

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: Space for Meaningful Outdoor Recreation and Education ("SMORE") Project

Lead Agency: California Department of Parks and Recreation ("State Parks")

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Project Location: Big Sur
City

Monterey County
County

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

The Proposed Project consists of the construction and operation of a permanent camping facility and associated infrastructure designed to support existing organized educational youth and family campouts facilitated by Ventana Wildlife Society ("VWS"). These facilities would facilitate future expansion of VWS campouts to accommodate 50 campers plus ten (10) staff (total of 60 persons) and up to 60 campouts per year. The Project would also support future special events or programs permitted by State Parks. The Proposed Project would be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") and with State Parks' Accessibility Guidelines. Please see the attached sheet for the list of proposed improvements associated with the Proposed Project.

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

The Proposed Project would have potentially significant effects in the areas of "biological resources" and "cultural and tribal cultural resources." These effects would be reduced to a less-than-significant level through the implementation of mitigation measures identified in the IS/MND. Please see the attached sheet containing for the list of mitigation measures as part of the Proposed Project.

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

There are no known areas of controversy associated with the Proposed Project to date.

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

California Coastal Commission
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
County of Monterey
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Proposed Project consists of the construction and operation of a permanent camping facility and associated infrastructure designed to support existing organized educational youth and family campouts facilitated by VWS. These facilities would facilitate future expansion of VWS campouts to accommodate 50 campers plus ten (10) staff (60 total peoples) and up to 60 campouts per year. VWS would transport campers in four (4) fifteen-passenger vans, and one (1) support vehicles. The Project would also support future special events or programs permitted by State Parks. The proposed improvements, include:

- Two (2) designated tent camp areas that can accommodate a total of sixty (60) people;
- An amphitheater;
- Fire rings;
- A rustic kitchen/dining pavilion with BBQ(s)/Grills and picnic tables;
- Two (2) portable restroom facilities;
- ADA accessible internal decomposed granite pathways; and,
- A designated parking area comprised of one (1) ADA-accessible van parking space.

The Proposed Project also includes a graywater catchment system that would include a dry well for on-site water capture and storage. In addition, the Project also includes bear resistant trash receptacles, for wildlife safe solid waste disposal. The Proposed Project would restore approximately 4,851 square ft of previously disturbed habitat on site with native planting.

MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measures – Biological Resources

4.3-1 The project applicant shall retain a qualified biologist to prepare and conduct an Employee Education Program for the construction crew prior to any construction activities. The qualified biologist shall meet with the construction crew at the onset of construction at the project site to educate the construction crew on the following: 1) the appropriate access route(s) in and out of the construction area and a review of the project boundaries; 2) how a biological monitor shall examine the area and agree upon a method which shall ensure the safety of the monitor during such activities; 3) the special-status species and sensitive habitats that are known or may be present within and directly adjacent to the site; 4) the specific mitigation measures that shall be incorporated into the construction effort; 5) the general provisions and protections afforded by the regulatory agencies; and 6) the proper procedures if a special-status species is encountered within the project site during construction.

4.3-2 Prior to construction, exclusionary fencing shall be placed to preclude construction vehicles and personnel from impacting riparian habitat and the Big Sur River. A biological monitor shall supervise the installation of exclusionary fencing and monitor at least once

per week until construction is complete to ensure that the protective exclusionary fencing remains intact.

- 4.3-3** Construction shall take place only under dry conditions (i.e., when the evaluation area has not received more than ¼ inch of precipitation within the last 24 hours).
- 4.3-4** Stationary equipment such as motors, generators, and welders located within 100 feet of riparian habitat shall be stored overnight at a designated staging area and shall be positioned over drip pans.
- 4.3-5** Any hazardous or toxic materials deleterious to life that could be washed into adjacent sensitive habitats shall be contained in watertight containers.
- 4.3-6** Refueling of equipment shall take place within designated staging areas or at least 100 feet from riparian habitats.
- 4.3-7** All construction debris and associated materials stored in staging area shall be removed from the work site upon completion of the project.
- 4.3-8** A qualified biologist shall survey the Project site and immediately adjacent areas 48 hours before and the morning of the onset of work activities for the presence of CRLF and FYLF. If any life stage of CRLF or FYLF is observed, construction activities shall not commence until the Service and/or CDFW are consulted, and appropriate actions are taken to allow project activities to continue.
- 4.3-9** During ground-disturbing activities, a qualified biologist shall survey the Project site daily before the onset of work activities for the presence of CRLF and FYLF. The qualified biologist shall remain onsite until all ground disturbing activities are completed. If any life stage of CRLF or FYLF is found and these individuals are likely to be killed or injured by work activities, the qualified biologist shall be contacted, and work shall stop in that area until the CRLF and/or FYLF has moved on its own out of the work area. If the CRLF and/or FYLF do not move out of the work area of their own accord the Service and/or CDFW shall be contacted prior to relocation. Construction activities shall not resume until the Service and/or CDFW are consulted, and appropriate actions are taken to allow project activities to continue.
- 4.3-10** After ground-disturbing activities are complete, or earlier if determined appropriate by the qualified biologist, the qualified biologist shall designate a construction monitor to oversee on-site compliance with all avoidance and minimization measures. The qualified biologist shall ensure that this construction monitor receives training in the identification of CRLF and FYLF. The construction monitor or the qualified biologist is authorized to stop work if the avoidance and/or minimization measures are not being followed.
- 4.3-11** To prevent inadvertent entrapment of CRLF or FYLF during Project construction, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than two feet deep shall be covered at

the close of each working day with plywood or similar materials. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be inspected for trapped animals.

- 4.3-12** Only tightly woven fiber netting or similar material may be used for erosion control at the evaluation area. Coconut coir matting is an acceptable erosion control material. No plastic mono-filament matting shall be used for erosion control, as this material may ensnare wildlife, including CRLF and FYLF.
- 4.3-13** Because dusk and dawn are often the times when CRLF and FYLF are most actively foraging and dispersing, all construction activities should cease one half hour before sunset and should not begin prior to one half hour after sunrise.
- 4.3-14** A qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for SWPT and their nests within the project site no more than three days prior to construction. If a SWPT nest is found, it will be monitored and avoided until the eggs hatch. All SWPTs discovered within the project site immediately prior to or during project activities shall be allowed to move out of the area of their own volition. If this is not feasible, they shall be captured by a qualified biologist and relocated out of harm's way to the nearest suitable habitat at least 100 feet upstream or downstream from the project site where the individual was found.
- 4.3-15** To avoid or minimize impacts to MDFW, the project applicant will retain a qualified biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys in suitable habitat proposed for construction. Surveys for MDFW nests will be conducted within three days prior to construction within the project site. All MDFW nests identified will be flagged for avoidance. Nests that cannot be avoided will be manually deconstructed prior to land clearing activities to allow animals to escape harm. If a litter of young is found or suspected, nest material will be replaced, and the nest will be left alone for two to three weeks before a re-check to verify that young are capable of independent survival before proceeding with nest dismantling.
- 4.3-16** Project activities that may affect protected nesting avian species (e.g., noise, vibrations) shall be scheduled after September 15 and before February 1 to avoid the breeding and nesting season. Alternatively, a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting raptors and other protected avian species within 300 feet of Project activities if work occurs between February 1 and September 15. Pre-construction surveys shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of project activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of these activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through September). Because some bird species nest early in spring and others nest later in summer, and because some species breed multiple times in a season, surveys for nesting birds may be required to continue during project activities to address new arrivals. The necessity and timing of these continued surveys shall be determined by the qualified biologist.

If raptors or other protected avian species nests are identified during the pre-construction surveys, the qualified biologist shall notify the project applicant and an appropriate no-

disturbance buffer shall be imposed within which no disturbance should take place (generally 300 feet in all directions for raptors; other avian species may have species-specific requirements) until the young of the year have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival, as determined by a qualified biologist.

- 4.3-17** Trees within and directly adjacent to the Project site that have the potential to be impacted by construction-related activities, as determined by a qualified arborist or biologist, shall be protected from damage during construction with temporary fencing. Fencing shall consist of chain link, supported snowdrift or plastic mesh, or field fence. Fencing shall have cross bracing (typically 2x4 material) on both the top and lower edges of the fencing material to prevent sagging and provide lateral support. Fencing shall stand a minimum height of four feet above grade and be placed to the farthest extent possible from the base of the trees to protect driplines (typically 10-12 feet away from the base of a tree). Where access or space is limited, it is permissible to protect trees within the 10-12-foot distance with approval from a qualified arborist or biologist.

Tree fencing shall remain in place during the entire construction period. Torn or damaged roots shall be cleanly cut to sound wood wherever possible to minimize decay entry points. Any roots found that must be cut should be cut by manually digging a trench and cutting exposed roots with a saw, vibrating knife, rock saw, narrow trencher with sharp blades, or other approved root pruning equipment. No tree seals shall be used as the seal material only promotes decay.

- 4.3-18** Soil compaction, parking of vehicles or heavy equipment, stockpiling of construction materials, and/or dumping of materials shall be prohibited adjacent to trees.

Mitigation Measures – Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources

- 4.4-1** To minimize potential impacts to previously unknown or subsurface historical or archaeological resources, the Applicant shall retain a Native American monitor and qualified archaeologist to monitor all ground-disturbing Project activities. All work shall stop if a cultural resource is discovered during construction. A qualified professional will evaluate the resource to determine whether the finding is significant. If the finding is a historical resource or unique archaeological resource, avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation shall be implemented. Work will cease in the immediate vicinity of the find until mitigation can be implemented. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f), work may continue in other parts of the project site during the implementation of potential resource mitigation (if necessary). State Parks will be responsible for reviewing and approving the mitigation plan in consultation with the qualified professional prior to the resumption of ground-disturbing activities.
- 4.4-2** To minimize potential impacts to previously unknown or subsurface archaeological resources, a cultural resource sensitivity training led by a Native American monitor, or a qualified archaeologist shall be conducted for all construction personnel prior to any ground-disturbing activities. The training shall include the regulatory contexts guiding the

Project and governing the protection of cultural resources, guidance for identifying cultural resources, protocols to follow in case of inadvertent discoveries, and contact information for key Project personnel, the Lead Agency, and the Monterey County Sheriff-Coroner.

- 4.4-3** To minimize potential impacts to unknown buried human remains to less than significant, State Parks will immediately halt work in the event of the discovery or recognition of any human remains. No further excavation or ground disturbing activities will occur at the site or nearby area suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the Monterey County coroner has been contacted in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code. If the Coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, the Coroner shall ensure that notification is provided to the NAHC within twenty-four hours of the determination, as required by California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c) and PRC 5097. The NAHC shall identify the person or persons it believes to be most likely descended (MLD) from the deceased Native American (PRC Section 5097.98). The designated MLD then has 48 hours from the time access to the property is granted to make recommendations concerning treatment of the remains (AB 2641). If the landowner does not agree with the recommendations of the MLD, the NAHC can mediate (Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code). If no agreement is reached, the landowner must reburial the remains where they will not be further disturbed (Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code). This will also include either recording the site with the NAHC or the appropriate Information Center; using an open space or conservation zoning designation or easement; or recording a document with the county in which the property is located (AB 2641). Work will not resume in the immediate area of the discovery until such time the remains have been appropriately removed from the site.