Staff Report

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project: Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Project

Project Proponent: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County, Red Bluff, CA.

Staff Report Attachments:

A. Map 1 Location of the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project Phase I and Phase II Project Area
B. Map 2 Topographic Map of Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Projects Phase I and Phase II Project Area
C. Map 3 Phase I Project Area Detail Map
D. Map 4 Phase II Project Area Detail Map
E. Map 5 Treatment Sites Phase I Project Area
F. Original and Modified Text of Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Components and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) Based Upon Agency/Public Comments (hardcopy text of both documents is available for RCDTC Board Review at the RCD of Tehama County offices or online at: http://www.tehamacountyrcd.org/services/CEQA/pondCEQA
G. Resolution Approving Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) Including all Modifications and Changes
H. Letter Verifying State Clearinghouse Distribution of Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to State Review Agencies Dates December 13, 2017
I. Comment Letter, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board November 22, 2017
J. Public Notice – Notice of Intent, Notice of Completion, Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal and Notice of Determination

Project Location and Legal Description:

Phase I Project Area
5 Miles southeast of Manton California
22 miles northeast of Red Bluff California
Between Rock Creek Road and the Shasta/Tehama County line to State Route 36E and the Ponderosa Sky Ranch community
(See Appendix A Map 1, Appendix B Map 2, Appendix C Map 3 and Appendix E Map 5)

Phase II Project Area
5 miles east of Cohasset California
25 miles south east of Red Bluff California
20 miles east of Los Molinos California
25 miles east of Chico California

Between State Route 36E and State Route 32E
(See Appendix A Map 1, Appendix B Map 2, and Appendix D Map 4)

Legal Description of the Phase I and Phase II Project Area:

Phase I Project Area
T30N R2E Sec 31
T29N R1E Sec 1
T29 R2E Sec 6, 7, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22

Phase II Project Area
T28N R1E Sec 12-13
T28N R2E Sec 5-6-7-17-18-19-20-21-28-29-32
T27N R2E Sec 5-4-10-13-14-15-23-24

Project Description:

Project Description Overview
21 recommended categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments have been developed for the 97.8 miles of Ponderosa Way and intersecting roads within the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects area. Within the Phase I portion of the overall project area, the erosion control and erosion prevention treatments design plan calls for 9.4 miles of road upgrading and possibly 12.7 miles of road decommissioning along Ponderosa Way and intersecting spur roads. Approval by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors would be required in order to decommission those Ponderosa Way road segments within the Phase I project area. If approval is not provided, those treatment options developed for Phase I road segments not related to road decommissioning would be implemented as appropriate. All spur roads (8.1 miles) within the Phase I project area have been recommended for road decommissioning. All erosion control and erosion prevention work to be completed along Ponderosa Way within the Phase II project area will consist exclusively of road upgrading utilizing the categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments described in the CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) prepared for this project.

Detailed Scope of Work/Project Description

Recommended Treatments
The following 21 recommended categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments have been developed for the 97.8 miles of Ponderosa Way and intersecting roads within the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects area. Within the Phase I portion of the overall project area, the erosion control and erosion prevention treatments design plan calls for 9.4 miles of road upgrading and 12.7 miles of road decommissioning along Ponderosa Way and intersecting spur roads (See Attachment E Map 5 Treatment Sites Phase I Project Area). Approval by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors would be required in order to decommission those Ponderosa Way road segments within
the Phase I project area. If approval is not provided, those treatment options developed for Phase I road segments not related to road decommissioning would be implemented as appropriate. Road segments recommended for decommissioning within the Phase I project area are shown on Attachment E Map 5. All spur roads (8.1 miles) within the Phase I project area have been recommended for road decommissioning. County approval for such action on these private roads is not required. Not only are these routes privately owned and maintained, they have been blocked in order to prevent thru traffic and conversion to a public access road. All erosion control and erosion prevention work to be completed along Ponderosa Way within the Phase II project area will consist exclusively of road up grading.

Proposed treatment options for Ponderosa Way within the Phase I (including spur roads) and Phase II project area are organized into 2 categories, site-specific treatments (e.g., stream crossings) and road surface drainage treatments (see Table A Recommended Erosion Control and Erosion Prevention Treatments Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Projects below). In addition to the treatment summaries shown in Table A, detailed treatment descriptions are shown below. Storm proofing of Ponderosa Way within the Phase I and Phase II project area along with road decommissioning (Phase I project area only) are anticipated to provide immediate benefits to the streams and aquatic habitats found within the watersheds of eastern Tehama County and Butte County which currently receive catastrophic and chronic road related sediment generated within and along the Ponderosa Way road prism. It is anticipated that both road treatments and road decommissioning will measurably diminish the impact of erosion and movement of fine sediment on the biological productivity of those streams that pass through the Phase I and Phase II project area. These streams will also be protected from catastrophic road failure and sediment inputs during flood events. The proposed road treatments will allow future storm runoff to cleanse streams that pass through the Phase I and Phase II project area of accumulated coarse and fine sediment under improved habitat conditions rather than allowing continued sediment delivery from managed areas to impaired watercourses. Utilizing the Phase I upslope road assessment and treatment action plan (incorporated into this project’s Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration as Appendix A 2017 Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan (Phase I), Tehama County, California) prepared by the RCDTC’s project contractor Pacific Watershed Associates, along with a similar document to be prepared in the future for the Phase II project area; the Regional Water Quality Control Board and watershed stakeholders can work together in prioritizing the implementation of restoration and sediment control activities within the Phase I and Phase II project area.

Site-Specific Treatments
Stream crossing upgrade treatments will be implemented to reduce the risk of catastrophic failure and sediment delivery resulting from gully ing, headcut migration, stream diversion and stream crossing failure (washout). Stream crossings will be designed (or redesigned) to minimize impacts to water quality and to handle peak runoff and flood waters. There are three basic subcategories of permanent stream crossings; 1) bridges and arches, 2) fords and armored fills, and 3) culverts. Current inventoried erosion features (sites) within the Phase I portion of the overall project area and future inventoried sites within the Phase II area will be upgraded. New stream crossing upgrades will be designed in a manner that adheres to current standards of State and federal regulatory entities and will make future failures less likely to occur. Treatments will also reduce the vulnerability of stream crossings to failure (overtopping and washout) and eliminate the risk of stream diversion.
### Table A

**Recommended Erosion Control and Erosion Prevention Treatments Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Projects**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment type</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Site feature specific treatments</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culvert (install)</td>
<td>Installation of culverts within fill areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culvert (replace)</td>
<td>Replacement of undersized, poorly installed, or worn out culverts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge installation</td>
<td>Installation of bridges to prevent crossing failure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet crossing</td>
<td>Installation of ford crossings and armored fill crossings using riprap and rock armor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decommission crossing</td>
<td>Decommissioning of stream crossings by removing all fill and woody material and restoring natural channel morphology and function to convey 100-year storm flow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical dip</td>
<td>Installation of critical dips to prevent stream diversions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock (armor)</td>
<td>Rock armoring on headcuts along with inboard and outboard stream crossing fillslopes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean culvert</td>
<td>Cleaning of culvert inlets to regain inlet capacity and pass stream flow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil excavation</td>
<td>Excavation and removal of sediment, primarily at fill failures and stream crossings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outslope road and remove ditch</td>
<td>Outsloping of roads and removal or filling of inboard ditches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inslope road</td>
<td>Inslaping of roads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditch relief culvert</td>
<td>Replacement of in place ditch relief culverts with properly installed ditch relief culverts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditch relief culvert downspout</td>
<td>Installation of downspouts on ditch relief culvert outlets to prevent fillslope erosion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove berm</td>
<td>Remove of berms on the outboard edge of roads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove ditch</td>
<td>Removal of inboard ditches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rolling dip</td>
<td>Installation of rolling dips on hydrologically connected roads to improve road surface drainage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean and cut ditch</td>
<td>Cleaning and cutting inboard ditches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-road drain</td>
<td>Installation of cross-road drains to improve and disperse surface runoff on decommissioned roads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Road surface treatments</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock road surface</td>
<td>Rocking of specific road segments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rip road surface</td>
<td>Decompaction of specific existing road surfaces with bulldozer rippers to prepare the road surface for placement of excavated fill and/or facilitate water infiltration and revegetation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended treatments for road upgrading include replacing (upsizing) undersized culverts stream crossings and installing culverts at un-culverted (filled) stream crossings. In such locations, proposed treatment
recommendations will have appropriate design geometry for installing new culverts or replacing current culverts with replacement culverts. All new stream crossing culvert installations will be properly sized for the 100-year recurrence interval design streamflow discharge. As previously mentioned, stream crossings that are designed to meet minimum standards and basic design criteria will significantly reduce the risk of catastrophic failure and sediment delivery. Proposed road upgrading treatments also include constructing ford crossings and armored fills in locations that are suitable for wet crossing construction. Fords will be built to convey stream flow across the roadbed with no fill migrating to the natural channel below the roadbed. Armored fill crossings will be built to convey stream flow directly across the roadbed and down an armored fillslope to the natural channel below.

Generally, fords and an armored fill crossing are intended for low-volume traffic areas, such as remote wildland roads and parklands experiencing little use as is the case with Ponderosa Way road segments in Tehama County. Fords and armored fills are a preferred design for small ephemeral and intermittent streams when the majority of the traffic will be crossing during low flow or dry conditions. When designed and properly built, fords and armored fill crossings are a preferred option for low volume, low maintenance, low use routes, such as Ponderosa Way. Stream crossings that display a diversion potential occur wherever a road climbs through the crossing site and where the road approach slopes away from the stream crossing. If the culvert plugs, backed up flood waters will be diverted out of the channel, down the road alignment and eventually onto adjacent, unprotected hillslopes. A major dip in the roadbed is critical, in the case of a plugged culvert, to direct flow over the low point (dip) in the fill and back into the natural channel.

Compaction of the fillslope face and slope gradient is one of the key factors that influence the stability of fillslopes. On fillslope angles steeper than 50% (2:1), riprap will be used as a stabilization measure as well as a non-erodible erosion control “mulch” on fillslopes that lack vegetation. Used as mulch, riprap prevents raindrop erosion, rilling and gullyling caused by direct rainfall or concentrated road surface runoff. Fillslope riprap armor that is sized according to expected stream velocities and slope gradients, would consist of a well graded mixture of hard, large to smaller rock sizes to minimize void space and create a dense layer of interlocking angular rock fragments. “Appendix C Typical Design Schematics for Proposed Treatments Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects” found in this project’s IS/MND provides additional design detail regarding these site-specific treatments.

Road Surface Treatments

Among the goals of the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects is to achieve normalized hillslope drainage and as feasible, to hydrologically disconnect Ponderosa Way and its spur roads from the major anadromous streams and their tributaries that flow through the Phase I and Phase II project area. For the purposes of this project, a “hydrologically connected” road or road segment is defined as any road segment that has a continuous surface flow path to a natural stream channel during a runoff event. Wherever a hydrologic connection exists, road surface runoff and fine sediment is delivered to streams during precipitation events sufficient to produce surface runoff and cause erosion of bare soil areas. Concentrated runoff on compacted road surfaces and ditches results in erosion and road related sediment transport to nearby streams. The most common road related bare surface areas include unpaved road surfaces as well as bare (unvegetated) fillslopes, cutbanks, ditches, gullies, turnouts and landslide surfaces. The road surface drainage treatments proposed for upgraded roads are designed to control, direct and disperse road surface runoff and ditch flow onto adjacent hillslopes by reshaping the roadbed and constructing relatively frequent road surface drainage structures (e.g., rolling dips).
Treatment of road segments proposed for decommissioning will be based upon the principals of dispersing road surface runoff by constructing cross road drains and increasing infiltration rates through decompaction of the road surface. These techniques will disperse road surface runoff and reduce or prevent delivery of concentrated road runoff and fine sediment to streams. Road surface upgrading treatments are designed to redirect and disperse surface runoff off the road bed as frequently as feasible. Road upgrading recommendations include outsloping, insloping, berm removal, and installing rolling dips and ditch culverts to more frequently discharge runoff along segments of Ponderosa Way. For each recommended road surface drainage treatment where ground disturbance will occur, road rock will be used to stabilize the road surface. Such rocking will curtail road surface erosion by fortifying the road surface and reducing the rate of vehicle abrasion, down wearing, surface erosion, and resultant fine sediment production and delivery. Road surface decommissioning treatments are designed to prevent surface runoff by ripping the road surface to an average depth of 18” to 24” in order to increase infiltration rates and improve revegetation. In addition, road drainage will be dispersed by constructing frequent cross road drains to convey upslope runoff quickly across the road and to more frequently discharge runoff along segments of Ponderosa Way. Reducing the total length of roads within the Phase I project area through decommissioning 12.7 miles of Ponderosa Way and spur roads that are hydrologically connected to streams within the Phase I project area will directly and immediately improve water quality in South Fork Battle Creek. (See the discussion related to road decommissioning below for additional details on such road treatment practices.)

The basic principles of road surface drainage design entail dispersing runoff as frequently as possible thus protecting the integrity of the road and minimizing erosion and sediment pollution. The primary recommended road surface drainage treatments for upgrading Ponderosa Way within the both Phase I and Phase II project area include:

- Outsloping of roads by removing the inboard ditch.
- Crowning roads by directing surface runoff to the outer edges of the road.
- Installing rolling dips.
- Removing outside road berms.

Based upon the 2017 Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and the RCD of Tehama County’s WUI and Watershed Protection/Emergency Access (Coleman Fish Hatchery Road and Ponderosa Way) (Appendix A and B of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration) along with what is expected to be identified during Phase II road and sediment assessments; a number of conclusions regarding road maintenance and improvements were developed. Significant among these is that outsloped roads with rolling dips and no ditch or berms along the outside edge of the road are considered the best, most preferred road shape and drainage configuration for the majority of road upgrading circumstances along Ponderosa Way. In addition, it is anticipated that each segment of outsloped road will have the outside berm removed and will be resurfaced with road rock. An outsloped road cross section is more likely to capture and disperse road surface runoff. This treatment option has less environmental impact and lower maintenance costs than other designs. Outsloping high priority road segments along Ponderosa Way will minimize flow volumes and the magnitude of runoff in the inside ditch, as well as reduce the potential for erosion, hydrologic connectivity and sediment delivery from the upgraded road surface. An outsloped road ensures that turbid road runoff and fine sediment eroded from the roadbed will be quickly drained to the outside edge of the road where
it can be discharged onto vegetation and into undisturbed slopes rather than migrating into stream channels. Out sloping however is not always sufficient enough to move surface runoff out of wheel ruts and off the road surface rapidly.

In addition to outsloping and berm removal, rolling dips are often necessary to disperse surface runoff from outsloped roads. Rolling dips are smooth, angled depressions constructed in the road bed that drain surface runoff to the outside of the road dispersing it onto native hillslopes and are critical to maintaining a well-drained, outsloped road. These features will be constructed into the road subgrade with an outsloped dip axis and long, shallow approach on their up-road side with a more abrupt rise, or reverse grade, on their down-road side. Spacing design will be dependent upon the road grade, length of uncontrolled runoff, the erodibility of the road surface (e.g., rocked or native) and the proximity of the nearest stream channel.

Primary road surface treatments developed in order to upgrade selected portions of Ponderosa Way within the Phase I and Phase II project area will include as appropriate:

- Installation of ditch relief culverts and ditch relief culvert downspout.
- Insloping of road.
- Cutting and cleaning existing inboard ditches.
- Applying road rock on existing rocked roads.

Road Decommissioning
A number of inventoried erosion features within the Phase I project area have been proposed for decommissioning (See Attachment E Map 5 Treatment Sites Phase I Project Area of this Staff Report document) if approved by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors. If necessary approval is obtained, treatments to sites along decommissioned (closed) road segments (Phase I project area only) will include: decompacting and/or outsloping the former road bed and installing cross road drains to prevent collection, concentration or diversion of surface runoff; removing (excavating) unstable or potentially unstable fill (sidecast materials) that could fail and deliver sediment to a stream; excavating stream crossing fills and exhuming the original stream channel bed and stable sideslopes; removing concrete sills and applying erosion control (seeding and mulching) to bare soil areas disturbed by decommissioning work. “Appendix C Typical Design Schematics for Proposed Treatments Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects” found in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration document prepared for this project provides additional design detail related to potential road decommissioning within the Phase I and Phase II area to be completed in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects. Decommissioning stream crossings located along closed road segments within the Phase I project area will adhere to the following standards and provide immediate benefits to water quality as well as aquatic and riparian habitat conditions of those streams that pass through the Phase I project area.

- Complete removal of stream crossing road fills and stored sediment that impact the natural stream channel morphology.
- Excavated channel bottom widths sized for the 100-year storm flood flow and at least as wide as the
undisturbed natural stream channel.

- Stable channel grades and streamside hillslopes.
- Elimination of stream diversion potential.
- Prevention of future stream crossing wash outs and gullying of abandoned stream crossing fills.

Unstable fillslope (landslide) features which represent existing and pending road fill failures will be treated. If left untreated, large amounts of sediment would be mobilized and delivered to the stream channel from these potential fillslope failures.

Most of the Class II watercourses crossings proposed for upgrading or decommissioning will require dewatering, using either gravity fed flex pipe or a gas-powered pump and coffer dams. CDFW standards detailed in the CDFG Salmonid Habitat Restoration Manual, Part X: *Upslope Erosion Inventory and Sediment Control Guidance* will be followed along with those established specially for this project (See the Best Management Practices section of this project’s IA/MND along with its Appendix F Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) for the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration). Each recommended treatment type proposed for use in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects is consistent with the conservation goals and objectives written into the implementation strategies and guidelines of the Basin Plan for the Central Valley Region (revised April 2016) in order to protect beneficial uses and water quality. All upslope road treatment recommendations will follow guidelines described in the *Handbook for Forest, Ranch and Rural Roads*, Part X of the CDFG Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual, and California Forest Practice Rules (CAL FIRE, 2017).

**Parcels Involved:**
Specific parcels in which future project work occurs will be identified prior to implementation of impactive activities.

**Recommended Environmental Determination:** Per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is proposed (see Attachment F of this Staff Report document related to the amended IS/MND and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan documents).

**Summary:**
The Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC) is established under Division 9 of the California Public Resources Code and by the rules of the Tehama County Local Agency Formation Committee as a locally governed agency with primary authority to implement local natural resource conservation measures. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County as CEQA Lead Agency has reviewed and approved as amended, an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County, the project proponent. The RCDTC Board of Directors is now considering the adoption of the IS/MND. Staff’s recommendation is that the Board of the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County adopt the IS/MND per the attached
Resolution (Attachment G of this Staff Report) which includes the modified Mitigated Negative Declaration and incorporated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (Attachment F).

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW/CEQA ISSUES:

The Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) prepared for this project and attached to this staff report, determined that there would be potential environmental impacts related to Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hydrology and Water Quality, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Transportation and Traffic along with Tribal Cultural Resources detailed in the IS-MND. The IS-MND recommends thirty-three (33) Mitigation Measures to reduce these environmental impacts to a less than significant level. The collection of fees pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 711.4 and 14 CCR 753.5 is required because the project has the potential to cause impacts to fish or wildlife or their habitat. Modifications as noted in the strikethrough/underline replacement format found in Attachment F were made to the text of the IS/MND after circulation to the Office of Planning and Research in order to provide a more accurate description and analysis of environmental impacts and regulatory issues related to implementation of project work. These changes to the IS/MND are incorporated by reference in Attachment F of this document. Based upon input from State agency personnel along with members of the public, no changes, amendments, deletions or additions were necessary related to this project’s Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP).

Public Noticing:

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and Notice of Completion was sent to the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse (State Clearinghouse #2017112034), for circulation to CEQA Trustee and Responsible Agencies with jurisdiction of involved resources for a 30-day review period, that ended on December 12, 2017. To date one comment letter has been received, that of the California Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board dated November 22, 2017 (Attachment I of this Staff Report). In response to these comments, changes were made to the Public Review Draft of the IS/MND with those changes shown in Attachment F. The Notice of Completion and Notice of Intent (Attachment J) and the original IS/MND were submitted to the Tehama County Clerk Recorders Office for a 30-day review period. These documents were also posted to the TCRCD’s website.
Attachment A

Map 1

Location of the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project Phase I and Phase II Project Area
Map 1. Location of the Ponderosa Way Erosion Prevention Planning Project. Grantee: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
Attachment B

Map 2

Topographic Map of Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Projects Phase I and Phase II Project Area
Figure 1. Location of the Ponderosa Way Erosion Prevention Planning Project. Grantee: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

P:GIS\10192 Ponderosa Way Proposal\10192 Ponderosa Way Proposal - Location Map.mxd  Grantee: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
Proposed Assessment
Roads
Tehama County

HUC12 Name: Digger Creek
HUC12: 180201530105

SHINGLETOWN
40121-D8
MANTON
40121-D7
GRAYS PEAK
40121-D6
LASSEN PEAK
40121-D5
READING PEAK
40121-D4

HUC12 Name: Lower South Fork Battle Creek
HUC12: 180201530204

HUC12 Name: Upper Paynes Creek
HUC12: 180201550102

INSKIP HILL
40121-C8
FINLEY BUTTE
40121-C7
LYONSVILLE
40121-C6
MINERAL
40121-C5
CHILDS MEADOWS
40121-C4

HUC12 Name: Plum Creek
HUC12: 180201550101

HUC12 Name: North Fork Antelope Creek
HUC12: 180201560101

HUC12 Name: South Fork Antelope Creek
HUC12: 180201560102

DEWITT PEAK
40121-B8
PANTHER SPRING
40121-B7

HUC12 Name: Middle Mill Creek
HUC12: 180201560302

BARKLEY MTN.
40121-B6
ONION BUTTE
40121-B5
HUMBOLDT PEAK
40121-B4

HUC12 Name: Big Smoky Creek-Deer Creek
HUC12: 180201570204

HUC12 Name: Big Dry Creek
HUC12: 180201570101

ACORN HOLLOW
40121-A8
ISHI CAVES
40121-A7

HUC12 Name: Sulphur Creek-Deer Creek
HUC12: 180201570205

DEVILS PARADE GROUND
40121-A6
BUTTE MEADOWS
40121-A5
JONESVILLE
40121-A4

HUC12 Name: Middle Big Chico Creek
HUC12: 180201570502

HUC12 Name: Campbell Creek-Pine Creek
HUC12: 180201570403

COHASSET
39121-H6

HUC12 Planning Map. Ponderosa Way Road Assessment. Grantee: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

P:\GIS\10192 Ponderosa Way Proposal\10192 Ponderosa Way Proposal - Watershed Planning Map.mxd

Selected hydrography

HUC12 Name: Rock Creek
HUC12: 180201550101
17204.1
Plum Creek
NM
S

HUC12: 180201570603
180201550102
16407.6
Upper Paynes Creek
NM
S

HUC12 Name: Lower South Fork Battle Creek
HUC12: 180201530204
31775.6
SI,GC
S

HUC12 Name: Digger Creek
HUC12: 180201530105
26791.8
GC
S
Attachment E
Map 5
Treatment Sites Phase I Project Area
Map 1. Location of the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

P:\GIS\10192 Ponderosa Way Proposal\10192 Ponderosa Way location map 1.mxd
Assessment treatment sites by problem type for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

- Streams crossing
- Fill failure
- Ditch failed (culvert)
- Gully
- Road surface drainage point
- Spring
- Roads recommended for upgrade
- Roads recommended for decommissioning
- Other roads
- Streams
- Ponderosa Fire project area
- State Bureau Of Water Quality


Notes:
Map 3a. Assessment treatment sites by problem type for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

Prepared June 2017 by:
Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com

Notes:
Streams generated from 10m DEM and selectively altered based on field mapping and aerial photographic interpretation
Imagery: NAIP 2016 Contour interval 10m
Map 3b. Assessment treatment sites by problem type for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

Notes:
- Streams generated from 10m DEM and selectively altered based on field mapping and aerial photographic interpretation
- Imagery: NAIP 2016
- Contour interval: 10m
- Scale 1:9,000

Prepared June 2017 by Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com
Map 3c: Assessment treatment sites by problem type for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

Notes:
- Streams generated from 10m DEM and selectively altered based on field mapping and aerial photographic interpretation
- Imagery: NAIP 2016
- Contour interval: 10m
- Streams projected on 10m grid

Prepared June 2017 by:
Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com
Map 3d. Assessment treatment sites by problem type for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

- Streams generated from 10m DEM and selectively altered based on field mapping and aerial photographic interpretation.
- Imagery: NAIP 2016
- Contour interval: 10m

Notes:
- Stream crossing
- Road surface drainage point
- Ditch relief culvert
- Spring
- Roads recommended for decommissioning
- Other roads
- Streams

Prepared June 2017 by:
Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com
Map 3e. Assessment treatment sites by problem type for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.
Map 4a. Assessment treatment sites by treatment priority for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.
Map 4b. Assessment treatment sites by treatment priority for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

Notes:
- Streams generated from 10m DEM and selectively altered based on field mapping and aerial photographic interpretation
- Imagery: NAIP 2016
- Contour interval: 10m

Prepared June 2017 by:
Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com
Map 4c. Assessment treatment sites by treatment priority for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

{ High priority
* Moderate priority
} Low priority
} No treat

Rods recommended for decommissioning
Other roads
Streams

Ponderosa Fire project area upslope of South Fork Battle Creek

Notes:
Streams generated from 10m DEM and selectively altered based on field mapping and aerial photographic interpretation
Imagery: NAIP 2016
Contour interval: 10m

Prepared June 2017 by:
Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com
Map 4d. Assessment treatment sites by treatment priority for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.

Scale 1 : 9,000

Prepared June 2017 by:
Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com

Notes:
Streams generated from 10m DEM and selectively altered based on field mapping and aerial photographic interpretation
Imagery: NAIP 2016
Contour interval: 10m

Streams
Roads recommended for decommissioning
Other roads
High priority
Moderate priority
Low priority
Ponderosa Fire project area upslope of South Fork Battle Creek

Scale 1 : 9,000

0 375 750 1,500 Feet

Notes:
Streams generated from 10m DEM and selectively altered based on field mapping and aerial photographic interpretation
Imagery: NAIP 2016
Contour interval: 10m

Prepared June 2017 by:
Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com
Map 4e. Assessment treatment sites by treatment priority for 22.1 miles of road and spurs, Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Project, Part 1, Tehama County, California.
Appendix F
Original and Modified Text Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
Components and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) Based Upon
Agency/Public Comments
(hardcopy text of both documents is available for RCDTC Board Review at the RCD of Tehama County or online at
http://www.tehamacountyrcd.org/services/CEQA/pondCEQA)

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION/ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM (INITIAL STUDY) AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PLAN

Modifications to portions of this Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Checklist form (Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration or IS/MND) were made after its circulation to the Office of Planning and Research and posting at the Tehama County Clerk Recorders Office in order to provide expanded or improved analysis of environmental impacts related to project work and regulatory issues. These modifications consist of additional or more detailed explanation found in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration as shown in the pertinent portions of this IS/MND shown below. Based upon input from State agency personnel along with members of the public, no changes, amendments, deletions or additions are necessary related to this project’s Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP). All changes to the IS/MND were incorporated into the project’s final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration document by reference and supersede as well as replace the original CEQA document text that was circulated for public review and comment from November 13, 2017 through December 12, 2017. These modifications are documented through highlights and strike outs shown in the modified portions of the original Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

(MOST RECENT MODIFICATIONS INDICATED IN STRIKETHROUGH/HIGHLIGHTED TEXT)

Pages 35 to 38

Regulatory Review/Approval Process and Permitting Mechanisms
Approval and permits issued by the following regulatory agencies will be required in order to implement the sediment stabilization efforts to be completed in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Projects program of work

Federal Agencies

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 Consultation/Incidental Take Statement.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
ESA Section 7 Consultation/Incidental Take Statement.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Clean Water Act §404 Nationwide Permits or Regional General Permit.

State Agencies

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
California Department of Fish and Wildlife: Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Consultation and Section 2081 Incidental Take Permit,

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB)

Overview of Authority
A Waste Discharge Requirements, Waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements, TMDL compliance determinations, or Clean Water Act §401 Certification may be required for certain types of project work. Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act gives the Central Valley Regional Water Quality control board the authority to issue, waive, or deny certification that a proposed activity is in conformance with state water quality standards. Alternatively, under the state Porter-Cologne Act, the CVRWQCB has the authority to issue a waste discharge requirement specifying the concentration or load limits allowable for a particular activity. The need for a Section 401 certification or waste discharge requirement is triggered by the potential for an activity to result in the release of waste material into a waterway. Although the net result of the practices will be the reduction of sediment delivery to streams, the implementation of project work may result in short-term, minor discharges of fine sediments to waterways. As an example, improvement of roads or stream crossings could result in minor short-term impacts to water quality. The Mitigation Measures developed for the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects effort are anticipated to render the effect of proposed project work on project area resources to a less than significant level. CVRWQCB section 401 certification is required to be completed by the Corps before issuance of its section 404 permit.

Project Specific Authority

Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401. Water Quality Certification
The Central Valley Water Board (CVWB) has regulatory authority over wetlands and waterways under the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code, Division 7 (CWC). Discharge of dredged or fill material to waters of the United States requires a CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Central Valley Water Board. Typical activities include any modifications to these waters, such as stream crossings, stream bank modifications, filling of wetlands, etc. 401 Certifications are issued in combination with CWA Section 404 Permits issued by the Army Corps of Engineers. The proposed project must be evaluated for the presence of jurisdictional waters, including wetlands and other waters of the State. Steps would then be taken to first avoid and minimize impacts to these waters, and then mitigate for unavoidable impacts. Both the Section 404 Permit and Section 401 Water Quality Certification would be obtained prior to any site disturbance related to future project implementation.

Isolated wetlands and other waters not covered by the Federal Clean Water Act
Some wetlands and other waters are considered "geographically isolated" from navigable waters and are not within the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act. (e.g., isolated wetlands, vernal pools, or stream banks above the ordinary high-water mark). Discharge of dredged or fill material to these waters may require either individual or general waste discharge requirements from the Central Valley Water Board. In order to determine if isolated wetlands or other regulated waters exist within the Ponderosa Way Phase I or Phase II project area, the RCD of Tehama County or any other entity implementing future project work described in this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration will conduct a formal survey for such aquatic features. If the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determine that isolated wetlands or other waters exist at the project site, and that the project will impactor has the potential to impact non-jurisdictional waters, a Report of Waste Discharge and filing fee will be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board. The CVWB will consider the information provided and either issue or waive Waste Discharge Requirements. Failure to obtain waste discharge requirements or a waiver may result in enforcement action. In addition, any entity discharging dredge or fill materials to waters of the State must file a report of waste discharge pursuant to Sections 13376 and 13260 of the CWC. Both the requirements to submit a report of waste discharge and apply for a Water Quality Certification may be met using the same application form, found at:
General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (CGP)

Construction activity, including demolition, resulting in a land disturbance of one acre or more must obtain coverage under the CGP. The Ponderosa Way Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Project must be conditioned to implement storm water pollution controls during construction and post-construction as required by the CGP. To apply for coverage under the CGP, the property owner of land upon which future project work described in this IS/MND is located or the entity completing such work will submit Permit Registration Documents electronically prior to construction.

Dewatering Alternative 1: Discharge to Storm Drains or Waters of the United States

A dewatering permit, General Order for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (Central Valley Water Board Order No. RS-2013-0074, adopted 31 May 2013), may be required for construction activities. This general NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit covers the discharge to waters of the United States of clean or relatively pollutant-free wastewater that poses little or no threat to water quality. The dewatering permit applies only to direct discharges to waters of the United States. Failure to obtain a dewatering permit, when required, may result in enforcement action. If required, an application form and a copy of the permit will be obtained from the Central Valley Water Board.

Dewatering Alternative 2: Discharges to Land

Construction dewatering discharges that are contained on land (i.e., will not enter waters of the United States) are allowed under Central Valley Water Board Resolution No. 2003-0003-DWQ provided the following conditions are met: (1) the dewatering discharge is of a quality as good as or better than underlying groundwater; and (2) there is a low risk of nuisance. Prior to the implementation of any future project work described in this IS/MND, the entity conducting such work will obtain written confirmation from the Central Valley Water Board that this waiver is applicable.

Caltrans

In the event that Phase I or Phase II project work will be completed within a State Highway right-of-way, a CalTrans encroachment permit will be required. A separate authorization will be needed for each occurrence of entrance onto a State Highway or into a State highway right-of-way.

Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)

California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO): SHPO Certification Letter

Cultural resources compliance is required under sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), which requires federal agencies to identify and assess the effects of their actions on cultural and historic resources. All projects implemented under in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects effort will be subject to an assessment in order to assure potential impacts to cultural resources are minimized. The agreement creates a process for assessing potential impacts, reviewing local, state and national records and literature, and consulting with tribal authorities, historical societies and other interested parties.

In addition, California Assembly Bill AB 52 Amends the California Environmental Quality Act by creating a new category of cultural resources and new requirements for consultation with Native American Tribes. AB 52, creates a new category of environmental resources that must be considered under the California Environmental Quality Act: “tribal cultural resources.” This legislation imposes new requirements for consultation regarding projects that may affect a tribal cultural resource, includes a broad definition of what may be considered to be a tribal cultural resource, and includes a list of recommended Mitigation Measures. AB 52 adds tribal cultural resources to the categories of cultural resources analyzed through the CEQA process which had formerly been limited to historic, archaeological, and paleontological resources.

“Tribal cultural resources” are defined as either (1) “sites, features, places cultural landscapes, sacred places and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe” that are included in the state register of historical resources or a
local register of historical resources, or that are determined to be eligible for inclusion in the state register; or (2) resources determined by the lead agency, in its discretion, to be significant based on the criteria for listing in the state register.

Under AB 52, a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is defined as a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. Where a project may have a significant impact on a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency’s environmental document must discuss the impact and whether feasible alternatives or Mitigation Measures could avoid or substantially lessen the impact. Recognizing that tribes may have expertise with regard to their tribal history and practices, AB 52 requires lead agencies to provide notice to tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of a proposed project if they have requested notice of projects proposed within that area. If the tribe requests consultation within 30 days upon receipt of the notice, the lead agency must consult with the tribe. Consultation may include discussing the type of environmental review necessary, the significance of tribal cultural resources, the significance of the project’s impacts on the tribal cultural resources and alternatives and Mitigation Measures recommended by the tribe. The parties must consult in good faith and consultation is deemed concluded when either of the parties agree to measures that mitigate or avoid a significant effect on a tribal cultural resource (if such a significant effect exists) or when a party concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached. Mitigation Measures agreed upon during consultation must be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document. AB 52 also identifies Mitigation Measures that may be considered to avoid significant impacts if there is no agreement on appropriate mitigation. Recommended measures include:

- Preservation in place
- Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource
- Protecting the traditional use of the resource
- Protecting the confidentiality of the resource
- Permanent conservation easements with culturally appropriate management criteria.

These Mitigation Measures have been incorporated into this Project’s requirements along with those described in the Program’s IS/MND and as shown under Appendix F Original and Modified Text of Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Components and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) Based upon Agency/Public Comments of this Staff Report. See the discussion related to AB-52 requirements found in the Tribal Cultural Resources Section of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

County Agencies

Tehama County Air Pollution Control District (TCAPCD)
An individual non-discretionary burn permit would be required for burning activities including pile burning of construction related vegetative debris.

Tehama County Public Works Department (TCPWD) and Butte County Public Works Department (BCPWD)
In the event that Phase I or Phase II project work will be completed within a Tehama County or Butte County road right-of-way, an encroachment permit will be required from each County where such project related encroachment occurs. A separate authorization will be needed for each occurrence of entrance onto a County road or into a County right-of-way. (Specific permit terms and conditions will be included with the individual design standards and specifications for each project implemented in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects effort as established between the landowner, the RCD of Tehama County or other implementing entities.)
In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(d), when adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration, the lead agency will adopt a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) that ensures compliance with Mitigation Measures required for project work. The Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC) is the lead agency for the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects effort and has approved this MMRP as a part of the final Programmatic Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) supporting this Project. The MMRP lists the Mitigation Measures developed in the IS/MND which have been designed to reduce environmental impacts to a less-than-significant level. This MMRP also identifies the party responsible for implementing the measure, defines when the Mitigation Measure must be implemented, and which party or public agency is responsible for ensuring compliance (Monitoring Party) with the measure.

Air Quality

Mitigation Measure #AQ-1: Fugitive Dust

- All ground-disturbing operations shall be suspended when winds exceed 20 miles per hour or when winds carry dust beyond project implementation areas despite implementation of all feasible dust control measures.

- Traffic speeds on all unpaved surfaces shall be reduced to 15 miles per hour or less.

- Unnecessary vehicle traffic shall be reduced by restricting access.

- The time and location of fugitive dust generating activities shall be staggered in order to prevent impacts related to airborne particles.

Schedule:

Responsible Party:

Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW

Initials: RCDTC/CDFW
Date:

Mitigation Measure #AQ-2: Construction Equipment Exhaust (also applies to Greenhouse Gas Emissions)

- All construction equipment shall be maintained in proper tune according to
manufacturer’s specifications. Maintenance, repair and tuning reports for equipment shall be maintained by the RCDTC’s or other implementing entity’s Construction Contractor Representative and provided when requested by the RCDTC or other implementing entity’s Project Manager. Tuning reports prepared for the RCDTC shall be submitted to:

Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
2 Sutter Street, Suite D
Red Bluff, CA 96080

- To the extent practicable, the use of diesel construction equipment meeting the CARB’s 1996 or newer certification standard for off-road heavy-duty diesel engines shall be maximized.

- Unnecessary vehicle idling shall be restricted to 5 minutes or less.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #AQ-3: Registration of Heavy Equipment: *(also applies to Greenhouse Gas Emissions)*
All heavy equipment used in the execution of project work shall be registered with the State Portable Engine Registration Program. Equipment operators shall adhere to Tehama County Air Pollution Control District regulations pertaining to fugitive dust.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #AQ-4: Burn Permits *(also applies to Greenhouse Gas Emissions)*
If any construction related vegetative debris pile burning is conducted, all such burning shall be completed during the regular burn season (non-fire season) when fire danger is low and construction related vegetative debris is sufficiently cured to assure a clean burn. No non-vegetative construction debris shall be burned. All non-vegetative construction debris shall be removed from project implementation sites by the contractor. CAL FIRE shall determine the burn day status prior to initiation of any burning activity. The project’s Construction Contractor Representative shall only initiate burning on permissive burn days, while following all federal, state, and local requirements in order to assure that burning activities are conducted in a manner and at a time that will have a less than significant level of impact to air resources. A permit from the Tehama County Air Pollution Control District (TCAPCD) shall be required prior to
conducting such burning operations. The need for the permit shall depend upon the exact month burning is to occur. A copy of the burn permit shall be submitted to the Tehama County Air Pollution Control District prior to any burning activity and a copy provided to the RCDTC or other implementing entity’s Project Manager for retention in the Project Files. If the burn permit is obtained in connection with project work being completed by the RCDTC, a copy shall be submitted to:

Resource Conservation District of Tehama County  
2 Sutter Street, Suite D  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Schedule:  
Responsible Party:  
Verification of Compliance:  
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW  
Initials:  
Date:  

Mitigation Measure #AQ-5: Placement of Burn Piles (also applies to Hazards and Hazardous Materials)  
Vegetative debris piles generated in connection with any project work shall be placed within a flat area with a dozer-wide firebreak installed around each pile to reduce the potential for fire to escape.  
Schedule:  
Responsible Party:  
Verification of Compliance:  
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW  
Initials:  
Date:  

Biological Resources  
Mitigation Measure #BIO 1: General Mitigation Measures to Protect Special Status Species  
The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented and enforced during the implementation of all Phase I and Phase II project work in order to avoid or minimize adverse effects on candidate, sensitive, and Special-Status species.  
- Before any project work begins, a qualified biologist or other RCDTC/other implementing entity’s Project Manager as approved by the CDFW shall conduct a training session for all construction crew personnel. The training shall include a discussion of the sensitive biological resources within the specific project sites and the potential presence of Special Status species. Special Status species habitat protection measures (Best Management Practices, Mitigation Measures, permit requirements and other site-specific requirements established by the RCDTC Project Manager or agency personnel) shall be discussed in order to ensure such species are not impacted by project activities. Project boundaries, and biological
conditions outlined in the project permits shall also be discussed with all construction crew personnel.

- Project impact area limits shall be clearly marked on the final design drawings with work confined within those boundaries. Prior to construction, the Construction Contractor Representative and the RCDTC/Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager shall meet on site to agree upon and flag project boundaries particularly those within riparian areas.

- Temporary wildlife exclusionary fencing (e.g., silt fence, which is a piece of synthetic filter fabric [also called geotextile]) shall be installed around work areas during construction. Openings shall be restricted to areas of construction site access. This fencing shall preclude animals from entering the work area and prevent construction debris and workers from entering adjacent aquatic habitats.

- If a Special Status species enters the work area of an RCDTC managed project, the Construction Contractor Representative shall contact the RCDTC Project Manager for further guidance. If project work is being implemented by another entity, its Construction Contractor Representative shall contact the implementing entity’s Project Manager. In both instances, Project Managers shall contact appropriate State and/or federal regulatory agencies for guidance. If a federal or State listed species or any other Special Status species enters the work area, then the animal shall not be captured or handled without permission from the appropriate agency (State listed – CDFW; Federally listed – USFWS) as conveyed to the Construction Contractor Representative by the RCDTC or other implementing entity’s Project Manager.

- All trash that may attract predators (e.g., food) shall be properly stored and removed at the end of each construction day. Following construction, all trash and construction debris shall be removed.

- Any work with the potential to affect listed salmonids shall require consultation with NMFS and CDFW and shall occur with the appropriate permits or other authorizations.

**Schedule:**

**Responsible Party:**

**Verification of Compliance:**

Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW

Initials:

Date:
Mitigation Measure # BIO 2: Protection of Riparian Vegetation *(also related to Geology and Soils and Hydrology/Water Quality)*:

During implementation of project work as much riparian vegetation shall be retained as possible in order to maximize shade producing and bank stabilizing vegetation during project implementation. Soil compaction shall be minimized through the use of equipment with a greater reach or that exerts less pressure per square inch on soils resulting in less overall area disturbed or less compaction of disturbed areas. Disturbed soils shall be decompacted at the project’s completion as mobile equipment exits the construction area. Disturbed and decompacted areas shall be revegetated, with native species specific to the project location that comprise a diverse community of woody and herbaceous species.

**Schedule:**

**Responsible Party:**

**Verification of Compliance:**

Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW

Initials: _______________________

Date: _______________________

Mitigation Measure #BIO 3: Minimizing of Impacts to Aquatic Habitat and Species during Dewatering of the Project Site: *(also related to Hydrology/Water Quality)*

When construction work occurs within a year-round flowing channel and the project site must be dewatered, the following measures shall be implemented in order to prevent or minimize impacts including the temporary loss of aquatic habitat; stranding, displacement, or crushing of fish and amphibian species along with increased turbidity from disturbance of the channel bed. Prior to dewatering the construction site, fish and amphibian species shall be captured and relocated to avoid direct mortality and minimize take. This is especially important if Special Status species are present within the project area. The following measures are consistent with those defined as *reasonable and prudent* by NOAA for projects concerning several northern California Evolutionary Significant Units for Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout:

- Fish relocation activities must be performed only by qualified fisheries biologists, with a current DFG collectors permit, and experience with fish capture and handling.

- Relocation activities shall be conducted during morning periods when air temperatures are cooler.

- Air and water temperatures shall be measured periodically and collection activities shall cease when water temperatures exceed those allowed by DFG and NOAA. Fish and amphibians excluded from the project site shall be prevented from re-entering by blocking the stream channel above and below the work area with fine-meshed net or screens. Mesh shall be no greater than 1/8” and the bottom edge of which shall be secured to the channel bed to prevent fish from re-entering the work area at the bottom
of the screen. Exclusion screening shall be placed in areas of low water velocity to minimize impingement of fish. Screens shall be checked periodically and cleaned of debris to permit free flow of water.

- Prior to capturing fish, a determination shall be made by appropriate State and/or federal regulatory personnel of the most appropriate release location(s). The following shall be considered when selecting release site(s): a. Similar water temperature as capture location b. Ample habitat for captured fish c. Low likelihood of fish re-entering work site or becoming impinged on exclusion net or screen.

- Determination of the most efficient means for capturing fish:
  
  o Complex stream habitat generally requires the use of electrofishing equipment, whereas in outlet pools, fish may be concentrated by pumping-down pool and then seining or dipnetting fish.
  
  o Electrofishing shall only be conducted by properly trained personnel following DFG and NOAA guidelines.

- Minimize handling of salmonids. When handling is necessary, always wet hands or nets prior to touching fish.

- Temporarily hold fish in cool, shaded, aerated water in a container with a lid. Provide aeration with a battery-powered external bubbler. Protect fish from jostling and noise and do not remove fish from the container until time of release.

- Place a thermometer in holding containers and, if necessary, periodically conduct partial water changes to maintain a stable water temperature. If water temperature reaches or exceeds those allowed by DFG and NOAA, fish shall be released and rescue operations ceased.

- Avoid overcrowding in containers.

- Visually identify species and estimate year-classes of fish at time of release. Count and record the number of fish captured. Avoid anesthetizing or measuring fish.

- Submit reports of fish relocation activities to DFG and NOAA in a timely fashion.

- If feasible, plan on performing initial fish relocation efforts several days prior to the start of construction. This provides the fisheries biologist an opportunity to return to the work area and perform additional electrofishing passes immediately prior to construction. In many instances, additional fish may be captured that eluded the previous day’s efforts.

- If mortality during relocation exceeds 5 percent, stop efforts and immediately contact
the appropriate agencies.

- Determination by the Construction Contractor Representative in consultation with the RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager and CDFW/USFWS personnel (as appropriate) as to the most appropriate specific means of bypassing flow around the work area in order to minimize channel disturbance and avoid direct mortality of fish and other aquatic vertebrates.

- Coordinate project site dewatering with a fisheries biologist qualified to perform fish and amphibian relocation activities.

- Minimize the length of the dewatered stream channel and duration of dewatering.

- Bypass stream flow around work area, but maintain stream flow to channel below construction site.

- Periodically pump the dewatered stream segment dry of seepage.

- Place pumps in flat areas, well away from the stream channel.

- Secure pump units by tying off to a tree or staking in place to prevent movement by vibration.

- Refuel pump units in an area well away from stream channels and place fuel absorbent mats under pumps while refueling.

- Cover pump intakes with 1/8" mesh to prevent entrainment of fish or amphibians that fail to be removed prior to dewatering operations.

- Check pump intakes periodically for impingement of fish or amphibians that fail to be removed prior to dewatering operations.

Discharge wastewater from construction area to an upland location where it shall not drain sediment-laden water back to stream channel.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW/USFWS
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #BIO 4: Pre-Project Implementation Plant Surveys
A professional biologist or other individual selected by the RCD of Tehama County Project
Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager who is specifically trained in the identification of Special Status species as shown in *Appendix G Results of California Natural Diversity Database Inquiries and Species Review* shall evaluate potential habitat for these species. Such evaluation shall be completed prior to implementation of impactive activities within the Phase I or Phase II project area during the appropriate blooming or identification period. In addition to areas where erosion control activities will occur, these surveys shall be conducted at all impacted sites including access roads, equipment staging areas and spoils disposal sites among others. All sightings shall be documented using the California Natural Diversely Data Base (CNDDB) field survey form a copy of which, shall be submitted to the CNDDB, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Regional Office CEQA Review Team; 601 Locust Street Redding CA, 96001 using its “Online Field Survey Form” which can be accessed at

[https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data](https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data)

A copy of this form shall also be submitted to the RCD of Tehama County Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager who shall incorporate it into the Project Files. The RCD of Tehama County copy shall be submitted to:

**Resource Conservation District of Tehama County**

2 Sutter Street, Suite D

Red Bluff, CA 96080

Qualifications for personnel who shall make evaluations of sites include those found in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s 2009 document entitled “*Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities*” (*Appendix H*). If any federal or State listed threatened, endangered or other Special Status species are detected in any area that may be impacted by project work, a flagged 25’ “No Treatment Buffer” (NTB) shall be established. Within such buffer areas, no project work shall be conducted until consultation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife or United States Fish and Wildlife Service personnel as appropriate have been made and their recommendation for protection incorporated into a revised project work scope. Biological surveys shall also map invasive plant species listed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. A list of such species can be found at:

[http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/ipc/weedinfo/winfo_list-pestrating.htm](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/ipc/weedinfo/winfo_list-pestrating.htm)

or at the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) website found at:

[http://www.cal-ipc.org](http://www.cal-ipc.org)

If invasive plants are found, the provisions of Mitigation Measures #BIO-10: Identification and Isolation of Invasive Plants and Mitigation Measure #BIO-11: Invasive Plants and Equipment Cleaning shall apply.

**Schedule:**

**Responsible Party:**

**Verification of Compliance:**
Mitigation Measure #BIO-5: Protection of Previously Unidentified Special Status Species

If during the implementation of project work any previously unidentified listed or other Special Status species shown in Appendix G Results of California Natural Diversity Database Inquiries And Species Review are detected by the individuals described in Mitigation Measure #BIO-4: Pre Project Implementation Plant Surveys all project related activities shall immediately stop and a 25’ NTB shall be established and flagged around the perimeter of any occurrence by the RCDTC Project Manager or other personnel as selected by the RCDTC Project Manager who is specifically trained in the identification of California Rare Plant Ranking (CRPR) List 1, List 2 and List 3 and any others shown in Appendix D. If project work is being completed by another implementing entity, its Project Manager or other personnel shall be responsible for flagging the perimeter of such occurrence. Within such NTBs, no project work that disturb listed or other Special Status species shall be conducted.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #BIO-6: Tree Diameter Limits Related to Nesting Species

In order to protect potential nesting habitat, trees larger than 10” in diameter shall not be removed in association within any Phase I or Phase II related project work implementation site unless retaining such trees will prevent implementation of project work or are a safety hazard as determined by the RCDTC Project Manager. If project work is being completed by another implementing entity, its Project Manager shall seek approval of such removal based upon guidance provided by appropriate State/federal regulatory agency personnel.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #BIO 7: Protection of Migratory Bird Treaty Act Species

In order to protect any species covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), no project work of any kind shall occur between March and August, unless the following is implemented:
1). A survey is conducted by a biologist, or other persons with knowledge of and ability to recognize species protected by the MBTA and are approved by CDFW and/or USFWS personnel as appropriate, within 0.5 miles of the project area during the nesting season of an MBTA related species and it is determined that there are no occupied nests within the proposed project area. In addition to areas where erosion control activities will occur, these surveys shall be conducted at all impacted sites including access roads, equipment staging areas, and spoils disposal sites.

If an occupied nest is found, the biologist or other person with knowledge of, and ability to recognize, species protected by the MBTA shall determine if the birds present are those protected by the MBTA. If an MBTA species is located then a 100’ “No Treatment Buffer” shall be established around the nest during the breeding season. A 300’ NTB shall be established if Special Status Species are documented at the site. If raptor species are found, the provisions of Mitigation Measure #BIO 8: Raptor Protection related to raptor protection shall apply. Modifications and possible reduction in NTB size may be made after consultation by the RCDTC Project Manager with the CDFW and/or USFWS personnel as appropriate. If project work is delayed or suspended for more than 15 days after surveys have been completed, the project area shall be resurveyed for MBTA or raptor species prior to reinitiating of project work. If project work is completed by an implementing entity other than the RCDTC, all survey costs shall be the responsibility of that entity.

Schedule:

Responsible Party:

Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW

Initials:

Date:

Mitigation Measure #BIO 8: Raptor Protection

A wildlife biologist with appropriate training in the identification of raptors (as determined by CDFW and/or USFWS personnel as appropriate) shall perform a walk-through survey of treatment areas shortly before any project work is implemented. In addition to areas where erosion control activities will occur, these surveys shall be conducted at all impacted sites including access roads, equipment staging areas, and spoils disposal sites. This walk-through survey shall include examination of nests for raptor activity, visual searches for whitewash, listening for calls and any other evidence of nesting raptors within project impact areas. If field personnel detect raptor presence, appropriate protection measures for that particular species as described below shall be established. Upon discovery of an occupied raptor nest or any unknown large bird, the RCDTC’s Project Manager, other implementing entity’s Project Manager or a wildlife biologist (after conferring with the RCDTC or other implementing entity’s Project Manager) shall inform all personnel involved with project work of such sightings. Upon notification, vegetation disturbing activities shall be suspended within one mile of the nest. Activities may resume after the species using the nest is identified and the appropriate measures described below to protect the nest are implemented.

Raptor Protection Measures
Listed Raptors
If an occupied nest of an Endangered Species Act or California Endangered Species Act listed raptor is discovered during project work, the Construction Contractor Representative shall protect the nest tree, screening trees, perch trees, and replacement trees from any project work including, (1) suspension of project work within one mile of the nest, (2) suspension of all project work within a 500’ radius NTB of the occupied nest, and (3) immediate notification and consultation by the CDFW or USFWS as appropriate. Modifications and possible reduction in “No Treatment Buffer” size may be made after such consultation has been completed.

Non-Listed Raptors
If an occupied nest of a non-listed raptor is discovered during project work, all vegetation disturbing activities within one mile of the occupied nest shall be suspended. Upon such suspension, the RCDTC Project Manager, other implementing entity’s Project Manager or a professional biologist shall designate the nest trees, perch tree(s), screening tree(s), and replacement tree(s), for which a “No Treatment Buffer” shall be established.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:

Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #BIO 9 Fisher Protection
Prior to project implementation, the RCDTC Project Manager, other implementing entity’s Project Manager or a professional biologist (as selected by the RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager) shall look for freshly excavated cavities suitable for fisher dens (10” to 12” diameter) on snags located at a minimum 6’ above ground level. In addition to areas where erosion control activities will occur, surveys for freshly excavated cavities suitable for fisher dens shall be conducted at all impacted sites including access roads, equipment staging areas, and spoils disposal sites. Within all project impact areas, a potential den structure is defined as any hardwood with visible indicators of cavity formation (dead or alive) ≥15” DBH, a conifer snag ≥22” DBH, or a live green cull or green wildlife conifer ≥22” DBH. A live green cull is a conifer tree with less than 25% merchantable wood by volume. A green wildlife conifer is considered a potential den structure when it has mistletoe brooms, large rest branches, and visible signs of fungus or other indications of cavity formation or visible cavity openings. The RCDTC Project Manager, other implementing entity’s Project Manager or professional biologist shall contact CDFW for consultation if site-specific avoidance measures are needed that differs from those described above. Any additional site-specific avoidance measures developed through consultation with CDFW and/or USFWS (as appropriate) personnel shall provide greater or equal protection to those stated here.

Den snags shall be protected by flagging the snag itself and establishing a flagged 375’ radius “No Treatment Buffer”. If a fisher is sighted in treatment areas by equipment operators or other project personnel during any project work, all vegetation disturbing activities shall be
suspended within that area and the RCDTC Project Manager or biologist shall be notified. If a den or habitation of a fisher is discovered, all operations shall be suspended and a survey for a fisher den shall be completed. If a den is found, flagged 375’ radius “No Treatment Buffer” shall be established around the identified den or habitation. The CDFW and/or USFWS shall then be immediately notified.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #BIO-10: Identification and Isolation of Invasive Plants
Prior to implementation of project work, the RCDTC Project Manager, other implementing entity’s Project Manager or another individual who is a certified herbicide applicator and has appropriate training in the identification and treatment of invasive plants shall inspect project implementation sites for populations of such plants. Invasive plants are defined as those listed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) or California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) as having the potential to be spread by project work. If such plant infestations are found, they shall be either 1.) flagged and avoided during project implementation, or 2.) treated prior to project implementation. If discrete patches of CDFA or Cal-IPC listed invaders are located, (e.g. species that are not already common in the project area) all staging sites shall be located outside of these discrete infestations. Topsoil from such identified contaminated sites shall not be used in connection with any project work and shall be removed from the project area if retaining it on site would lead to further contamination. Soil contaminated by invasive species seed or plant material may be stockpiled if in the opinion of the RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager, no future risk of site contamination exists. Post project monitoring for invasive plants and follow up abatement will be implemented as necessary by the project proponent.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #BIO-11: Invasive Plants and Equipment Cleaning
In order to prevent the spread of invasive plant species, all mobile equipment to be used in the execution of project related work shall be cleaned prior to use within the project area. The RCDTC or other implementing entity’s Construction Contractor Representative shall assure and
document equipment cleaning. Documentation of adherence to Mitigation Measure #BIO-11: requirements shall be in the form of date-stamped representative photographs (with location labels added) of all heavy equipment to be used in the execution of project work taken by the Construction Contractor Representative before implementation of any project work. Photographs shall indicate that such equipment has been cleaned off site prior to use within the project area. A copy of these photographs shall be sent, within 7 days of being taken, to the RCDTC Project Manager other implementing entity’s Project Manager. Photographs submitted to the RCDTC Project Manager shall be sent to:

Resource Conservation District of Tehama County  
2 Sutter Street Suite D  
Red Bluff, CA 96080.

Copies of photographs shall be retained in the Project File, to document compliance with Mitigation Measure #BIO-11.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #BIO-12: Woody Debris (also applies to Hydrology and Water Quality)
In order to prevent the introduction of excess woody debris into stream flows, dry stream channels that have flow during the rainy season, or other protected areas, no chipped material or other woody debris shall be blown or otherwise introduced into any riparian area” No Treatment Buffer”. The RCDTC Project Manager or Construction Contractor Representative shall take before and after photographs of NTBs in order to document adherence to this requirement.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Cultural Resources

Mitigation Measure #CUL 1: Protection of Identified Cultural Resources
All new and previously recorded archeological sites identified during field surveys conducted prior to the implementation of any project work to be completed in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II
Implementation Projects effort shall be protected through complete avoidance. A flagged 50’ “No Treatment Buffer” shall be established around each of these sites by the RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager prior to implementation of any project work. In addition to areas where erosion control activities will occur, the provisions of Mitigation Measure #CUL-1: shall apply to at all impacted sites including access roads, equipment staging areas, and spoils disposal sites.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:

Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #CUL 2: Protection of Newly Discovered Archeological, Prehistoric, Historic or Paleontological Resource

Mitigation Measure #CUL 2: shall apply to all areas of soil or vegetation disturbing activities including any impacted sites such as access roads, equipment staging areas and spoils disposal sites. If any project work conducted in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects effort appears to expose previously unknown archeological, prehistoric, historic or paleontological resource sites within project impact areas or within 50’ beyond project boundaries, the site shall be avoided. Work may continue elsewhere within the overall project area. Exposed cultural or paleontological resources shall be appropriately flagged in order to immediately establish a “No Treatment Buffer” of at least 100’. A professional archeologist shall examine the site, evaluate found objects and make a finding of their significance. The archeologist shall also develop recommendations for the permanent protection of objects and site treatments as necessary. Identified sites shall be permanently protected through avoidance. These sites shall be made off limits to personnel, equipment and project impacts of any kind. A professional archeologist shall determine an appropriate permanent flagged exclusion zone once the site has been adequately assessed for significance. Findings of significance shall be prepared and submitted to appropriate agencies and Native American groups at the discretion of the professional archeologist. As appropriate, findings shall be recorded in the RCDTC Project Files.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:

Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #CUL 3: Discovery of Human Remains

If during the execution of any Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction
Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects related project work, human remains are found, the RCDTC Project Manager, other implementing entity’s Project Manager or the Construction Contractor Representative after having informed the Project Manager of such findings shall halt work at that location until a professional archaeologist visits the site. The professional archeologist shall then assess the significance of the remains, process these and immediately notify the Tehama County Coroner. If the remains are determined by the County coroner to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and Native American groups at the discretion of the professional archeologist shall be notified within 24 hours and the guidelines of the NAHC shall be adhered to in the treatment and disposition of the remains. Findings of significance shall be prepared and submitted to appropriate agencies at the discretion of the professional archeologist. Findings shall also be recorded (as appropriate) in the Project Files by the RCDTC Project Manager. Project work may continue on other non-impacted portions of the project area.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #CUL 4: Continual Monitoring of Cultural Resource Protection In order to assure continual protection of archeological, historic, tribal and paleontological resources that may occupy the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects area, an individual knowledgeable in identifying such resources shall be present at all project sites whenever ground disturbing activities occur. This individual shall be professional archeologist, Registered Professional Forester or other appropriately qualified cultural resource specialist as selected by the RCD of Tehama County Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager (as approved by the RCDTC’s Project Manager. Any individual selected to complete such survey work shall be a Certified Archaeological Surveyor through the California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (14CCR Section 929 et seq.).

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC
Initials:
Date:

Geology and Soils

Mitigation Measure #GEO-1: Mulching of Exposed Soil (also applies to Hydrology and Water Quality)
Any area containing newly exposed soil of over 800 sq/ft. shall be seeded, mulched with brush or covered with non-invasive, non-persistent grass species as determined by the Tehama County Department of Agriculture in order to prevent exposure of disturbed soils to rainfall along with associated sediment runoff and transport.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Hydrology and Water Quality
Mitigation Measure #HYDRO-1: Road Drainage Infrastructure (also applies to Geology and Soils and Transportation/Traffic)
In addition to the general provisions and limitations set forth under General Best Management Practices to Avoid or Minimize Adverse Impacts above, the following specific Mitigation Measures shall be implemented during retrofit or replacement of existing culverts and other drainage infrastructure in order to reduce potential diversions and road-related erosion.

- Culverts and water control structures shall be installed according to guidelines established in the “Handbook for Forest and Ranch Roads: A Guide for Planning, Designing, Constructing, Reconstructing, Maintaining, and Closing Wildland Roads” (Weaver and Hagans 1994) and any subsequent editions.

- Culvert fill slopes shall be constructed at a 2:1 slope or shall be armored with rock.

- All culverts replacements shall be adequately sized to accommodate the 100-year storm.

- No rocked fords shall be placed in fish-bearing streams.

- All culverts in fish-bearing streams and in streams where fish have historically been found and may potentially re-occur, shall be designed and constructed consistent with “NMFS Southwest Region’s Guidelines for Salmonid Passage at Stream Crossings” (NMFS 2000) and “CDFG’s Culvert Criteria for Fish Passage” (CDFG 2002)

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Hazards and Hazardous Materials
Mitigation Measure #HA/HAZ-1: Protection Against Hazardous Material Spills in
Streams and Riparian Zones *(also applies to Biological Resources and Hydrology and Water Quality)*

To reduce potential impacts associated with fuel spills in streams and riparian areas, the Construction Contractor Representative shall ensure that gasoline and lubricants at no time are transported across a live stream other than in the tank of equipment being moved or already applied to such equipment. Only existing roads shall be used to move personnel, equipment and materials across stream courses as well as into and out of the project site unless previously approved by the RCDTC Project Manager.

**Schedule:**

**Responsible Party:**

**Verification of Compliance:**

Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW

Initials:

Date:

**Mitigation Measure # HA/HAZ-2: Equipment Refueling and Maintenance Precautions (also applies to Biological Resources and Hydrology and Water Quality)**

The RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager shall select refueling and maintenance sites for all equipment including power hand tools within flat sites that are away from NTB including those established along dry or wet waterways and areas that could potentially flow into a stream or other waterway in the event of an accidental spill. Such sites shall also be established outside of TEBs and other exclusion zones established in order to protect wildlife and plant resources. Fuel containment equipment including absorbent sheets and waddles shall be made available by the Construction Contractor at all refueling and maintenance areas. The Construction Contractor Representative and equipment operators shall be responsible for the immediate containment and removal of any spilled material and shall immediately inform the RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager of such spills. The RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager shall then immediately contact appropriate authorities including the CDFW and/or USFWS personnel as appropriate, informing them of such spills. The Construction Contractor Representative shall inform all workers of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to taken should a spill occur. Equipment shall be stored and maintained within properly cleared areas. The RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager shall inspect refueling areas to assure compliance with Mitigation Measure # HA/HAZ 2. These inspections shall also verify these sites’ adequacy in protecting riparian and terrestrial resources as well as the availability of containment equipment.

**Schedule:**

**Responsible Party:**

**Verification of Compliance:**

Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW

Initials:

Date:

**Mitigation Measure # HA/HAZ-3: Limitations on Equipment Use (also applies to**
Biological Resources and Hydrology and Water Quality)  
The following conditions apply to the use of equipment in connection with project work:

- A contained area shall be designated for equipment storage, short-term maintenance, and refueling and shall be located at least 50’ from waterbodies.

- Major vehicle maintenance and washing shall be conducted off site.

- All spent fluids including motor oil, radiator coolant, or other fluids along with used vehicle batteries shall be collected, stored, and recycled as hazardous waste off site.

- Dry cleanup methods (i.e. absorbent materials, cat litter, and/or rags) shall be used whenever possible.

- Spilled dry materials shall be swept up immediately.

**Schedule:**
**Responsible Party:**
**Verification of Compliance:**
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure # HA/HAZ-4: Equipment Inspections Related to Oil and Fuel *(also applies to Biological Resources and Hydrology and Water Quality)*

The Construction Contractor Representative and RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager shall make periodic inspections of equipment for leaking oil or fuel correcting or repairing any such leaks prior to resuming their use or crossing any stream channels. Inspection reports related to RCDTC sponsored project work shall be submitted to:

**Resource Conservation District of Tehama County**
2 Sutter Street Suite D
Red Bluff, CA 96080

The results of these inspections reports shall be incorporated into the Project Files along with evidence of any repairs required and completed before returning equipment to project work sites.

**Schedule:**
**Responsible Party:**
**Verification of Compliance:**
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:
Mitigation Measure # HA/HAZ-5: Communications Equipment
Dependable radios or phone communication shall be available on site to report any emergency which may occur.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #HA/HAZ-6: Fire Protection Equipment (also applies to Air Quality, Biological Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Hydrology and Water Quality)
To reduce impacts associated with exposure of people or structures to wildland fires, the Construction Contractor Representative shall ensure that adequate fire protection equipment is available at work sites. This shall include fire extinguishers attached to all mechanized equipment. In addition, firefighting hand tools shall be made available at all areas where equipment is operated. The Construction Contractor, RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager along with any related project personnel shall comply with all applicable fire safe standards as found in Public Resources Code Division 4, Chapter 6, (PRC’s 4427, 4428, 4429, 4431, 4442, list not all inclusive). Vehicles shall not be parked in tall grass or any other location where heat from the exhaust system could ignite a fire. All motorized equipment shall have approved spark arrestors. A Project Work Log shall be maintained which documents that contractor has provided equipment for adequate fire protection prior to the start of any project work and that firefighting hand tools have been made available at all areas where equipment is operated. A copy of the Project Work Log shall be sent on a weekly basis during the execution of project work. Project Work Logs prepared in connection with RCDTC sponsored project work shall be submitted to:

Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
2 Sutter Street, Suite D
Red Bluff, CA 96080

with a copy retained in the Project File, in order to document compliance with Mitigation Measure #HA/HAZ-6.

Schedule:
Responsible Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Transportation and Traffic
Mitigation Measure #Trans/Traffic 1: State and County Road Encroachment Permits
If project work occurs on a State Highway or on a County maintained portion of Ponderosa Way, a road encroachment permit shall be obtained from Caltrans and the Tehama County Road Department respectively. Various private wildland roads may be used on occasion to transport equipment to project sites and access permission shall be obtained from road owners.

Schedule:
Responsibe Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #Trans/Traffic 2: Staging Areas Along Public Roads
In order to reduce impacts to local traffic utilizing Ponderosa Way, all project work staging areas for equipment shall be created off of State Highways and passable wildland road rights-of-way (unless privately owned and maintained). All State and County regulations related to road use shall be adhered to.

Schedule:
Responsibe Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Mitigation Measure #Trans/Traffic 3: Operations During Hunting Season
In order to reduce impacts to local traffic utilizing the Ponderosa Way all project work to be completed within the Phase I and Phase II project area shall cease during the local deer hunting season and resume once it has ended. Project work could continue along privately controlled and maintained roads included for treatments.

Schedule:
Responsibe Party:
Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW
Initials:
Date:

Tribal Cultural Resources

Mitigation Measure #TCR-1: Tribal Consultation (also applies to Cultural Resources)
If Native American archaeological or other cultural materials are discovered during implementation project work, consultation shall be conducted between the RCDTC Project Manager or other implementing entity’s Project Manager and appropriate tribal councils. Consultation shall entail the development of in place resource avoidance and preservation measures or revisions to the project’s planning and implementation that result in avoidance of the resource and protection of such resources cultural and natural context. Tribal and other cultural resources shall be treated in a culturally appropriate manner taking into account tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including:

- Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource
- Protecting the traditional use of the resource
- Protecting the confidentiality of the resource.

Schedule:

Responsible Party:

Verification of Compliance:
Monitoring Party: RCDTC/CDFW

Initials:
Date:
Appendix G
Resolution Approving Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) Including all Modifications and Changes for the
Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects
Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
Tehama County, California
RESOLUTION OF THE
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF
TEHAMA COUNTY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PONDEROSA WAY ROAD
ASSESSMENT AND SEDIMENT REDUCTION PLAN PHASE I AND PHASE II
IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

RESOLUTION #17-7

WHEREAS, the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC) is established under Division 9 of the California Public Resources Code and by the rules of the Tehama County Local Agency Formation Committee as a locally governed agency with primary authority to implement local natural resource conservation measures; and

WHEREAS, the RCDTC considers that there are important and valued natural resources on and/or adjacent to the project locations which are: Phase I, 5 miles southeast of Manton, 22 miles northeast of Red Bluff between Rock Creek Road and the Shasta/Tehama County line to State Route 36E and the Ponderosa Sky Ranch community and Phase II, 5 miles east of Cohasset, 25 miles southeast of Red Bluff, 20 miles east of Los Molinos, and 25 miles east of Chico between State Route 36E and State Route 32E.; and

WHEREAS, the RCDTC wishes to implement the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects, (here throughout referred to as the “Project”) that consists of 21 recommended categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments that have been developed for the 97.8 miles of Ponderosa Way and intersecting roads within the Project area. Within Phase I, the erosion control and erosion prevention treatments design plan calls for 9.4 miles of road upgrading and possibly 12.7 miles of road decommissioning along Ponderosa Way and intersecting spur roads. Approval by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors would be required in order to decommission those Ponderosa Way road segments within the Phase I project area. If approval is not provided, those treatment options developed for Phase I road segments not related to road decommissioning would be implemented as appropriate. All spur roads (8.1 miles) within the Phase I project area have been recommended for road decommissioning. All erosion control and erosion prevention work to be completed along Ponderosa Way within the Phase II project area will consist exclusively of road upgrading; and

WHEREAS, the RCDTC considers this project to be a benefit to Tehama County while protecting natural resources; and

WHEREAS, a duly noticed public hearing was held before the RCDTC on December 20, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the RCDTC has considered the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by RCDTC staff; and

WHEREAS, said Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated for public review and comment per CEQA for a 30-day review period from November 13, 2017 to December 12, 2017 and

WHEREAS, said Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was referred to potentially affected property owners, various affected public and private agencies, County departments, and referral agencies for review and comments; and

WHEREAS, the Board of the RCDTC has solicited and considered public comments, and a staff report;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County:

I. Adopts a Modified Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to CEQA with the following findings:

A. An Initial Study was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. Said study identified potentially significant environmental effects and included mitigation measures that would mitigate such effects below significant levels; a Mitigated Negative Declaration is proposed.

B. The RCDTC has considered the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, together with comments received during the review process and public hearing.

C. On the basis of the whole record before the Board of the RCDTC, including the Initial Study and any comments received, there is no substantial evidence that the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects would have a significant effect on the environment, with proposed mitigation measures implemented.

D. The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the RCDTC, which is the Lead Agency under CEQA.

E. The Modified Mitigated Negative Declaration includes Mitigation Measures AQ 1 through 5, BIO 1 through 12, CUL 1 through 4, GEO/SOILS 1, HYDRO 1, HA/HAZ 1 through 6, TRANS/TRAFFIC 1 through 3, TCR 1, as detailed on Attachment F of this document.

F. The RCDTC will serve as custodian of the record of this CEQA determination. The location of the record is 2 Sutter Street, Suite D Red Bluff, CA 96080.

II. Finds that the collection of fees pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 711.4 is required, prior to filing a Notice of Determination for the Project. The Project will not be operative nor may any local permits be issued for the Project, and the Project will be invalid (per Section 711.4 (c) (3)) until such fees are paid.

III. In order to avoid, minimize, and/or reduce environmental impacts of the Project to a less than significant level, the RCDTC approves the Initial Study/Modified Mitigated Negative Declaration as detailed on Attachment F of this document and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) for this Project, as detailed on Attachment F of this document.

IV. Adoption of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration of the Project is subject to the following findings

A. The proposed use on the property where the Project is located will not impair the integrity and character of the community and watershed resources.

B. The proposed Project would not be unreasonably incompatible with, or injurious to, surrounding properties, or detrimental to the health and general welfare of the persons residing or working in the area, or to the health, welfare and safety of the residents of the County, as supported by the following:

   1. The RCDTC has circulated the proposed Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration to County, responsible and Trustee agencies and has received one response that does not indicate that there is evidence that the Project, with thirty-three (33) appropriate mitigation measures, would cause any significant environmental impacts.
2. The environmental impacts of this Project appear to be minor in general. Assuming all mitigation measures are dutifully executed, impacts will be less than significant.

3. Adoption of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for this Project does not preclude the possible need for permits and/or licenses from other, local, State, federal, and Responsible or Trustee agencies under CEQA.

C. The Project does not require the removal of any rare, threatened or protected species.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution #17-7, adopted on the motion of Director XXX, seconded by Director XXX, and duly passed at a regular public meeting held by the Board of Directors at 8:30 A.M. on December 20, 2017, at the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County Office, 2 Sutter Street, Red Bluff, California.

Roll Call was as follows:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Submitted by,

Board President
Thomas McCubbins  
Resource Conservation District of Tehama County  
2 Sutter Street, Suite D  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Subject: Ponderosa Way Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Project  
SCH#: 2017112034

Dear Thomas McCubbins:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Mitigated Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on December 12, 2017, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan  
Director, State Clearinghouse
SCH# 2017112034
Project Title Ponderosa Way Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation
Lead Agency Project
Tehama County, Resource Conservation District of

Type MND Mitigated Negative Declaration
Description The following 21 recommended categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments have been developed for the 97.8 miles of Ponderosa Way and intersecting roads within the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Project area. Within the phase I portion of the overall project area, the erosion control and erosion prevention treatments design plan calls for 9.4 miles of road upgrading and 12.7 miles of road decommissioning along Ponderosa Way and intersecting spur roads. Approval by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors would be required in order to decommission those Ponderosa Way road segments within the Phase I project area. If approval is not provided, those treatment options developed for phase I road segments not related to road decommissioning would be implemented as appropriate. Road segments recommended for decommissioning are shown on Map 5 of the IS/MND document.

Lead Agency Contact
Name Thomas McCubbin
Agency Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
Phone 530-200-1231 Fax
Address 2 Sutter Street, Suite D
City Red Bluff State CA Zip 96080

Project Location
County Tehama
City
Region
Lat / Long 40° 20' 46" N / 121° 45' 49" W
Cross Streets Ponderon Way/Forward Road/SR 36E and SR 32E
Parcel No. various
Township var Range var Section var Base MDM

Proximity to:
Highways 36E/32E
Airports
Railways
Waterways Battle Creek, Paynes Creek, Antelope Creek, Mill Creek
Schools
Land Use Z: Ag rural res timber preserve zone; GP: Foothill Res/Timber mountain

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Cumulative Effects; Drainage/Absorption; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Minerals; Noise; Population/Housing Balance; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Septic System; Sewer Capacity; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Central Valley Flood Protection Board; Department of Conservation; Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 1; Cal Fire; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 2; Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5 (Redding); State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality; Native American Heritage Commission

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.
| Date Received   | 11/13/2017 | Start of Review | 11/13/2017 | End of Review | 12/12/2017 |

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

22 November 2017

Mr. Thomas McCubbins
Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
2 Sutter Street, Suite D
Red Bluff, CA 96080

RECEIVED NOV 27 2017

COMMENTS ON THE INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR PONDEROSA WAY ASSESSMENT AND SEDIMENT REDUCTION PLAN PHASE I AND PHASE II IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER 2017112034, MANTON, TEHAMA COUNTY

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) is a responsible agency for this project, as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). On 15 November 2017, we received your request for comments on the Ponderosa Way Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Project.

The applicant is proposing to implement erosion control and erosion prevention treatments by upgrading 9.4 miles of road and decommissioning 12.7 miles of road along Ponderosa Way and intersecting spur roads.

Based on our review of the information submitted for the proposed project, we have the following comments:

Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401, Water Quality Certification
The Central Valley Water Board has regulatory authority over wetlands and waterways under the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code, Division 7 (CWC). Discharge of dredged or fill material to waters of the United States requires a CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Central Valley Water Board. Typical activities include any modifications to these waters, such as stream crossings, stream bank modifications, filling of wetlands, etc. 401 Certifications are issued in combination with CWA Section 404 Permits issued by the Army Corps of Engineers. The proposed project must be evaluated for the presence of jurisdictional waters, including wetlands and other waters of the State. Steps must be taken to first avoid and minimize impacts to these waters, and then mitigate for unavoidable impacts. Both the Section 404 Permit and Section 401 Water Quality Certification must be obtained prior to site disturbance.

Isolated wetlands and other waters not covered by the Federal Clean Water Act
Some wetlands and other waters are considered "geographically isolated" from navigable waters and are not within the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act, e.g., isolated wetlands, vernal pools, or stream banks above the ordinary high water mark. Discharge of dredged or fill material to these waters may require either individual or general waste discharge requirements from the Central Valley Water Board. If the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determine that

KARL E. LONGLEY, SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PAMELA C. CREEDON, P.E., BCCE, EXECUTIVE OFFICIAL

364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 295, Redding, CA 96002 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley
isolated wetlands or other waters exist at the project site, and the project impacts or has potential to impact these non-jurisdictional waters, a Report of Waste Discharge and filing fee must be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board. The Central Valley Water Board will consider the information provided and either issue or waive Waste Discharge Requirements. Failure to obtain waste discharge requirements or a waiver may result in enforcement action.

Any person discharging dredge or fill materials to waters of the State must file a report of waste discharge pursuant to Sections 13376 and 13260 of the CWC. Both the requirements to submit a report of waste discharge and apply for a Water Quality Certification may be met using the same application form, found at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/water_quality_certification/wqc_application.pdf

General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (CGP)
Construction activity, including demolition, resulting in a land disturbance of one acre or more must obtain coverage under the CGP. The Ponderosa Way Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Project must be conditioned to implement storm water pollution controls during construction and post-construction as required by the CGP. To apply for coverage under the CGP the property owner must submit Permit Registration Documents electronically prior to construction. Detailed information on the CGP can be found on the State Water Board website:

Dewatering Alternative 1: Discharge to Storm Drains or Waters of the United States
A dewatering permit, General Order for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (Central Valley Water Board Order No. R5-2013-0074, adopted 31 May 2013), may be required for pump testing, pipeline dewatering and/or construction activities. This general NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit covers the discharge to waters of the United States of clean or relatively pollutant-free wastewater that poses little or no threat to water quality. The following categories are covered by the dewatering permit: well development water; construction dewatering; pump/well testing; pipeline/tank pressure testing; pipeline/tank flushing or dewatering; condensate discharges; water supply system discharges; miscellaneous dewatering/low threat discharges. The dewatering permit applies only to direct discharges to waters of the United States.
Failure to obtain a dewatering permit, when required, may result in enforcement action. An application form and a copy of the permit are available at this office.

Dewatering Alternative 2: Discharges to Land
Construction and system test dewatering discharges that are contained on land (i.e., will not enter waters of the United States) are allowed under Central Valley Water Board Resolution No. 2003-0003-DWQ provided the following conditions are met: (1) the dewatering discharge is of a quality as good as or better than underlying groundwater; and (2) there is a low risk of nuisance. Examples of dewatering discharges to land include a terminal basin, irrigation (with no return to waters of the United States), and dust control. You may request written confirmation from this office that the waiver is applicable.
Tehama County
Ponderosa Way Assessment and Sediment
Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Project

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter please contact me at (530) 224-4784 or by email at Scott.Zaitz@waterboards.ca.gov.

Scott A. Zaitz, R.E.H.S.
Environmental Scientist
Storm Water & Water Quality Certification Unit

SAZ: st: db

cc w/o enclosures: Mrs. Nancy Haley, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento
Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, Rancho Cordova
Appendix J
Public Notices
Notice of Intent, Notice of Completion, Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal and Notice of Determination
LEGAL NOTICE Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

Notice of

LEGAL NOTICE Resource Conservation District of Tehama County Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Notice of Public Hearing for the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC) has prepared an Initial Study and is considering the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects at a public hearing before the RCDTC on December 20, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center, 2 Sutter Street Suite D Red Bluff, CA 96080. The RCDTC is established under Division 9 of the California Public Resources Code, by the rules of the Tehama County Local Agency Formation Committee as a locally governed agency with primary authority to implement local conservation measures. Project: Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects (Project). Project Proponent: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC), Red Bluff, CA. Location: California: The Phase I Project Area is 5 miles southeast of Manton, 22 miles northeast of Red Bluff between Rock Creek Road and the Shasta/Tehama County line to State Route 36E and the Ponderosa Sky Ranch community. The Phase II Project Area is 5 miles east of Cohasset, 25 miles southeast of Red Bluff, 20 miles east of Los Molinos, and 25 miles east of Chico between State Route 36E and State Route 32E. Proposal: 21 recommended categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments have been developed for the 97.8 miles of Ponderosa Way and intersecting roads within the Project area. Within the Phase I, the erosion control and erosion prevention treatments design plan calls for 9.4 miles of road upgrading and possibly 12.7 miles of road decommissioning along Ponderosa Way and intersecting spur roads. Approval by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors would be required in order to decommission those Ponderosa Way road segments within the Phase I project area. If approval is not provided, those treatment options developed for Phase I road segments not related to road decommissioning would be implemented as appropriate. All spur roads (8.1 miles) within the Phase I project area have been recommended for road decommissioning. All erosion control and erosion prevention work to be completed along Ponderosa Way within the Phase II project area will consist exclusively of road upgrading. CEQA requires this notice to disclose whether any listed toxic sites are present on the project site. The project site does not contain a listed toxic site. The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), and reference documents for this project are on file for public review until December 13, 2017, at the RCDTC office, 2 Sutter Street, Suite D Red Bluff CA 96080 and available for review on its website tehamacountyred.org. Written comments will be accepted by the RCDTC at the above address or via email at tom@tehamacountyred.org. Comments are encouraged to be submitted in writing at any time prior to the hearing or orally at the meeting listed above or as may be continued to a later date. If you challenge the above application in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the RCDTC at, or prior to the public hearing. For information contact RCDTC CEQA Manager Tom McCubbins at 530-200-1231 PUBLISH: December 5 & 6, 2017

Location:
2 Sutter Street, RED BLUFF, CA 96080

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Ponderosa Way Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Project
Lead Agency: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
Mailing Address: 2 Sutter Street, Suite D
City: Red Bluff, CA
Contact Person: Thomas McCubbins
Phone: 530-200-1231
County: Tehama

Project Location:

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Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

- Zoning: Agricultural Rural Residential Timber Preserve Zone
- General Plan Designation: Foothill Residential/Timber Mountain

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

See Attachment A-Project Description to this NOC and Environmental Document Transmittal form

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

Revised 2010
Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X". If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

X Air Resources Board
Boating & Waterways, Department of
California Emergency Management Agency
California Highway Patrol

X Caltrans District # 2
Caltrans Division of Aeronautics
Caltrans Planning
Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Coachella Valley Mts. Conservancy
Coastal Commission
Colorado River Board

X Conservation, Department of
Corrections, Department of
Delta Protection Commission
Education, Department of
Energy Commission

S Fish & Game Region # 1
Food & Agriculture, Department of

X Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of
General Services, Department of
Health Services, Department of
Housing & Community Development

X Native American Heritage Commission

X Office of Historic Preservation
Office of Public School Construction
Parks & Recreation, Department of
Pesticide Regulation, Department of
Public Utilities Commission

S Regional WQCB # 5

X Resources Agency
Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of
S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.
San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
San Joaquin River Conservancy
Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy
State Lands Commission
SWRCB: Clean Water Grants

X SWRCB: Water Quality
SWRCB: Water Rights
Taboe Regional Planning Agency

X Toxic Substances Control, Department of
Water Resources, Department of
Other:
Other:

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date ___________________________ Ending Date ___________________________

Lead Agency (Complete If applicable):

Consulting Firm: N/A
Address: 2 Sutter Street, Suite D
City/State/Zip: Red Bluff, CA 96080
Phone: 530-200-1231

Applicant: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County
Address: 2 Sutter Street, Suite D
City/State/Zip: Red Bluff, CA 96080
Phone: 530-200-1231

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: ___________________________ Date: 11-9-12

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 #: 2017112034

Project Title: **Ponderosa Way Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects**

Lead Agency: **Resource Conservation District of Tehama County**

Contact Name: **Tom McCubbins/Watershed Coordinator-CEQA Projects Manager**

Email: **tom@tehamacountyrcd.org** Phone Number: **530-200-1231**

**Project Area**

**Phase I Project Area**
5 Miles southeast of Manton California
22 miles northeast of Red Bluff California

**Phase II Project Area**
5 miles east of Cohasset California
25 miles south east of Red Bluff California
20 miles east of Los Molinos California
25 miles east of Chico California

Tehama County and Butte County

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

**See Attached “Detailed Project Description”**
Identify the project’s significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Significantly or Potentially Significant Environmental Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The following environmental issues were identified in the Initial Study as being significantly affected or potentially affected by project work and would require the implementation of Mitigation Measures in order to reduce impacts to a less than significant level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Air Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Biological Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cultural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Geology and Soils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hazards and Hazardous Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hydrology and Water Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transportation and Traffic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tribal Cultural Resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Attached Mitigation Measures
If applicable, describe any of the project’s areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

At the present time the Tehama County Counsel’s Office is in the process of determining if the road decommissioning and closure options described in the attached “Detailed Project Description” could be implemented.

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

• Air Resources Board
• Cal Trans District #2
• Department of Conservation
• Department of Fish and Wildlife Region #1
• Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
• Native American Heritage Commission
• Office of Historic Presentation
• Water Quality Control Board Region #5
• Resources Agency
Recommended Treatments

The following 21 recommended categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments have been developed for the 97.8 miles of Ponderosa Way and intersecting roads within the *Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects* area. Within the Phase I portion of the overall project area, the erosion control and erosion prevention treatments design plan calls for 9.4 miles of road upgrading and 12.7 miles of road decommissioning along Ponderosa Way and intersecting spur roads (See Map 5 Treatment Sites Phase I Project Area of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration document). Approval by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors would be required in order to decommission those Ponderosa Way road segments within the Phase I project area. If approval is not provided, those treatment options developed for Phase I road segments not related to road decommissioning would be implemented as appropriate. Road segments recommended for decommissioning are shown on Map 5 of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration document. All spur roads (8.1 miles) within the Phase I project area have been recommended for road decommissioning. County approval for such action on these private roads is not required. Not only are they privately owned and maintained, these roads have been blocked in order to prevent thru traffic and conversion to a public access road. All erosion control and erosion prevention work to be completed along Ponderosa Way within the Phase II project area will consist exclusively of road upgrading.

Proposed treatment options for Ponderosa Way within the Phase I (including spur roads) and Phase II project areas are organized into 2 categories, site-specific treatments (e.g., stream crossings) and road surface drainage treatments (see Table A Recommended Erosion Control and Erosion Prevention Treatments Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Projects found in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration document). In addition to the treatment summaries shown in Table A, detailed treatment descriptions are shown below. Storm proofing of Ponderosa Way within the Phase I and Phase II project area along with road decommissioning (Phase I project area only) are anticipated to provide immediate benefits to the streams and aquatic habitats found within the watersheds of eastern Tehama County and Butte County which currently receive catastrophic and chronic road related sediment generated within and along the Ponderosa Way road prism. It is anticipated that both road treatments and road decommissioning will measurably diminish the impact of erosion and movement of fine sediment on the biological productivity of those streams that pass through the Phase I and Phase II project areas. These streams will also be protected from catastrophic road failure and sediment inputs during flood events. The proposed road treatments will allow future storm runoff to cleanse streams that pass through the Phase I and Phase II project area of accumulated coarse and fine sediment under improved habitat conditions rather than allowing continued sediment delivery from managed areas to impaired watercourses. Utilizing the upslope road assessment and treatment action plans developed for the *Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects* which is attached to the project’s Programmatic Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Appendix A 2017 Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan, Tehama County, California of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration), the Regional Water Quality Control Board and watershed stakeholders can work together in prioritizing the implementation of restoration and sediment control...
activities within the Phase I and Phase II project areas that would greatly accelerate rates of downstream water quality improvement and habitat recovery.

Site-Specific Treatments
Stream crossing upgrade treatments will be implemented to reduce the risk of catastrophic failure and sediment delivery resulting from gullying, headcut migration, stream diversion and stream crossing failure (washout). Stream crossings will be designed (or redesigned) to minimize impacts to water quality and to handle peak runoff and flood waters. There are three basic subcategories of permanent stream crossings; 1) bridges and arches, 2)
Table A

Recommended Erosion Control and Erosion Prevention Treatments
Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment type</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culvert (install)</td>
<td>Installation of culverts within fill areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culvert (replace)</td>
<td>Replacement of undersized, poorly installed, or worn out culverts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge installation</td>
<td>Installation of bridges to prevent crossing failure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet crossing</td>
<td>Installation of ford crossings and armored fill crossings using riprap and rock armor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decommission crossing</td>
<td>Decommissioning of stream crossings by removing all fill and woody material and restoring natural channel morphology and function to convey 100-year storm flow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical dip</td>
<td>Installation of critical dips to prevent stream diversions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock (armor)</td>
<td>Rock armoring on headcuts along with inboard and outboard stream crossing fillslopes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean culvert</td>
<td>Cleaning of culvert inlets to regain inlet capacity and pass stream flow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil excavation</td>
<td>Excavation and removal of sediment, primarily at fill failures and stream crossings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outslope road and remove ditch</td>
<td>Outsloping of roads and removal or filling of inboard ditches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inslope road</td>
<td>Insloping of roads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditch relief culvert</td>
<td>Replacement of in place ditch relief culverts with properly installed ditch relief culverts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditch relief culvert downspout</td>
<td>Installation of downspouts on ditch relief culvert outlets to prevent fillslope erosion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove berm</td>
<td>Remove of berms on the outboard edge of roads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove ditch</td>
<td>Removal of inboard ditches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rolling dip</td>
<td>Installation of rolling dips on hydrologically connected roads to improve road surface drainage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean and cut ditch</td>
<td>Cleaning and cutting inboard ditches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-road drain</td>
<td>Installation of cross-road drains to improve and disperse surface runoff on decommissioned roads.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rock road surface Rocking of specific road segments.
Rip road surface
Decomposition of specific existing road surfaces with bulldozer rippers to prepare the road surface for placement of excavated fill and/or facilitate water infiltration and revegetation.

fords and armored fills, and 3) culverts. Inventoried erosion features (sites) within the Phase I and Phase II project areas will be upgraded. New stream crossing upgrades will be designed in a manner that adheres to current standards of State and federal regulatory entities and will make future failures less likely to occur. Treatments will also reduce the vulnerability of stream crossings to failure (overtopping and washout) and eliminate the risk of stream diversion.

Recommended treatments for road upgrading include replacing (upsizing) undersized culverts stream crossings and installing culverts at un-culverted (filled) stream crossings. In such locations, proposed treatment recommendations will have appropriate design geometry for installing new culverts or replacing current culverts with replacement culverts. All new stream crossing culvert installations will be properly sized for the 100-year recurrence interval design streamflow discharge. As previously mentioned, stream crossings that are designed to meet minimum standards and basic design criteria will significantly reduce the risk of catastrophic failure and sediment delivery. Proposed road upgrading treatments also include constructing ford crossings and armored fills in locations that are suitable for wet crossing construction. Fords will be built to convey stream flow across the roadbed with no fill migrating to the natural channel below the roadbed. Armored fill crossings will be built to convey stream flow directly across the roadbed and down an armored fillslope to the natural channel below.

Generally, fords and an armored fill crossing are intended for low-volume traffic areas, such as remote wildland roads and parklands experiencing little use as is the case with Ponderosa Way road segments in Tehama County. Fords and armored fills are a preferred design for small ephemeral and intermittent streams when the majority of the traffic will be crossing during low flow or dry conditions. When designed and properly built, fords and armored fill crossings are a preferred option for low volume, low maintenance, low use routes, such as Ponderosa Way. Stream crossings that display a diversion potential occur wherever a road climbs through the crossing site and where the road approach slopes away from the stream crossing. If the culvert plugs, backed up flood waters will be diverted out of the channel, down the road alignment and eventually onto adjacent, unprotected hillslopes. A major dip in the roadbed is critical, in the case of a plugged culvert, to direct flow over the low point (dip) in the fill and back into the natural channel.

Compaction of the fillslope face and slope gradient is one of the key factors that influence the stability of fillslopes. On fillslope angles steeper than 50% (2:1), riprap will be used as a stabilization measure as well as a non-erodible erosion control “mulch” on fillslopes that lack vegetation. Used as mulch, riprap prevents raindrop erosion, rilling and gully ing caused by direct rainfall or concentrated road surface runoff. Fillslope riprap armor that is sized according to expected stream velocities and slope gradients, would consist of a well graded mixture of hard, large to smaller rock sizes to minimize void space and create a dense layer of interlocking angular rock fragments. “Appendix B Typical Design Schematics for Proposed Treatments Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects” provides additional design detail regarding these site-specific treatments.
Road Surface Treatments

Among the goals of the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects is to achieve normalized hillslope drainage and as feasible, to hydrologically disconnect Ponderosa Way and its spur roads from the major anadromous streams and their tributaries that flow through the Phase I and Phase II project area. For the purposes of this project, a “hydrologically connected” road or road segment is defined as any road segment that has a continuous surface flow path to a natural stream channel during a runoff event. Wherever a hydrologic connection exists, road surface runoff and fine sediment is delivered to streams during precipitation events sufficient to produce surface runoff and cause erosion of bare soil areas. Concentrated runoff on compacted road surfaces and ditches results in erosion and road related sediment transport to nearby streams. The most common road related bare surface areas include unpaved road surfaces as well as bare (unvegetated) fillslopes, cutbanks, ditches, gullies, turnouts and landslide surfaces. The road surface drainage treatments proposed for upgraded roads are designed to control, direct and disperse road surface runoff and ditch flow onto adjacent hillslopes by reshaping the roadbed and constructing relatively frequent road surface drainage structures (e.g., rolling dips).

Treatment of road segments proposed for decommissioning will be based upon the principals of dispersing road surface runoff by constructing cross road drains and increasing infiltration rates through decompaction of the road surface. These techniques will disperse road surface runoff and reduce or prevent delivery of concentrated road runoff and fine sediment to streams. Road surface upgrading treatments are designed to redirect and disperse surface runoff off the road bed as frequently as feasible. Road upgrading recommendations include outsloping, insloping, berm removal, and installing rolling dips and ditch relief culverts to more frequently discharge runoff along segments of Ponderosa Way. For each recommended road surface drainage treatment where ground disturbance will occur, road rock will be used to stabilize the road surface. Such rocking will curtail road surface erosion by fortifying the road surface and reducing the rate of vehicle abrasion, down wearing, surface erosion, and resultant fine sediment production and delivery. Road surface decommissioning treatments are designed to prevent surface runoff by ripping the road surface to an average depth of 18” to 24” in order to increase infiltration rates and improve revegetation. In addition, road drainage will be dispersed by constructing frequent cross road drains to convey upslope runoff quickly across the road and to more frequently discharge runoff along segments of Ponderosa Way. Reducing the total length of roads within the Phase I project area through decommissioning 12.7 miles of Ponderosa Way and spur roads that are hydrologically connected to streams within the Phase I project area will directly and immediately improve water quality in South Fork Battle Creek. See the discussion related to road decommissioning below for additional details on such road treatment practices.

The basic principles of road surface drainage design entail dispersing runoff as frequently as possible thus protecting the integrity of the road and minimizing erosion and sediment pollution. The primary recommended road surface drainage treatments for upgrading Ponderosa Way within the both Phase I and Phase II project areas include:
1) Outsloping of roads by removing the inboard ditch.

2) Crowning roads by directing surface runoff to the outer edges of the road.

3) Installing rolling dips.

4) Removing outside road berms.

Based upon Phase I and Phase II road assessment results outsloped roads with rolling dips and no ditch or berms along the outside edge of the road are considered the best, most preferred road shape and drainage configuration for the majority of road upgrading circumstances along Ponderosa Way. Each segment of outsloped road will have the outside berm removed and will be resurfaced with road rock. An outsloped road cross section is more likely to capture and disperse road surface runoff. This treatment option has less environmental impact and lower maintenance costs than other designs. Outsloping high priority road segments along Ponderosa Way will minimize flow volumes and the magnitude of runoff in the inside ditch, as well as reduce the potential for erosion, hydrologic connectivity and sediment delivery from the upgraded road surface. An outsloped road ensures that turbid road runoff and fine sediment eroded from the roadbed will be quickly drained to the outside edge of the road where it can be discharged onto vegetation and into undisturbed slopes rather than migrating into stream channels. Outsloping however is not always enough to move surface runoff out of wheel ruts and off the road surface rapidly. In addition to outsloping and berm removal, rolling dips are often necessary to disperse surface runoff from outsloped roads. Rolling dips are smooth, angled depressions constructed in the road bed that drain surface runoff to the outside of the road dispersing it onto native hillslopes and are critical to maintaining a well-drained, outsloped road. These features will be constructed into the road subgrade with an outsloped dip axis and long, shallow approach on their up-road side with a more abrupt rise, or reverse grade, on their down-road side. Spacing design will be dependent upon the road grade, length of uncontrolled runoff, the erodibility of the road surface (e.g., rocked or native) and the proximity of the nearest stream channel.

Primary road surface treatments developed upgrading selected portions of Ponderosa Way will include as appropriate:

- Installation of ditch relief culverts and ditch relief culvert downspout.
- Insloping of road.
- Cutting and cleaning existing inboard ditches.
- Applying road rock on existing rocked roads.
Road Decommissioning

A number of inventoried erosion features within the Phase I project area have been proposed for decommissioning (See Map 5 Treatment Sites Phase I Project Area of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration) if approved by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors. If necessary approval is obtained, treatments to sites along decommissioned (closed) road segments (Phase I project area only) will include: decompacting and/or outsloping the former road bed and installing cross road drains to prevent collection, concentration or diversion of surface runoff; removing (excavating) unstable or potentially unstable fill (sidecast materials) that could fail and deliver sediment to a stream; excavating stream crossing fills and exhuming the original stream channel bed and stable sideslopes; removing concrete sills and applying erosion control (seeding and mulching) to bare soil areas disturbed by decommissioning work.

“Appendix B Typical Design Schematics for Proposed Treatments Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects” found in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration provides additional design detail related to road decommissioning treatments to be completed in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects. Decommissioning stream crossings located along closed road segments within the Phase I project area will adhere to the following standards and provide immediate benefits to water quality as well as aquatic and riparian habitat conditions of those streams that pass through the Phase I project area.

- Complete removal of stream crossing road fills and stored sediment that impact the natural stream channel morphology.
- Excavated channel bottom widths sized for the 100-year storm flood flow and at least as wide as the undisturbed natural stream channel.
- Stable channel grades and streamside hillslopes.
- Elimination of stream diversion potential.
- Prevention of future stream crossing wash outs and gullying of abandoned stream crossing fills. Unstable fillslope (landslide) features which represent existing and pending road fill failures will be treated. If left untreated, large amounts of sediment would be mobilized and delivered to the stream channel from these potential fillslope failures.

Most of the Class II watercourses crossings proposed for upgrading or decommissioning will require dewatering, using either gravity fed flex pipe or a gas-powered pump and coffer dams. CDFW standards detailed in the CDFG Salmonid Habitat Restoration Manual, Part X: Upslope Erosion Inventory and Sediment Control Guidance will be followed along with those established specially for this project (See the Best Management Practices section of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration along with Appendix C Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) for the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects Initial
Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration found in that document). Each recommended treatment type proposed for use in connection with the Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects is consistent with the conservation goals and objectives written into the implementation strategies and guidelines of the Basin Plan for the Central Valley Region (revised April 2016) in order to protect beneficial uses and water quality. All upslope road treatment recommendations will follow guidelines described in the Handbook for Forest, Ranch and Rural Roads, Part X of the CDFG Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual, and California Forest Practice Rules (CAL FIRE, 2017).
SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

This is to advise that the Tehama County Resource Conservation District has approved the above described project on ______________a and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

1. The project [ ] will [X] will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. [ ] An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. 
   [X] A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [X] were [ ] were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [X] was [ ] was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [ ] was [X] was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [X] were [ ] were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

Signature (Public Agency): _____________________________ Title: ____________________________

Date: _____________________________ Date Received for filing at OPR: ____________________

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code. Revised 2011
Attachment A

Project Location and Project Description

Notice of Determination Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan
Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects

Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

Project Location:

Phase I Project Area
5 Miles southeast of Manton California
22 miles northeast of Red Bluff California
Between Rock Creek Road and the Shasta/Tehama County line to State Route 36E and the
Ponderosa Sky Ranch community

Phase II Project Area
5 miles east of Cohassett California
25 miles south east of Red Bluff California
20 miles east of Los Molinos California
25 miles east of Chico California

Between State Route 36E and State Route 32E

Legal Description of the Phase I and Phase II Project Area:

Phase I Project Area
T30N R2E Sec 31
T29N R1E Sec 1
T29 R2E Sec 6, 7, 15,16,17,18, 21 and 22

Phase II Project Area
T28N R1E Sec 12-13
T28N R2E Sec 5-6-7-17-18-19-20-21-28-29-32
T27N R2E Sec 5-4-10-13-14-15-23-24
**Project Description:**

21 recommended categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments have been developed for the 97.8 miles of Ponderosa Way and intersecting roads within the *Ponderosa Way Road Assessment and Sediment Reduction Plan Phase I and Phase II Implementation Projects* area. Within the Phase I portion of the overall project area, the erosion control and erosion prevention treatments design plan calls for 9.4 miles of road upgrading and possibly 12.7 miles of road decommissioning along Ponderosa Way and intersecting spur roads. Approval by the Tehama County Board of Supervisors would be required in order to decommission those Ponderosa Way road segments within the Phase I project area. If approval is not provided, those treatment options developed for Phase I road segments not related to road decommissioning would be implemented as appropriate. All spur roads (8.1 miles) within the Phase I project area have been recommended for road decommissioning. All erosion control and erosion prevention work to be completed along Ponderosa Way within the Phase II project area will consist exclusively of road upgrading utilizing the categories of erosion control and erosion prevention treatments described above.