

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
County of Placer

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: June 8, 2010

FROM: KEN GREHM / MATT RANDALL *KG* *MR*

SUBJECT: **BREWER ROAD OVER MARKHAM RAVINE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT –
INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2010022010**

ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) with the required findings and the mitigation and monitoring plan for the Brewer Road over Markham Ravine Bridge Replacement project.

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY

The Department of Public Works is proposing to replace the existing bridge on Brewer Road at Markham Ravine under the Federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP). The project will replace the existing structurally deficient bridge which is deteriorating and does not meet current design standards. The replacement structure and improved approaches will bring this bridge into compliance with current structural, geometric and hydraulic guidelines, while limiting excessive roadway fill.

DPW staff has solicited public input for this project by contacting property owners directly adjacent to the project site and by providing updates to the Rural Lincoln and Sheridan Municipal Advisory Councils. By implementing an economical and context sensitive design philosophy, an acceptable design was developed. The proposed bridge will preserve the rural atmosphere and provide safe access for residents, emergency vehicles, trucks, and other users, while still providing a bridge and approaches designed to current standards. Construction is tentatively planned for the summer of 2012.

ENVIRONMENTAL

NEPA clearance is being obtained through Caltrans and is anticipated to be received in the next few months. An Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was prepared for this project by Sycamore Environmental Consultants, Inc. in February 2010, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). One comment was received from the California Department of Fish & Game by telephone during the public review period. The comment was appropriately addressed in writing after the public review comment period had ended on March 4, 2010. Upon approval of the MND, the Notice of Determination will be processed.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$1,568,000. The project is funded through the Federal Highway Bridge Program (88.53%) and the County Road Fund (11.47%). Funding for construction of the project will be included in the 2012/2013 Fiscal Year Budget.

Attachment: Resolution
Location Map
Mitigation and Monitoring Plan

A copy of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study is on file with the Clerk of the Board

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
(SCH#2010022010) FOR THE BREWER ROAD
OVER MARKHAM RAVINE BRIDGE
REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

Resol. No:.....

Ord. No:.....

First Reading:.....

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____,
by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Attest:
Clerk of said Board

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

WHEREAS, the existing bridge on Brewer Road over Markham Ravine has been determined to be structurally deficient, and

WHEREAS, a preliminary design for the project has been prepared by Placer County, and

WHEREAS, the design of the bridge replacement is consistent with the California Department of Transportation and Placer County Standards; and

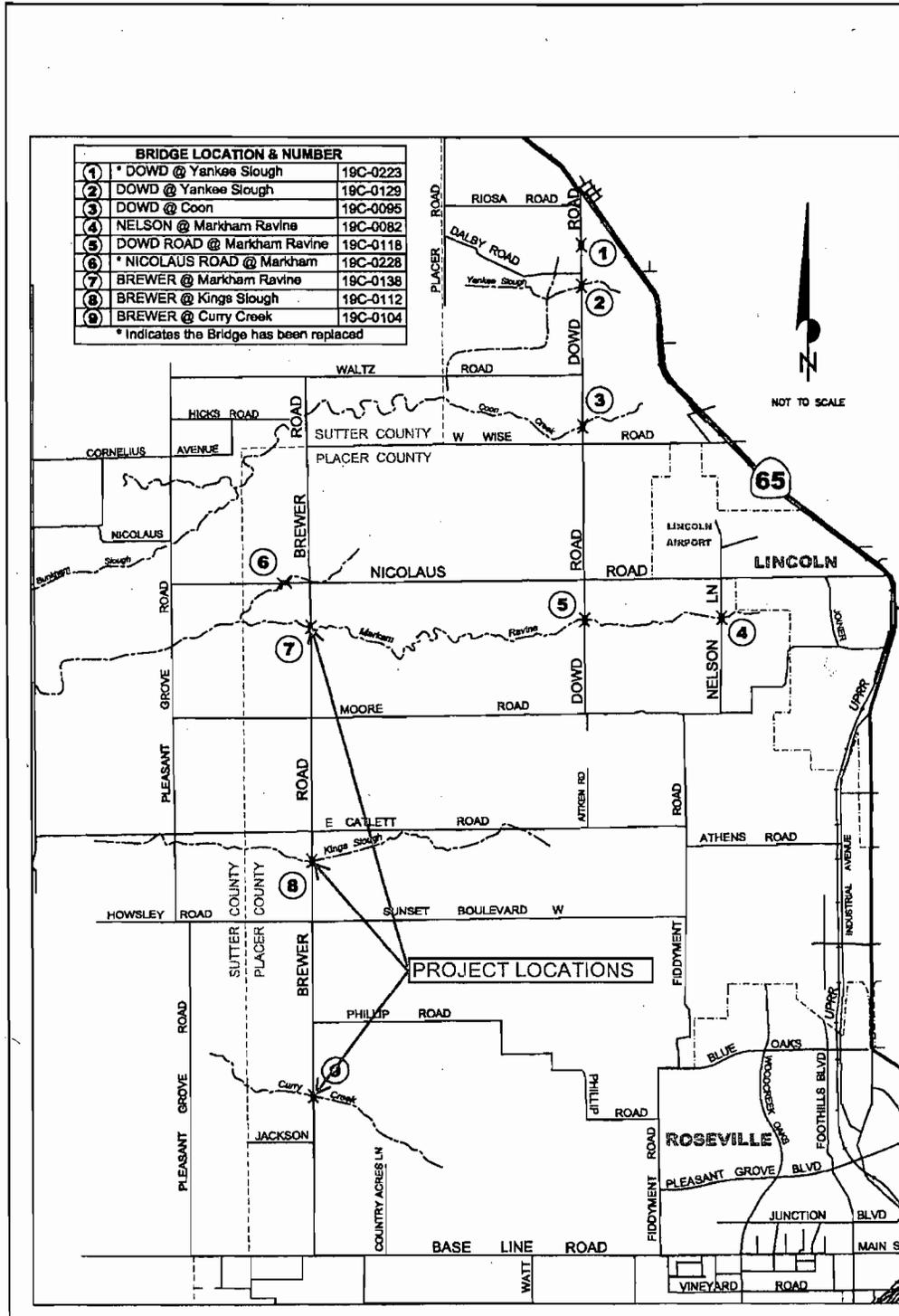
WHEREAS, the County of Placer has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration, circulated it as required by law and included all necessary measures to mitigate any significant impacts of the project.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, State of California, that this Board Approves a Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH#2010022010) for the Brewer Road over Markham Ravine Bridge Replacement Project and make the following findings:

1. The mitigated negative declaration has been prepared as required by law.
2. There is no substantial evidence in the record as a whole that the Project as revised and mitigated may have a significant effect on the environment.
3. The mitigated negative declaration as adopted for the Project reflects the independent judgment and analysis of Placer County, which has exercised overall control and direction of its preparation.
4. The mitigation plan / mitigation monitoring program prepared for the project is approved and adopted.
5. The custodian of records for the Project is the Placer County Planning Director, 3091 County Center Drive, Auburn, CA 95603.

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS ON BREWER ROAD AT MARKHAM RAVINE, KING SLOUGH, AND A BRANCH OF CURRY CREEK

LOCATION MAP



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Brewer Road Bridge at Markham Ravine IS - Mitigation and Monitoring Plan

MONITORING ITEM NUMBER	Initial Study Mitigation Measure	MITIGATION MEASURE	TIMING	IMPLEMENTING PARTY	MONITORING PARTY	FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF MONITORING	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1	4.1.1	Prior to construction, a preconstruction survey for NWPT will be conducted immediately prior to initial construction activities.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	Placer County Department of Public Works (DPW)	Once prior to construction	Qualified biologist
2	4.1.2	A qualified biologist will be present during clearing and grubbing activities along Markham Ravine to ensure that no NWPT are present. If an NWPT is observed in the active construction zone, construction will cease until the biologist has either removed the NWPT from the construction zone, or, after thorough inspection, determined that the NWPT has moved away from the construction zone.	DURING CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Daily during clearing and grubbing along Markham Ravine	Qualified biologist
3	4.1.3	The construction contractor will receive an environmental awareness training packet to assist with identification of NWPT.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Once prior to construction	Receipt of environmental awareness packet
4	4.1.4	If, at other times during construction, construction personnel observe that an NWPT is trapped in, or has retreated to, the active construction zone, construction will cease and a qualified biologist will be notified. Construction will resume when the biologist has either removed the NWPT from the construction zone, or, after thorough inspection, determined that the NWPT has moved away from the construction zone.	DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR/ QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Variable	Qualified biologist
5	4.1.5	ESAs will be established along the boundaries of the project area in the vicinity of Markham Ravine to exclude construction activities from the aquatic habitat that is not to be affected. Temporary exclusionary fencing will be installed to define the limits of the ESA. Signs will be placed on the exclusionary fencing that state "Environmentally Sensitive Area."	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION/ DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Install once prior to construction; maintain continuously during construction	Successful establishment of ESA boundaries
6	4.1.6	Placer County will implement best management practices (BMPs) to prevent impacts to water quality in Markham Ravine. See Monitoring Item Number 25 below.	DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Continuously during construction	Comply with BMPs specified in the SWPPP
7	4.2.1	To the maximum extent possible, movement of heavy equipment will be confined to existing roadways to minimize habitat disturbance.	DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Continuously during construction	Comply with Federal Endangered Species Act
8	4.2.2	Clearing will be confined to the minimal area necessary to facilitate construction activities. Avoided GGS habitat within or adjacent to the project area will be flagged as Environmentally Sensitive Areas. These areas will be avoided by all construction personnel.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION/ DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Flag habitat prior to construction; avoid ESAs continuously during construction	Comply with Federal Endangered Species Act
9	4.2.3	Construction personnel will receive USFWS-approved worker environmental awareness training. This training instructs workers to recognize GGS and their habitat.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Once prior to construction	Comply with Federal Endangered Species Act
10	4.2.4	Twenty-four hours prior to construction activities, the project area will be surveyed for giant garter snakes. Survey of the project area will be repeated if a lapse in construction activity of two weeks or greater has occurred. If a snake is encountered during construction, activities shall cease until appropriate corrective measures have been completed or it has been determined that the snake will not be harmed. Any sightings and any incidental take will be reported to USFWS immediately by telephone at (916) 414-6600.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION/ DURING CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW/ USFWS	Once prior to construction and variably during construction, as needed	Comply with Federal Endangered Species Act
11	4.2.5	Any dewatered habitat will remain dry for at least 24 hours after April 15 and prior to excavating or filling of the dewatered habitat.	DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Continuously during construction	Comply with Federal Endangered Species Act
12	4.2.6	After completion of construction activities, any temporary fill and construction debris will be removed and, wherever feasible, disturbed areas will be restored to pre-project conditions. Restoration work may include such activities as replanting species removed from banks or replanting emergent vegetation in the active channel.	FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	As needed following construction	Comply with Federal Endangered Species Act
13	4.2.7	The project will result in 1,250 ac of temporary impacts to aquatic (0,368 ac) and upland (0,882 ac) GGS habitat. Temporarily affected areas will be restored to their preproject conditions following completion of construction. Upland areas will be revegetated in accordance with the Revegetation and Erosion Control Guidelines outlined in Appendix F of the Natural Environment Study. Restored habitat will be monitored for a period of one year following implementation. A monitoring report will be submitted to the USFWS one year after completion of the restoration implementation.	FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR/ DPW	DPW/ USFWS	Once, one year following revegetation	Revegetation of GGS habitat following construction; report issued to USFWS when habitat restoration is complete; progress report issued to USFWS submitted one year from restoration implementation
14	4.2.8	The project will result in 0.195 ac of permanent impacts to aquatic (0.010 ac) and upland (0.185 ac) GGS habitat. These acreages include the impact reductions that will occur in the project area due to upland habitat creation. The Programmatic Biological Opinion between FHWA and USFWS for Effects of Small Highway Projects on GGS (the Programmatic; USFWS 2005) was used as a guide to the mitigation strategy for GGS. Although the Programmatic does not cover projects in Placer County, its mitigation strategy is relevant to this project. To compensate for permanent impacts to GGS habitat, the County will either provide 0.585 ac (3:1 mitigation ratio) of permanently protected GGS habitat or purchase USFWS-approved GGS mitigation credits or the deposit of in-lieu fees into the Giant Garter Snake Conservation Fund as approved by the USFWS. If the replacement habitat option is chosen, the replacement habitat will conform to the following guidelines: Replacement habitat will include both aquatic and upland habitat components, with 1/3 perennial wetlands and 1/3 uplands. The remainder may be a combination of perennial and seasonal wetlands and uplands. A monitoring report will be submitted to USFWS one year after completion of on-site restoration and revegetation. At the end of the monitoring period, the permanent impacts to GGS habitat will be successfully mitigated if the replacement habitat meets the standard success criteria defined in the Programmatic. If the County wishes to mitigate for permanent impacts by securing existing GGS habitat by fee title or conservation easement, preservation of secured habitat may be credited against, but may not exceed, 50 percent of the aquatic habitat replacement.	FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR/ DPW	DPW/ USFWS	If the habitat creation option is chosen, yearly monitoring after years one, two, and five following habitat creation	Comply with the mitigation success criteria in the Programmatic Biological Opinion for GGS (USFWS 2005)
15	4.3.1	The contractor can visit the site weekly and remove partially completed nests using either hand tools or high pressure water; or	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION/ DURING CONSTRUCTION	DPW	DPW	Weekly during swallow nesting season	Prevent establishment of swallow nests on the existing bridge structure
16	4.3.2	Hang netting from the bridge before nesting begins. If this technique is used, netting should be in place from late February until bridge demolition occurs.	CONSTRUCTION/ DURING CONSTRUCTION	DPW	DPW	Once prior to construction	Prevent establishment of swallow nests on the existing bridge structure
17	4.4.1	A qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey for active nests at the construction site and within 250 ft of the construction site from publicly accessible areas within 4 weeks prior to construction. If no active nest of a bird of prey or MBTA bird is found, then no further mitigation measures are necessary. If an active Swainson's hawk nest is found within 0.25 mile of the bridge, DFG will be contacted to verify the establishment of the buffers discussed below.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Once prior to construction	Qualified biologist
18	4.4.2	If an active nest of a bird of prey or MBTA bird is found, then the biologist shall flag a minimum 250-ft Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) around the nest if the nest is of a bird of prey, and a minimum 50-ft ESA around the nest if the nest is of an MBTA bird other than a bird of prey.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Once prior to construction	Qualified biologist
19	4.4.3	No construction activity shall be allowed in the buffer until the biologist determines that the nest is no longer active, or unless monitoring determines that a smaller buffer will protect the active nest.	DURING CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Continuously during construction	Qualified biologist

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Brewer Road Bridge at Markham Ravine IS - Mitigation and Monitoring Plan

MONITORING ITEM NUMBER	Initial Study Mitigation Measure	MITIGATION MEASURE	TIMING	IMPLEMENTING PARTY	MONITORING PARTY	FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF MONITORING	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
20	4.4.4	The buffer may be reduced if the biologist monitors the construction activities and determines that no disturbance to the active nest is occurring. The size of suitable buffers depends on the species of bird, the location of the nest relative to the project, project activities during the time the nest is active, and other project-specific conditions.	DURING CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Variable	Qualified biologist
21	4.5.1	A botanical inventory of the project area will be conducted prior to initial construction activities during the evident and identifiable period of special-status plant species that could occur in the study area. The botanical inventory will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines set forth by USFWS (1996b), DFG (2000), and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS 2008).	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Once prior to construction	Qualified biologist
22	4.5.2	If no sensitive plant species are detected during the botanical inventory, no further avoidance and minimization efforts will be required.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
23	4.5.3	If sensitive plant species are detected during the botanical inventory survey, the plants will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable during construction of the proposed project. Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) will be established around sensitive plant occurrences within the project area to exclude construction activities. Temporary exclusionary fencing will be installed to define the limits of the ESA.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION/ DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR/ QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW	Fence plants prior to construction; avoid ESAs continuously during construction	Successful establishment of ESA boundaries
24	4.5.4	If avoidance is not feasible, the plants will be transplanted to a suitable location in the project area. The County will coordinate transplantation activities with the appropriate regulatory and resource agencies.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION	QUALIFIED BIOLOGIST	DPW/DFG	Once prior to construction	Successful replanting of special-status plants
25	4.6.1	During construction, water quality will be protected by implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to minimize the potential for siltation and downstream sedimentation of Markham Ravine. Minimization efforts will include marking the limits of construction with temporary fencing. Water diversion in Markham Ravine will be conducted in accordance with the County of Placer Stormwater Management Plan and the Placer County grading and erosion prevention ordinance.	DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Continuously during construction	Comply with BMPs specified in the SWPPP, Placer County Stormwater Management Plan, and Placer County grading and erosion prevention ordinance
26	4.6.2	Areas temporarily disturbed on the banks of Markham Ravine will be revegetated and reseeded with native grasses and other native herbaceous annual and perennial species in accordance with the Revegetation Planting and Erosion Control Specifications for the project (Appendix F of the Natural Environment Study). Reseeded areas will be covered with a biodegradable erosion control fabric to prevent erosion and downstream sedimentation. The project engineer will determine the specifications needed for erosion control fabric (e.g., shear strength) based on anticipated maximum flow velocities and soil types. The seed type will consist of commercially available native grass and herbaceous species as described in the Revegetation Specifications. No seed of nonnative species will be used unless certified to be sterile.	FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Once following construction	Comply with Revegetation and Erosion Control Specifications
27	4.7.1	Temporary fencing will be installed across the emergent wetland between the construction limits and the eastern portion of the wetland. Signs will be posted on the fencing notifying the construction crew that the area beyond is an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) and that under no circumstances shall personnel or equipment pass beyond the fencing. The temporary fencing will be in place prior to commencement of construction.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION/ DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Place fencing once prior to construction; maintain fencing continuously during construction	Successful establishment of ESA boundaries
28	4.7.2	Water-permeable erosion control measures will be installed along the entire temporary fence line to ensure that sediment does not enter the undisturbed portion of the emergent wetland. The erosion control measures will be in place prior to commencement of construction.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION/ DURING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Place erosion measures once prior to construction; maintain continuously during construction	Successful installation of erosion control measures
29	4.7.3	Areas temporarily disturbed within the emergent wetland will be revegetated and reseeded with native wetland species. The seed type will consist of commercially available native species that have habitat requirements compatible with the emergent wetland community. Representative species that may be used include cattail (<i>Typha</i> sp.), tule (<i>Scirpus acutus</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>), and umbrella sedge (<i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>). The exact species mix will be determined by the commercial availability of seeds. No seed of nonnative species will be used unless certified to be sterile.	FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Once following construction	Comply with Revegetation and Erosion Control Specifications
30	4.8.1	Placer County Code requires a tree permit for removal of native riparian trees. The applicant will obtain a tree permit prior to removal of the willow tree. The tree permit may require either the planting of replacement willows on-site or payment of an in lieu fee to a County tree preservation fund. All permit conditions will be followed.	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	DPW	Once prior to construction	Comply with Placer County Code

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