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**From:** Ms.Marsha-V-L@Pacbell.Net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 7:38 PM  
**To:** ctp2040@DOT  
**Subject:** CTP2040 45-day Public Review Period Comments

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Marsha Lowry (Ms.Marsha-V-L@Pacbell.Net) on April 8th, 2015 at 07:38PM (PDT).

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comments: The Draft Plan states that Solutions must support community aesthetics, the natural and built environment, and sustainable living and further balance cultural and historic values when addressing impacts. While rural character, agricultural lands and the protection of natural habitats are mentioned specifically, these goals contradict obvious project direction in the 197/199 Del Norte, Richardson Grove and Willits Bypass projects

400 acres of agricultural lands are either lost to that use or damaged in the Bypass highway construction, with an additional 29 taken out of agricultural use for mitigation for loss of wetlands acres, with most of those acres farmed by small family farmers.

Many of the large number of archaeological sites and artifacts have come to light via discovery by bulldozer. Subsequently, local Tribal groups have been stonewalled in many attempts to have consultations with Caltrans. This treatment of the resources and Tribal people contradicts a stated goal to ensure preservation of culturally sensitive Native American resources.

Flying in the face of the goal to support the natural environment are their many Water Quality violations seriously impacting the natural habitat of Haehl Creek, which support Coho Salmon, in the Bypass Project. While that project is well underway, the natural environment threats inherent in the Richardson Grove and 197/199 projects include rare and threatened species and habitat, including old growth redwood forest, Coho salmon and other aquatic species, and potential habitat for species dependent upon ancient redwood forests like the marbled murrelet, red tree vole, and other species in recovering populations that could return to historic habitat areas, but not if those areas are destroyed or converted. In Willits, the loss of 80 acres of wetlands is an ecological travesty, considering that California has lost 95% of its wetlands already. The proposed mitigation plan is risky and unproven at best.

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