**Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement  
Writing Template (Rev. 8/23)**

**GUIDANCE:**

This writing template has been set up to assist with creating a document that is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Guidance for what content should be included can be found in the appropriate Environmental Document Annotated Outline (AO) located on the [SER Forms and Templates page](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/environmental-analysis/standard-environmental-reference-ser/forms-templates#aos). For assistive technology users, form fields have been used to alert you to where text needs to be inserted. Should you need further accessibility assistance, please contact [env.webmaster@dot.ca.gov](mailto:env.webmaster@dot.ca.gov).

Documents that will be converted to PDF and posted on the Caltrans internet must pass the PDF Accessibility Checker 3 (PAC 3). This template has been formatted to assist with final PAC 3 compliance. As you use this template, it is recommended to follow the instructions listed below to ensure the document remains accessible.

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  + When copying text from another source, use the “Keep Text Only” paste option.
  + Color alone should not be used to convey meaning.
  + Use paragraph spacing between paragraphs, not hard returns.
* Tables:
  + To add a title (caption), highlight table, right click, and choose “Insert Caption.” Add title to caption box, label as table and choose “Above selected item” for position. Click on “Numbering” for additional formatting—including the chapter number is recommended in the body of the document. In other sections of the document (i.e., summary, appendices, etc.), including the chapter number is not recommended as the chapter numbering is based on the main body headings. However, a new label (e.g., Appendix A Table -) can be created in the caption box. That label will then appear in the dropdown list and can be reused. Follow the same instructions for inserting a caption on additional tables (copying and pasting is not recommended). Once inserted, additional formatting can be applied to the caption. By using this feature, tables will auto number and will also appear in the lists of tables when the lists are updated.
  + Keep tables simple (i.e., no merged or split cells) to avoid reading order issues.
  + Add a table summary. Highlight table, right click, go to “Table Properties,” then click on the “Alt Text” tab. Enter a title and brief description. This will help avoid errors in PAC 3.
  + Define header rows. Highlight the header row, right click, go to “Table Properties,” and select the box for “Repeat as header row at the top of each page.” Also check the Table Design tab and make sure “Header Row” is checked in “Table Style Options.” This will bring up table styles with header row formatting that can be applied if desired.
  + If possible, keep tables on the same page, rather than splitting onto a second page, this will also help avoid a PAC 3 error.
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  + To insert an image, first insert a normal paragraph mark where the figure will be located. Then click on “Pictures” in the “Insert” tab. Choose “This Device,” then locate appropriate picture file. JPEGs are the recommend file type. Following this method will result in less errors than copying and pasting an image.
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  + Add alt text. Figures or other images (e.g., the Caltrans logo) that cannot be read by a screen reader need to contain alternative text or marked as decorative. Right click on the item and choose “Edit Alt Text” to add description or mark as decorative.
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Final Steps

* Update document title. Go to “File” in the Ribbon, click on “Info.” In the properties section, edit the title (i.e., remove the writing template title and enter project title).
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**COVER SHEET GUIDANCE:**

* Modify the text on this page as appropriate for the project.
* Insert project photo if desired, add alt text or mark as decorative.
* Do not alter MOU statement at bottom of page.

Insert Project Name

COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

DISTRICT DISTRICT NUMBER –COUNTY ABBREVIATION–ROUTE (PM POSTMILES)

EA/EFIS

**Enter Draft or Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement and** **enter Draft or Final Section 4(f) Evaluation [NOTE:** only include if there is an Individual or Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation**]**

[**GUIDANCE:** INSERT A PHOTO HERE]

**Prepared by the**

**State of California, Department of Transportation**

**and enter (Local Agency) if applicable**

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 May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

****

Insert date (month and year)

General Information about This Document

**GUIDANCE:** Use this page for **DRAFT** documents. Modify the text as needed for your document. See the AO for additional instructions.

**What’s in this document:**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has prepared this Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS), which examines the potential environmental impacts of the alternatives being considered for the proposed project located in enter project location. Caltrans is the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Enter Caltrans or name of Local Agency is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The document tells you why the project is being proposed, what alternatives have been considered for the project, how the existing environment could be affected by the project, the potential impacts of each of the alternatives, and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures.

**What you should do:**

* Please read this document.
* Additional copies of this document and the related technical studies are available for review at enter Caltrans district office or local agency office as appropriate, and/or public institution, such as a library, community center, school, etc., where the document can be viewed and provide addresses and operating hours for all locations. This document may be downloaded at the following website: enter web page address.
* **NOTE:** Include as applicable: Attend the public hearing. Enter date and location of hearing if known.
* We’d like to hear what you think. If you have any comments about the proposed project, please attend the enter type of meeting [**NOTE:** For State Highway System projects, see [Chapter 11, Article 7 of the PDPM](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/manual-project-development-procedures-manual-pdpm) for guidance. Local Assistance projects should refer to the [LAPM](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/guidelines-and-procedures/local-assistance-procedures-manual-lapm), Chapter 8, Public Hearings] and/or send your written comments via postal mail or email to enter Caltrans or (Local Agency) by the deadline.
* If applicable, we invite you to also comment on the summary identifying all submitted alternatives, information, and analyses submitted during the scoping process (see Section 2.6).
* Send comments via postal mail to:  
  Enter contact name and address
* Send comments via email to: Enter email.
* Be sure to send comments by the deadline: Enter due date.

**What happens next:**

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, Caltrans, as assigned by the FHWA, may: (1) give environmental approval to the proposed project, (2) do additional environmental studies, or (3) abandon the project. If the project is given environmental approval and funding is obtained, Caltrans enter "and/or" (Local Agency) if applicable could design and construct all or part of the project.

**Alternative Formats:**

**GUIDANCE:** Update the following to reflect what alternative formats will be made available and update contact information as needed. For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document can be made available in Braille, in large print, on audiocassette, or on computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please call or write to enter Caltrans or (Local Agency), Attn: Enter contact name and address; enter phone number (Voice), or use the California Relay Service 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY to Voice), 1 (800) 735-2922 (Voice to TTY), 1 (800) 855-3000 (Spanish TTY to Voice and Voice to TTY), 1-800-854-7784 (Spanish and English Speech-to-Speech) or 711.

General Information about This Document

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The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has prepared this Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the proposed project located in enter project location. Caltrans is the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Enter Caltrans or name of Local Agency is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The document tells you why the project is being proposed, what alternatives have been considered for the project, how the existing environment could be affected by the project, the potential impacts of each of the alternatives, and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures. The Draft EIR/EIS circulated to the public for enter number days between enter date and enter date. Comments received during this period are included in enter appropriate chapter or appendix. Changes to the document made since the draft document circulation are shown enter description of how changes are shown. Minor editorial changes and clarifications are not shown. Additional copies of this document and the related technical studies are available for review at enter Caltrans district office or local agency office as appropriate, and/or public institution, such as a library, community center, school, etc., where the document can be viewed and provide addresses and operating hours for all locations. This document may be downloaded at the following website: enter web page address.

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**TITLE SHEET GUIDANCE:**

* Modify the text on this page as appropriate for the project.
* Add an agency signature block only if the agency is involved as a joint lead agency under NEPA or lead agency under CEQA.
* If it is anticipated that a combined Final EIS/ROD will be used, include the following notice:
  + Following circulation for public review and consideration of comments received, Caltrans will issue a combined Final EIS/ROD document unless statutory criteria or practicability considerations preclude such issuance.
* Update for final document and add cost to prepare (see instructions on next page)

FHWA Highway ID No. enter # if applicable SCH# Enter SCH number

Enter district-county-route-postmiles

Enter EA/EFIS

Enter short descriptive phrase consistent with project alternative(s) such as “widen” or “improve” or “rehabilitate” and general description of project location

**Enter Draft or Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement and** **enter Draft or Final Section 4(f) Evaluation [NOTE:** only include if there is an Individual or Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation**]**

Submitted Pursuant to: (State) Division 13, California Public Resources Code

(Federal) 42 USC 4332(2)(C)

[**NOTE:** If there is an Individual or Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation, add: 49 USC 303, and/or 23 USC 138]

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Transportation

and

enter (Local Agency) if appropriate

Cooperating Agencies: enter cooperating agencies

Responsible Agencies: California Transportation Commission, List any other responsible agencies

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Enter name Date

District Director

California Department of Transportation

CEQA/NEPA Lead Agency

The following persons may be contacted for more information about this document:

Enter name, address, telephone, and email information for Caltrans and local agency contacts.

**GUIDANCE:** Include an abstract below. Provide a one- or two-sentence summary of the purpose and need and project description. List/discuss in a very brief fashion any substantial environmental effects expected. For a Draft EIR/EIS, provide due date for comments and where the comments should be sent (name and address). NOTE: For a Final EIR/EIS there is no comment period for CEQA and there is only a review period for NEPA.

**Abstract:** Begin typing here

**GUIDANCE:** For the Final EIS, include the total estimated cost to prepare both the Draft and Final EIS, including the costs of agency full-time equivalent personnel hours, contractor costs, and other direct costs. If practicable and noted where not practicable, include costs incurred by cooperating and participating agencies, applicants, and contractors.

**Cost to prepare the environmental impact statement:** Begin typing here

Summary

**GUIDANCE:** The summary is required for an EIR/EIS. The headers and table below may be edited/deleted as appropriate for the project.

Begin typing here

* 1. NEPA ASSIGNMENT

**GUIDANCE:** Insert boilerplate text from AO.

Begin typing here

* 1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Begin typing here

* + 1. Lead Agencies and NEPA/CEQA Documentation

**GUIDANCE:** Insert boilerplate text from AO.

Begin typing here

* + 1. Project Area

Begin typing here

* + 1. Purpose and Need

Begin typing here

* + 1. Proposed Action

Begin typing here

* 1. PROJECT IMPACTS

Begin typing here

**GUIDANCE:** A table can be used to summarize impacts. Edit resource topics appropriately.

Summary Table 1: Summary of Major Potential Impacts from Alternatives

| **Potential Impact** | **Alternative Enter alt name** | **Alternative Enter alt name** | **Alternative Enter alt name** | **No-Build Alternative** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs |  |  |  |  |
| Coastal Zone |  |  |  |  |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers |  |  |  |  |
| Parks and Recreational Facilities |  |  |  |  |
| Farmland and Timberland |  |  |  |  |
| Growth |  |  |  |  |
| Community Character and Cohesion |  |  |  |  |
| Relocations and Real Property Acquisition |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental Justice |  |  |  |  |
| Equity |  |  |  |  |
| Utilities and Emergency Services |  |  |  |  |
| Traffic and Transportation/ Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities |  |  |  |  |
| Visual/Aesthetics |  |  |  |  |
| Cultural Resources |  |  |  |  |
| Hydrology and Floodplain |  |  |  |  |
| Water Quality and Storm Water Runoff |  |  |  |  |
| Geology, Soils, Seismicity and Topography |  |  |  |  |
| Paleontology |  |  |  |  |
| Hazardous Waste and Materials |  |  |  |  |
| Air Quality |  |  |  |  |
| Noise and Vibration |  |  |  |  |
| Energy |  |  |  |  |
| Natural Communities |  |  |  |  |
| Wetlands and Other Waters |  |  |  |  |
| Plant Species |  |  |  |  |
| Animal Species |  |  |  |  |
| Threatened and Endangered Species |  |  |  |  |
| Invasive Species |  |  |  |  |
| Construction |  |  |  |  |
| Cumulative Impacts |  |  |  |  |
| Wildfire |  |  |  |  |
| Senate Bill 743/Induced Demand Analysis |  |  |  |  |
| Climate Change |  |  |  |  |

* 1. COORDINATION WITH PUBLIC AND OTHER AGENCIES

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To aid the public in locating maps, it is recommended to clearly show where mapping can be found, particularly for the preferred alternative (if it has been identified).

**No table of figures entries found.**

# Proposed Project

**GUIDANCE:** Edit the headers below as appropriate for the project. Delete unused headers.

## INTRODUCTION

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## PURPOSE AND NEED

Begin typing here

### Purpose

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### Need

Begin typing here

### Independent Utility and Logical Termini

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# Project Alternatives

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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## PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

**GUIDANCE:** Edit alternative names as appropriate. To add additional alternatives, type in the header (alternative) name, highlight header, and choose “Heading 3” located under “Styles" in the “Home” tab of the Ribbon.

Begin typing here

### No-Build (No-Action) Alternative

Begin typing here

### Alternative 1

Begin typing here

### Alternative 2

Begin typing here

### Common Design Features of the Build Alternatives

**GUIDANCE:** This section is optional, delete if not used.

Begin typing here

### Unique Features of Build Alternatives

**GUIDANCE:** This section is optional, delete if not used.

Begin typing here

### Transportation System Management (TSM) and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Alternatives

**GUIDANCE:** Include only if applicable.

Begin typing here

### Reversible Lanes

**GUIDANCE:** Include only if applicable.

Begin typing here

### Access to Navigable Rivers

**GUIDANCE:** Include only if applicable.

Begin typing here

## COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES

Begin typing here

## IDENTIFICATION OF A PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

**GUIDANCE:** This would be in the final document.

Begin typing here

## ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER DISCUSSION

**GUIDANCE:** For final document, change section title to: ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER DISCUSSION PRIOR TO DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.

### Alternative 1

Begin typing here

### Alternative 2

Begin typing here

* 1. **SUBMITTED ALTERNATIVES, INFORMATION, AND ANALYSES**

**GUIDANCE:** For the Draft EIS, include a summary that identifies all alternatives, information, and analyses submitted by State, Tribal, and local governments and other public commenters during the scoping process for consideration by the lead and cooperating agencies in developing the environmental impact statement.

For the Final EIS, include a summary that identifies all alternatives, information, and analyses submitted by State, Tribal, and local governments and other public commenters for consideration by the lead and cooperating agencies in developing the Final EIS.

Begin typing here

## PERMITS AND APPROVALS NEEDED

The following permits, licenses, agreements, and certifications (PLACs) are required for project construction:

Table 2‑1: Permits and Approvals

| **Agency** | **PLAC** | **Status** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |

# Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences, and Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

## TOPICS CONSIDERED BUT DETERMINED NOT TO BE RELEVANT

As part of the scoping and environmental analysis carried out for the project, the following environmental issues were considered but no adverse impacts were identified. As a result, there is no further discussion about these issues in this document.

**GUIDANCE:** To add additional resource topics, type in the header name, highlight header, and choose “Heading 3” located under “Styles" in the “Home” tab of the Ribbon. **Please refer to the AO for guidance and any required boilerplate language, particularly for Environmental Justice, NOAA species list, and Section 4(f)**.

### Resource Topic 1

Begin typing here

### Resource Topic 2

Begin typing here

**GUIDANCE:** The information above may also be presented in a table format as shown below.

Table 3‑1: Resource Topics Dismissed from Analysis

| **Resource** | **Rationale for Dismissal** |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

**GUIDANCE:** Remove headings and sub-headers as needed for your project.

### Existing and Future Land Use

**GUIDANCE:** This section should be used as an introduction for the context and environmental setting for the project and can be cross referenced in the sections below as appropriate.

Begin typing here

### Consistency with State, Regional, and Local Plans and Programs

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Coastal Zone

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Wild and Scenic Rivers

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Parks and Recreational Facilities

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Farmlands

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Timberlands

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Growth

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Community Character and Cohesion

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Relocations and Real Property Acquisition

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Environmental Justice

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Equity

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Utilities/Emergency Services

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Traffic and Transportation/Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Visual/Aesthetics

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Cultural Resources

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

### Hydrology and Floodplain

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

**Only Practicable Alternative Finding**

**GUIDANCE:** This section is required in the final document only when there is a significant encroachment into the base or 100-year floodplain.

Begin typing here

### Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Geology/Soils/Seismic/Topography

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Paleontology

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Hazardous Waste/Materials

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Air Quality

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

**Climate Change**

Neither the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) nor the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has issued explicit guidance or methods to conduct project-level greenhouse gas analysis. FHWA emphasizes concepts of resilience and sustainability in highway planning, project development, design, operations, and maintenance. Because there have been requirements set forth in California legislation and executive orders on climate change, the issue is addressed in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) chapter of this document. The CEQA analysis may be used to inform the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) determination for the project.

### Noise enter and Vibration if applicable

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Abatement Measures**

Begin typing here

### Energy

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

## BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

### Natural Communities

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Wetlands and Other Waters

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

**Wetlands Only Practicable Alternative Finding**

**GUIDANCE:** For the final document, include this subheading if the preferred alternative will permanently impact wetlands.

Begin typing here

### Plant Species

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Animal Species

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Threatened and Endangered Species

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

### Invasive Species

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Begin typing here

## IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES THAT WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Begin typing here

## CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

**GUIDANCE:** This is an optional placement for construction impacts. If construction impacts have not been discussed above and/or the project is likely to have many construction impacts, consider adding a separate Construction Impacts section.

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

## CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

**GUIDANCE:** This is an optional placement for cumulative impacts. If cumulative impacts have not been discussed under each resource section above, discuss them here.

**Regulatory Setting**

Begin typing here

**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

# California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Evaluation

## DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE UNDER CEQA

Enter appropriate boilerplate language from AO here

## SIGNIFICANT IRREVERSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

Begin typing here

## CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Enter boilerplate language from AO here

**GUIDANCE:** In the following checklist tables, click on “Choose an item” under the CEQA Determination column to select the appropriate significance determination from the drop-down list. If discussions will be included after each resource table, follow the guidance provided in the AO.

### Aesthetics

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

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? | Choose an item. |
| b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? | Choose an item. |
| 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 a 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? | Choose an item. |
| d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Aesthetics**

Begin typing here

### Agriculture 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 Department 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 the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? | Choose an item. |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? | Choose an item. |
| c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))? | Choose an item. |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Agriculture and Forestry Resources**

Begin typing here

### 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:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? | Choose an item. |
| d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Air Quality**

Begin typing here

### Biological Resources

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| 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, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or NOAA Fisheries? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Biological Resources**

Begin typing here

### Cultural Resources

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to in §15064.5? | Choose an item. |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? | Choose an item. |
| c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Cultural Resources**

Begin typing here

### Energy

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation? | Choose an item. |
| b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Energy**

Begin typing here

### Geology and Soils

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:  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? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42. | Choose an item. |
| ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? | Choose an item. |
| iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? | Choose an item. |
| iv) Landslides? | Choose an item. |
| b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Geology and Soils**

Begin typing here

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? | Choose an item. |
| b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? | Choose an item. |

**GUIDANCE:** Ensure that the discussion below is consistent with the CEQA significance discussion in section 4.6.3.3.

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Begin typing here

### Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two nautical 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? | Choose an item. |
| f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | Choose an item. |
| g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

Begin typing here

### Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality? | Choose an item. |
| b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin? | Choose an item. |
| 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:  (i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site; | Choose an item. |
| (ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite; | Choose an item. |
| (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 | Choose an item. |
| (iv) impede or redirect flood flows? | Choose an item. |
| d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation? | Choose an item. |
| e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Hydrology and Water Quality**

Begin typing here

### Land Use and Planning

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Physically divide an established community? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Land Use and Planning**

Begin typing here

### Mineral Resources

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be a value to the region and the residents of the state? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Mineral Resources**

Begin typing here

### Noise

Would the project result in:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? | Choose an item. |
| 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 nautical 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? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Noise**

Begin typing here

### Population and Housing

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| 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)? | Choose an item. |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Population and Housing**

Begin typing here

### Public Services

Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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 following public services:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Fire protection? | Choose an item. |
| b) Police protection? | Choose an item. |
| c) Schools? | Choose an item. |
| d) Parks? | Choose an item. |
| e) Other public facilities? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Public Services**

Begin typing here

### Recreation

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Would the project 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? | Choose an item. |
| b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Recreation**

Begin typing here

### Transportation

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities? | Choose an item. |
| b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)? | Choose an item. |
| c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? | Choose an item. |
| d) Result in inadequate emergency access? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Transportation**

Begin typing here

### Tribal Cultural Resources

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:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) 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 | Choose an item. |
| b) 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. | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Tribal Cultural Resources**

Begin typing here

### Utilities and Service Systems

Would the project:

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects? | Choose an item. |
| b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Utilities and Service Systems**

Begin typing here

### Wildfire

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

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |
| 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? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Wildfire**

Begin typing here

### Mandatory Findings of Significance

| **Question** | **CEQA Determination** |
| --- | --- |
| a) Does the project 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? | Choose an item. |
| b) Does the project 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)? | Choose an item. |
| c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | Choose an item. |

**CEQA Significance Determinations for Mandatory Findings of Significance**

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## SENATE BILL 743/INDUCED DEMAND ANALYSIS

**Regulatory Setting**

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**Affected Environment**

Begin typing here

**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

## WILDFIRE

**Regulatory Setting**

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**Affected Environment**

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**Environmental Consequences**

Begin typing here

**Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

Begin typing here

## CLIMATE CHANGE

**GUIDANCE:** This section is required for all CEQA documents. Please use the latest information in the appropriate Climate Change Annotated Outline (capacity increasing or non-capacity increasing) located on the [SER Forms and Templates page](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/environmental-analysis/standard-environmental-reference-ser/forms-templates#aos).

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### Regulatory Setting

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#### Federal

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#### State

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### Environmental Setting

Begin typing here

#### GHG Inventories

Begin typing here

##### National GHG Inventory

Begin typing here

##### State GHG Inventory

Begin typing here

#### Regional Plans

Begin typing here

### Project Analysis

Begin typing here

#### Operational Emissions

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##### Quantitative Analysis [NOTE: Remove this heading for non-capacity increasing projects]

Begin typing here

#### Construction Emissions

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#### CEQA Conclusion

Begin typing here

### Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategies

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#### Statewide Efforts

Begin typing here

#### Caltrans Activities

Begin typing here

##### Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure

Begin typing here

##### California Transportation Plan

Begin typing here

##### Caltrans Strategic Plan

Begin typing here

##### Caltrans Policy Directives and Other Initiatives

Begin typing here

#### Project-Level GHG Reduction Strategies

Begin typing here

### Adaptation

Begin typing here

#### Federal Efforts

Begin typing here

#### State Efforts

Begin typing here

#### Caltrans Adaptation Efforts

Begin typing here

##### Caltrans Vulnerability Assessments

Begin typing here

#### Project Adaptation Analysis

Begin typing here

##### Sea Level Rise

Begin typing here

##### Precipitation and Flooding

Begin typing here

##### Wildfire

Begin typing here

##### Temperature

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### References

Begin typing here

# Comments and Coordination

**GUIDANCE:** For the Draft EIS, include all comments (or summaries thereof where the response has been exceptionally voluminous) received during the scoping process including those that identified alternatives, information, and analyses for the agency's consideration. See the AO for additional guidance on content requirements for this chapter.

Begin typing here

# List of Preparers

Begin typing here

# Distribution List

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1. Section 4(f)

**GUIDANCE:** Only use the sections below which apply to your project.

INDIVIDUAL SECTION 4(F) EVALUATION

Begin typing here

Introduction

Begin typing here

Description of the Proposed Project

Begin typing here

Section 4(f) Properties

Begin typing here

Use of the Section 4(f) Property

Begin typing here

Avoidance Alternatives

Begin typing here

Measures to Minimize Harm to the Section 4(f) Property

Begin typing here

Least Harm Analysis and Concluding Statement

**NOTE:** This section is included in the final document.

Begin typing here

Coordination

Begin typing here

PROGRAMMATIC SECTION 4(F) DETERMINATION(S)

Begin typing here

SECTION 4(F) DE MINIMIS DETERMINATION(S)

Begin typing here

RESOURCES EVALUATED RELATIVE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 4(F): NO-USE DETERMINATION(S)

Begin typing here

SECTION 6(F)

Begin typing here

1. Title VI/Non-Discrimination Policy Statement

**GUIDANCE:** Insert the most recent Title VI/Non-Discrimination Policy Statement here. The most recent version can be found on the [Caltrans Civil Rights Title VI page](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/civil-rights/title-vi).

Insert policy here

1. Summary of Relocation Benefits

**GUIDANCE:** Include this appendix if the proposed project involves any relocations.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Begin typing here

1. Avoidance, Minimization and/or Mitigation Summary

Begin typing here

1. Notice of Preparation and Notice of Intent

**GUIDANCE:** Include a copy of the Notice of Preparation and the Notice of Intent here if these were not included in the Comments and Coordination chapter.

Begin typing here

1. Required Consultation/ Concurrence Documentation

**GUIDANCE:** This appendix is for the final document only.

Begin typing here

1. Comment Letters and Responses

**GUIDANCE:** This appendix is for the final document and should be used if comment letters and response are not included in the Comments and Coordination Chapter.

Begin typing here

1. Final Determination of Engineering and Operational Acceptability

**GUIDANCE:** Include this appendix in the final document if applicable (i.e., the project includes Federal Highway approval of access modification). For additional information, see the “Updates on FHWA’s ‘Policy on Access to the Interstate System’” letter located on the [SER Policy Memo page](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/environmental-analysis/standard-environmental-reference-ser/policy-memos#LinkTarget_545).

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1. List of Technical Studies

The following studies and/or technical analyses have been prepared and are incorporated by reference into this EIR/EIS and can be located at:

Enter location where technical studies may be accessed.

**GUIDANCE:** Include the following information with the cultural study reference:

Please note, many state and federal laws limit the disclosure of sensitive cultural and tribal resource information to the public. Additional information regarding confidentiality of these resources can be found in the [Standard Environmental Reference Volume 2](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/environmental-analysis/standard-environmental-reference-ser/volume-2-cultural-resources) in Section 3.4.13 and Section 5.3.6.

1. Glossary of Technical Terms

**GUIDANCE:** This appendix is optional.

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1. List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

**GUIDANCE:** This appendix is optional.

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