FRE-55505 - Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project on Lost Hills Rd

Notification Details

Notification Type:	10155-Notify for Standard Agreement (Cannabis and non-Cannabis)
Notification Type Due Date:	
Region:	Region 4
Status:	Under Review
Stage:	Final Application

An Applicant may designate and authorize an agent (e.g., lawyer, consultant, or other individual) to act as Designated Representative.

The Designated Representative is authorized to sign the notification and any agreement on behalf of the applicant. The Designated Representative listed here must be listed in the “Additional Contacts” field above to receive emails related to the notification and permit.

Designated Representative:

Select the person that is authorized to represent you as your Designated Representative.

Initial Submit Date:	Nov 8, 2024 11:09 AM
Initially Submitted By:	Steven White
Last Submit Date:	
Last Submitted By:	

Contact Information

Primary Contact Information

User Title:	Steven	E	White
	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
User Email*:	stwhite@fresnocountyca.gov		
User Address*:	2220 Tulare Street 6th Floor		

	Fresno	State/Province	93721
	City		Postal Code/Zip

User Phone*: 559-600-4537 Ext.
Phone

Organization Information

Organization Name*: Fresno County

Organization Website:

Address*: 2220 Tulare Street 6th Floor

	Fresno	California	Ext.	93721
	City	State/Province		Postal Code/Zip

Phone*: (559) 600-4109 Ext.

Project Location and Category

Project Location

"Project Name" used here refers to the activities (project) that are subject to the notification requirements in Fish and Game Code section 1602 and not the overall project identified previously in the General Information form. For example, if the project includes the construction of one bridge, one culvert, and road grading adjacent to a stream, this would constitute three projects.

You can name the bridge Smith Bridge as project one, Smith Culvert as project two, and Road Grading as project three. In this example, you would be required to fill out this section three times to identify each project. Refer to the LSA Fee Schedule for more information.

Project Name*: Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Does the project site have a physical address?

Response*: No

If there is no street address:

- Provide a description of the location with reference to the nearest city or town.
- Provide driving directions from a major road or highway.
- Provide a map that marks the location of the project and denotes a north arrow and map scale in the "Documents and Maps" form.

Project Site Description*:

To reach the project site from the city of Fresno, take the CA 41 South freeway for approximately 46 miles. Turn right onto Nevada Ave for 7.5 miles, and keep right to get into the Fresno County Highway. After .3 mile, the road changes names to W Jayne Ave; continue for about 3.5 miles. Turn left onto the CA-33 S / Lost Hills Road and continue for 2.7 miles. Turn right onto W Lost Hills Road and continue for 2.7 miles. The bridge will be at Lost Hills Road over Jacalitos Creek.

Character Limit: 500

GPS Coordinates*: 36.10197
Latitude Minimum Requirement ##.#####

-120.31078
Longitude Minimum Requirement -###.#####

County*: Fresno County

Property APN*: 083-050-08
APN Format: 000-000-00

Project Category

Project Category*: Replace/Remove Existing Structure

Work Type *: Bridge

Does this project address any of the following: hazardous fuels reduction, fuel breaks, wildfire prevention, vegetation treatment or vegetation management for fire management?

Response*: No

Affected Body of Water

Provide the name of the stream or lake in or near where the project will occur. If the river, stream or lake is unnamed, please select “unnamed stream or lake” in the drop-down box. The following websites may assist you in identifying the name of the stream or lake in or near the project.

- EPA Maps
- USGS The National Map

Disclaimer – CDFW cannot and does not portray the links provided above as an exhaustive and comprehensive inventory of all river, streams, or lakes statewide. Field verification will always be an important obligation of the applicant.

River, Stream, or Lake Affected*:

Jacalitos Creek
Searchable List: this is a very large list, click once and wait 2-3 seconds to let the drop-down open.

Waterbody Tributary*:

North Fork Kings River
Searchable List: this is a very large list, click once and wait 2-3 seconds to let the drop-down open.
Will water be present during the proposed work period in the river, stream, or lake?

Water Present during Work Period: Yes

Will the proposed project require work in the wetted portion of the channel?

Work in Wetted Portion of Channel*:

Yes

If Yes, attach a plan to divert water around the project site and dewater the work site that specifies the method, volume rate, and timing of the diversion on the Documents and Maps form.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA)

Is the river or stream segment affected by the project listed in the state or federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts? The State Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) is codified at Public Resources Code section 5093.50 et seq. and can be found at California Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

If the project is located within a segment of a river or stream that is listed in the State or federal WRSA, CDFW cannot approve the proposed project unless it is consistent with the act(s).

Wild and Scenic Rivers?*: No

Project Description, Term, and Impacts

Project Description and Details

Is the 'Property Owner' the same person as the 'Applicant Proposing Project'?

Response*: Yes

Include all of the following:

- Include any structures (e.g., rip-rap, culverts) that will be placed or modified in or near the stream, river, or lake, and any channel clearing.
- Specify volume, and dimensions of all materials and features (e.g., rip-rap fields) that will be used or installed.
- If water will be diverted or extracted, specify the purpose or use.
- Describe both permanent and temporary impacts to the channel and/or riparian habitat.

On the "Documents and Maps" form, attach photographs of the project location(s) and immediate surrounding area. Include diagrams, drawings, plans, and maps that provide all of the following:

- Site specific construction details.
- Dimensions of each structure and/or extent of each activity in the bed, channel, bank or floodplain.
- Overview of the entire project area (i.e., “bird’s-eye view”) showing the location of each structure and activity, significant area features, stockpile areas, areas of temporary disturbance.
- Where the equipment/machinery will access the project area.

Describe the Project in Detail*:

The project is intended to replace the existing two-lane bridge with a new two-lane bridge built to current standards. Additional appurtenant work includes: taper widening the roadway approaches to current standards, up to approximately 465 feet on either side of the bridge; shifting the intersection of Lost Hills Avenue and Jacalitos Creek Road slightly to the east to accommodate new approach railing; installing rock slope protection, approximately 5 to 6 feet in depth, up and downstream from the existing bridge, as well as along the Lost Hills Road embankment and extending to the southwest; installing a series of stream barbs along the southeasterly abutment and upstream and downstream of the bridge; constructing a temporary onsite low water crossing detour approximately 100 feet north of the existing bridge for use during construction activities; and relocating utilities.

Existing Bridge
The existing two-lane bridge (Bridge No. 4C0078) is an approximately 28-foot-wide, 115-foot-long, five-span bridge, consisting of a three-span timber stringer and a two-span cast-in-place (CIP) reinforced concrete slab. It is considered functionally obsolete. The original bridge, with three timber spans, was first constructed in 1940. The remaining two reinforced concrete slab spans were constructed in 1962, replacing a washed-out portion of the original structure. Bridge supports include driven steel H-piles, driven concrete piles, and spread footings. There is existing rock slope protection on the upstream, southeast slope and existing gabion cages on the downstream, northeast slope. The east abutment has experienced ongoing erosion over the years, resulting in embankment damage, lane closures, and several maintenance projects.

Proposed Structure
The existing bridge would be removed to accommodate a new CIP prestressed three-span bridge. The new bridge would be 140 feet long and 31.5 feet wide founded on cast-in-drilled-hole (CIDH) piles with varying diameters of 30-inches and 36-inches. See attached plans. The bridge will accommodate two 11-foot lanes with 3-foot shoulders. The replacement structure would improve the integrity and functionality of the existing creek crossing.

Rock slope protection will be placed upstream and downstream of the proposed bridge with a series of stream barbs installed along the east bridge embankment, upstream and downstream of the proposed bridge. These are intended to realign the existing thalweg towards the end of the barb structures, thus forcing the thalweg away from the protected bank.

During construction of the proposed project, traffic on Lost Hills Road would be maintained through the placement of a temporary detour and creek crossing downstream of the existing bridge. The temporary creek diversion would consist of a cofferdam system with approximately four 48-inch high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes for water diversion, to channel the maximum anticipated summertime flow of Jacalitos Creek. The temporary detour would be constructed on top of the water diversion, on the downstream end.

Jacalitos Creek
The project site is located within the Tulare Lake Bed Watershed in Fresno County. Jacalitos Creek is an intermittent tributary channel that supports seasonal flows during the wet season, corresponding to local winter rainfall patterns. Typically, there is no water present within the creek during the dry season. Vegetation within the creek consists of sparse native upland forbs and shrubs with other miscellaneous non-native species. The creek eventually merges with the Los Gatos Creek, approximately 4-miles downstream.

Vicinity Characteristics
Aside from Jacalitos Creek, the project area is comprised of ruderal land as well as valley saltbush scrub habitat. Apart from the channel itself, the project area is relatively flat. Ruderal lands include the paved roads, unpaved roads, and unpaved shoulders as well as the existing rock slope protection. These disturbed areas are characterized by low plant and animal species diversity with little to no vegetation cover. The valley saltbush scrub generally occurs in areas of undeveloped land within the San Joaquin Valley and are characterized by plants adapted to limited rainfall and mostly sandy to sandy loam soils. This habitat includes native and non-native shrubs, annual grasses, and forbs.

See Detailed Project Activity
Character Limit: 10,000. If description is longer than 10,000 characters, please include as an attachment in the Documents and Maps form

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List all equipment and machinery used to complete the project. List any lubricants, solvents, chemicals, or other materials not normally found on construction sites that will be present in the project area in addition to the equipment and machinery used to complete the project.

Describe Equipment and Machinery*:

See Detailed Project Activity
Character Limit: 10,000. If description is longer than 10,000 characters, please include as an attachment in the Documents and Maps form

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Will part or all of this project be funded with one of the following CDFW-managed grants? If you have received a grant other than those listed here, we do not need this information. Listed items are CDFW-managed grants, and others are not relevant to our tracking metrics.

Select all that apply*: N/A

Water Right(s), Water Diversion(s), & Reservoir(s)

Does the project have an associated water right(s)?

Response*: No

Does the project include any water diversion(s)?

Response*: No

Does the project include a reservoir(s)? Complete this section if the project includes the construction of a reservoir or pond, whether permanent or temporary, and/or the routine operation of an existing reservoir or pond by diverting or obstructing the flow of a river or stream.

Response*: No

Commercial Cannabis Cultivation

Does any part of the project include remediation at a cannabis cultivation site? Includes projects that were from past cannabis grows even if you will not be cultivating cannabis in the future.

Response*: No

Are you seeking documentation to submit to the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) for the purpose of commercial cannabis cultivation licensing? If you are applying for, or have received, a commercial cannabis license from the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC), select yes.

Response*: No

Agreement Term

Agreement Term Requested*:

Regular Term (5 years or less),Regular Term (5 years or less),Regular Term (5 years or less),Regular Term (5 years or less),Regular Term (5 years or less),Regular Term (5 years or less),Regular Term (5 years or less),Regular Term (5 years or less)

Project Term

Specify both the year the project activities will begin and the year the project activities will end. Be advised CDFW may restrict work within a stream or lake to the dry season of the year. Consequently, you may want to include more than one season of possible operation in your project proposal.

Beginning Year*: 2025
YYYY

Ending Year*: 2030
YYYY

Seasonal Work Period

Specify the time period you intend to work on the project (e.g., August 1 to October 15). If the work period will exceed one year, specify the work period for each year of the project (e.g., Work Period 1, February 10 to March 31; Work Period 2, August 1 to October 15; Work Period 3, February 10 to March 31; etc.). CDFW may restrict project work to certain periods depending on rainfall, fish migration, wildlife breeding or nesting season, or other resource concerns. Specify the estimated number of days of actual work days for each seasonal work period.

NOTE: If your project has more that five seasonal work periods, include document identifying the additional work periods in the "Documents and Maps" form.

Work Period #1*:	05/01/2025	03/31/2025	150
	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Number of Work Days
Work Period #2:	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Number of Work Days
Work Period #3:	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Number of Work Days
Work Period #4:	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Number of Work Days
Work Period #5:	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Number of Work Days

Impacts to River, Stream, or Lake

Describe any foreseeable impacts (permanent or temporary) to the flow, bed, channel and bank of the river, stream, or lake. Quantify the effects and impacts in the project vicinity by noting the type, volume, and dimensions of material displaced through grading, trenching or other forms of site alteration. Also include any foreseeable impacts (permanent or temporary) to the riparian zone on or adjacent to the bank of the river, stream or lake. The riparian zone is the area that surrounds a channel or lake and supports (or can support) vegetation that is dependent on surface or subsurface water. Include the effects of your project activity to this zone at least to the outer (landward) edge of the drip line of any dependent vegetation.

Describe Impacts*:

Direct impacts of the proposed project include temporary fill in the creek bed for construction of the temporary detour and diversion, excavation and pile drilling to construct the bridge abutments and piles, the placement of rock slope protection and stream barbs, and potential deposition of debris and dust during demolition of the existing bridge. The project area is located on an existing road and bridge in Fresno County, and is comprised of Jacalitos Creek, valley saltbush scrub, and ruderal habitat.

The project will have the following temporary impacts: 0.43 ac to stream channel, 0.53 ac to valley saltbush scrub, and 0.42 ac to ruderal habitat. The project will have the following permanent impacts: 0.04 ac to stream channel, 0.06 ac to valley saltbush scrub, and 0.25 ac to ruderal habitat.

See Volume Quantity Map and Detailed Project Activities for details.

Character Limit: 10,000

Impacts to Special Status Species

Will there be any foreseeable impacts to any special status animal or plant species, or habitat that could support such species, known to be present on or near the project site?

A special status species is an animal or plant species that meets any of the following criteria

- The species is listed or proposed for listing under the State or federal Endangered Species Act.
- The species is designated as rare under the State Native Plant Protection Act.
- The species is identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in a local, regional, State or federal list, plan, or policy.
- The species otherwise meets the definition of an endangered, rare, or threatened species under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15380 (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15380).

Special Status Species?*: No

Identify the source(s) of information (e.g., biological surveys, BIOS, environmental documents, etc.) that supports a “Yes” or “No” answer for the previous question. Provide web-link to document or attach the document in the Documents and Maps form.

Source(s)*:

Impacts to special status species is not anticipated. The County of Fresno will implement and follow avoidance and minimization measures as identified in the mitigation monitoring and reporting program, biological assessment, and informal consultation process with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. See attached studies.

Character Limit: 5,000

Impacts to Trees and Vegetation

Will the project affect any trees or vegetation?

Response*: Yes

Identify the type(s) of tree(s) or vegetation (i.e., trees such as oak, willow, or sycamore, and plant communities, such as salt marsh, freshwater marsh, wet meadow, willow thicket, riparian woodland, willow riparian woodland, desert wash woodland, riparian forest, oak riparian forest, redwood forest, riparian scrub, desert wash scrub, alkali sink scrub, oasis, vernal pool, bog, non-native, or ornamental) that will affected by the project. Include temporary and permanent impacts with linear feet and total acres.

If trees ***greater than 2 inches in diameter at breast height*** (dbh) and/or mature shrubs will be removed as part of the project, specify the estimated number and species (if available) to be removed, and the range of trunk diameters measured at breast height. Trees can be grouped into size classes (i.e., four oak trees approximately 10 to 20 inches dbh). Please attach a tree survey to the “Documents and Maps” form, if available.

If no trees or vegetation is being affected by this project, attach aerial photo with date supporting this determination in the "Documents and Maps" form.

Describe*:

The project area is comprised of Jacalitos Creek, valley saltbush scrub, and ruderal habitat. There will not be any tree or mature shrub removals. Clearing and grubbing will consist of low-lying vegetation, dead vines, bushes, and other debris or trash in the project area.

The project will have the following temporary impacts: 0.43 ac to stream channel, 0.53 ac to valley saltbush scrub, and 0.42 ac to ruderal habitat. The project will have the following permanent impacts: 0.04 ac to stream channel, 0.06 ac to valley saltbush scrub, and 0.25 ac to ruderal habitat.

Character Limit: 5,000

Environmental Review

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Has a CEQA lead Agency been determined? Yes

Before identifying CDFW as the CEQA lead agency, please obtain approval from the CDFW regional office covering the project area.

***:**

CEQA Lead Agency*: Fresno County

This is a large list, click once and wait 2-5 seconds to let the drop-down open.

Agency Contact Person*: Alexis Rutherford

Email:

Phone Number*: 559-353-4593

Has a CEQA document been prepared for the project pursuant to CEQA?

CEQA Document*: Yes

If a copy of any CEQA document has been submitted to the State Clearinghouse for distribution to State agencies, provide the number assigned to the document by the State Clearinghouse. Contact the State Clearinghouse if you need assistance in locating the State Clearinghouse number.

State Clearinghouse Number: 2020039064

If Applicable

Type*:

Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Include a copy of the CEQA document and all notices in the Documents and Maps form

Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) or a Notice of Exemption (NOE) been completed for the project?

CEQA NOD/NOE*: Yes

If Yes, attach the NOD/NOE in the Documents and Maps form.

Has a CEQA Mitigation, Monitoring, Reporting Plan (MMRP) been completed for the project?

MMRP Plan*:

Yes

If Yes, attach the Mitigation, Monitoring, Reporting Plan in the Documents and Maps form.

If the project described in this notification is not the “whole project", or action pursuant to CEQA, briefly describe the entire project. If the project described in the notification is the entire project, insert the following statement in this box: “The project described in the notification is the entire project.”

CDFW must comply with CEQA when issuing a final agreement for a project. CEQA defines a “project” as “the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment” (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15378).

Briefly Describe the Entire Project* :

The project described in the notification is the entire project.

Character Limit: 5,000

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Has a draft or final document been prepared for the project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Draft or Final Document*: Yes

If Yes, attach a copy of the document in the Documents and Maps form.

Type*: Categorical Exclusion

Measures to Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Resources

Measures to Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Resources

Describe the methods or techniques that will be used to prevent sediment from entering any watercourses during and after construction. If you are unsure of which methods or techniques to prevent erosion would best minimize impacts at the project site, indicate “unknown”. CDFW staff can assist in providing the appropriate measures. Attach any additional documents, if available, in the "Documents and Maps" form.

Sediment/Erosion Control*:

Best Management Practices (BMPs) along with a SWPPP/WPCP will be developed and implemented to minimize sediment from entering the creek to protect water quality during the construction of the project.

See Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
See Water Quality Assessment Memo pages 14 - 15
Character Limit: 5,000

Describe any measures that will be incorporated into the project to avoid or minimize impacts to fish, wildlife, and plant resources. If you are unsure of which measures would best minimize impacts at the project site, indicate “unknown”. CDFW staff can assist in providing the appropriate measures. Attach any additional documents, if available, in the "Documents and Maps" form.

Avoidance/Minimization

Measures*:

See Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
See Water Quality Assessment Memo pages 14 - 15
See Biological Assessment pages 42 - 46
See USFWS Informal Consultation
Character Limit: 5,000

Describe all measures that will be incorporated into the project provide mitigation or compensation for impacts to fish, wildlife, and plant resources. If you are unsure of which measures would best provide mitigation or compensation for potential impacts at the project site, indicate “unknown.” CDFW staff can assist in providing the appropriate measures. Attach any additional documents, if available, in the "Documents and Maps" form.

Mitigation/Compensation

Measures*:

No compensatory mitigation proposed.
Character Limit: 5,000

Prior Notification, Orders, and Permits

Notifications, Orders, or Permits

Do you have any Notifications,
Orders, or Permits to include?:

Yes

If you selected Yes, please click Add Row to include all notifications, orders or permits in each section below.

Prior Notifications and/or Agreements

Prior Orders, Notice, and/or Violations

Local, State, and/or Federal Permits

Permit Name:	401 Water Quality Certification Character Limit: 100
Permit Type:	State
Applied/Issued:	Issued
Date Issued/Applied*:	11/05/2024
Permit Name:	404 Preconstruction Notification Character Limit: 100
Permit Type:	Federal
Applied/Issued:	Applied
Date Issued/Applied*:	09/23/2024

Documents and Maps

Maps and Photos

Project Site Map*:	7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map.pdf
Date Uploaded*:	11/07/2024 Date Uploaded
Project Aerial View Map*:	Project Location Map.pdf
Date Uploaded*:	11/07/2024 Date Uploaded
Project Site Photo(s)*:	Photos.pdf
Date Uploaded*:	11/07/2024 Date Uploaded
Project Site Photo(s) :	
Date Uploaded:	Date Uploaded
Project Site Photo(s) :	
Date Uploaded:	Date Uploaded

Studies and Mapping

Has a biological study been completed for the project site?

Response*:

Yes

If Yes, include a copy of the study in the Additional Documents and Maps section below.

Has one or more technical studies (e.g., engineering, hydrologic, geologic, or geomorphological) been completed for the project for project site?

Response*:

Yes

If Yes, include a copy of the study in the Additional Documents and Maps section below.

Have fish or wildlife resources or waters of the state been mapped or delineated on the project site?

Response*:

Yes

If Yes, include a copy of the resource mapping/delineation in the Additional Documents and Maps section below.

Additional Documents and Maps

1. Description: Biological Assessment Biological Assessment.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

2. Description: CEQA Initial Study 7530 CEQA Initial Study 7530.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

3. Description: CEQA IS 7530 MND-NOD CEQA IS 7530 MND-NOD.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

4. Description: APN Map APN Map.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

5. Description: Detailed Project Activities Detailed Project Activities.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

6. Description: Giant Kangaroo Rat Trapping Report

Giant Kangaroo Rat Trapping Report.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

7. Description: Greenhouse Gas Memo Greenhouse Gas Memo.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

8. Description: Initial Site Assessment Initial Site Assessment.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

9. Description: Jacalitos Creek Construction Plans Jacalitos Creek Bridge Plans.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

10. Description: Jurisdictional Waters Investigation Jurisdictional Waters Investigation.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

11. Description: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

12. Description: Natural Environment Study Natural Environment Study.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

13. Description: NEPA CE NEPA CE.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

14. Description: Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination

Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

15. Description: Project Activities Map Project Activities Map.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

16. Description: Temporary Diversion and Detour Plan

Temporary Diversion and Detour Plan.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

17. Description: USFWS Informal Consultation USFWS Informal Consultation.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

18. Description: Volume Quantities Map Volume Quantities Map.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

19. Description: Water Quality Assessment Memo Water Quality Assessment Memo.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

20. Description: 401 Water Quality Cert 401 Water Quality Cert.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

21. Description: 404 Precon Notification 404 Precon Notification.pdf

Date Uploaded: 11/07/2024

22. Description:

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Fees Schedule

Regular Term Notification Fees

Project Name	Project Cost Range	Actual Project Cost	Project Fee
Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project	$350,000 or more	$8,153,700.00	$6,580.50
			$6,580.50

Long Term Notification Fees

Project Name	Project Cost Range	Actual Project Cost	Project Fee
No Data for Table			

Remediation Fees

Project Name	Remediation Area	Project Fee
No Data for Table		

Total Fees Due

Regular Term Agreement Fees:	$6,580.50
Long Term Agreement Fees:	$0.00
Remediation Fees:	$0.00
TOTAL (All Fees):	$6,580.50

Payment Information

Payment Method	Document#*	Name of the Bank/Institution*	Check/Money Order #*
Check/Money Order		County Disbursement	210052490

Acknowledgement and Signature

Site Inspection

Option 1

In the event CDFW determines that a site inspection is necessary, I hereby authorize a CDFW representative to enter the property where the project described in this notification will take place at any reasonable time, and hereby certify that I am authorized to grant CDFW such entry.

CDFW Personnel Authorized to Enter Property: Initial

Option 2

I request CDFW to first contact the person identified below to schedule a date and time to enter the property where the project described in this notification will take place. I understand that this may delay CDFW's determination as to whether a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement is required and/or CDFW's issuance of a draft agreement pursuant to this notification.

First Contact this Person to Schedule Site Visit:	SW Initial
Method of Contact:	Email Select all that apply
Contact First Name:	Nicolette Nobuhiro First Name Last Name
Title/Position:	Senior Planner
Phone Number:	559-818-0354
Email:	nnobuhiro@fresnocountyca.gov

Electronic Signature

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the information in this notification is true and correct and that I am authorized to sign this notification as, or on behalf of, the applicant.

I Certify*: SW
Initial

I understand that if any information in this notification is found to be untrue or incorrect, CDFW may suspend processing this notification or suspend or revoke any draft or final Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement issued pursuant to this notification.

I Understand*: SW
Initial

I understand also that if any information in this notification is found to be untrue or incorrect and the project described in this notification has already begun, I and/or the applicant may be subject to civil or criminal prosecution.

I Understand*: SW
Initial

I understand that this notification applies only to the project(s) described herein and that I and/or the applicant may be subject to civil or criminal prosecution for undertaking any project not described herein unless CDFW has been separately notified of that project in accordance with Fish and Game Code section 1602 or 1611.

I Understand*: SW
Initial

Electronic Signature*: Steve White
First and Last Name

Date*: 11/08/2024

County of Fresno
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

INITIAL STUDY
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

1. **Project title:**
   Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project, Initial Study No. 7530

2. **Lead agency name and address:**
   County of Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning
   2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor
   Fresno, CA 93721

3. **Contact person and phone number:**
   Thomas Kobayashi, Planner
   (559)600-4224

4. **Project location:**
   The project site is located on Lost Hills Road, just west of Jacalitos Creek Road. The project site is located approximately 2.05 miles southeast of the nearest city limits of the City of Coalinga.

5. **Project sponsor's name and address:**
   Alexis Rutherford
   County of Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning, Design Division
   2220 Tulare Street, 7th Floor
   Fresno, CA 93721

6. **General Plan designation:**
   Agriculture per the County adopted Coalinga Regional Plan

7. **Zoning:**
   AE-20 (Exclusive Agricultural, 20-acre minimum parcel size) Zone District.

8. **Description of project: (Describe the whole action involved, including, but not limited to, later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation. Attach additional sheets if necessary.)**
   Replace the existing Jacalitos Creek Bridge, make associated improvements that would address scour problems at the bridge, and repair and/or stabilize the creek banks upstream and downstream of the bridge. Specifically the project would: replace the existing two-lane bridge with a new two-lane bridge built to current standards; taper widen the roadway approaches to current standards up to approximately 400 feet on either side of the bridge; shift the intersection of Lost Hills Avenue and Jacalitos Creek Road slightly to the east to accommodate new approach rail, work on Jacalitos road would extend approximately 425 feet from the intersection; install rock slope protection, approximately 5 feet to 6 feet, up and downstream from the existing bridge to counteract high velocity flows; install a series of stream barbs along the southeasterly abutment and upstream and downstream of the bridge to redirect the channel thalweg closer to the center of the bridge as an erosion control measure in the channel; construct a temporary onsite low water crossing detour approximately 100 feet north of the existing bridge for use during construction activities; and relocate utilities if necessary.

9. **Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings:**
   The project is located in a rural setting with vacant fields on either side of Lost Hills Road. Other than the existing road and bridge, no other structures are located within or immediately adjacent to the Project Area.

10. **Other public agencies whose approval is required (g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)**

    Caltrans
    The United States Army Corps of Engineers
    California Regional Water Quality Control Board

11. **Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?**

    Participating California Native American tribes have been notified of the project proposal and given the opportunity to enter consultation with the County. California Native American tribes that were contacted either did not respond or declined the opportunity to enter consultation.

NOTE: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21080.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- ☐ Aesthetics
- ☐ Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- ☐ Air Quality
- ☐ Biological Resources
- ☐ Cultural Resources
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Geology/Soils
- ☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- ☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- ☐ Hydrology/Water Quality
- ☐ Land Use/Planning
- ☐ Mineral Resources
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Population/Housing
- ☐ Public Services
- ☐ Recreation
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
- ☐ Utilities/Service Systems
- ☐ Wildfire
- ☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION OF REQUIRED ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment. **A NEGATIVE DECLARATION WILL BE PREPARED**.

☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the Mitigation Measures described on the attached sheet have been added to the project. **A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION WILL BE PREPARED.**

☐ I find the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required

☐ I find that as a result of the proposed project, no new effects could occur, or new Mitigation Measures would be required that have not been addressed within the scope of a previous Environmental Impact Report.

PERFORMED BY:

Thomas Kobayashi, Planner

Date: 3/19/20

REVIEWED BY:

M Mollring

Marianne Mollring, Senior Planner

Date: 3-19-20

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INITIAL STUDY
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM
(Initial Study Application No. 7530)

The following checklist is used to determine if the proposed project could potentially have a significant effect on the environment. Explanations and information regarding each question follow the checklist.

1 = No Impact

2 = Less Than Significant Impact

3 = Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

4 = Potentially Significant Impact

I. AESTHETICS

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:

1 a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

1 b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

1 c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

1 d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

1 a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

1 b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?

1 c) Conflict with existing zoning for forest land, timberland or timberland zoned Timberland Production?

1 d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

1 e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

III. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

2 a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Plan?

2 b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

2 c) Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under a Federal or State ambient air quality standard?

1 d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

1 e) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

3 a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

2 b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

3 c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally-protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

3 d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

1 e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

1 f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state Habitat Conservation Plan?

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

3 a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?

3 b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?

3 c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

VI. ENERGY

Would the project:

3 a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

1 b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

1 i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?

2 ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

2 iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

2 iv) Landslides?

2 b) Result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil?

2 c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

1 d) Be located on expansive soil as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

1 e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

1 f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:

2 a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

2 b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

3 a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

3 b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

1 c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

1 d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

1 e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

2 f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

1 g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

3 a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

3 b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

3 c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site?

3 i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;

3 ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;

3 iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or

3 iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?

1 d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

2 e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:

1 a) Physically divide an established community?

1 b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

2 a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

2 b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local General Plan, Specific Plan or other land use plan?

XIII. NOISE

Would the project result in:

2 a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

2 b) Generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?

1 c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

1 a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

1 b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project:

1 a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically-altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically-altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

1 i) Fire protection?

1 ii) Police protection?

1 iii) Schools?

1 iv) Parks?

1 v) Other public facilities?

XVI. RECREATION

Would the project:

1 a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

1 b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

XVII. TRANSPORTATION

Would the project:

2 a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

2 b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

2 c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

2 d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

2 a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

2 i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

2 ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

1 a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

1 b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

1 c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

2 d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

2 e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

XX. WILDFIRE

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:

2 a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

1 b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

1 c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

1 d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Would the project:

3 a) Have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

1 b) Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)

1 c) Have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Documents Referenced:

This Initial Study is referenced by the documents listed below. These documents are available for public review at the County of Fresno, Department of Public Works and Planning, Development Services and Capital Projects Division, 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A, Fresno, California (corner of M & Tulare Streets).

Fresno County General Plan, Policy Document and Final EIR
Fresno County Zoning Ordinance
Important Farmland 2014 Map, State Department of Conservation
Live Oak Associates Inc., Jurisdictional Waters Investigation, Biological Assessment, and Natural Environment Study
Haro Environmental, Hazardous Waste Initial Site Assessment
WRECO, Location Hydraulic Study
SWCA Environmental Consultants, Water Quality Memorandum
State Department of Conservation, Earthquake Zone Application
Cal Fire, State Responsibility Area Viewer

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County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

APPLICANT: Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, Design Division

APPLICATION NOS.: Initial Study Application No. 7530

DESCRIPTION: Replace the existing Jacalitos Creek Bridge, make associated improvements that would address scour problems at the bridge, and repair and/or stabilize the creek banks upstream and downstream of the bridge. Specifically the project would: replace the existing two-lane bridge with a new two-lane bridge built to current standards; taper widen the roadway approaches to current standards up to approximately 400 feet on either side of the bridge; shift the intersection of Lost Hills Avenue and Jacalitos Creek Road slightly to the east to accommodate new approach railed, work on Jacalitos Road would extend approximately 425 feet from the intersection; install rock slope protection, approximately 5 feet to 6 feet, up and downstream from the existing bridge to counteract high velocity flows; install a series of stream barbs along the southeasterly abutment and upstream and downstream of the bridge to redirect the channel thalweg closer to the center of the bridge as an erosion control measure in the channel; construct a temporary onsite low water crossing detour approximately 100 feet north of the existing bridge for use during construction activities; and relocate utilities if necessary.

LOCATION: The Jacalitos Creek Bridge is located on Lost Hills Avenue, just west of Jacalitos Creek Road. The project site is located approximately 2.05 miles southeast of the nearest city limits of the City of Coalinga. (SUP. DIST.: 4)

I. AESTHETICS

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:

A. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista; or

B. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway; or

C. In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project will be conducted at grade or below grade and will not affect a scenic vista. The project will not damage any scenic resource including trees, rock outcroppings, and/or historic buildings and is not identified as a scenic road or highway. The project will not degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings nor will the quality of public views of the site and its surroundings degrade.

D. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project will not create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.

II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

A. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use; or

B. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

According to the 2014 Fresno County Important Farmland Map, the project site is located in land designated as Grazing. The project will not convert prime or unique

farmlands or farmland of state-wide importance. The project site is an existing road, bridge, and creek and is not under Williamson Act Contract.

C. Conflict with existing zoning for forest land, timberland or timberland zoned Timberland Production; or

D. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project site is not located in forest land or timberland and the project will not result in loss of forest land nor will it conflict with existing zoning for forest land, timberland or timberland zoned Timberland Production.

E. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project will not result in the conversion of farmland or forest land into non-agricultural uses. The project site is an existing road, bridge, and creek.

III. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

A. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Plan; or

B. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard; or

C. Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under a Federal or State ambient air quality standard?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Air District) reviewed this project and did not identify any concerns with potential air quality standards violations or nonconformity with existing Air Quality Plans. Based on information provided to the Air District, Project specific annual emissions of criteria pollutants are not expected to exceed any of the Air District significance thresholds. The Air District also concluded that the proposed project would result in the reconstruction of any development project that is damaged or destroyed, or is retrofitted solely for seismic safety, and is rebuilt to

essentially the same use and intensity, therefore the proposed project is not subject to an Indirect Source Review (District Rule 9510).

D. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; or

E. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The demolition and construction of the bridge are not anticipated to release substantial pollutant concentrations or create objectionable odors. Further, the nearest sensitive receptor is a single-family residence approximately 800 feet south of the project site.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

A. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

A Biological Assessment and Natural Environment Study was prepared by Live Oaks Associates, Inc. for the Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement project. Both documents were routed to the United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The proposed project will occur within an area of approximately 8.0 acres, hereafter referred to as the Biological Study Area or BSA. The project will result in approximately 1.9 acres of permanent impacts, much of which constitutes previously developed land that experiences regular disturbance from vehicle traffic and road shoulder maintenance.

The BSA provides potential habitat for seven (7) regionally-occurring special-status plant species. These comprise of the state and federally endangered California jewelflower (caulanthus Californicus), the federally endangered San Joaquin woollythread (Monolopia Congdonil), and the following five (5) CNPS-listed 1B species: Lemmon's Jewelflower (caulanthus Coulteri Var. Lemmonii), Hall's Tarplant (Deinandra Halliana), recurved larkspur (Delphinium recurvatum), pale-yellow layia (Layia heterotricha), and showy madia (madia radiata).

Protocol level surveys were conducted during the appropriate blooming periods for these species during the spring of 2016. A California jewelflower reference population was visited on February 23, 2016 in Kern County and was verified to be in bloom. On February 24, 2016, San Joaquin woollythread populations along Panoche Road in Fresno County were visited and confirmed to be in bloom. The site survey conducted

on February 25, 2016 identified and recorded all plant species occurring on the project site. Follow-up botanical surveys were conducted on March 18 and April 20 to further assure the blooming periods of all potentially occurring rare plant species would be captured. None of these special status plan species were observed. The project is not expected to produce direct or indirect effect on special status plants.

The BSA provides potential habitat for four (4) special status animal species potentially occurring on the project site. The California glossy snake (Arizona elegans occidentalis), loggerhead shrike (lanuis ludovicianus), American badger (Taxidea taxus), and the San Joaquin kit fox (vulpes macrotis mutica). Additionally, the BSA provides habitat for three (3) of eight (8) federally listed animal species occurring in the project vicinity. These species include the blunt-nosed leopard lizard (Gambelia sila), giant kangaroo rat (Dipodomys ingens), and the San Joaquin kit fox (vulpes macrotis mutica). Surveys of the BSA found no evidence of utilization, but the San Joaquin kit fox could potentially occur in the project area. A combination of preconstruction surveys, relocation, avoidance of active nests and potentially occupied burrows, construction minimization measures and environmental training of construction personnel are proposed to avoid and/or reduce impacts to these four (4) species.

Multiple surveys of the BSA were conducted during June, July, August, and September in 2015. Additionally, authorized small mammal trapping surveys for giant kangaroo rats occurred in May 2017. Surveys were conducted with transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart. Of the number of Federal and State species of special concern, the NES identified the San Joaquin kit fox, California Glossy Snake, the Loggerhead Shrike, and the American Badger as potentially being present in the project site, based on surveys and additional resources. The project site is identified as having habitat present for the San Joaquin kit fox, but were not observed during field surveys. The California Glossy Snake is labeled as present as a 2000 and 2004 collection of the species has been documented as occurring at the location of the West Lost Hills Road crossing of Jacalitos Creek. The Loggerhead Shrike was observed in the BSA during field surveys. The NES also states that the BSA contains marginal nesting habitat for this species. The American Badger was not observed during surveys of the site, but is identified as having habitat present in the BSA. Burrows of suitable size were not seen during surveys to indicate the presence of American Badger in the BSA. A documented occurrence of the species approximately 4 miles downstream of the BSA could indicate that the species outside the BSA could occur in the BSA prior to construction.

USFWS concurred with the determination that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the San Joaquin kit fox, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, and giant kangaroo rat. USFWS also stated that as part of the project, Caltrans staff and its contractors will implement Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMM) and Best Management Practices prior to and during construction activities to minimize and avoid effects to sensitive species. The requirements will be included as mitigation measures.

CDFW has reviewed the project and supporting documents and have offered comments and recommendations to assist Fresno County in adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources.

The Biological Assessment and Natural Environment Study has also recommended additional measures to be included as mitigation measures related to construction activities which can be seen below.
Implementation of recommended Mitigation Measures from the USFWS, CDFW, and the Biological Assessment and Natural Environment Study by Live Oak Associates will reduce impacts to Federal and State species of special concern to a less than significant impact.

* ***Mitigation Measure(s)***

1. *The entire project limits shall be resurveyed for special-status plants by a qualified botanist following the "Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities" and that reference populations be visited to ensure proper timing (CDFW 2018b).*

2. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to special-status species during construction of the project.*

    a. *To avoid impact to any special status species that may occur within the entire project limits, all work shall occur during daylight hours and project-related vehicles shall observe a 20 mph speed limit within the entire project limits during construction, except on country roads and State and Federal highways.*

    b. *All excavated steep-walled holes or trenches more than 6 inches deep will be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Areas that are covered will be inspected daily, for as long as they are covered, to ensure that no special-status species have become trapped despite the presence of covers. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they should be thoroughly searched for trapped animals.*

    c. *All small diameter construction pipes or similar structures with a diameter of 4 inches or less that are stored within the entire project limits shall be thoroughly inspected for special-status species before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way.*

    d. *In the case of trapped animals, escape ramps or structures should be installed immediately to allow the animal(s) to escape.*

    e. *All areas subject to temporary ground disturbances, including storage and staging areas, temporary roads, pipeline corridors, etc. should be re-contoured if necessary, and re-vegetated to promote restoration of the area to pre-project conditions.*

f. *To prevent injury or mortality of special-status species by cats or dogs, no pets shall be permitted within the entire project limits during construction.*

g. *Use of rodenticide and herbicides in the entire project limits will be restricted. If it is later determined that the use of rodenticides and herbicides is needed, consultation with the USFWS must be reinitiated.*

h. *All food related trash items shall be disposed of in closed containers and removed at least once a week from the project limits.*

i. *No firearms shall be allowed on the project limits.*

j. *Retain a qualified biologist to conduct an employee education program. The program should consist of a brief presentation prepared by persons knowledgeable in blunt-nosed leopard lizard (BNLL), giant kangaroo rat and San Joaquin kit fox (SJKF) biology and legislative protection to explain endangered species concerns to contractors, their employees, and agency personnel involved in the project. The program should include the following: a description of these species and their habitat needs; a report of the occurrence of these species in the entire project limits; an explanation of the status of these species and their protection under the Endangered Species Act; and a list of measures being taken to reduce impacts to these species during project construction and implementation. A fact sheet conveying this information should be prepared for distribution to program attendees and anyone else who may enter the project limits.*

3. *Conduct a preconstruction survey for SJKF, BNLL, and giant kangaroo rat. If any new dens or signs of a federally-listed species are discovered or potential dens show signs of use, avoidance of the dens will follow U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox prior to ground disturbance. If a natal/pupping den is discovered within the project limits or within 200 feet of the project limits boundary, the USFWS shall be notified and, under no circumstances, should the den be disturbed or destroyed without an Incidental Take Statement*

4. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to Blunt-Nosed Leopard Lizard (BNLL).*

    a. *A complete set of blunt-nose leopard lizard (BNLL) protocol surveys following California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines will be conducted within 1 year of the start of the project. BNLL detection during protocol level surveys warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to implement ground-disturbing activities to avoid take.*

    b. *To ensure BNLLs do not occupy open burrows during the time between the end of the protocol surveys and the start of project construction, the protocol surveys will be timed such that the last survey will coincide with the beginning of construction. This will be accomplished by conducting*

the juvenile surveys during August/September and the adult surveys from April 15 to July 15. The day following the last survey-day burrows will be collapsed/filled under the direction of a Level II BNLL biologist. Once those burrows are collapsed/filled, construction activities will immediately commence. Only those burrows that will be directly impacted by the project will be collapsed and no burrows will be collapsed if any BNLL is observed during the protocol surveys or at any other time prior to the start of the project.

5. *The following Mitigation Measure shall be implemented to address impacts to San Joaquin Kit Fox (SJKF).*

    a. *SJKF detection warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to avoid take, or if avoidance is not feasible, to acquire an ITP prior to ground-disturbing activities, pursuant to Fish and Game code Section 2081 (b).*

6. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel.*

    a. *SJAS detection warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to avoid take, or if avoidance is not feasible, to acquire an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) prior to ground-disturbing activities, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081 (b).*

    b. *If suitable habitat is present and surveys or trapping are not feasible, maintenance of a 50-foot minimum no-disturbance buffer around all small mammal burrows of suitable size for SJAS shall be implemented.*

7. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to California Glossy Snake.*

    a. *California glossy snake detection during preconstruction surveys warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to implement ground-disturbing activities and avoid take. However, CDFW recommends that if any California glossy snake are discovered at a site immediately prior to or during Project activities they be allowed to move out of the area on their own volition. If this is not feasible, CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist who holds a Scientific Collecting Permit for the species, capture and relocate the snake(s) out of harm's way to the nearest suitable habitat immediately adjacent to the project site. Avoidance of refuge habitat (i.e. burrows) whenever possible is encouraged via delineation and observing a 50-foot no-disturbance buffer around burrows.*

8. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to American badger.*

a. *Avoidance whenever possible is encouraged via delineation and observation of a 50-foot no-disturbance buffer around dens until it is determined through non-invasive means that individuals occupying the den have dispersed.*

9. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to burrowing owl.*

    a. *Reassess the presence/absence of burrowing owl (BUOW) by having a qualified biologist conduct surveys following the California Burrowing Owl Consortium's "Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines" (CBOC 1993) and CDFW's Staff Report on "Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012).*

    b. *Should a BUOW be detected, CDFW recommends no-disturbance buffers, as outlined in the "Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012), be implemented prior to and during any ground-disturbing activities.*

    c. *If necessary, burrow exclusion shall be conducted by qualified biologists and only during the non-breeding season, before breeding behavior is exhibited and after the burrow is confirmed empty through non-invasive methods, such as surveillance.*

B. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

Based on produced studies and surveys, the bottom and lower sides of the channel below the ordinary high water mark were sparsely vegetated with mostly native upland forbs and shrubs. The bridge is existing and the replacement bridge will not expand or change from the existing location. Improvements will be made to the creek to direct the thalweg towards the center of the bridge to control erosion and also install rock slope protection to counteract high velocity flows. Based on studies and surveys conducted for this project, and the existing nature of the project site along with the project scope, it will not significantly impact any riparian habitat or sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or identified by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

C. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally-protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means; or

D. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

The National Wetland Inventory has identified Jacalitos Creek as a Riverine system, intermittent subsystem, streambed class, and temporary flooded water regime. Minor alterations will be made to the creek to bring the creek's thalweg towards the center of the bridge and install rock slope protection to counteract high velocity flows. The creek flow will remain unchanged. Alterations to the creek will not have a substantial adverse effect on this wetland.

Project site surveys did not identify any trees for removal. Surveys did note that a small population of Mexican free-tailed bats (Tadarida brasiliensis) were observed under the existing onsite bridge during spring and summer surveys. Preconstruction surveys and appropriate exclusion measures are proposed to avoid construction related bat mortality. Mitigation measures will be incorporated to avoid any bat mortalities with regards to this project. The project will not interfere substantially with the movement of any native residence or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

The BSA provides potential nesting habitat for a number of migratory birds that are protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Preconstruction surveys prior to any work occurring during the nesting season and avoidance of active nests are proposed to minimize project effects on nesting birds.

* ***Mitigation Measure(s)***

1. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to nesting birds.*

    a. *If construction activities will occur between February 1 and August 31, a qualified wildlife biologist shall conduct pre-activity surveys for active nests of a special-status bird no more than 10 days prior to the start of ground disturbance to maximize probability that nests that could potentially be impacted are detected. If detected, a qualified biologist shall continuously monitor nests to detect behavioral changes resulting from the project. CDFW shall be consulted for additional avoidance and minimization measures.*

    b. *If continuous monitoring of identified nests by a qualified wildlife biologist is not feasible, a minimum no-disturbance buffer of 250 feet around active nests of non-listed bird species and a 500-foot no-disturbance buffer around active nests of non-listed raptors. These buffers are advised to remain in place until the nesting season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival. CDFW shall be consulted if a Variance from the aforementioned no-disturbance buffer is sought.*

2. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to Loggerhead Shrikes.*

    a. *In order to avoid impacts to loggerhead shrikes, initial ground disturbance activities such as grading, scraping, material stockpiling, etc. will be initiated between September 1 and January 31. This will ensure that Project activities potentially impacting nesting shrikes will not coincide with their nesting season (February 1 to August 31). If ground disturbance must be initiated between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey for active shrike nests within 15 days of the onset of these activities. Should any active shrike nests be discovered in or near proposed construction zones, the biologist will identify a suitable construction free buffer around the nest. This buffer will be identified on the ground with flagging or fencing, and will be maintained until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged.*

3. *The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to roosting bats.*

    a. *Bats shall not be disturbed without specific notice to and consultation with CDFW. If a bat roost is detected, CDFW advises a minimum 50-foot no-disturbance buffer during activity, or postponing activity until repeat surveying documents that bats no longer use the roost. If avoidance or postponement is not feasible, a request for a reduced buffer or a Bat Eviction Plan shall be submitted to CDFW for written approval prior to implementation.*

E. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance; or

F. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state Habitat Conservation Plan?

FINDING: NO IMPACT

The project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. No Critical Habitat for any special status species was identified. The project will not conflict with provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

A. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5; or

B. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5; or

C. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

An Archaeological and Historical Survey Report was prepared by Applied EarthWorks, Inc. for this project. CA-FRE-3761 had been identified as occurring in the project site. The Office of Historic Preservation, State Historic Preservation Officer was contacted in an attempt to concur a determination that the project will not affect historical resources identified in the area. The report determined that CA-FRE-3761 is ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with the determination that CA-FRE-3761 is ineligible for listing in the NRHP. The Archaeological Survey Report includes a records search at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System; a cursory review of materials from historical archives; Native American consultation; and pedestrian surveys of an approximately 29.4-acre study area surrounding the existing bridge. Native American tribes under Assembly Bill 52 were also notified of the project proposal. No Native American tribes has requested consultation within the thirty (30) day period. Surveys conducted within the project area identified three cultural resources. CA-FRE-3761 (sparse lithic scatter) was identified with three artifacts identified. An isolated artifact (P-10-006514) is also in the project area found along the northwestern bank of Jacalitos Creek. P-10-006514 was located 70 meters southwest of the sparse lithic scatter (CA-FRE-3761) and it is possible that the isolated artifact is associated with CA-FRE-3761. One built environment cultural resources, Jacalitos Creek Bridge (42C0078) occurs within the project area and is listed in the Caltrans Historic Bridge Inventory as Category 5 and is not eligible for the NRHP. Although artifacts were discovered in the project area, the volume, spacing, proximity to the creek, and evidence of human disturbance in the area, there will be a less than significant impact. As a mitigation measure and standard practice of Caltrans, if previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, it is Caltrans' policy that work be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find. Additional archaeological survey will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits.

* ***Mitigation Measure(s)***

1. *In the event that cultural resources are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, all work shall be halted in the area of the find. An archeologist shall be called to evaluate the findings and make any necessary mitigation recommendations. If human remains are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, no further disturbance is to occur until the Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition. All normal evidence procedures should be followed by photos, reports, video, etc. If such remains are determined to be Native American, the Sherriff-Coroner must notify the Native American*

Commission within 24 hours. Additional archaeological surveys will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits.

VI. ENERGY

Would the project:

A. Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

A Mitigation Measure will be incorporated to reduce the potential for wasteful, inefficient or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during project construction and operation. Idling of onsite equipment and vehicles will be avoided to the most possible extent. With the Mitigation Measure incorporated during the construction of the project, staff believes that the energy impact will be less than significant.

* ***Mitigation Measure(s)***

1. *Idling of onsite equipment and vehicles will be avoided to the most possible extent.*

B. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project will not conflict or obstruct a state of local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

A. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

1. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project site is located in southwest Fresno County approximately 2.05 miles southeast of the city limits of the City of Coalinga. According to the California Hazards Zone Application (EQ Zapp) administered by the California Department of Conservation,

the project site is not located near a rupture of a known earthquake or earthquake hazard zone.

2. Strong seismic ground shaking?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The project site is located in an area that has peak horizontal ground acceleration of 40-60 percent per Figure 9-5 in the Fresno County General Plan Background Report (FCGPBR), with a 10 percent chance of exceeding that percentage in 50 years. The new bridge will be built to current building code standards and no agencies expressed concerns specific to seismic hazards.

3. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

According to Figure 9-5 of the FCGPBR, the project site is located in an area that has peak horizontal ground acceleration of 40-60 percent. Although the project site is located in the identified area, no known earthquake hazard zone is near the project area and no agency expressed concern with seismic-related ground failure.

4. Landslides?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

According to the Figure 9-6 of the FCGPBR, the project site is in or near an area identified as a Moderate Landslide Area. The project area is mostly flat with some foothills near the site. No steep slopes are located near the project site. No reviewing agencies expressed concerns regarding landslides.

B. Result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

According to Figure 7-4 of the FCGPBR, the project site is located in or near an Erosion Hazard area. Although the project site is located in or near an erosion hazard area, the project itself will minimize erosion hazards by application of stream barbs and rock slopes. The Development Services and Capital Projects Department, Development Engineering Unit did not express any concerns with regards to erosion or loss of topsoil.

C. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

According to Figure 9-6 of the FCGPBR, the project site is located in or near an area designated as a Moderate Landslide Hazard. Although the project site is located in or near this identified area, site photos show that the project site is relatively flat with foothills nearby. Additionally, Figure 7-2 of the FCGPBR shows that the project site is not shown as having an over 30 percent slope.

D. Be located on expansive soil as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

According to Figure 7-1 of the FCGPBR, the project site is not located in an area identified as having expansive soils.

E. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project does not propose to install a septic tank or alternative disposal system.

F. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project will not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resources or unique geologic feature as no unique paleontological resources or unique geologic feature was observed during initial site surveys.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:

A. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment; or

B. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

A Greenhouse Gas Emissions Analysis dated December 17, 2019 has been completed by LSA for the project proposal. LSA states that they utilized the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's Road Construction Emissions Model, Version 9.0.0 (RoadMod) to estimate the project's GHG emissions. The analysis examines greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions produced from construction and operation

of the proposed project. GHG emissions produced from operation of construction equipment and from worker and materials supply vendor vehicles, which typically use fossil-based fuels to operate. The analysis states that based on the RoadMod analysis, construction of the proposed project would generate a total of approximately 623.98 metric tons of CO_2e (Carbon Dioxide Emissions). An analysis of operational GHG emissions concluded that based on the project of an existing two-lane bridge being replaced with a new two-lane bridge, after construction, roadway operations would be expected to return to pre-construction levels. Therefore, the project would not result in operational GHG emissions. The analysis concludes that the project would not result in substantial GHG emissions during construction of operation of the project. Additionally, the project would not conflict with the goals and objectives of the SJVAPCD's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) of any other State or regional plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

As stated in the analysis, GHG emissions will remain unchanged from project operation. GHG emissions produced from construction of the project is estimated to be 623.98 metric tons of CO_2e. Under SJVAPCD guidelines for GHG emissions, a quantitative analysis of GHG emissions from the operation of the proposed use would be subject to a 29% reduction compared to Business as Usual (BAU) levels from the 2004-2009 baseline period. Additionally, there are no adopted thresholds or standards for GHG emissions resulting from construction of the project to determine if the construction emissions would result in a significant impacts. The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Analysis was routed to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) for review and comment on the project's consistency with regional standards. No concerns were expressed by the SJVAPCD to indicate that the construction and operation of the project would result in significant impacts. Therefore, as operation of the project will not result in a change in GHG emissions, and considering the temporary emissions brought on by the construction of the project and that no concerns were expressed by the SJVAPCD on construction emissions, the project's GHG emissions will have a less than significant impact and does not conflict with regional or state emission standards.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

A. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials; or

B. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

A Hazardous Waste Initial Site Assessment report was conducted by Haro Environmental Inc. for the proposed project. A field visit of the project area was conducted by a Haro Environmental representative on July 2, 2015. During the field

visit, Haro Environmental did not observe hazardous materials or petroleum products under conditions indicative of a release to the environment, or under conditions that pose a material threat of a future release to the environment. No hazardous materials or petroleum products were observed at off-site, nearby properties under current conditions that would pose a significant environmental concern to the project area. Based on data gathered and reviewed, Haro Environmental did not identify recognized environmental conditions that have impacted or pose a significant environmental threat to the project area with the exception that the concrete used to construct Jacalitos Bridge may contain asbestos and that the paint used on the railing may contain lead. Due to those concerns based on the findings of the Initial Site Assessment, Haro Environmental provided the following recommendations: 1) An asbestos survey should be performed to determine whether or not the concrete will require special handling and disposal; 2) a lead-based paint survey should be performed to determine whether or not the railing paint contains elevated concentrations of lead which would require special handling and disposal; and 3) testing and removal requirements for yellow traffic striping and pavement marking materials should be performed in accordance with Caltrans Construction Policy Bulletin 99-2 (Caltrans Construction Manual Chapter 7-107E; Caltrans, 2014a). These recommendations will be included as mitigation measures. Haro Environmental also provided a general recommendation stating that for all projects proposing excavation, grading, or pile driving, the potential exists for unknown hazardous materials contamination to be encountered during construction of the proposed project. Therefore, for any previously unknown hazardous waste material encountered as part of construction of the proposed project, the procedures outlined in Appendix E (Caltrans Unknown Hazards Procedure) shall be followed (Caltrans 2002). This recommendation will be included as a project note.

* ***Mitigation Measure(s)***

1. *An asbestos survey should be performed to determine whether or not the concrete will require special handling and disposal.*

2. *A lead-based paint survey should be performed to determine whether or not the railing paint contains elevated concentrations of lead which would require special handling and disposal.*

3. *Testing and removal requirements for yellow traffic striping and pavement marked materials should be performed in accordance with Caltrans Construction Policy Bulletin 99-2 (Caltrans Construction Manual Chapter 7-107E; Caltrans, 2014a).*

C. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project site is not located within one quarter-mile of a school.

D. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The Hazardous Waste Initial Site Assessment performed by Haro Environmental, Inc. stated that a regulatory agency database search performed by Environmental Database Resources (EDR) indicated that the project area was not listed in any databases searched, and no nearby properties were listed. A review of historic aerial photographs, topographic maps, and city directory listings indicated the project area was modified with the construction of Lost Hills Road as of 1912 and the construction of the Jacalitos Creek Bridge by 1950. Vacant, undeveloped land has surrounded the project area since at least 1912. Based on the assessment, the project site is not located on a hazardous materials site and would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

E. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project site is not located in the vicinity of a private airstrip, public airport, or public use airport.

F. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

During the construction of the replacement bridge and stream improvements, a temporary onsite low water crossing detour approximately one hundred (100) feet north of the project area will be in place to serve public and emergency response vehicles. The impact will be less than significant as vehicles will still be able to utilize the detour in the general vicinity of Jacalitos Creek Road and Lost Hills Avenue instead of rerouting traffic away from the project site and increasing traffic on other roadways.

G. Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project area is located in a mostly vacant area with the nearest residence being approximately 800 feet south of the project area. The replacement of the bridge and erosion measures being applied to the stream will not bring additional risk from wildfires to people or structures.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

A. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality; or

B. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) has reviewed the project proposal and the Jacalitos Creek Bridge Potential Waters of the U.S. prepared by Live Oak Associates Inc. (LOA). The ACOE concurred with the document prepared by LOA that approximately 2.06 acres of the other water bodies present within the survey area are potential waters of the United States regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Due to the potential water bodies being under the jurisdiction of the United States, work should not start unless a permit authorizing the activity is obtained from the Department of the Army.

SWCA Environmental Consultants prepared a Water Quality Memorandum (WQM) for the proposed project. The purposed of the memorandum was to describe the existing water resources, determine if the potential impacts of the project on the water sources would be significant based on preliminary project information, and identify feasible mitigation measures to address any potentially significant impacts. The WQM states that potential effects of the proposed project related to water quality are limited to construction-related impacts such as erosion, sedimentation, and the potential release of hazardous construction-related materials.

Grading activities could result in sedimentation of Jacalitos Creek if water is present; however it is unlikely that water will be present considering that construction activities are expected to occur during the dry season (July 1 through October 15).

The proposed project could introduce potential sources of pollution in the form of improper use of fuels, oils, and other construction-related hazardous waste materials, which could pose a threat to surface of groundwater quality. The County would adhere to erosion control standards and hazardous materials spill pollution and prevention standards to ensure the proposed project does not impact the water quality of the Jacalitos Creek or groundwater resources.

Increased concentrations of pollutant discharge from the road surface during storm events could impact local water bodies if they are transmitted to Jacalitos Creek when water is present. Additionally, uncontrolled water flow from the surface of the roadway could cause erosion that could alter stream geomorphology and cause gullies. The WQM determined that based on the project design, permitting, site-specific conditions of

this project and implementation of proposed mitigation, the potential long-term impacts to water quality are not considered adverse.

The proposed project will be required to comply with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit to discharge stormwater associated with construction activities. Additionally, the project would be required to prepare a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) that address the quality and quantity of stormwater runoff generated on-site during the construction and operation of the project and incorporates temporary best management practices (BMP) into the project. Implementation of temporary BMPs would minimize impacts to water quality that could occur as a result of construction of the proposed project.

The WQM states that construction activities associated with the proposed project such as trenching and excavation could disturb the groundwater table, rendering groundwater exposed to potential contamination. Implementation of temporary BMPs would minimize potential impacts of the project from contributing to the impairment of groundwater.

The WQM identified that the proposed project would be required to comply with Title III and Title IV of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and NPDES along with compliance with the NPDES General Construction Permits. During Construction, water pollution control measures shall conform to the requirements in the SWPPP, the Water Pollution Control Program Preparation Manual, and the Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual. BMPs fall into four categories as identified by the Caltrans Statewide Stormwater Management Plan: Design Pollution Prevention, Treatment, Construction Site, and Maintenance. Prior to grading, an appropriate drainage control plan that includes control measures for handling construction and operation onsite and offsite runoff and drainage in a manner acceptable to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Caltrans, and the County. In addition to the standard BMPs required for compliance with state and local standards the following measure shall be incorporated to further minimize the potential impacts to water quality associated with the project: 1) Prior to construction, the County shall comply with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, in coordination with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, in coordination with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and Fish and Game Code, Section 1602, in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for Project-related impacts that will occur in areas under the jurisdiction of these regulatory agencies. 2) Prior to commencement of construction activities, the contractor shall prepare a hazardous material spill prevention control and countermeasure plan that will minimize the potential for and the effects of the release of toxic materials during construction of the proposed project. The plan shall include storage and containment procedures to prevent and respond to spills and shall identify the appropriate parties responsible for monitoring the spill response. During construction of the proposed project, any spills that occur shall be remedied immediately according to the guidance provided in the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan. The County and Caltrans shall review and approve the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan prior to allowing construction to being.

* ***Mitigation Measure(s)***

1. *Prior to construction, the County shall comply with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act in coordination with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, in coordination with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and Fish and Game Code, Section 1602, in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for Project-related impacts that will occur in areas under the jurisdiction of the regulatory agencies.*

2. *Prior to commencement of construction activities, the contractor shall prepare a hazardous material spill prevention control and countermeasure plan that will minimize the potential for and the effects of the release of toxic materials during construction of the proposed project. The plan shall include storage and containment procedures to prevent and respond to spills and shall identify the appropriate parties responsible for monitoring the spill response. During construction of the proposed project, any spills that occur shall be remedied immediately according to the guidance provided in the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan. The County and Caltrans shall review and approve the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan prior to allowing construction to being.*

C. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site?

1. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;

2. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite?

3. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or

4. Impede or redirect flood flows?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

Impacts to the course of the creek including erosion, drainage patterns and run-off were discussed above in Section A and B of IX. Hydrology and Water Quality. Additionally, the project is proposing to install stream barbs and rock slopes to control erosion throughout the project site. The stream barbs will direct water flow towards to center of the creek to control erosion. The Water Quality Memorandum also recommended a mitigation measure that once construction activities are complete, disturbed areas shall be re-vegetated with similar plant vegetation, pre-approved by the County, to stabilize soils and establish a natural system for erosion control. In addition, a 5-foot vegetate buffer consisting of native upland plant species should be planted to treat roadway runoff before it enters the channel below. Sediment control, potentially consisting of fiber rolls, may also be implemented.

* ***Mitigation Measure(s)***

1. *Once construction activities are complete, disturbed areas shall be re-vegetated with similar plant vegetation, pre-approved by the County, to stabilize soils and establish a natural system for erosion control. In addition, a 5-foot vegetative buffer consisting of native upland plant species should be planted to treat roadway runoff before it enters the channel below. Sediment control, potentially consisting of fiber rolls, may also be implemented.*

D. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

According to Figure 9-8 of the FCGPBR, the project is not located in a Dam Failure Flood Inundation Area. The project site is not located near a large body of water that would be associated with a seiche or tsunami. According to Figure 9-6, the project site may be located on or near a moderate landslide hazard area. Although it is located on or near this identified area, the project site is located in a mostly flat area with foothills near the project site. No steep slopes are identified near the project site.

E. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

See Section A and B of X. Hydrology and Water Quality. The project will be subject to local, state, and federal policies and standards that will apply to the project. The project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:

A. Physically divide an established community?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project will not physically divide an established community.

B. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The Development Services and Capital Projects Division, Policy Planning Unit reviewed the subject application and determined that the project does not affect the General Plan or Williamson Act Program. All other reviewing agencies did not express any concerns with regards to conflicts with a Land Use Plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

A. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state; or

B. Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local General Plan, Specific Plan or other land use plan?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

According to Figure 7-7 of the FCGPBR, the project site is located in an identified Mineral Resource Location. The project site is located in an identified Oil Field and is near an identified Sand and Gravel area. Although the project is located on and near these identified resources, the project site will mostly be confined to an already improved and disturbed site. The project will be confined to the existing site and most of the additional land being utilized outside of the existing bridge and road will be temporary and purposed for detouring road traffic. Therefore, the project will not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource.

XIII. NOISE

Would the project result in:

A. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies; or

B. Generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

Temporary increases in noise levels will be expected during the construction phase of the project, with the construction work occurring during daylight hours. The closest residence is approximately 800 feet south of the project site. It is determined that due to the temporary aspect of construction work and the proximity of the project site to the nearest residence, the project will have a less than significant impact.

C. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public

use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project site is not located in the vicinity of a public airport or private airstrip.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

A. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure); or

B. Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project will not induce a substantial population growth directly or indirectly as the scope of the project is replacing an existing bridge and applying improvements to the stream, with no expansion of the existing facilities proposed. The project will not displace housing or people.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project:

A. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically-altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically-altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services?

1. Fire protection;

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The Fresno County Fire Protection District (FCFPD) has reviewed the subject application and did not express any concerns.

2. Police protection;

3. Schools;

4. Parks; or

5. Other public facilities?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

Reviewing agencies did not express any concerns with regards to public services.

XVI. RECREATION

Would the project:

A. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated; or

B. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project will not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. The project will not induce the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION

Would the project:

A. Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities; or

B. Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b); or

C. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The project is not anticipated to modify the amount of traffic in the vicinity of the site. There are minor changes to the existing roadway and intersection to improve the safety standards of the site. Therefore, it is anticipated that this project would have a minor beneficial impact, if any, on the performance of the circulation system, level of service standards, and traffic hazards.

D. Result in inadequate emergency access?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

A temporary low water crossing detour will be constructed one hundred (100) feet north of the project site for use during the construction activities for public and emergency vehicles. The detour will have a less than significant impact as the use will be temporary while the bridge replacement is underway.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

A. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

1. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

2. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

See discussion in Section A, B, and C, of V. Cultural Resources. As per Assembly Bill 52, the participating California Native American tribes were contacted and given the opportunity to enter consultation with the County with regards to the project proposal. No Native American Tribe expressed any concerns with regards to the proposal. The Archeological and Historical Survey Report prepared by Applied EarthWorks Inc. identified that the project site is ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historical Places.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

A. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects; or

B. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years; or

C. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The bridge replacement project will require water supplies and wastewater treatment services only during construction and demolition. Outside of these activities, the bridge will be an unmanned part of the circulation system. Therefore, the project will not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities which might cause a significant environmental effect.

D. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals; or

E. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT:

There is sufficient landfill capacity in Fresno County to accommodate construction and demolition debris from this project. The Hazardous Waste Initial Site Assessment performed by Haro Environmental included recommendations into the project to address the disposal of any hazardous materials including lead based paint and construction materials containing asbestos. See discussion VIII Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Section A and B. The project will comply with federal, state and local statues and regulations related to solid waste and if identified, any hazardous solid waste.

XX. WILDFIRE

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:

A. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The project site is located near a state responsibility area and is classified as a moderate fire hazard zone. During the construction of the project, a temporary detour approximately one hundred (100) feet north of the project site will be made available to the public and emergency vehicles. The detour will not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan or telecommunication facilities. The detour is temporary and will have a less than significant impact.

B. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire; or

C. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The Fresno County Fire Protection District has reviewed the project proposal and did not express any concerns with regards to slope, prevailing winds or other factors that would exacerbate wildfire risks and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildlife. Also, no concerns were received in regard to the requirement for the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure that may exacerbate fire risk or may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. After construction of the project is completed, it will be an unmanned roadway, thus there are no concerns to project occupants resulting from a wildfire.

D. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project site is located on flat land with foothills being located adjacent to the site. According to the FCGPBR, the project site is not located near any identified slope of thirty (30) percent or more. Therefore, the project will not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability or drainage changes.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Would the project:

A. Have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

This project has the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, reduce the habitat of fish and/or wildlife species, and to threaten a local plant community and

potentially affect cultural resources in the project site. Adherence to mitigation measures which will reduce potential impacts on biological resources, cultural resources, energy, hazards and hazardous materials and hydrology and water quality, to less than significant impacts.

* ***Mitigation Measure(s)***

1. *See Section IV. Biological Resources A. and D.*

2. *See Section V. Cultural Resources A. through C.*

3. *See Section VI. Energy A.*

4. *Section VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials A. and B.*

5. *Section IX. Hydrology and Water Quality A. through C.*

B. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects); or

C. Have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The bridge replacement project will not have any cumulatively considerable impacts or adverse impacts on human beings because the proposed project is substantially similar to the existing use. Minor benefits including the bridge built to current design standards, increasing safety measures to the roadway and erosion control measures to the creek will improve safety in and around the project site.

CONCLUSION/SUMMARY

Based upon the Initial Study No. 7530 prepared for the Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project, staff has concluded that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. It has been determined that there would be no impacts to Aesthetics, Agricultural and Forestry Resources, Land Use Planning, Population and Housing, Public Services and Recreation.

Potential impacts related to Air Quality, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Mineral Resources, Noise, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire have been determined to be less than significant. Potential impacts relating to Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, and Hydrology and Water Quality have determined to be less than significant with compliance with the listed Mitigation Measures.

A Mitigated Negative Declaration is recommended and is subject to approval by the decision-making body. The Initial Study is available for review at 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A, street level, located on the southwest corner of Tulare and "M" Street, Fresno, California.

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Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
Initial Study Application No. 7530
(Including Conditions of Approval and Project Notes)

Mitigation Measures					
Mitigation Measure No.*	**Impact**	**Mitigation Measure Language**	**Implementation Responsibility**	**Monitoring Responsibility**	**Time Span**
1..	Biological Resources	The entire project limits shall be resurveyed for special-status plants by a qualified botanist following the "Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities" and that reference populations be visited to ensure proper timing (CDFW 2018b).	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division PW&P	Prior to construction
2.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to special-status species during construction of the project. a. To avoid impact to any special status species that may occur within the entire project limits, all work shall occur during daylight hours and project-related vehicles shall observe a 20 mph speed limit within the entire project limits during construction, except on county roads and State and Federal highways. b. All excavated steep-walled holes or trenches more than 6 inches deep will be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Areas that are covered will be inspected daily, for as long as they are covered, to ensure that no special-status species have become trapped despite the presence of covers. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they should be thoroughly searched for trapped animals. c. All small diameter construction pipes or similar structures with diameter of 4 inches or less that are stored within the entire project limits shall be thoroughly inspected for special-status species before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Ongoing/Prior to construction

		d. In the case of trapped animals, escape ramps or structures should be installed immediately to allow the animal(s) to escape. e. All areas subject to temporary ground disturbances, including storage and staging areas, temporary roads, pipeline corridors, etc. should be re-contoured if necessary, and re-vegetated to promote restoration of the area to pre-project conditions. f. To prevent injury or mortality of special-status species by cats or dogs, no pets shall be permitted within the entire project limits during construction. g. Use of rodenticide and herbicides in the entire project limits will be restricted. If it is later determined that the use of rodenticide and herbicide is needed, consultations with the United States Fish and Wildlife Services must be reinitiated. h. All food related trash items shall be disposed of in closed containers and removed at least once a week from the project limits. i. No firearms shall be allowed on the project limits. j. Retain a qualified biologist to conduct an employee education program. The program should consist of a brief presentation prepared by persons knowledgeable in blunt-nosed leopard lizard (BNLL), giant kangaroo rat and San Joaquin kit fox (SJKF) biology and legislative protection to explain endangered species concerns to contractors, their employees, and agency personnel involved in the project. The program should include the following: a description of these species and their habitat needs; a report of the occurrence of these species in the entire project limits; an explanation of the status of these species and their protection under the Endangered Species Act; and a list of measures being taken to reduce impacts to these species during project construction and implementation. A fact sheet conveying this information should be prepared for distribution to program attendees and anyone else who may enter the project limits.			

3.	Biological Resources	Conduct a preconstruction survey for SJKF, BNLL, and giant kangaroo rat. If any new dens or signs of a federally-listed species are discovered or potential dens show signs of use, avoidance of the dens will follow U.S Fish and Wildlife Services Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox prior to ground disturbance. If a natal/pupping den is discovered within the project limits or within 200 feet of the project limits boundary, the USFWS shall be notified and, under no circumstances, should the den be disturbed or destroyed without an Incidental Take Statement.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division PW&P	Prior to construction
4.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to Blunt-Nose Leopard Lizard (BNLL). a. A complete set of blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard protocol surveys following California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines will be conducted within 1 year of the start of the project. BNLL detection during protocol level surveys warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to implement ground-disturbing activities to avoid take. b. To ensure BNLLs do not occupy open burrows during the time between the end of the protocol surveys and the start of project construction, the protocol surveys will be timed such that the last survey will coincide with the beginning of construction. This will be accomplished by conducting the juvenile surveys during August/September and the adult surveys from April 15 to July 15. The day following the last survey-day burrows will be collapsed/filled under the direction of a Level II BNLL biologist. Once those burrows are collapsed/filled, construction activities will immediately commence. Only those burrows that will be directly impacted by the project will be collapsed and no burrows will be collapsed if any BNLL is observed during the protocol surveys or at any other time prior to the start of the project.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	One year prior to construction/Prior to construction
5.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measure shall be implemented to address impacts to San Joaquin Kit Fox (SJKF). a. SJKF detection warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to avoid take, or if avoidance is not feasible, to acquire an ITP prior to ground-disturbing activities, pursuant to Fish and Game code Section 2081 (b).	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Prior to construction/ Ongoing

6.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to San Joaquin antelope squirrel (SJAS). a. SJAS detection warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to avoid take, or if avoidance is not feasible, to acquire an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) prior to ground-disturbing activities, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081 (b). b. If suitable habitat is present and surveys or trapping are not feasible, maintenance of a 50-foot minimum no-disturbance buffer around all small mammal burrows of suitable size for SJAS shall be implemented.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	April 1 through September 20/Ongoing
7.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measure shall be implemented to address impacts to California Glossy Snake. a. California glossy snake detection during preconstruction surveys warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to implement ground-disturbing activities and avoid take. However, CDFW recommends that if any California glossy snake are discovered at a site immediately prior to or during Project activities they be allowed to move out of the area on their own volition. If this is not feasible, CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist who holds a Scientific Collecting Permit for the species, capture and relocate the snake(s) out of harm's way to the nearest suitable habitat immediately adjacent to the project site. Avoidance of refuge habitat (i.e. burrows) whenever possible is encouraged via delineation and observing a 50-foot no-disturbance buffer around burrows.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions, PW&P	Prior to construction
8.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to American badger. a. Avoidance whenever possible is encouraged via delineation and observation of a 50-foot no-disturbance buffer around American Badger dens until it is determined through non-invasive means that individuals occupying the den have dispersed.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Prior to construction/ Ongoing
9.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to burrowing owl. a. Reassess the presence/absence of burrowing owl (BUOW) by having a qualified biologist conduct	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Prior to construction/ Ongoing

		surveys following the California Burrowing Owl Consortium's "Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines" (CBOC 1993) and CDFW's Staff Report on "Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012). b. Should a BUOW be detected, CDFW recommends no-disturbance buffers, as outlined in the "Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012), be implemented prior to and during any ground-disturbing activities. c. If necessary, burrow exclusion shall be conducted by qualified biologists and only during non-breeding season, before breeding behavior is exhibited and after the burrow is confirmed empty through non-invasive methods, such as surveillance.			
10.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to nesting birds. a. If construction activities will occur between February 1 and August 31, a qualified wildlife biologist shall conduct pre-activity surveys for active nests of a special-status bird no more than 10 days prior to the start of ground disturbance to maximize probability that nests that could potentially be impacted are detected. If detected, a qualified biologist shall continuously monitor nests to detect behavioral changes resulting from the project. CDFW shall be consulted for additional avoidance and minimization measures. b. If continuous monitoring of identified nests by a qualified wildlife biologist is not feasible, a minimum no-disturbance buffer of 250 feet around active nests of non-listed bird species and a 500-foot no disturbance buffer around active nests of non-listed raptors. These buffers are advised to remain in place until the nesting season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival. CDFW shall be consulted if a Variance from the aforementioned no-disturbance buffer is sought.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	No more than 10 days prior to construction if construction occurs between February 1 and August 31/Ongoing
11.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to Loggerhead Shrikes	Applicant	Fresno County Design and	Ongoing

		a. In order to avoid impacts to loggerhead shrikes, initial ground disturbance activities such as grading, scraping, material stockpiling, etc. will be initiated between September 1 and January 31. This will ensure that project activities potentially impacting nesting shrikes will not coincide with their nesting season (February 1 to August 31). If ground disturbance must be initiated between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey for active shrike nests be discovered in or near proposed construction zones, the biologist will identify a suitable construction free buffer around the nest. This buffer will identify a suitable construction free buffer around the nest. This buffer will be identified on the ground with flagging or fencing, and will be maintained until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged.		Construction Divisions PW&P	
12.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to roosting bats. a. Bats shall not be disturbed without specific notice to and consultation with CDFW. If a bat roost is detected, CDFW advises a minimum 50-foot no-disturbance buffer during activity, or postponing activity until repeat surveying documents that bats no longer use the roost. If avoidance or postponement is not feasible, a request for a reduced buffer or a Bat Eviction Plan shall be submitted to CDFW for written approval prior to implementation.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Ongoing
13.	Cultural Resources	In the event that cultural resources are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, all work shall be halted in the area of the find. An Archeologist shall be called to evaluate the findings and make any necessary mitigation recommendations. If human remains are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, no further disturbance is to occur until the Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition. All normal evidence procedures should be followed by photos, reports, video, etc. If such remains are determined to be Native American, the Sherriff-Coroner must notify the Native American Commission within 24 hours. Additional archaeological surveys will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing

14.	Energy	Idling of onsite equipment and vehicles will be avoided to the most possible extent.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
15.	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	An asbestos survey should be performed to determine whether or not the concrete will require special handling and disposal.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Prior to construction
16.	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	A lead-based paint survey should be performed to determine whether or not the railing paint contains elevated concentrations of lead which would require special handling and disposal.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Prior to construction
17.	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	Testing and removal requirements for yellow traffic striping and pavement marked materials should be performed in accordance with Caltrans Construction Policy Bulletin 99-2 (Caltrans Construction Manual Chapter 7-107E; Caltrans, 2014a).	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
18.	Hydrology and Water Quality	Prior to construction, the County shall comply with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act in coordination with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 401 of the Clean Water Act in coordination with the Regional Water Quality Control Board and Fish, and Game Code Section 1602 in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for Project-related impacts that will occur in areas under the jurisdiction of the regulatory agencies.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Prior to construction
19.	Hydrology and Water Quality	Prior to commencement of construction activities, the contractor shall prepare a hazardous materials spill prevention control and countermeasure plan that will minimize the potential for and the effects of the release of toxic materials during construction of the proposed project. The plan shall include storage and containment procedures to prevent and respond to spills, and shall identify the appropriate parties responsible for monitoring the spill response. During construction of the proposed project, any spills that occur shall be remedied immediately according to the guidance provided in the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan. The County and Caltrans shall review and approve the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan prior to allowing construction to being.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Prior to construction / Ongoing
20.	Hydrology and Water Quality	Once construction activities are complete, disturbed area shall be re-vegetated with similar plant vegetation, pre-approved by the County, stabilize soils and establish a natural system for erosion control. In addition, a 5-foot vegetative buffer consisting of native upland plan species should be planted to treat roadway runoff before it enters the channel below. Sediment control, potentially consisting of fiber rolls, may also be implemented.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing and after construction

*MITIGATION MEASURE – Measure specifically applied to the project to mitigate potential adverse environmental effects identified in the environmental document.
Conditions of Approval reference recommended Conditions for the project.

Notes	
The following Notes reference mandatory requirements of Fresno County or other Agencies and are provided as information to the project Applicant.	
1.Air Quality	The proposed Project may be subject to District Rules and Regulations, including: Regulation VII (Fugitive PM10 Prohibitions), Rule 4102 (Nuisance), Rule 4601 (Architectural Coatings), and Rule 4641 (Cutback, Slow Cure, and Emulsified Asphalt Paving and Maintenance Operations). In the event an existing building will be renovated, partially demolished or removed, the Project may be subject to District Rule 4002 (National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants).

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Notice is hereby given that the County of Fresno has prepared Initial Study Application (IS) No. 7530 pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act for the following proposed project:

> **INITIAL STUDY APPLICATION NO. 7530** filed by **FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING, DESIGN DIVISION**, proposing to replace the existing Jacalitos Creek Bridge, make associated improvements that would address scour problems at the bridge and repair and/or stabilize the creek banks upstream and downstream of the bridge. The project site is located on Lost Hills Avenue, just west of Jacalitos Creek Road and is approximately 2.05 miles southeast of the nearest city limits of the City of Coalinga. (SUP. DIST. 4) (Right-of-Way near APN 083-050-08S). Adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for Initial Study Application No. 7530.
>
> (hereafter, the "Proposed Project")

The County of Fresno has determined that it is appropriate to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Proposed Project. The purpose of this Notice is to (1) provide notice of the availability of IS Application No. 7530 and the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration, and request written comments thereon; and (2) provide notice of the public hearing regarding the Proposed Project.

Public Comment Period

The County of Fresno will receive written comments on the Proposed Project and Mitigated Negative Declaration from March 20, 2015 through April 20, 2019.

Email written comments to TKobayashi@FresnoCountyCA.gov, or mail comments to:

> Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning
> Development Services and Capital Projects Division
> Attn: Thomas Kobayashi
> 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A
> Fresno, CA 93721

IS Application No. 7530 and the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration may be viewed at the above address Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (except holidays), or at www.co.fresno.ca.us/initialstudies. An electronic copy of the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Proposed Project may be obtained from Thomas Kobayashi at the addresses above.

Public Hearing

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing to consider approving the Proposed Project and the Mitigated Negative Declaration on May 26, 2020, at 8:45 a.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, in Room 301, Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare Street, Fresno, California 93721. Interested persons are invited to appear at the hearing and comment on the Proposed Project and draft Mitigated Negative Declaration.

For questions please call Thomas Kobayashi (559) 600-4224.
Published: March 20, 2020

E202010000113

County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

FILED
MAR 19 2020 TIME 11:19 am
By FRESNO COUNTY CLERK DEPUTY
For County Clerk's Stamp

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Development Services and Capital Projects Division
Attn: Thomas Kobayashi
2220 Tulare Street, Suite A
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DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AND CAPITAL PROJECTS DIVISION
2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor / Fresno, California 93721 / Phone (559) 600-4497 / 600-4022 / 600-4540 / FAX 600-4200

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For questions please call Thomas Kobayashi (559) 600-4224.

Published: March 23, 2020

E20201000113

File original and one copy with:	Space Below For County Clerk Only.
Fresno County Clerk **2221 Kern Street** **Fresno, California 93721**	FILED JUN 01 2020 TIME 2:03pm CLK-2046.00 E04-73 R00-00

Agency File No:	LOCAL AGENCY PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION	County Clerk File No:
IS 7530		E-

FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
By Jessica Muñoz DEPUTY

Responsible Agency (Name):	Address (Street and P.O. Box):	City:	Zip Code:
Fresno County	2220 Tulare St. Sixth Floor	Fresno	93721

Agency Contact Person (Name and Title):	Area Code:	Telephone Number:	Extension:
Thomas Kobayashi Planner	559	600-4224	N/A

Project Applicant/Sponsor (Name):	Project Title:
Alexis Rutherford County of Fresno Department of Public Works, Design Division	Initial Study No. 7530, Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Project Description: Replace the existing Jacalitos Creek Bridge, make associated improvements that would address scour problems at the bridge, and repair and/or stabilize the creek banks upstream and downstream of the bridge.

Justification for Negative Declaration:

Based upon the Initial Study Application No. 7530 prepared for the Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project, staff has concluded that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. It has been determined that there would have no impacts to Aesthetics, Agricultural and Forestry Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use Planning, Mineral Resources, Populations and Housing, Public Services, and Recreation.

Potential impacts related to Air Quality, Geology and Soils, Noise, Transportation/Traffic and Utilities and Service Systems have been determined to be less than significant. Potential impacts relating to Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, and Mandatory Findings of Significance have determined to be less than significant with compliance with the listed Mitigation Measures.

A Mitigated Negative Declaration/ is recommended and is subject to approval by the decision-making body. The Initial Study is available for review at 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A, Street Level, located on the southeast corner of Tulare and "M" Street, Fresno, California.

FINDING:

The proposed project will not have a significant impact on the environment.

Newspaper and Date of Publication:	Review Date Deadline:
Fresno Business Journal – March 23, 2020	Board of Supervisors – May 26, 2020

Date:	Type or Print Signature:	Submitted by (Signature):
6/1/20	Marianne Mollring for Senior Planner	Thomas Kobayashi Planner

State 15083, 15085

County Clerk File No.:_____

LOCAL AGENCY MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

E20201000113

County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

FILED
JUN 01 2020 TIME 2:05
FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
DEPUTY Jessica Munoz

To: ☐ Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ County Clerk, County of Fresno
2221 Kern Street
Fresno, CA 93721

From: Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, Development Services and Capital Projects
2220 Tulare Street (corner of Tulare and "M") Suite "A", Fresno, CA 93721

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resource Code

Project: Initial Study Application No. 7530, Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Location: The project site is located on Lost Hills Road, just west of Jacalitos Creek Road. The project site is located approximately 2.05 miles southeast of the nearest city limits of the City of Coalinga. (Sup. Dist. 4) (Right-of-Way near APN 083-050-08S).

Sponsor: Alexis Rutherford, Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, Transportation Design Division

Description: Replace the existing Jacalitos Creek Bridge, make associated improvements that would address scour problems at the bridge and repair and/or stabilize the creek banks upstream and downstream of the bridge.

This is to advise that the County of Fresno (☒ Lead Agency ☐ Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on May 26, 2020, and has made the following determination:

1. The project ☐ **will** ☒ **will not** have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☒ An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) **was not** prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. / ☒ A Mitigated Negative Declaration **was** prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation Measures ☒ **were** ☐ **were not** made a condition of approval for the project.
4. A statement of Overriding Consideration ☐ **was** ☒ **was not** adopted for this project.

E20201000113

This is to certify that the Initial Study with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A, Corner of Tulare and "M" Streets, Fresno, California.

6/1/20

Thomas Kobayashi, Planner — Date

(559) 600-4224 /TKobayashi@FresnoCountyCA.gov

G:\4360Devs&Pln\PROJSEC\PROJDOCS\Environmental\Initial Studies - Environmental Assessments\7000-7999\IS 7530 Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project\IS - CEQA\2019\IS 7530 NOD.docx

FRESNO COUNTY
CLERK'S OFFICE
BRANDI L. ORTH

2221 KERN STREET
FRESNO, CA 93721

Finalization 2020029637
06/01/2020 12:07pm
78 jmunoz

Item	Title	Count
1	EIRND	1

EIR - Negative Declaration

Item	Title	Count
1	EIRA	1

EIR Administrative Fee

Document ID	Amount
DOC# E202010000238	0.00

Time Recorded 12:07 pm

Item	Title	Count
2	EIRND	1

EIR - Negative Declaration

Document ID	Amount
DOC# E202010000239	2406.75

Time Recorded 12:07 pm

Item	Title	Count
3	EIRA	1

EIR Administrative Fee

Document ID	Amount
DOC# E202010000240	50.00

Time Recorded 12:07 pm

Total	4913.50

Payment Type	Amount

State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2020 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (REV. 12/01/19) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER:
E202010000113
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER *(if applicable)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
COUNTY OF FRESNO	**TKOBAYASHI@FRESNOCOUNTYCA.**	**03/19/2020**

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER
FRESNO COUNTY	**E202010000113**

PROJECT TITLE

INITIAL STUDY APP NO. 7530 JACALITOS CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL		PHONE NUMBER
COUNTY OF FRESNO	**TKOBAYASHI@FRESNOCOUNTYCA.GO**		**(559) 600-4224**
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
2220 TULARE STREET, SUITE A	**FRESNO**	**CA**	**93721**

PROJECT APPLICANT *(Check appropriate box)*

☒ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	$3,343.25	$	0.00
☒ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	$2,406.75	$	2,406.75
☒ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	$1,043.75	$	0.00

☐ Exempt from fee

- ☐ Notice of Exemption (attach)
- ☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	$1,136.50	$	0.00
☒ County documentary handling fee	$50.00	$	50.00
☐ Other		$	0.00

PAYMENT METHOD:

☒ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☐ Other **TOTAL RECEIVED** $ **2,456.75**

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X Jessica Munoz Jessica Munoz	**Jessica Munoz Deputy Clerk**

State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER *(if applicable)*

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COUNTY OF FRESNO	**TKOBAYASHI@FRESNOCOUNTYCA.**	**03/19/2020**

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER
FRESNO COUNTY	**E202010000113**

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PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
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PROJECT APPLICANT *(Check appropriate box)*

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☐ Other		$	0.00

PAYMENT METHOD:

☒ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☐ Other **TOTAL RECEIVED** $ **2,456.75**

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X Jessica Munoz	**Jessica Munoz Deputy Clerk**

Jessica Munoz

ORIGINAL - PROJECT APPLICANT | COPY - CDFW/ASB | COPY - LEAD AGENCY | COPY - COUNTY CLERK | DFW 753.5a (Rev. 12012019)

Detailed Project Activities

MOBILIZATION

This includes setting up the Traffic Control System, staging areas, and BMPs.

CLEARING AND GRUBBING

Clearing and grubbing will occur before performing earthwork in the area. Earthwork activities include, but are not limited to, grading, excavation, slope stabilization, backfill and compaction, etc. The Contractor will clear the creek of vegetation by removing shrubs, dead vines, and bushes. Tree removal will not be required as there are no trees in the project area. Typical excavator, chainsaw, and other suitable machinery may be used to complete clearing and grubbing. All excavated materials will be hauled away from the creek area.

Clearing and grubbing will comply with section 17-2.03 Caltrans Standard Specifications as follows:

1. Clear all construction areas above the original ground of all vegetation, organic materials, concrete, masonry, and debris.
2. Grub all construction areas to the necessary depth, typically 3 to 6 inches below existing ground, to remove all existing stumps, roots, and other objectionable material.

WATER DIVERSION

If nuisance flows are encountered during construction, various temporary methods could be used to minimize impacts to construction operations and convey water through the site. A temporary water diversion that would be used to contain any nuisance flows that may occur during construction. It may consist of four high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes will be installed under the existing bridge and the temporary creek crossing to act as temporary culverts that will move water through the construction site. Each pipe will have an approximate diameter of 48 inches and length of 184 feet. Clean crushed rock or gravel will be placed around the pipes at the upstream of the crossing. An impermeable plastic sheet will be installed over the gravel and culverts to create a cofferdam system. Any pumps required to dewater the work areas will have fish screens to prevent fish from being harmed. The temporary creek diversion will remain in place and functional throughout the in-channel construction periods. It will be removed at cessation of in-channel work, and the area will be restored as close as possible to pre-construction conditions. The contractor will submit water diversion plan shop drawings, calculations, and dewatering plan for approval of the engineer before proceeding.

See Attachment – Temporary Diversion and Detour Plan.

ONSITE DETOUR

During construction of the proposed project, traffic on Lost Hills Road would be maintained through the construction of a temporary detour and creek crossing downstream of the existing bridge. The temporary detour and creek crossing would be constructed in congruence with the temporary creek diversion, as described in the section above. The detour would be located north of the existing bridge, adjacent to the existing alignment of Lost Hills Road. Upon its completion, traffic would be shifted onto the detour for the remaining duration of construction.

Temporary paving for the detour road would include 0.25 feet of temporary Type A Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA), totaling 498 tons of material. This will be placed over 0.42 feet of temporary Class 12 aggregate base (AB), totaling 413 cubic yards. Temporary hydromulch and hydroseed would be placed around the

length of the detour road for water pollution and erosion control. Type K temporary railing will be installed on the length of the detour, as well as two crash cushions and two Type II barricades.

See Attachment – Temporary Diversion and Detour Plan.

BRIDGE REMOVAL

After the detour road is constructed, the existing bridge will be removed in its entirety. Bridge removal activities will be implemented in compliance with Caltrans Standard Specifications. A demolition plan depicting the proposed methods of bridge removal accompanied by substantiating calculations signed by an engineer will be submitted for approval before starting the demolition process.

Existing bridge demolition and removal work sequence will be as follows:

1. Remove existing wooden guard rails.
2. Concrete portions of the superstructure, consisting of two spans, will be saw cut through their full thickness and lifted using cranes or pavement removal buckets mounted on hydraulic excavators.
3. Each member of the existing timber portion of superstructure, which consists of three spans, will be removed individually using cranes.
4. Existing abutments, wing walls, and foundations will be demolished and removed by breaking up the concrete into pieces using a backhoe or possibly using excavator mounted breakers.
5. Backfill voids and grade to existing topography in areas where bridge structure was removed. Light compaction equipment will be used for the backfill compaction.
6. Thorough sweeping and hauling out of demolished material or debris in areas upstream and downstream of the bridge.
7. Demolished materials will be hauled to an approved disposal site.

FALSEWORK AND FORMWORK

Falsework will be constructed in accordance with Section 48-2 of Caltrans Standard Specifications. The contractor is responsible for designing and constructing safe and adequate falsework. The contractor will also be required to submit falsework shop drawings and calculations for approval of the engineer before proceeding. The contractor typically utilizes conventional joists, lumbers, vertical support members (wood or steel post), and plywood for construction.

For the cast-in-place bridge span and bent caps, in general, forms will be needed for the bridge deck, side walls, retaining walls, and headwalls. Form material will be wood or metal sheathing. Forms must be strong enough to support the pressure and the weight of fresh concrete and any construction loads. Forms joints will be tight enough to prevent mortar leaking. Release oil will be applied to forms face where they are in contact with concrete.

Braces and ties (metal rods) will be used to hold forms for bridge span in place and maintain all the design dimensions (wall thickness, alignment, etc). All bracings should be rigid and secured firmly to the forms. Falsework will be used to support forms for the bridge span. Generally, plywood or metal sheathing sits atop the joists, which are typically 4x4 lumber. Wood or steel posts will be installed and braced underneath for vertical support.

Falsework and forms will be carefully inspected and checked to conform with construction drawing plans and other requirements before placing reinforcement and concrete. After concrete is placed and cured, the contractor will remove the falsework, clean up the area of debris, and haul off site using dump trucks.

SUBSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

Substructure construction consists of installation of 36-inch CIDH piles (4), 30-inch CIDH piles (8), and construction of abutments, foundation and wingwalls. Abutments are approximately 32 to 34 ft long, 12 to 13 ft in height, and 3'-6" wide. Abutment foundations are approximately 37 ft. long, 12 ft. wide and 3'-0" in height. Wingwall lengths vary from 17 ft – 18 ft; heights varies from about 18 ft. to 3 ft. (see Sheets 35 to 37 in attached construction plans). Each pile constructed in abutments 1 and 3 are approximately 45 and 47 feet deep, respectively, with a 30-inch diameter. Each pile constructed in Bents 2 and 3 are approximately 69 ft deep with a 36-inch diameter. See Attachment – Volume Quantity Map for volumes of substructure elements.

The contractor will perform Substructure construction in the following manner:

1. Excavate existing ground to the bottom of abutment.
2. Drive the piles to specified tip elevations using an impact hammer. The impact hammer may be steam, hydraulic air or diesel. Impact hammer should be able to develop sufficient energy to drive the pile at a penetration rate of not less than 1/8" per blow at the normal driving resistance.
3. Contractor will form, install rebars, vertical dowels or anchors and pour the abutment.
4. Contractor will then form and pour the associated backwall and wingwall. Contractor would use a concrete pump truck, crane, and forklift.
5. After the abutments are constructed and cured, the cast-in-place prestressed concrete slab will be poured to form the bridge deck.

ROCK SLOPE PROTECTION AND STREAM BARB CONSTRUCTION

Rock slope protection (RSP) will be placed along the slopes of each abutment and wingwall, extending upstream and downstream of the proposed bridge. The existing gabion cage along the northeast bank of the creek will be removed and replaced with RSP. Any existing RSP near the existing bridge will be removed.

Additionally, there is existing RSP along Lost Hills Road embankment, then turns west and extends along the northern stream bank. RSP will be placed in areas that lack or only have a thin layer of existing RSP, as directed by the engineer during construction. RSP placement will vary depending on the observed quality of the existing armoring and extent of its coverage. It is estimated about 1,052 cy of RSP will be used in this area.

Directly adjacent to the bridge, approximately 12,202 square feet of area will receive the RSP upstream, beneath, and downstream of the bridge. RSP will be placed in two layers. The upper layer will be 4.3 feet thick of ½-ton rock with a volume of approximately 1,996 cy of rock. The lower layer will be 1.8 feet thick of 150-pound rock with a volume of approximately 836 cy of rock. Please see Attachment – Volume Quantity Map. These will be laid back at a 1.5:1 slope. RSP will be installed in compliance with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Standard Specifications, Division VIII Section 72.

Eight stream barbs will also be installed along the RSP and the banks of the creek; two will be along the southern bank approaching the bridge, and six will be along the eastern bank upstream, beneath, and downstream of the bridge, adjacent to the RSP. Each barb will be 8 feet wide and 30 feet long and will consist of approximately 388 cy of 1-ton rock. They will be installed 4 feet deep into the creek bed.

The Contractor will install RSP and RSP stream barbs as follows:

1. Strip areas that will receive RSP and barbs of all vegetation and other objectionable materials. Slope will be graded or excavated to the elevations shown on the plans.

2. Place Class 8 RSP fabric per the manufacturer's instruction.
3. Excavate for footing trench along toe of slope.
4. Place the rocks in accordance to Caltrans Standards Specification Section 72-2.03C Method B. Rocks will be placed by dumping and spreading in layers by bulldozers or other suitable equipment. Rocks will be placed in such a way that there will be minimum voids. Larger rocks will be placed in the toe course and on the outside surface of the slope protection.
5. After completion of RSP and stream barbs, Contractor will clean up RSP debris and haul out off site.

SUPERSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

The three span bridge superstructure is made up of a cast-in-place prestressed concrete slab set on dropped bent caps supported by seat type abutments founded on a pile cap footing with cast-in-drilled-hole piles. The proposed bridge will be 140 ft long and 32 feet wide. For the cast-in-place concrete bridge deck construction, the contractor will utilize conventional wood framing and plywood construction to form the deck. The contractor may stage small equipment underneath the bridge deck to install falsework, but this will take place when water is not present or a diversion is in place. Rebars will be installed, then concrete will be placed using concrete pump and concrete paving machine. There will be approximately 363 cy of concrete used for the bridge deck (see Attachment –Volume Quantities Map). After concrete is placed and cured, the contractor will remove the falsework, clean up the area of debris, and haul off site using dump trucks.

Falsework will be constructed in accordance to Section 48-2 of Caltrans Standard Specifications. The contractor is responsible for designing and constructing safe and adequate falsework. Contractor will also be required to submit falsework shop drawings and calculations for approval of the engineer before proceeding.

CONCRETE BARRIERS

Approximately 328 linear feet of concrete bridge railing Caltrans Type 85 will be installed along both sides of the bridge edges. Concrete will be poured into formworks that have been set.

ROADWAY APPROACH

There will be a total of approximately 1,346 linear feet of approach roadway work. Lost Hills Road will be repaved approximately 465 feet on either side of the bridge, totaling 930 linear feet. Additionally, Jacalitos Road, which extends south from the roadway approach just west of the bridge, will also be repaved approximately 416 feet. Paving will be composed of 0.42 feet of Type A HMA and 0.42 feet of Class 2 Aggregate Base. HMA dikes will be installed at the roadsides of the approach ways to allow for proper drainage and reduce potential flooding from stormwater.

Length	Cut	Fill	Materials Used
1,346 ft	5,697 cy	785 cy AB 1,155 tons HMA	Aggregate Base Hot Mix Asphalt (Type B)

Step-by-Step Process in Accordance with Caltrans Standard Specification section 39-3.02C as follows:

1. Outline the replacement area and cut neat lines with a saw or grind into existing structural sections to a depth pre-determined by Engineer.

2. Remove the full depth of the existing asphalt concrete surfacing where shown and replaced with HMA afterward. The Engineer determines the exact limits of AC surfacing to be replaced. If you excavate the base beyond specified plane, replace it with HMA.
3. Do not damage remaining materials in place.
4. Place new structural sections to meet the project specification and match finishing grade.
5. Do not use a material transfer vehicle for replacing AC surfacing.
6. Before placing HMA, apply a tack coat as specified in section 39-2.01C(3)(f).
7. Place HMA using method compaction as specified in section 39-2.01C(2)(c).

CONSTRUCTION AND STAGING AREA

Construction will be completed between May 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026, with approximately 150 workdays. Clearing and grubbing, detour installation, and bridge and roadway construction will occur during this time.

The staging area will be used to store equipment and materials and to provide parking areas for construction workers and equipment for the duration of construction. This temporary staging area will be restored as close as possible to preconstruction conditions. See Attachment – Project Activities Map for potential staging locations.

PROPOSED EQUIPMENT TO BE USED

Typical construction equipment at the project site will include the following:

Equipment	**Purpose**
Backhoes	Excavation and drainage work; removal of existing bridge; placement of rock slope protection
Dump Trucks	Fill material delivery/surplus removal; placement of rock slope protection
Water Truck	Dust control; earthwork construction; clearing and grubbing
Excavator	Soil manipulation; removal of existing bridge
Front-end Loader	Dirt or gravel manipulation
Forklift	Materials movement
Roller/Compactor	Earthwork construction; backfill compaction
Grader	Ground leveling
Jackhammers	Bridge demolition
Pavement Saw	Sawcut existing pavements, sawcut in pieces elements to be demolished
Bulldozer	Earthwork construction, clearing and grubbing
Concrete Truck	Placement of concrete
Pile Drivers	Pile installation

PROJECT IMPACTS

Vegetation Type	**Temporary Impacts**	**Permanent Impacts**
Stream Channel – Jacalitos Creek	0.43 ac	0.04 ac
Valley Saltbush Scrub	0.53 ac	0.06 ac
Ruderal	0.42 ac	0.25 ac

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
Initial Study Application No. 7530
(Including Conditions of Approval and Project Notes)

Mitigation Measures					
Mitigation Measure No.*	**Impact**	**Mitigation Measure Language**	**Implementation Responsibility**	**Monitoring Responsibility**	**Time Span**
1..	Biological Resources	The entire project limits shall be resurveyed for special-status plants by a qualified botanist following the "Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities" and that reference populations be visited to ensure proper timing (CDFW 2018b).	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division PW&P	Prior to construction
2.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to special-status species during construction of the project. a. To avoid impact to any special status species that may occur within the entire project limits, all work shall occur during daylight hours and project-related vehicles shall observe a 20 mph speed limit within the entire project limits during construction, except on county roads and State and Federal highways. b. All excavated steep-walled holes or trenches more than 6 inches deep will be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Areas that are covered will be inspected daily, for as long as they are covered, to ensure that no special-status species have become trapped despite the presence of covers. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they should be thoroughly searched for trapped animals. c. All small diameter construction pipes or similar structures with diameter of 4 inches or less that are stored within the entire project limits shall be thoroughly inspected for special-status species before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Ongoing/Prior to construction

		d. In the case of trapped animals, escape ramps or structures should be installed immediately to allow the animal(s) to escape. e. All areas subject to temporary ground disturbances, including storage and staging areas, temporary roads, pipeline corridors, etc. should be re-contoured if necessary, and re-vegetated to promote restoration of the area to pre-project conditions. f. To prevent injury or mortality of special-status species by cats or dogs, no pets shall be permitted within the entire project limits during construction. g. Use of rodenticide and herbicides in the entire project limits will be restricted. If it is later determined that the use of rodenticide and herbicide is needed, consultations with the United States Fish and Wildlife Services must be reinitiated. h. All food related trash items shall be disposed of in closed containers and removed at least once a week from the project limits. i. No firearms shall be allowed on the project limits. j. Retain a qualified biologist to conduct an employee education program. The program should consist of a brief presentation prepared by persons knowledgeable in blunt-nosed leopard lizard (BNLL), giant kangaroo rat and San Joaquin kit fox (SJKF) biology and legislative protection to explain endangered species concerns to contractors, their employees, and agency personnel involved in the project. The program should include the following: a description of these species and their habitat needs; a report of the occurrence of these species in the entire project limits; an explanation of the status of these species and their protection under the Endangered Species Act; and a list of measures being taken to reduce impacts to these species during project construction and implementation. A fact sheet conveying this information should be prepared for distribution to program attendees and anyone else who may enter the project limits.			

3.	Biological Resources	Conduct a preconstruction survey for SJKF, BNLL, and giant kangaroo rat. If any new dens or signs of a federally-listed species are discovered or potential dens show signs of use, avoidance of the dens will follow U.S Fish and Wildlife Services Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox prior to ground disturbance. If a natal/pupping den is discovered within the project limits or within 200 feet of the project limits boundary, the USFWS shall be notified and, under no circumstances, should the den be disturbed or destroyed without an Incidental Take Statement.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division PW&P	Prior to construction
4.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to Blunt-Nose Leopard Lizard (BNLL). a. A complete set of blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard protocol surveys following California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines will be conducted within 1 year of the start of the project. BNLL detection during protocol level surveys warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to implement ground-disturbing activities to avoid take. b. To ensure BNLLs do not occupy open burrows during the time between the end of the protocol surveys and the start of project construction, the protocol surveys will be timed such that the last survey will coincide with the beginning of construction. This will be accomplished by conducting the juvenile surveys during August/September and the adult surveys from April 15 to July 15. The day following the last survey-day burrows will be collapsed/filled under the direction of a Level II BNLL biologist. Once those burrows are collapsed/filled, construction activities will immediately commence. Only those burrows that will be directly impacted by the project will be collapsed and no burrows will be collapsed if any BNLL is observed during the protocol surveys or at any other time prior to the start of the project.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	One year prior to construction/Prior to construction
5.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measure shall be implemented to address impacts to San Joaquin Kit Fox (SJKF). a. SJKF detection warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to avoid take, or if avoidance is not feasible, to acquire an ITP prior to ground-disturbing activities, pursuant to Fish and Game code Section 2081 (b).	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Prior to construction/ Ongoing

6.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to San Joaquin antelope squirrel (SJAS). a. SJAS detection warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to avoid take, or if avoidance is not feasible, to acquire an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) prior to ground-disturbing activities, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081 (b). b. If suitable habitat is present and surveys or trapping are not feasible, maintenance of a 50-foot minimum no-disturbance buffer around all small mammal burrows of suitable size for SJAS shall be implemented.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	April 1 through September 20/Ongoing
7.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measure shall be implemented to address impacts to California Glossy Snake. a. California glossy snake detection during preconstruction surveys warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to implement ground-disturbing activities and avoid take. However, CDFW recommends that if any California glossy snake are discovered at a site immediately prior to or during Project activities they be allowed to move out of the area on their own volition. If this is not feasible, CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist who holds a Scientific Collecting Permit for the species, capture and relocate the snake(s) out of harm's way to the nearest suitable habitat immediately adjacent to the project site. Avoidance of refuge habitat (i.e. burrows) whenever possible is encouraged via delineation and observing a 50-foot no-disturbance buffer around burrows.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions, PW&P	Prior to construction
8.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to American badger. a. Avoidance whenever possible is encouraged via delineation and observation of a 50-foot no-disturbance buffer around American Badger dens until it is determined through non-invasive means that individuals occupying the den have dispersed.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Prior to construction/ Ongoing
9.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to burrowing owl. a. Reassess the presence/absence of burrowing owl (BUOW) by having a qualified biologist conduct	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Prior to construction/ Ongoing

		surveys following the California Burrowing Owl Consortium's "Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines" (CBOC 1993) and CDFW's Staff Report on "Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012). b. Should a BUOW be detected, CDFW recommends no-disturbance buffers, as outlined in the "Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012), be implemented prior to and during any ground-disturbing activities. c. If necessary, burrow exclusion shall be conducted by qualified biologists and only during non-breeding season, before breeding behavior is exhibited and after the burrow is confirmed empty through non-invasive methods, such as surveillance.			
10.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to nesting birds. a. If construction activities will occur between February 1 and August 31, a qualified wildlife biologist shall conduct pre-activity surveys for active nests of a special-status bird no more than 10 days prior to the start of ground disturbance to maximize probability that nests that could potentially be impacted are detected. If detected, a qualified biologist shall continuously monitor nests to detect behavioral changes resulting from the project. CDFW shall be consulted for additional avoidance and minimization measures. b. If continuous monitoring of identified nests by a qualified wildlife biologist is not feasible, a minimum no-disturbance buffer of 250 feet around active nests of non-listed bird species and a 500-foot no disturbance buffer around active nests of non-listed raptors. These buffers are advised to remain in place until the nesting season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival. CDFW shall be consulted if a Variance from the aforementioned no-disturbance buffer is sought.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	No more than 10 days prior to construction if construction occurs between February 1 and August 31/Ongoing
11.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to Loggerhead Shrikes	Applicant	Fresno County Design and	Ongoing

		a. In order to avoid impacts to loggerhead shrikes, initial ground disturbance activities such as grading, scraping, material stockpiling, etc. will be initiated between September 1 and January 31. This will ensure that project activities potentially impacting nesting shrikes will not coincide with their nesting season (February 1 to August 31). If ground disturbance must be initiated between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey for active shrike nests be discovered in or near proposed construction zones, the biologist will identify a suitable construction free buffer around the nest. This buffer will identify a suitable construction free buffer around the nest. This buffer will be identified on the ground with flagging or fencing, and will be maintained until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged.		Construction Divisions PW&P	
12.	Biological Resources	The following Mitigation Measures shall be implemented to address impacts to roosting bats. a. Bats shall not be disturbed without specific notice to and consultation with CDFW. If a bat roost is detected, CDFW advises a minimum 50-foot no-disturbance buffer during activity, or postponing activity until repeat surveying documents that bats no longer use the roost. If avoidance or postponement is not feasible, a request for a reduced buffer or a Bat Eviction Plan shall be submitted to CDFW for written approval prior to implementation.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions PW&P	Ongoing
13.	Cultural Resources	In the event that cultural resources are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, all work shall be halted in the area of the find. An Archeologist shall be called to evaluate the findings and make any necessary mitigation recommendations. If human remains are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, no further disturbance is to occur until the Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition. All normal evidence procedures should be followed by photos, reports, video, etc. If such remains are determined to be Native American, the Sherriff-Coroner must notify the Native American Commission within 24 hours. Additional archaeological surveys will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing

14.	Energy	Idling of onsite equipment and vehicles will be avoided to the most possible extent.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
15.	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	An asbestos survey should be performed to determine whether or not the concrete will require special handling and disposal.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Prior to construction
16.	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	A lead-based paint survey should be performed to determine whether or not the railing paint contains elevated concentrations of lead which would require special handling and disposal.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Prior to construction
17.	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	Testing and removal requirements for yellow traffic striping and pavement marked materials should be performed in accordance with Caltrans Construction Policy Bulletin 99-2 (Caltrans Construction Manual Chapter 7-107E; Caltrans, 2014a).	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
18.	Hydrology and Water Quality	Prior to construction, the County shall comply with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act in coordination with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 401 of the Clean Water Act in coordination with the Regional Water Quality Control Board and Fish, and Game Code Section 1602 in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for Project-related impacts that will occur in areas under the jurisdiction of the regulatory agencies.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Prior to construction
19.	Hydrology and Water Quality	Prior to commencement of construction activities, the contractor shall prepare a hazardous materials spill prevention control and countermeasure plan that will minimize the potential for and the effects of the release of toxic materials during construction of the proposed project. The plan shall include storage and containment procedures to prevent and respond to spills, and shall identify the appropriate parties responsible for monitoring the spill response. During construction of the proposed project, any spills that occur shall be remedied immediately according to the guidance provided in the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan. The County and Caltrans shall review and approve the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan prior to allowing construction to being.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Prior to construction / Ongoing
20.	Hydrology and Water Quality	Once construction activities are complete, disturbed area shall be re-vegetated with similar plant vegetation, pre-approved by the County, stabilize soils and establish a natural system for erosion control. In addition, a 5-foot vegetative buffer consisting of native upland plan species should be planted to treat roadway runoff before it enters the channel below. Sediment control, potentially consisting of fiber rolls, may also be implemented.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing and after construction

*MITIGATION MEASURE – Measure specifically applied to the project to mitigate potential adverse environmental effects identified in the environmental document.
Conditions of Approval reference recommended Conditions for the project.

Notes	
The following Notes reference mandatory requirements of Fresno County or other Agencies and are provided as information to the project Applicant.	
1.Air Quality	The proposed Project may be subject to District Rules and Regulations, including: Regulation VII (Fugitive PM10 Prohibitions), Rule 4102 (Nuisance), Rule 4601 (Architectural Coatings), and Rule 4641 (Cutback, Slow Cure, and Emulsified Asphalt Paving and Maintenance Operations). In the event an existing building will be renovated, partially demolished or removed, the Project may be subject to District Rule 4002 (National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants).

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

06-FRE-Fresno County	N/A	N/A	BRLO-5942(234)
Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency)	P.M./P.M.	E.A/Project No.	Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Briefly describe project including need, purpose, location, limits, right-of-way requirements, and activities involved in this box. *Use Continuation Sheet, if necessary.)*

The County of Fresno proposes to widen the existing roadway (no additional capacity) and replace Jacalitos Creek bridge (bridge 42C0078) on Lost Hills Avenue at Jacalitos Creek Road. The existing structurally deficient two-lane bridge will be replaced with a new two-lane bridge that meets current standards. Right of way acquisition and temporary construction easements may be required to accommodate grading and construction activities.

The March 2018 Draft Mitigation Monitoring And Reporting Program sheet is attached.

CEQA COMPLIANCE *(for State Projects only)*

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the following statements are true and exceptions do not apply (See 14 CCR 15300 et seq.):

- If this project falls within exempt class 3, 4, 5, 6 or 11, it does not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law.
- There will not be a significant cumulative effect by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.
- This project does not damage a scenic resource within an officially designated state scenic highway.
- This project is not located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Govt. Code § 65962.5 ("Cortese List").
- This project does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

CALTRANS CEQA DETERMINATION (Check one)

☒ **Not Applicable – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency**

☐ **Not Applicable – Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study or Environmental Impact Report under CEQA**

☐ **Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the above statements, the project is:

☐ **Categorically Exempt. Class** . (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

☐ **Categorically Exempt. General Rule exemption.** [This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (CCR 15061[b][3].)

Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Signature Date

Print Name: Project Manager

Signature Date

NEPA COMPLIANCE

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117, and based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that this project:

- does not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment as defined by NEPA, and is excluded from the requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and
- has considered unusual circumstances pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(b).

CALTRANS NEPA DETERMINATION (Check one)

☒ **23 USC 326:** The State has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 31, 2016, executed between the FHWA and the State. The State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- ☒ **23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(28)**
- ☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(___)**
- ☐ **Activity ___ listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and the State**

☐ **23 USC 327:** Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Shane Gunn
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Signature 3/29/2018 Date

James Perrault
Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer

Signature FOR 3/29/18 Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 3/27/18

Date of ECR or equivalent : 3/19/18

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet. Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., CE checklist, additional studies and design conditions).

Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project
Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
and Project Notes

Mitigation Measures					
Impact	**No.**	**Mitigation Measure Language**	**Implementation Responsibility**	**Monitoring Responsibility**	**Time Span**
Biological Resources	1.	Conduct a preconstruction survey for San Joaquin kit fox, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, and giant kangaroo rat. If any new dens or sign of a federally-listed species are discovered or potential dens show signs of use, avoidance of the dens will follow *USFWS Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to Ground Disturbance*. If a natal/pupping den is discovered within the project area or within 200-feet of the project boundary, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) shall be notified and, under no circumstances, should the den be disturbed or destroyed without an Incidental Take Statement.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, Department of Public Works and Planning (PW&P)	No fewer than 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to the beginning of ground disturbance
Biological Resources	2.	Small mammal burrows will be flagged or otherwise marked and avoided by at least 10 feet.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions, PW&P	Prior to the beginning of ground disturbance / Ongoing
Biological Resources	3.	All work shall occur during daylight hours.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	4.	Project-related vehicles shall observe a 20 mph speed limit in all project areas during construction, except on country roads and State and Federal highways.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Divisions, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	5.	All excavated steep-walled holes or trenches more than 6 inches deep will be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Areas that are covered will be inspected daily, for as long as they are covered, to ensure that no federally-listed species have become trapped despite the presence of covers. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they should be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing

Biological Resources	6.	All small diameter construction pipes or similar structures with a diameter of 4 inches or less that are stored as a construction site shall be thoroughly inspected for federally-listed species before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	7.	In the case of trapped animals, escape ramps or structures should be installed immediately to allow the animal(s) to escape.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	8.	All areas subject to temporary ground disturbances, including storage and staging areas, temporary roads, pipeline corridors, etc. should be re-contoured if necessary, and revegetated to promote restoration of the area to pre-project conditions.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Upon competition of the project
Biological Resources	9.	To prevent injury or mortality of federally-listed species by cats or dogs, no pets shall be permitted on the project site during construction.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	10.	Use of rodenticides and herbicides in project areas will be restricted. If it is later determined that the use of rodenticides and herbicides is needed, consultation with the Service must be reinitiated.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	11.	All food related trash items shall be disposed of in closed containers and removed at least once a week from the project site.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	12.	No firearms shall be allowed on the project site.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	13.	A complete set of blunt-nosed leopard lizard (BNLL) protocol surveys following California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines will be conducted within 1 year of the start of the project.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Within 1 year of the start of the project
Biological Resources	14.	To ensure BNLLs do not occupy open burrows during the time between the end of the protocol surveys and the start of project construction, the protocol surveys will be timed such that the last survey will coincide with the beginning of construction. This will be accomplished by conducting the juvenile surveys during August/September and the adult surveys from April 15 to July 15. The day following the last survey-day burrows will be collapsed/filled under the direction of a Level II BNLL biologist. Once those burrows are	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	During August/September and from April 15 to July 15 prior to ground disturbing activities

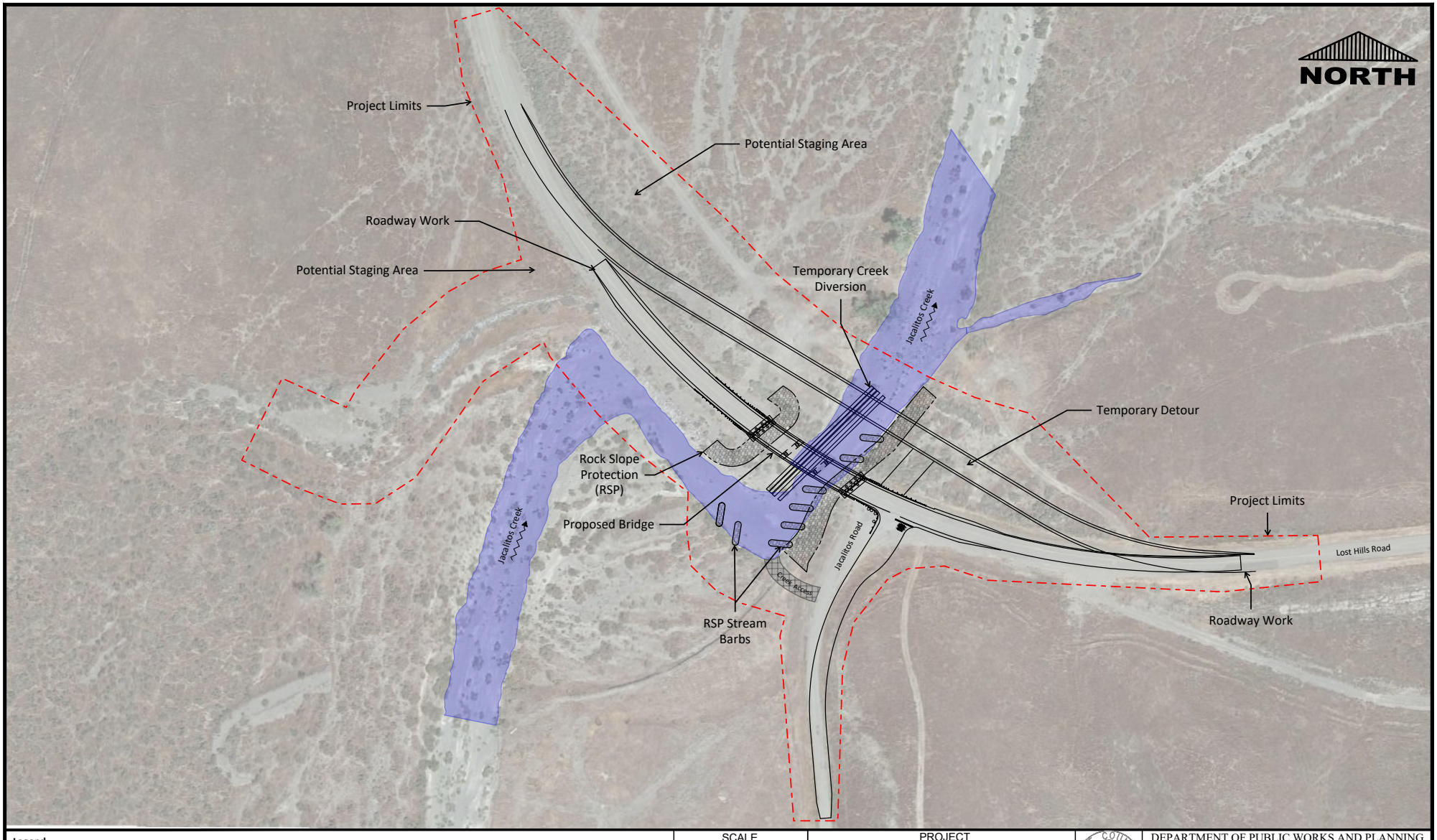
		collapsed/filled construction activities will immediately commence. Only those burrows that will be directly impacted by the project will be collapsed and no burrows will be collapsed if any BNLL is observed during the protocol surveys or at any other time prior to the start of the project.			
Biological Resources	15.	All burrows not directly impacted by the project will be avoided by a minimum of 10 feet. A 10 foot buffer will be maintained for the duration of the project.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Prior to Construction / Ongoing
Biological Resources	16.	A survey for BNLL that follows CDFW's guidelines will be conducted each month during project implementation.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions, PW&P	Monthly during project construction
Biological Resources	17.	Retain a qualified biologist to conduct an employee education program. The program should consist of a brief presentation prepared by persons knowledgeable in BNLL, giant kangaroo rat, and San Joaquin kit fox biology and legislative protection to explain endangered species concerns to contractors, their employees, and agency personnel involved in the project. The program should include the following: a description of these species and their habitat needs; a report of the occurrence of these species in the project area; an explanation of the status of these species and their protection under the Endangered Species Act; and a list of measures being taken to reduce impacts to these species during project construction and implementation. A fact sheet conveying this information should be prepared for distribution to program attendees and anyone else who may enter the project site.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Prior to the start of construction
Biological Resources	18.	Appoint a representative as the contact for any employee or contractor who might inadvertently kill or injure a San Joaquin kit fox or who finds a dead, injured, or entrapped San Joaquin kit fox. The representative will be identified during the employee education program and their name and telephone number shall be provided to the USFWS. Any contractor, employee, or agency personnel who are responsible for inadvertently killing or injuring a San Joaquin kit fox shall immediately report the incident to this representative.	Applicant	Fresno County Construction Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Biological Resources	19.	A qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction nocturnal survey for California glossy snake. The primary objective of the survey is to capture and relocate any California glossy snakes encountered.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	24 hrs prior to the beginning of ground disturbance

		All California glossy snakes encountered will be captured (to the extent feasible), placed in a ventilated container that is sufficiently sealed to prevent escape, and relocated approximately 3.0 miles northeast to the Jacalitos Creek floodplain immediately north of Jayne Avenue (a location where this species has been previously observed and habitat conditions are similar to those at the project site).			
Biological Resources	20.	In order to avoid impacts to loggerhead shrikes, initial ground disturbance activities such as grading, scraping, material stockpiling, etc. will be initiated between September 1 and January 31. This will ensure that Project activities potentially impacting nesting shrikes will not coincide with their nesting season (February 1 to August 31). If ground disturbance must be initiated between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey for active shrike nests within 15 days of the onset of these activities. Should any active shrike nests be discovered in or near proposed construction zones, the biologist will identify a suitable construction free buffer around the nest. This buffer will be identified on the ground with flagging or fencing, and will be maintained until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	February 1 to August 31
Biological Resources	21.	Preconstruction surveys shall be conducted 30 days prior to the beginning of ground disturbance, construction activities, and/or any project activity likely to impact the American Badger. The primary objective is to identify badger habitat features (e.g. potential dens and refugia) in the work area and evaluate their use by badgers. Should an active badger den be detected within or immediately adjacent to the area of work, a disturbance-free buffer will be established around the den until a qualified biologist has determined that the den is vacated or until the animal has been humanely evicted by a qualified biologist and the den collapsed. Should an active natal den be identified during the preconstruction surveys, a suitable disturbance-free	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	30 days prior to the beginning of ground disturbance

		buffer will be established around the den and maintained until a qualified biologist has determined that the cubs have dispersed or the den has been abandoned.			
Cultural Impacts	22.	In the event that cultural resources are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, all work shall be halted in the area of the find, and an Archeologist shall be called to evaluate the findings and make any necessary mitigation recommendations. If human remains are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, no further disturbance is to occur until the Fresno County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition. If such remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner must notify the Native American Commission within 24 hours.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Hydrology and Water Quality	23.	The Construction Contractor shall prepare a hazardous material spill prevention control and countermeasure plan that will minimize the potential for and the effects of the release of hazardous or toxic materials during construction of the proposed project. The plan shall include storage and containment procedures to prevent and respond to spills, and shall identify the appropriate parties responsible for monitoring the spill response. During construction of the proposed project, any spills that occur shall be remedied immediately according to the guidance provided in the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan. The County and Caltrans shall review and approve the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan prior to allowing construction to begin.	Applicant	Fresno County Design and Construction Divisions, PW&P	Prior to start of construction activities
Hydrology and Water Quality	24.	Disturbed areas shall be re-vegetated with similar plant vegetation, pre-approved by the County, to stabilize soils and establish a natural system for erosion control. In addition, a 5-foot vegetated buffer consisting of native upland plant species should be planted to treat roadway runoff before it enters the channel below. Sediment controls, potentially consisting of fiber rolls, may also be implemented.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Once construction activities are complete
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	25.	An asbestos survey should be performed to determine whether or not the concrete will require special handling and disposal.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Prior to Construction

Hazards and Hazardous Materials	26.	A lead-based paint survey should be performed to determine whether or not the railing paint contains elevated concentrations of lead which could require special handling and disposal.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Prior to Construction
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	27.	Testing and removal requirements for yellow traffic striping and pavement marking materials should be performed in accordance with Caltrans Construction Policy Bulletin 99-2 (Caltrans Construction Manual Chapter 7-107E; Caltrans, 2014a).	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Prior to and during Construction
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	28.	As for all projects proposing excavation, grading, or pile driving, the potential exists for unknown hazardous materials contamination to be encountered during construction of the proposed project. Therefore, for any previously unknown hazardous waste material encountered as part of construction of the proposed project, the procedures outlined in Appendix E (Caltrans Unknown hazards Procedures) shall be followed (Caltrans 2002).	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Ongoing
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	28.	The contractor shall prepare a hazardous material spill prevention control and countermeasure plan that will minimize the potential for and the effects of the release of hazardous or toxic materials during construction of the proposed project. The plan shall include storage and containment procedures to prevent and respond to spills, and shall identify the appropriate parties responsible for monitoring the spill response. During construction of the proposed project, any spills that occur shall be remedied immediately according to the guidance provided in the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan. The County and Caltrans shall review and approve the spill prevention control and countermeasure plan prior to allowing construction to begin.	Applicant	Fresno County Design Division, PW&P	Prior to Construction
Notes					

Hydrology and Water Quality		Prior to construction, the County shall obtain a Section 404 Permit from the United States Army Corp of Engineers, a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and a Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for project-related impacts that will occur in areas under the jurisdiction of these regulatory agencies.			



Legend

- Project Limits
- OHWM
- Rock Slope Protection (RSP)

SCALE

PROJECT

JACALITOS CREEK ON LOST HILLS RD

ROAD NO. | BRIDGE NO.

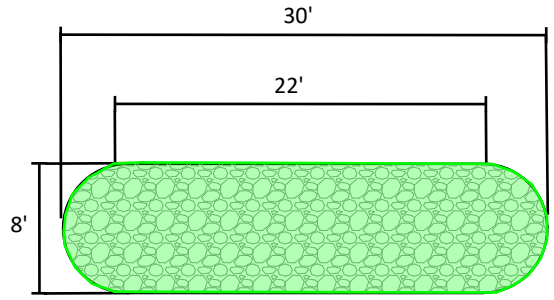
COUNTY OF FRESNO

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING

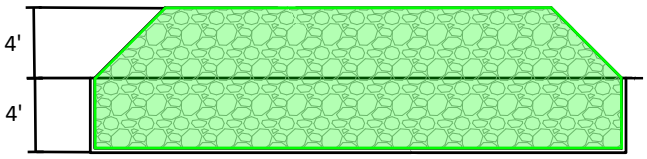
PROJECT ACTIVITIES MAP

DRAWING NO. | SHEET NO. | TOTAL

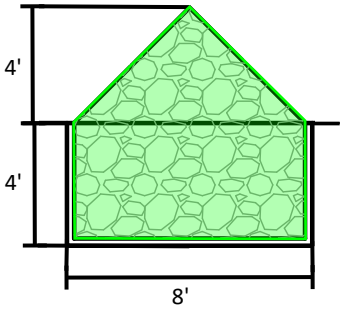
STREAM BARB DETAIL



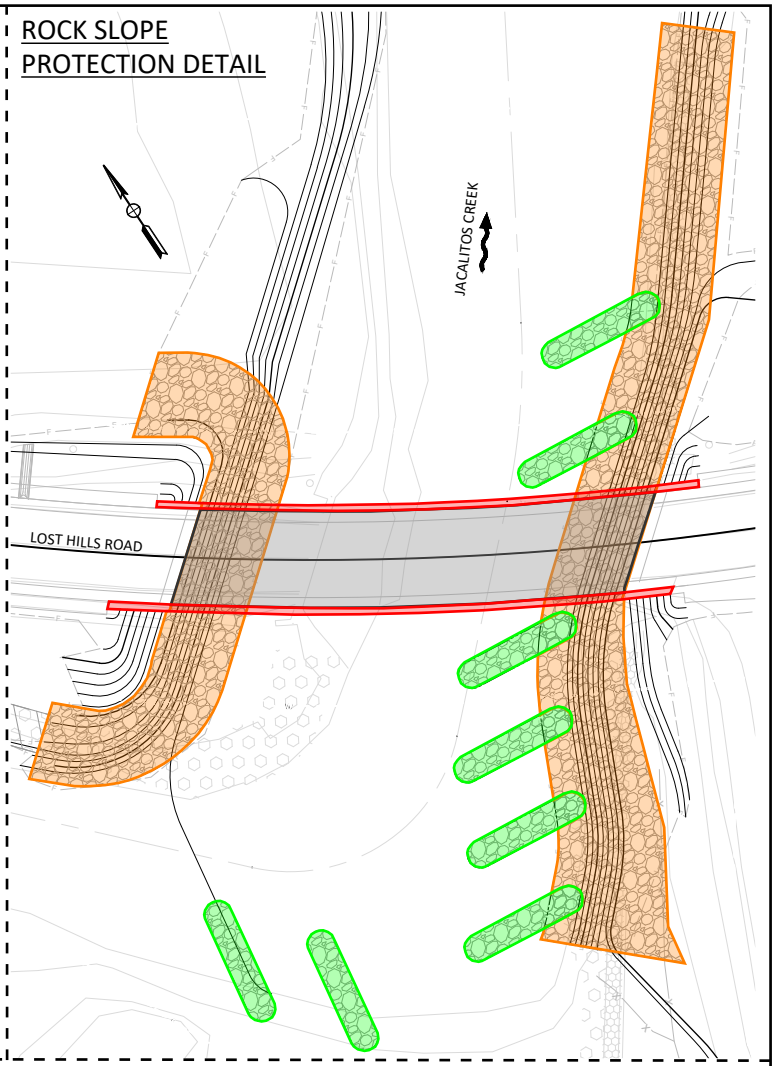
LONGITUDINAL SECTION



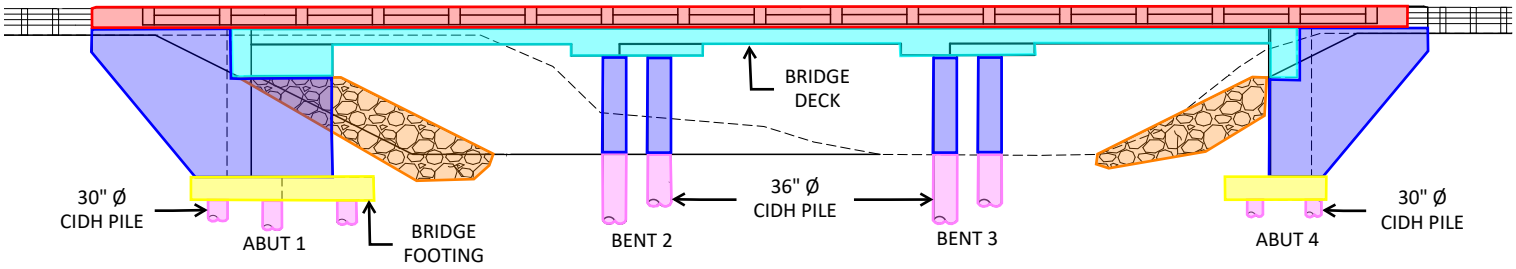
CROSS-SECTION



ROCK SLOPE PROTECTION DETAIL



LONGITUDINAL SECTION



LEGEND

- PROPOSED BRIDGE
  - L = 140 ft
  - W = 32 ft
- BRIDGE DECK
  - L = 132 ft 6 in
  - W = 32 ft
  - V = 363 cy concrete
- ROCK SLOPE PROTECTION
  - A = 0.28 ac or 12,202 sq ft
  - V = 2,832 cy
- STREAM BARBS
  - A = 0.04 ac or 1,791 sq ft
  - V = 388 cy rock
- ABUTMENTS (1 & 4), WINGWALLS (4), & BENTS (2 & 3)
  - Total Cut = 806 cy
  - Total Fill = 468 cy soil; 188 cy concrete
- PILING
  - 36" CIDH CONCRETE PILING (4)
    - Depth = 69 ft; Total LF = 276
  - 30" CIDH CONCRETE PILING (16)
    - Depth = 45 to 47 ft; Total LF = 740
- BRIDGE FOOTING
  - V = 103 cy concrete
- CONCRETE BARRIER
  - Total LF = 328

VOLUME QUANTITY MAP

JACALITOS CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (42C0078)

THE COUNTY OF FRESNO 1856

State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
(559) 243-4593
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director

December 13, 2024

Steven White
Fresno County
2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor
Fresno, California 93721

Subject: Incomplete Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration
EPIMS Notification No. FRE-55505
Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project on Lost Hills Road
Jacalitos Creek – Fresno County

Dear Steven White:

On November 8, 2024, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received your Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration (Notification) through the Environmental Permitting Information Management System (EPIMS) and on November 13, 2024, your fee was received, starting CDFW review of the Notification. On December 13, 2024, CDFW determined that your Notification is incomplete because the information checked below is either missing or insufficient. To complete your Notification, please review the EPIMS Permitting Portal instructions available in the EPIMS Help Menu to complete the necessary forms and resubmit your application.

- ☐ General Information
- ☐ Project Location and Category
- ☒ Project Description, Term, and Impacts
- ☐ Environmental Review
- ☐ Measures to Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Resources
- ☐ Prior Notification, Orders, and Permits
- ☒ Documents and Maps
- ☐ Fee Schedule
- ☐ Acknowledgement and Signature

Project Description, Terms, and Impacts: Additional information is needed in the project description. The Notification materials cite and quote Caltrans Standard Specifications (Specs) in sections, but the Notification requires the written, step-by-step narrative and explanation of activities. In sections where Caltrans Specs are quoted, please provide that detail.

During clearing and grubbing, please describe how and where backfill and compaction may be required for site preparation. Please provide the area (acres of square feet) to be cleared and the volume of soil to be displaced.

More information is needed regarding the diversion structure. Please provide the dimensions, including volume, of the diversion structure. If pumps will be employed to dewater the site, please provide the destination of the removed water, such as whether it will go into tanks, outside the channel, or downstream of the work site.

The paving is described for the onsite detour and crossing but more information is needed regarding the structure. Please provide a step-by-step description of activities required to construct the detour. This includes the placement of material to construct the crossing. Please describe the material and provide the dimensions and volume of material that will be placed in the stream. Please describe if any materials will be placed at the temporary culvert outlets. Please describe how the detour will be dismantled, removed, and the site restored.

For substructure construction, please clarify the step that says the contractor will excavate existing ground to the bottom of the abutment. It is not clear if this means that excavation will be done to the depth of the planned footing or foundation, and that piles will be driven from this point. The description states that each abutment and foundation will be installed over four piles, but plans appear to show nine piles on each side. Please clarify the number of piles that will be installed. Please also confirm that the work sequence will be pile installation, footing/foundation construction, and abutment or wingwall construction. A backwall is referenced, please describe that structure. The total volume impacts of the different substructure elements have been provided; please itemize them per side, including the cut and fill of soil.

More information is required regarding the rock slope protection (RSP) installation and stream barb construction. The Notification cites Caltrans Specs for the RSP installation; please provide a step-by-step description of how the RSP will be installed, including any over-excavation for RSP placement, trenches, or footings. Please describe how the two layers of RSP will be installed and if they will be stacked or if the different layers will be at different elevations along the slope. Please provide the length and area of RSP per side of the stream. Please provide the length and area of RSP to be installed on the embankment along Lost Hills Road. Please provide the area and excavation volume required to construct the stream barbs. Please describe the construction of the stream barbs and how they will remain stable during flows.

Please describe the construction of the low water crossing that will be used for construction access. Please describe if any material such as gravel will be used for the road. Please describe how the crossing will be restored at the end of work.

The “Project Impacts” table in the “Detailed Project Activities” attachment lists vegetation types (habitats) and temporary or permanent impacts. Please provide

clarification and itemize the activities and the area of impact that will occur within the different habitats.

Documents and Plans: Please provide a map (i.e., over an aerial photo) that depicts the extent of each project related activity, including RSP installation on the stream bank along Lost Hills Road, upstream from the bridge. Please also provide an updated "Volume Quantities" figure with itemized impact quantities added to the figures.

Please note that you may not proceed with your project until your Notification is deemed complete, and you have obtained a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement, if required.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Jim Kitch, Environmental Scientist, at (559) 580-3198 or by email at James.Kitch@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Linda Connolly
BDDB84BB1205430...

Linda Connolly
Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Response to Incomplete Letter

CLEARING AND GRUBBING

To clarify, initial backfill and compaction will be required to prepare the project area for the temporary onsite detour. The detour will be located within the creek north of the existing bridge, adjacent to the existing alignment of Lost Hills Road. The temporary water diversion will be located within the creek.

Clearing and grubbing will occur as follows:

1. Clearing and grubbing consists of removing objectionable material from construction areas.
2. Areas to be cleared include Jacalitos Road, Lost Hills Road shoulders, within the creek both upstream and downstream of the existing bridge, the temporary detour area, and creek access point located south of the existing bridge.
3. Clear the aforementioned construction areas above the original ground of all vegetation, organic materials, concrete, masonry, and debris.
4. The areas to be grubbed are the temporary onsite detour and roadway shoulders. Grub the construction areas to the necessary depth, typically 3 to 6 inches below existing ground, to remove all existing stumps, roots, and other objectionable material.
5. Any debris, vegetation, organic material, concrete, or other objectionable material will be properly disposed of.

There will be approximately 1.17 acres of clearing. Approximately 338 cy of soil will be displaced from grubbing activities.

WATER DIVERSION

Pumped water may be used for dust control purposes within the project site or discharged to upland areas within the project site. Dewatering discharge shall be properly tested to ensure the water is not contaminated with hazardous materials (e.g. concrete or other construction related elements). There will be approximately four (4) high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes, each with an approximate diameter of 48 inches and length of 184 feet. An impermeable plastic sheet will be installed over the gravel and culverts to create a cofferdam system.

Approximately 235 cy of clean crushed rock or gravel will be placed around and on top of the pipes at the upstream of the crossing. Approximately 5,486 cy of import borrow will be used on top of the pipes at the downstream end, so that the temporary detour/low-water crossing can be built over the diversion.

The temporary creek diversion will remain in place and functional throughout the in-channel construction periods. It will be removed at cessation of in-channel work, and the area will be restored as close as possible to pre-construction conditions. The contractor will submit water diversion plan shop drawings, calculations, and dewatering plan for approval of the engineer before proceeding.

See Attachment – Temporary Diversion and Detour Plan.

ONSITE DETOUR/LOW-WATER CROSSING

To clarify, the low-water creek crossing is a component of the temporary onsite detour. The detour/creek crossing would be located north of the existing bridge, adjacent to the existing alignment of Lost Hills Road. It will be placed over the temporary water diversion pipes. It is a temporary roadway built over the temporary water diversion with clean crushed rock or gravel, as described above.

The detour/low-water crossing will be constructed as follows:

1. The detour construction area will be prepared by clearing and grubbing to the necessary depth, typically 3 to 6 inches below the ground, to remove objectionable materials and to clear the area for the installation of materials.
2. The area will then be backfilled and compacted to create an even surface for the temporary road.
3. A 0.42 feet thick temporary aggregate base totaling 498 tons will be placed on top of the existing grade. Immediately before spreading the base, the subgrade will be checked to comply with the specified compaction and elevation tolerance for the material involved and to be free from loose or extraneous material. Aggregate base may be used to fill areas of the subgrade that are lower than the grade established by the Engineer.
4. Temporary Type A Hot Mix Asphalt will be paved at a thickness of 0.25 feet, totaling 413 cy of material, directly on the base.
5. Temporary hydromulch and hydroseed will be placed along the length of the detour road for water pollution and erosion control. Type K temporary railing will be installed along the length of the detour, as well as six crash cushions and two Type II barricades.

The detour/low-water crossing will be dismantled as follows:

1. Breaking of AC pavement: Use a backhoe or excavator to break through the temporary AC pavement
2. Base removal: Excavate the underlying base material using heavy machinery such as excavators.
3. Debris removal and disposal: Load the debris onto trucks and transport it to a designated disposal site.
4. Site restoration:
    a. Grading: the site will be graded and restored as close as possible to pre-construction to condition.
    b. Final cleanup: Remove any remaining debris and clean up the work area.

See Attachment – Temporary Diversion and Detour Plan.

SUBSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

To clarify, the contractor will excavate the existing ground to the bottom of the abutment foundation.

To clarify, there will be a total of four (4) 36-inch CIDH piles and a total of eighteen (18) 30-inch CIDH piles installed for substructure construction.

The backwall is the vertical wall at the ends of the bridge that extends up from the abutment seats to support the expansion joint. It will be constructed in the same way as the abutment. The contractor will form the backwall, install rebars, vertical dowels or anchors, and pour concrete for the backwall.

The work sequence will be as follows:

1. Substructure excavation
2. Pile installation
3. Footing/foundation construction
4. Abutment construction

5. Wingwall and backwall construction.

ROCK SLOPE PROTECTION AND STREAM BARB CONSTRUCTION

There is approximately 722 LF of existing RSP along Lost Hills Road embankment, then turns west and extends along the northern stream bank. RSP will be placed in areas that lack or only have a thin layer of existing RSP, as directed by the engineer during construction. RSP placement will vary depending on the observed quality of the existing armoring and extent of its coverage. It is estimated about 1,052 cy of RSP will be used in this area. The approximate area is 9,249 sqft.

There will be approximately 130 LF of RSP on the west side of the channel with an approximate area of 3,690 sq ft. There will be approximately 273 LF of RSP on the east side of the channel (not including stream barbs) with an approximate area of 6,830 sq ft.

RSP on the west and east side of the channel will be placed in two layers, stacked on top of each other. The west side will have an upper layer of 4.3 feet thick of ½-ton rock with a total volume of approximately 699 cy of rock. The west side lower layer will be 1.8 feet thick of 150-pound rock with a total volume of approximately 293 cy of rock. The east side will have an upper layer of 4.3 feet thick of ½-ton rock with a total volume of approximately 1,297 cy of rock. The east side lower layer will be 1.8 feet thick of 150-pound rock with a total volume of approximately 543 cy of rock. Please see Attachment – Volume Quantity Map. These will be laid back at a 1.5:1 slope.

Eight stream barbs will also be installed along the RSP and the banks of the creek; two will be along the southern bank approaching the bridge, and six will be along the eastern bank upstream, beneath, and downstream of the bridge, adjacent to the RSP. Each barb will be 8 feet wide and 30 feet long and will consist of approximately 388 cy of 1-ton rock. The total LF for the stream barbs is approximately 240 LF. Each stream barb has an approximate area of 224 sqft, therefore, the total area for the stream barbs is approximately 1,792 sqft. The depth of excavation for the stream barbs is 4 ft.

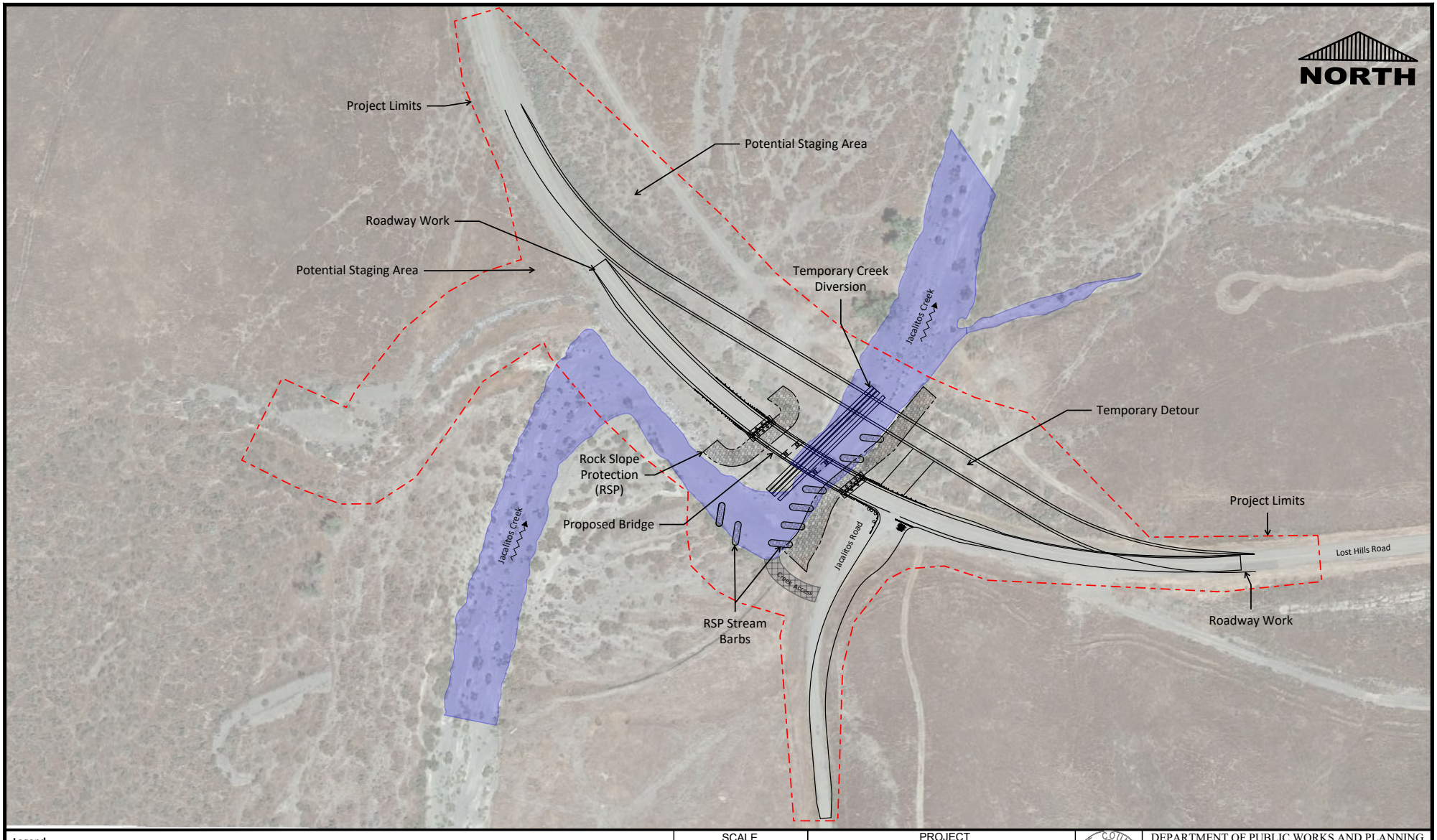
The stream barbs are designed and sized by a licensed Hydraulic Engineer and follow standard RSP sizing criteria. The bed key depth is determined by calculating expected scour depth around the tip of the structure.

The Contractor will install RSP and RSP stream barbs as follows:

1. Strip areas that will receive RSP and barbs of all vegetation and other objectionable materials. Slopes will be graded or excavated to the elevations shown on the plans. The stream barbs will be embedded into the creek bed with a depth of 4 ft.
2. Place Class 8 RSP fabric per the manufacturer's instruction.
3. Excavate for footing trench along toe of slope for RSP located on the west and east side of the creek.
4. For each layer on the west and east side of the creek, rocks will be placed by dumping, then spread evenly by bulldozers or other suitable equipment. Rocks will be placed in such a way that there will be minimum voids. Larger rocks will be placed in the toe course and on the outside surface of the slope protection.
5. For the stream barbs, rocks will be placed by dumping and spread by bulldozers or other suitable equipment.
6. After completion of RSP and stream barbs, Contractor will clean up RSP debris and haul out off site.

PROJECT IMPACTS

Vegetation Type	Temporary Impacts (ac)	Permanent Impacts (ac)
Stream Channel – Jacalitos Creek	0.43 Impact Activities include: • Construction of RSP and RSP stream barbs • Construction of new bridge structure and structure components • Construction of temporary detour/low-water crossing and temporary water diversion	0.04 Impact Activities include: • RSP and RSP Stream Barbs • Four (4) 36-inch CIDH piles
Valley Saltbush Scrub	0.53 Impact Activities include: • Construction of RSP and RSP stream barbs • Construction of new structure and structure components • Construction of temporary detour/low-water crossing and temporary water diversion • Shifting the intersection of Jacalitos Creek Road and Lost Hills Avenue	0.06 Impact Activities include: • RSP and RSP stream barbs • Shifting the intersection of Jacalitos Creek Road and Lost Hills Avenue
Ruderal	0.42 Impact Activities include: • Construction of RSP and RSP stream barbs • Construction of new structure and structure components • Construction of temporary detour/low-water crossing and temporary water diversion • Shifting the intersection of Jacalitos Creek Road and Lost Hills Avenue • All roadway work associated with the project (e.g. taper widening roadway approaches)	0.25 • Roadway work on Jacalitos Creek Road and Lost Hills Avenue



Legend

- Project Limits
- OHWM
- Rock Slope Protection (RSP)

SCALE

PROJECT

JACALITOS CREEK ON LOST HILLS RD

ROAD NO. | BRIDGE NO.

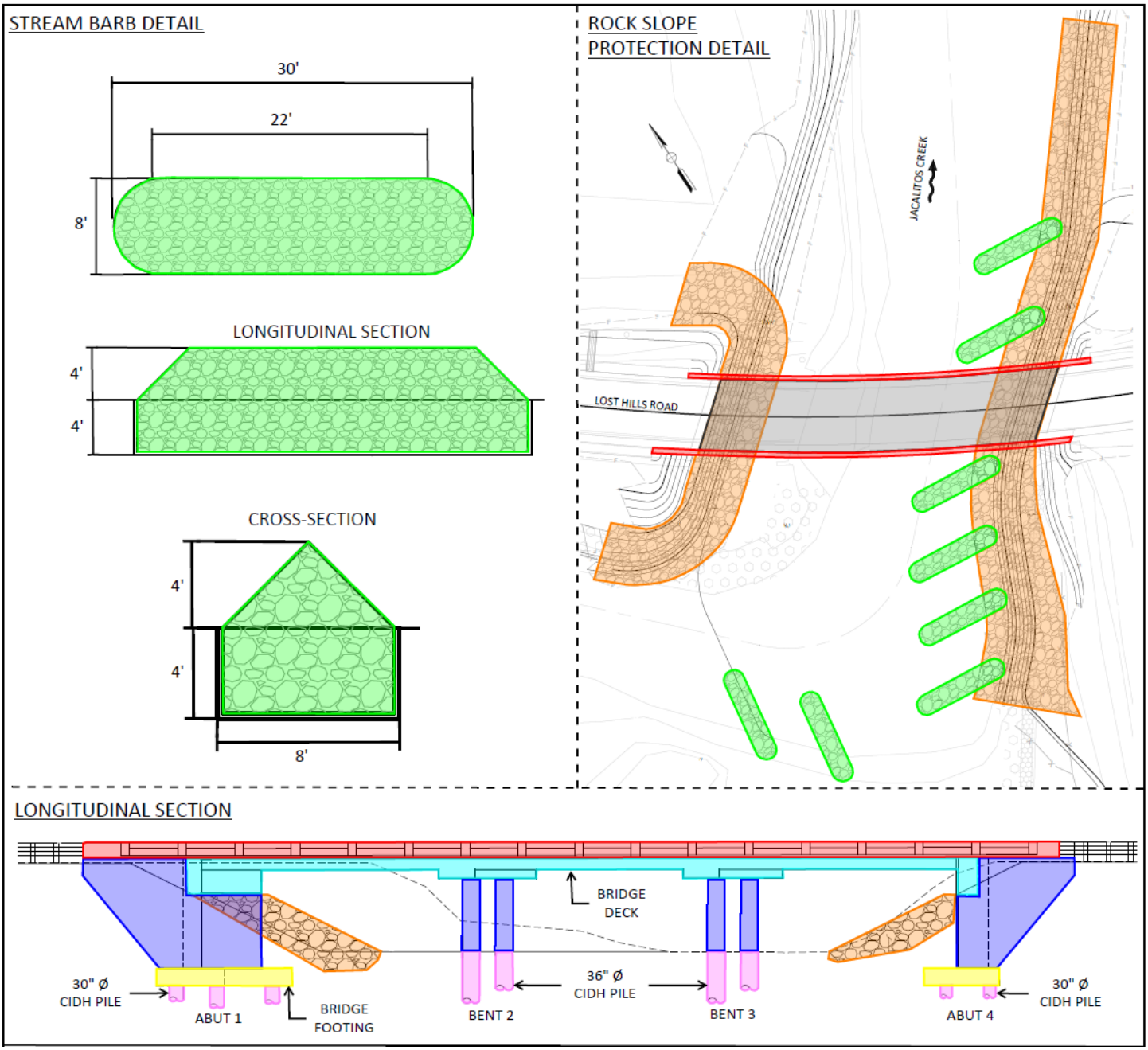
COUNTY OF FRESNO

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING

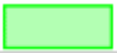
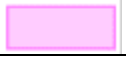
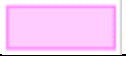
PROJECT ACTIVITIES MAP

DRAWING NO. | SHEET NO. | TOTAL

Updated Volume Quantities Map



COMPONENT	QUANTITY
Proposed Bridge	Length = 140 ft Width = 32 ft
Bridge Deck	Length = 132 ft 6 in Width = 32 ft
Rock Slope Protection – Western Side	Length = 130 LF Area = 3,690 sq ft Volume of Lower Layer = 293 cy Volume of Upper Layer = 699 cy
Rock Slope Protection – Eastern Side	Length = 273 LF Area = 6,830 sq ft Volume of Lower Layer = 543 cy Volume of Upper Layer = 1,297 cy

Stream Barbs (8) 	Total Length = 240 LF Total Area = 1,792 sq ft Total Cut = 265 cy
Abutment 1 and Bent 2, with 2 Wingwalls 	Total Cut = 444 cy Total Fill = 234 cy soil, 94 cy concrete
Abutment 4 and Bent 3, with 2 Wingwalls 	Total Cut = 362 cy Total Fill = 234 cy soil, 94 cy concrete
36” CIDH Concrete Piling (4) 	Depth = 69 ft Total Length = 276 LF
30” CIDH Concrete Piling (18) 	Depth = 45 ft – 47 ft Total Length = 815 LF
Bridge Footing – Western Side	51.5 cy concrete
Bridge Footing – Eastern Side	51.5 cy concrete
Concrete Barrier 	Total Length = 328 LF

State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
(559) 243-4593
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director

February 12, 2025

Steven White
Fresno County
2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor
Fresno, California 93721

Subject: Second Incomplete Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration
EPIMS Notification No. FRE-55505
Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project on Lost Hills Road
Jacalitos Creek – Fresno County

Dear Steven White:

On November 8, 2024, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received your Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration (Notification) through the Environmental Permitting Information Management System (EPIMS) and on November 13, 2024, your fee was received, starting CDFW review of the Notification. On December 13, 2024, CDFW determined that your Notification was incomplete. On January 16, 2025, CDFW received your response materials and on February 12, 2025, CDFW determined that your Notification is incomplete because the information checked below is either missing or insufficient. To complete your Notification, please review the EPIMS Permitting Portal instructions available in the EPIMS Help Menu to complete the necessary forms and resubmit your application.

- ☐ General Information
- ☐ Project Location and Category
- ☒ Project Description, Term, and Impacts
- ☐ Environmental Review
- ☐ Measures to Protect Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Resources
- ☐ Prior Notification, Orders, and Permits
- ☒ Documents and Maps
- ☐ Fee Schedule
- ☐ Acknowledgement and Signature

Project Description, Terms, and Impacts: Additional information is needed in the project description. The Notification states that debris, vegetation, organic material, concrete, or

other objectionable material will be properly disposed of; please clarify if the displaced soil from site preparation will be stockpiled, used elsewhere onsite, or removed offsite.

More information is needed regarding the diversion structure. Please provide the linear dimensions of the diversion structures. Please describe the imported borrow material, including the composition and source. Please provide any erosion control and stabilization measures that will be employed in the construction of the diversion structures.

Documents and Maps: Please provide a map (i.e., over an aerial photo) of project activities that includes the rock slope protection installation on the stream bank along Lost Hills Road, upstream from the bridge. Please also provide clarification of the upland area where water will be pumped and indicate the location on mapping.

Please note that you may not proceed with your project until your Notification is deemed complete, and you have obtained a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement, if required.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Jim Kitch, Environmental Scientist, at (559) 580-3198 or by email at James.Kitch@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Linda Connolly
BDDB84BB1205430...

Linda Connolly
Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor