

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 #: _____

2015102031

Project Title: Yuba River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study

Lead Agency: US Army Corps of Engineers

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Project Location: Yuba County

City

County

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

The recommended plan in the Feasibility Report/Environmental Assessment (FR/EA) includes restoration of approximately 43 acres of aquatic habitat in the Lower Yuba River corridor, between the Highway 20 bridge and Marysville. Restoration features include side channels, backwater areas, bank scallops, and channel stabilization measures. Engineered log jams, boulders, and large woody material would be placed at actively eroding banks or sites with high flow velocities. The plan also includes approximately 136 acres of floodplain lowering, grading, and planting of native riparian species.

The restoration feature footprint is 179 acres within the proposed real estate acquisition of 692 acres; temporary work area easements are about 6 acres and permanent road easements are about 21 acres.

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

The recommended plan, while providing long-term benefits to the Yuba River watershed, would also have short-term effects on some resources. The FR/EA evaluated in detail, potential effects to Air Quality, Climate Change, Aesthetics, Hydrology and Hydraulics, Vegetation and Wildlife, Special Status Species, Water Quality, Transportation, Recreation, Cultural Resources, and Noise.

In all cases, the potential adverse environmental effects would be reduced to a less-than-significant level through project design, construction practices, preconstruction surveys and analysis, regulatory requirements, and best management practices. All construction would be implemented in compliance with applicable Federal laws, regulations and executive orders. Best management practices and avoidance and minimization measures as summarized within the FR/EA would be implemented. No compensatory mitigation would be required. A geotechnical analysis of underlying substrates and water quality analysis of construction activities and methods would be conducted during the preconstruction engineering and design phase to further refine potential impact analysis. A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System general construction permit would be required. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan would be developed by the contractor prior to construction.

The likelihood of encountering Hazardous, Toxic, and Radiological Waste during the construction of this project is minimal. Elemental mercury and methylmercury are known contaminants of concern in the Lower Yuba River; however, no concentrations of any material are anticipated at levels that would be classified as Hazardous or acutely Toxic. The potential for release of contaminants would be addressed through characterization, monitoring, and adaptive controls.

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

In general, the public and resource agencies expressed support for ecosystem restoration in the watershed and support for the proposed actions in the recommended plan, but also a desire for additional ecosystem restoration actions, especially fish passage and dam removal.

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

US Army Corps of Engineers, Yuba County Water Agency.