog is not a SNYLF, then a qualified biologist shall move the frog out of harm's way prior to work proceeding. If the frog is a SNYLF, then work shall stop until the SNYLF has moved out of harm's way on its own accord as determined by the biological monitor. Consultation with the USFWS shall be re-initiated if take is exceeded or the Project action changes from that previously disclosed in the Biological Assessment.
- Mitigation Measure BIO-7: A qualified biologist shall conduct environmental awareness training for all construction personnel. The training shall include identification of SSS, required practices before the start of construction, general measures that are being implemented to conserve the species as they relate to the Project, penalties for non-compliance, and the boundaries of work and permitted disturbance zones. Supporting materials containing training information shall be prepared and distributed. Upon completion of training, all construction personnel shall sign a form stating that they have attended the training and understand all the

measures. Proof of this instruction shall be kept on file by the Project proponent. The Project proponent shall provide the USFWS and CDFW with a copy of the training materials and copies of the signed forms indicating that training has been completed. If new construction personnel are added to the site, the crew foreman shall ensure that the personnel receive the mandatory training before starting work. Copies of signed forms shall be submitted monthly as additional training occurs for new employees. The crew foreman is responsible for ensuring that construction personnel adhere to the guidelines and restrictions.

- Mitigation Measure BIO-8: Immediately prior to installation of the coffer dam system around the bridge removal work area, a qualified biologist shall conduct a fish survey to ensure Lahontan cutthroat trout (LCT), mountain whitefish, and Lahontan mountain sucker are absent in the Project Area. The biologist will remain on-site and monitor installation of the coffer dam and will have authority to stop any Project activity that may impact LCT or other special-status fish species detected in the Project area. The biologist will then survey ponded water within the contained work area following completion of the coffer dam installation to ensure fish are absent. If non-federally listed fish species are found in the ponded water, they will be relocated to the river side of the coffer dam structure by the biologist. If LCT are found in the ponded area, the coffer dam system will be reopened to allow the LCT to leave on its own accord. No LCT will be handled or relocated. Although the confidence of absence in the contained work area is high based on the inclusion of the previous portions of this measure, should LCT be found during pumping of water from the contained work area, pumping will immediately cease, and the coffer dam will be reopened. The qualified biologist will also perform daily inspections of the coffer dam and any other BMPs, such as the downstream turbidity curtain, to ensure they are properly installed, in good condition, cannot trap or otherwise harm fish, and do not block fish passage. If ponded water will be pumped from the contained bridge removal work area, intake screens will be used to prevent fish being impacted by the pump and a qualified biologist will be on-site to relocate any residual non-federally listed fish species to the river side of the coffer dam structure. After bridge construction/demolition, the qualified biologist will monitor the removal of the coffer dam and other BMPs. Should an LCT be detected in the Project area, the USFWS will be contacted immediately, and all equipment will be powered off. Consultation with the USFWS and/or CDFW will be re-initiated if take is exceeded or the Project action changes.

- Mitigation Measure BIO-9: During the nesting season (March through July) and no more than 2 weeks prior to construction and vegetation removal, a qualified biologist shall conduct a protocol-level survey for northern goshawk to determine occupancy and nesting status within a 0.25-mile radius of the Project Area. If an active goshawk nest is discovered, a 0.25-mile activity-free buffer will be established around the nest site. Results of the pre-construction northern goshawk survey will be provided to CDFW and TRPA.

- Mitigation Measure BIO-10: During the appropriate survey periods (June 1 to June 14, June 15 to June 25, and June 26 to July 15), and no more than 2 weeks prior to construction and vegetation removal, a qualified biologist shall conduct protocol-level surveys for willow flycatcher to determine occupancy and nesting status in suitable habitat within a 100-foot buffer of the Project Area. If an active willow flycatcher nest is discovered, a 100-foot activity-free buffer will be established around the nest site. Results of the willow flycatcher surveys shall be provided to CDFW and TRPA.

- Mitigation Measure BIO-11: At least 14 days prior to removal or modification of snags, trees, the existing bridge, or other features that may provide roosting habitat for bats, a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey to determine the presence or absence of

bats and roosts. Results of the survey shall be provided to the Project proponent. If bats or signs indicating past or present roosting are found, the Project proponent shall report the bat observation or roost to CDFW and will delay removal until the roost can be confirmed unoccupied. The Project proponent shall coordinate with CDFW to determine an appropriate activity-free buffer area around occupied roosts in the Project Area.

- Mitigation Measure BIO-12: To ensure that bats have left potential roosting trees, trees shall be removed over the course of 2 days. On the first day, limbs from the identified trees shall be removed in the late afternoon. This disturbance should cause any roosting bats to seek other roosts during their nighttime foraging. The remainder of the tree can then be removed on the second day as late in the afternoon as feasible. If bats are found injured, or if bat mortality occurs during the course of tree removal, the Project proponent shall immediately notify CDFW of the event, the species recorded, and the number of individuals documented. Tree limbing or removal shall not be performed under any of the following conditions: during any precipitation events, when ambient temperatures are below 4.5 degrees Celsius, when windspeeds exceed 11 miles per hour, and/or any other condition which may lead bats to seek refuge.

- Mitigation Measure BIO-13: To mitigate the impact to stream environment zones (SEZs) in the amount of 1:1.5, the County shall first look for existing SEZ land coverage or disturbance in the Project vicinity that can be restored and permanently protected. If there is insufficient SEZ restoration potential in the Project vicinity, the County shall utilize SEZ restoration credits from projects previously restored and banked. The project eligible at the time of this environmental analysis includes:

- El Dorado County SEZ Restoration Project #1 (Angora Wetland Bank) - up to 267,422 sf (6.139 acres) of restoration is available from implementation of this project.

This restoration project, or others as approved, includes successful soil and habitat restoration that is expected to offset floodplain and wetland disturbance as well as the TRPA and Lahontan required SEZ disturbance. If needed for this Project, a wetland delineation for the restoration projects will be completed and will determine the amount and type of wetland restoration/credit that is available.

- Mitigation Measure GEO-1: If shallow spread foundations were to be utilized for west abutment and boardwalk support, liquefiable soils beneath these footings shall be mitigated via ground improvement techniques. Driven piles are the preferred foundations for the boardwalk system and these piles shall be designed to provide the needed axial and lateral resistance from dense to very dense soils as well as considering downdrag loads. Native soils east of the river are not liquefiable and the east abutment of the bridge can be supported on shallow spread foundation underlain by native dense to very dense silty sand to silty sand with gravel soils. Whereas driven piles may impact the existing pipelines, the County shall continue to coordinate with the South Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD) during design to ensure the existing sewer pipelines in the vicinity are protected.

- Mitigation Measure TCR-1: Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) Training. A Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs) sensitivity and awareness training program (WEAP) shall be provided for all personnel involved in project construction, including field consultants and volunteers. An archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standards for Archeology (or under direct supervision of an SOI qualified Archaeologist) and representatives of culturally affiliated Native American tribes will coordinate during preparation of the WEAP. The WEAP shall occur prior to the onset of

project-related construction activities. The WEAP will include relevant information regarding sensitive cultural resources and TCRs, including applicable regulations, protocols for avoidance, and consequences of violating state laws and regulations.

The WEAP will also describe appropriate avoidance and impact minimization measures for cultural resources and TCRs outlined in Mitigation Measure TCR-3. The WEAP will emphasize the requirement for confidentiality and culturally appropriate treatment of any discovery of significance to Native Americans and will discuss appropriate behaviors and responsive actions, consistent with Native American tribal values.

- Mitigation Measure TCR-2: Construction Monitoring. The Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada has requested, and the County has agreed, to cultural resources monitoring during ground disturbing construction activities. The County will prepare a Monitoring Plan and provide to the Tribe prior to commencing construction and shall continue coordination with the Tribe up to and during ground disturbing activities of the project concerning the avoidance and protection of Tribal Cultural Resources that may be impacted.

- Mitigation Measure TCR-3: Inadvertent Discoveries. The following measure is intended to address the evaluation and treatment of inadvertent/unanticipated discoveries of potential TCRs or archaeological resources during the Project's ground disturbing activities. An inadvertent discovery plan will be included in the monitoring plan:

- If any suspected TCRs or archaeological resources are discovered during ground disturbing construction activities, all work shall cease within 100 feet of the discovery, or an agreed upon distance based on the Project Area and nature of the find. A qualified professional archaeologist and a Tribal Representative from a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area shall be immediately notified and shall determine if the find is a TCR (PRC § 21074). The Tribal Representative or qualified archaeologist will make recommendations for further evaluation and treatment as necessary.
- The contractor shall implement any measures deemed by the County to be necessary and feasible to preserve in place, avoid, or minimize impacts to the resource, including, but not limited to, facilitating the appropriate tribal treatment of the find, as necessary.
- Work at the discovery location shall not resume until all necessary investigation and evaluation of the discovery have been satisfied.

- Mitigation Measure TCR-4: Human Remains. In the event human remains are discovered, all work shall cease immediately. All measures shall be made to secure and protect areas in which human remains and funeral objects are discovered. Construction workers and/or contractors or subcontractors on the job site will not be permitted to take photographs of human remains, or funeral objects. Archaeological resources are not to be moved or taken from the Project site and work should not resume until authorized. The County Coroner and local law enforcement shall be notified within 24 hours of the discovery to conduct proper evaluation and treatment of remains. The coroner and the law enforcement agency will evaluate the find to determine whether it is a crime scene or a burial. If human remains are determined to be associated with an archaeological site (burial), SBTS will notify the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and will work with SHPO to determine measures to take. That office will contact the appropriate tribal representatives and consult on the disposition of the remains and any associated artifacts.

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

N/A

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

El Dorado County - Department of Transportation

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

California Tahoe Conservancy

U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service

City of South Lake Tahoe

Tahoe Resource Conservation District

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency