

## **APPENDIX C**

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AB 52 Consultations and Cultural Resource Report

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AB 52 Consultations



**M E M O R A N D U M**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE AGENCY**  
**Environmental Coordination Services**  
County of Placer

**TO:** Distribution List

**DATE:** March 13, 2018

**FROM:** Shirlee Herrington, Community Development Technician, 530-745-3132

**SUBJECT:** Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Network Expansion Project

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The Placer County Department of Public Works, Parks Division, is the Lead Agency for the Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion Project (Proposed Project). This notification is being forwarded to Native American tribes that are understood to be traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area pursuant to the statutory requirements of Assembly Bill 52 (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014). The County is in the process of determining the appropriate scope and content of the environmental analysis to be prepared for the Proposed Project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project proponent property owners/easement holders are Placer County and the Placer Land Trust, with the Twilight Ride parcels currently privately owned. The Proposed Project includes a Conditional Use Permit Modification for an expanded trail system and three new public parking areas (Garden Bar, Bell Road/Twilight Ride and Curtola Ranch Road areas), as well as a minor expansion of the existing parking area on Mears Place, all of which will serve the Proposed Project.

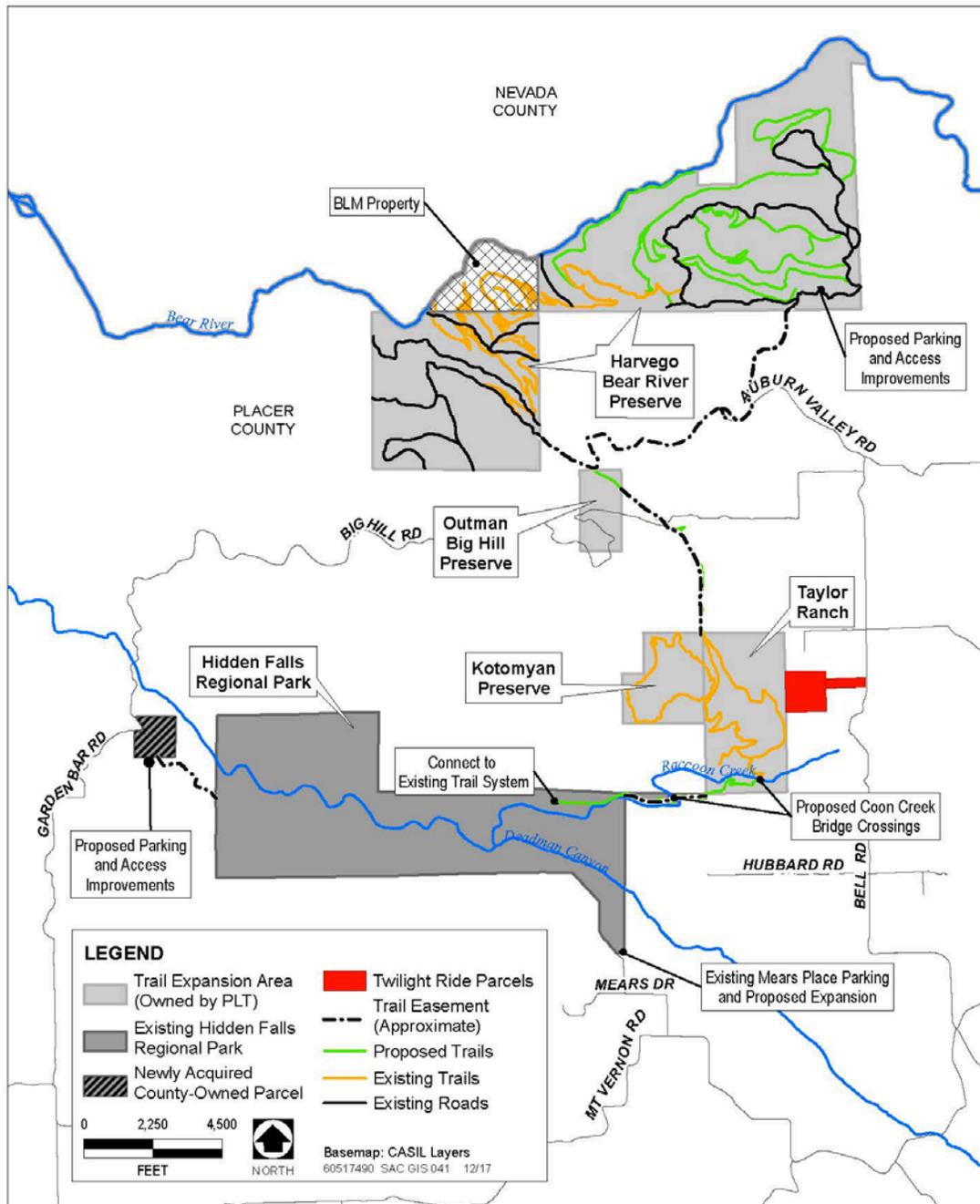
The three public parking areas for the Proposed Project are located off of Garden Bar Road, Bell Road and Curtola Ranch Road in Placer County, and the Assessor's Parcel Numbers for the parking areas consist of (APN) 026-072-084-000; 026-110-012-000 and 026-110-018-000; 026-020-012 and 026-020-013-000, respectively. The location of the properties and the corresponding trail network system are shown on **Figure 1**.

Pursuant to Public Resources Code 21030.3.1, requests for consultation must be received within 30 days of this notification. If you have comments or would like to consult on the project, please contact:

Environmental Coordination Services  
ATTN: Shirlee Herrington  
3091 County Center Drive Suite 190  
Auburn, CA 95603  
Phone: 530.745.3132                      email: [cdraecs@placer.ca.gov](mailto:cdraecs@placer.ca.gov)

Distribution List:  
Ione Band of Miwok Indians, Chairperson Randy Yonemura  
United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria, Chairperson Gene Whitehouse  
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Chairperson Darrell Kizer  
Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe, Pamela Cubbler Cultural Preservation Officer

Figure 1: Project Location and Trail System



Source: Placer County 2017, PLT 2017

**From:** Lisa Carnahan <LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 3:55 PM  
**To:** Koch, Ken  
**Subject:** FW: Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion

FYI.

Thanks!

*Lisa*

---

**From:** Melodi McAdams [<mailto:mmcadams@auburnrancheria.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:20 PM  
**To:** Lisa Carnahan  
**Cc:** Matthew Moore; Cherilyn Neider; Steven Hutchason  
**Subject:** Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion

Hello Lisa,

Thank you for the recent site visit with UAIC THPO Matt Moore to Hidden Falls to discuss the Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion. THPO Moore confirmed that he was in agreement with the project details that were discussed during the site visit, but requested an additional site visit once the new trails have been put in and before those new trails are open to the public.

Sincerely,  
Melodi McAdams  
Cultural Resources Supervisor  
Tribal Historic Preservation Department  
United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
10720 Indian Hill Road  
Auburn, CA 95603  
(530) 328-1109 - office  
(530) 401-7470 - cell

Wonderful! Let's meet here at the Parks office then (2855 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Auburn) at 8:00 on the 8<sup>th</sup>. We can look at maps before we head out in order to get everyone oriented. We will plan on being out all day, so make sure to bring comfortable hiking shoes, water and food, sun screen, hat, etc. I will send out a meeting invite to all, including Justin Wages at the Placer Land Trust.

Thank you,

*Lisa Carnahan*

Placer County Parks Division  
Senior Planner  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603  
[lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov)

**From:** Pamela Cubbler [<mailto:pcubbler@colfaxrancheria.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2019 11:41 AM  
**To:** Lisa Carnahan; Cherilyn Neider; Matthew Moore  
**Cc:** Rebecca Allen; Leigh Chavez  
**Subject:** Re: Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion Project

Hello Lisa,

I am available to meet on the 8th.

Thank you,  
Pam Cubbler  
530-320-3943

---

**From:** Lisa Carnahan <[LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 1, 2019 7:52:14 AM  
**To:** Cherilyn Neider; Matthew Moore; Pamela Cubbler  
**Cc:** Rebecca Allen; Leigh Chavez  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion Project

Good morning,

Pam, do either of those dates work for you? And, is everyone o.k. with all of us going together?

I was planning to visit all of the parking areas for sure. We can also visit as many areas of proposed trail sites as you wish. Most of the trail system is already existing (previously constructed by Placer Land Trust), so I'm guessing we do not need to visit those areas, but there are a few areas of proposed new trails. They will be similar to what is out at the existing Hidden Falls park.

As soon as I have heard back from Pam, I will schedule either the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>. I'm also checking with Placer Land Trust to see if they would like to join us.

Thank you,

*Lisa Carnahan*

Placer County Parks Division  
Senior Planner  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603  
[lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov)  
(530) 889-6837

**From:** Cherilyn Neider [<mailto:cneider@auburnrancheria.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:36 PM  
**To:** Lisa Carnahan; Matthew Moore; [pcubbler@colfaxrancheria.com](mailto:pcubbler@colfaxrancheria.com)  
**Cc:** Rebecca Allen; Leigh Chavez

**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion Project

Hi Lisa,

It looks like April 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> work best on our end. The expansion area is pretty substantial. Are there areas in which the County had in mind to visit?

If you are able to provide us with the shapefiles for the expansion locations, connector trails, parking etc., we can also provide some suggested locations.

Many thanks,  
Cherilyn

**Cherilyn Neider**

Tribal Historic Preservation  
United Auburn Indian Community  
530.883.2394

**From:** Lisa Carnahan [<mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov>]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:51 AM

**To:** Matthew Moore <[mmoore@auburnrancheria.com](mailto:mmoore@auburnrancheria.com)>; Cherilyn Neider <[cneider@auburnrancheria.com](mailto:cneider@auburnrancheria.com)>; [pcubbler@colfaxrancheria.com](mailto:pcubbler@colfaxrancheria.com)

**Cc:** Rebecca Allen <[rallen@auburnrancheria.com](mailto:rallen@auburnrancheria.com)>; Leigh Chavez <[LChavez@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LChavez@placer.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion Project

Hello to you All,

I hope that you are enjoying this fabulous Spring rain!

I wanted to reach out and find a day either late next week or the week after that works for everyone for a site visit to the Hidden Falls expansion areas. As the Placer Land Trust prefers a week's notice prior to us going out to their property, let's try to set up a date either next Friday or the week of the 8<sup>th</sup>. I have the following availabilities:

April 5<sup>th</sup> – Available all day

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>– Available all day

Thank you,

*Lisa Carnahan*

Placer County Parks Division  
Senior Planner  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603  
[lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov)  
(530) 889-6837

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**From:** Melodi McAdams <mmcadams@auburnrancheria.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 4:40 PM  
**To:** Lisa Carnahan; Matthew Moore  
**Cc:** Koch, Ken; Cherilyn Neider  
**Subject:** RE: HFRP Trails Expansion Project

Hello Lisa,

Thank you for your follow-up, Matt just left the office for the day. I spoke with him earlier about your project, and he did confirm that the new mitigation measures as summarized in your e-mail below are intended to replace the mitigation measures that were previously recommended.

Please let me know if you need confirmation from Matt as well, and I will follow up with him once he is back in the office tomorrow.

Sincerely,  
Melodi McAdams  
Cultural Resources Supervisor  
Tribal Historic Preservation Department  
United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
10720 Indian Hill Road  
Auburn, CA 95603  
(530) 328-1109 - office  
(530) 401-7470 - cell

---

**From:** Lisa Carnahan [<mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 3:55 PM  
**To:** Matthew Moore <[mmoore@auburnrancheria.com](mailto:mmoore@auburnrancheria.com)>  
**Cc:** Melodi McAdams <[mmcadams@auburnrancheria.com](mailto:mmcadams@auburnrancheria.com)>; [ken.koch@aecom.com](mailto:ken.koch@aecom.com)  
**Subject:** HFRP Trails Expansion Project

Hi Matt,

I hope things are going well in your world. Our consultant, AECOM, is trying to finish the Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Expansion Project Admin Draft Subsequent EIR this week, and I want him to be able to add your recommendations into the document. Per Melodi McAdams' email sent to me on 4/10/2019, we will add into our SEIR the following:

“Once new trails and/or parking areas have been graded and prior to those new trails and/or parking areas being opened to the public, the County will notify the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria (UAIC) so the UAIC may conduct an additional site visit, if it so desires.”

Based upon the subsequent consultation with you, including your visit to the various areas of the proposed project on 4/8/19 and emails sent by you on 4/9/19 (below) and Melodi's follow-

up email on 4/10/19, Parks will assume that the prior email and mitigation measures received from Marcos Guerrero on July 25, 2018 have been rescinded by your office.

Please confirm our understanding of your recommendation and the understanding that the email and mitigation measures sent by Marcos have been rescinded and are superseded by our consultation with you.

Thank you,

*Lisa Carnahan*

Placer County Parks Division  
Senior Planner  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603  
[lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov)  
(530) 889-6837

---

**From:** Matthew Moore [<mailto:mmoore@auburnrancheria.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 3:11 PM

**To:** Lisa Carnahan

**Subject:** Re: Site Visit to HFRP

Very good day indeed! I can prepare a quick write up for our recommendations. I am in the field again today but hopefully tomorrow I can get that to you! It was a pleasure working with you and thanks again for the tour. Matt

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 9, 2019, at 8:36 AM, Lisa Carnahan <[LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov)> wrote:

Good Morning!

It was an absolutely lovely day yesterday. Thank you all for taking the time to come out and visit the proposed project areas with me. I look forward to working with you on both this project and on signage for the park areas. 😊 I'm excited about the prospect of adding in "virtual reality" components to draw in the youth and help give people a more interactive view into the total history of the area. Can you please send me the contacts for the two ladies you mentioned who can work with me on the interpretive elements?

Matt, if you could please put into writing the mitigation you decided upon yesterday so that our consultant can finish up the Admin Draft this week, that would be wonderful (i.e. contact the Tribe after grading so that someone can come out and view the graded areas; proper notification if artifacts are discovered). Pam, will the Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe be submitting a letter as well?

Talk to you all soon.

*Lisa Carnahan*

Placer County Parks Division

Senior Planner

11476 C Avenue

Auburn, CA 95603

[lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:lcarnaha@placer.ca.gov)

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Talk to you all soon,

*Lisa Carnahan*

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## Twilight Park Parcel Cultural Resources Study

July 9, 2018

Lisa Carnahan  
Placer County Department of Facility Services  
Parks & Grounds Division  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Subject: Hidden Falls Regional Park Twilight Parcel Cultural Resources Study**

Dear Ms. Carnahan:

This letter report provides the methods and results of a cultural resources study conducted for the Hidden Falls Regional Park Twilight Ride Parcels (project) for Placer County. This memo is an addendum to the *Hidden Falls Regional Park Trail Network Expansion Cultural Resources Inventory Report, Placer County, California* prepared for Placer County Public Works and Facilities Parks Division by AECOM in August 2017.

As part of the Placer County Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Network Expansion Project the county is proposing parking and trailhead access from the Twilight Ride property on Bell Road (Figures 1 and 2). The Twilight Ride property is situated immediately east of the existing Taylor Ranch portion of Hidden Falls Regional Park (Figure 1), and will involve improvements to the access road, and construction of parking facilities for vehicles, and horse trailers (Figure 2).

The study area is approximately 50 acres in size. The project includes road improvements (including two stream crossing) for the existing access road and preparation/grading of two areas to be used for horse trailer and vehicle parking (Figure 2). An additional area may be used for horse boarding/pasture. The study included a pedestrian survey, a records search conducted by the North Central Information Center (NCIC), and Native American consultation.

One previously unreported cultural resource, an isolated milling feature was identified during the study. The feature was documented on appropriate Department of Parks and Recreation forms, which are included as an attachment to this report. Subsurface investigations would be required to determine if the feature qualifies for programmatic treatment as an isolated bedrock milling feature. However, the feature is outside of the areas that will be used for parking or other improvements, including pasture. The study area also appears to have low sensitivity for finding additional prehistoric or historic-era resources.

**REGULATORY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL BACKGROUND**

The regulatory, environmental and cultural background can be found in the *Hidden Falls Regional Park Trail Network Expansion Cultural Resources Inventory Report, Placer County, California* prepared for Placer County Public Works and Facilities Parks Division by AECOM in August 2017.

**METHODS**

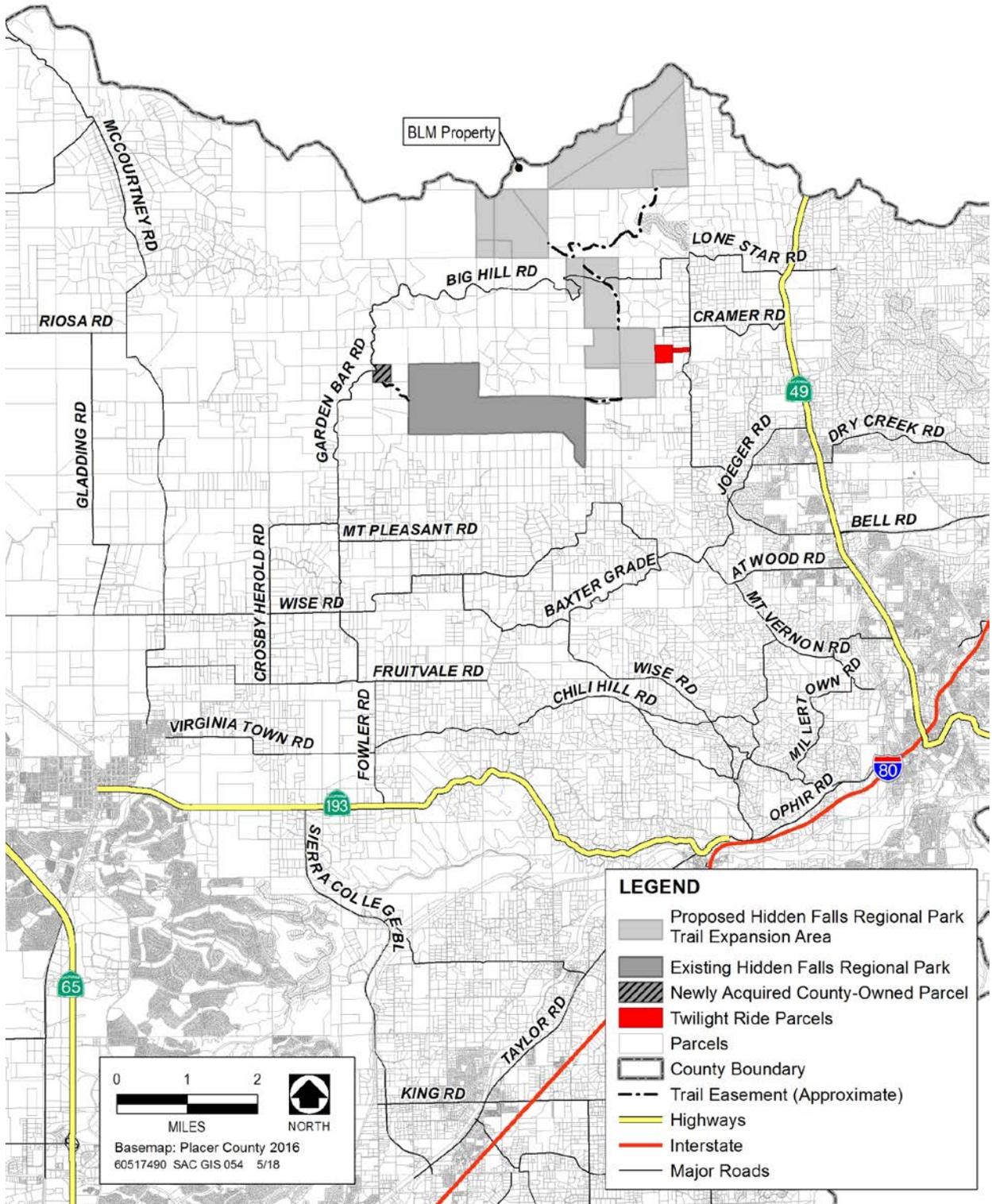
**NCIC Records Search**

The NCIC conducted a confidential records search that included the Area of Potential Effects (APE)/study area as well as a 1/4-mile buffer area on May 18, 2018. The following documents and sources were reviewed during the records search:

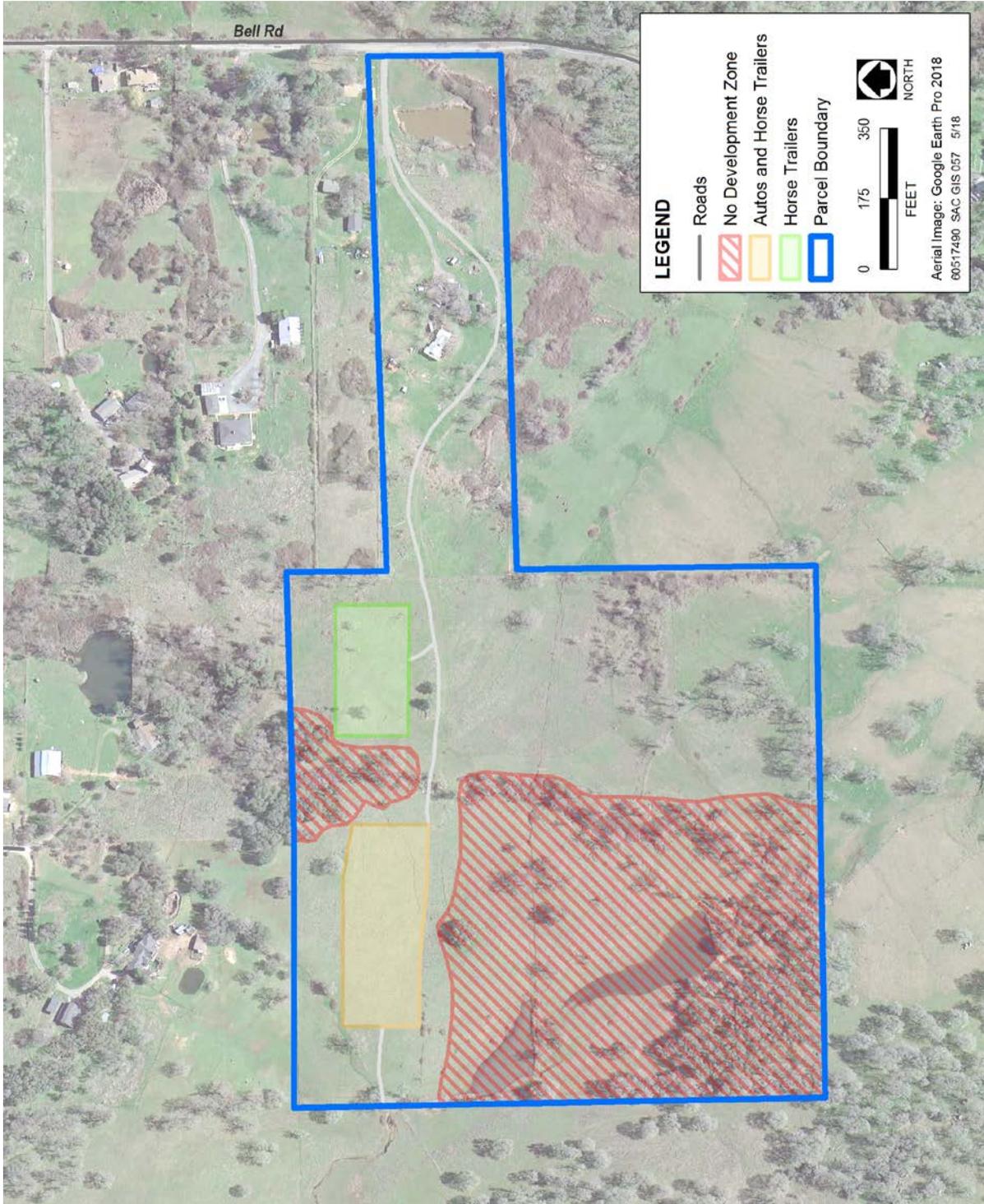
- National Register of Historic Places
- California Register of Historical Resources
- *California Inventory of Historic Resources* (1976)
- *California Points of Historical Interest* (May 1992 and updates)
- *California Historical Landmarks* (1996)
- Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File
- Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility
- *Survey of Surveys* (1989)
- NCIC base maps indicating reported cultural resources and previous investigations

No previous studies have been conducted within the proposed expansion area, however the review indicated that five previous cultural resource investigations and studies had been conducted in the project vicinity located 1/4-mile south of the study area. All of the previous studies are associated with the replacement of a bridge on Bell Road (Table 1). The initial investigations (Windmiller 1996a and 1996b) identified a possible prehistoric habitation site with milling features (P-31-1108), and four historic-era sites consisting of two ditch segments (P-31-2963 and P-31-2964), a walkway (P-31-2965), and a barn with ancillary buildings (P-31-2974). At the time of the original 1996 surveys the prehistoric site was determined to be potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and the four historic-era sites were determined not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Subsequent Phase II investigations failed to identify archaeological values at the prehistoric site that would qualify it as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion D (Shapiro and Jackson 2001a and 2001b).

<b>Table 1 Previous Cultural Resources Investigations</b>			
NCIC Report Number	Report Title	Author	Date
002693	Determination of Eligibility and Finding of Effect, CA-PLA-930 for Bridge Replacement on Bell Road at Orr Creek Placer County, California	Shapiro and Jackson	2001a
002693A	Phase II Archaeological Investigations at Prehistoric Site CA-PLA-930 on Bell Road at Orr Creek, Placer County, California	Shapiro and Jackson	2001B
002693B	X-Ray Fluorescence Analysis of Artifact Obsidian and Basalt from CA-PLA-930, Placer County, California	Skinner and Thatcher	2001
008/269	Historic Property Survey Report for the Bell Road at Orr Creek Bridge Replacement Project, Placer County, California	Windmiller	1996a
008269A	Archeological Survey Report for the Bell Road at Orr Creek Bridge Replacement Project, Placer County, California	Windmiller	1996b
Source: NCIC 2018			



**Figure 1 Project Vicinity**



**Figure 2 Project Location**

Location of Milling Feature (MF1)  
Not for public review

**Figure 3** Location of Milling Feature

**Field Survey**

AECOM archaeologist Richard Deis, Registered Professional Archaeologist, conducted the archaeological pedestrian survey on May 15, 2018 of the proposed road alignment, and areas to be used for construction of a barn, parking, and pasture, using transects approximately 30 meters in width.

The majority of the APE is covered with grasses up to 40 centimeters (16 inches) in height (Figure 4). Exposed bedrock and boulders are scattered through much of the APE. Because of the dense grass, overall surface visibility within the study area was poor with some areas covered in sparse grasses having good to moderate visibility, primarily in the less steep eastern portions of the study area. All exposed bedrock and boulders were examined for the presence of archaeological features such as mortar cups.

**RESULTS**

One previously unreported cultural resource was identified within the study area, and consists of a shallow mortar (MF1) located on a low bedrock exposure less approximately 0.5 m in size (Figure 5). Exposure of the ground surface surrounding the feature failed to identify any associated archaeological constituents, therefore the feature most likely would qualify for programmatic treatment as an isolated bedrock mortar, and would therefore not be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D or the California Register of Historic Resources under Criterion 4. Consultation with local Native American groups would be required to assess NRHP and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) eligibility under Criteria A-C/1-3. Several isolated remnants of fence lines are located throughout the parcel (Figure 6). All are considered isolated historic features that lack integrity, and as such are not eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historic Places or the National Register of Historic Places. They were therefore not further documented. Because no development of the Twilight Ride parcels is proposed near the location of the milling feature, implementation of the project would not result in significant impacts under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or adverse effects as outlined in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

**CONCLUSION**

It is unlikely that additional cultural resources would be identified during any further studies that might be conducted in support of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and/or compliance with the CEQA. The records search, previous AECOM investigations, and research in the broader region indicate that the most prevalent types of cultural resources in the area are mining related features and prehistoric Native American sites, especially bedrock mortar features.

Additional historic-era cultural resources are also unlikely to be identified. Historic-era resources in this region are generally associated with mining and homesteading. These types of resources tend to be easily identifiable on the landscape; and it is highly unlikely that any historic-era resources were overlooked within the study area.



**Figure 4 Overview of Potential Pasture Area from Vehicle Parking Area – Facing South**



**Figure 5 Milling Feature**



**Figure 5 View of Remnant Fence Segment With Modern Metal Posts**

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Trail Network Expansion

**CONFIDENTIAL**

# Hidden Falls Regional Park Trail Network Expansion Cultural Resources Inventory Report

Placer County, California



Prepared for:  
Placer County Public Works and Facilities  
Parks Division  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603

**AECOM**

August 2017

CONFIDENTIAL

# Hidden Falls Regional Park Trail Network Expansion Cultural Resources Inventory Report

Placer County, California



Prepared for:

Placer County Public Works and Facilities  
Parks Division  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603

Prepared by:

AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

Contact:

A.J. Jordan  
916.361.6449

**AECOM**

August 2017

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

AECOM was contracted by Placer County (County) Public Works and Facilities, Parks Division, to conduct a cultural resources survey for a project located on Placer Land Trust land and County-owned land. The project is a proposed expansion of the Hidden Falls Regional Park trail network. The County has prepared a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and will prepare federal and state permit applications. AECOM conducted the original cultural resources survey for the 2009 Hidden Falls Regional Park Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) (certified in 2010) and permit applications. The current study investigated the proposed trail network expansion and new and expanded parking lots.

Previous cultural resource surveys conducted in 2009 in support of the Hidden Falls Regional Park DEIR identified nine prehistoric sites and nine historic sites within the park boundaries. For the proposed trail network expansion, AECOM conducted an updated record search at the North Central Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System in Sacramento for the proposed expansion areas. Pursuant to regulations implementing Assembly Bill 52, Placer County contacted Native American tribes that had requested inclusion in the planning process to identify any tribal cultural resources that may be affected by the project. The County received one response, from the United Auburn Indian Community. This correspondence did not indicate any specific concerns for the project; however, the tribe requested a copy of this technical report and the SEIR.

A pedestrian cultural resources survey of the proposed trail segments was conducted on December 6–8 and December 13–14, 2016, and on May 15–16 and June 7, 2017. Two historic-period cultural resources were identified during the survey: a series of stacked rock walls and a water conveyance ditch with stacked rock walls. These resources are not considered significant under the criteria for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act or the California Register of Historical Resources. Therefore, the proposed trails and parking lots would have no adverse effects on historic properties.

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## ACRONYMS AND OTHER ABBREVIATIONS

μ	microns
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
amsl	above mean sea level
APE	Area of Potential Effects
B.P.	before present
ca.	circa
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
County	Placer County
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
CUP	conditional use permit
DEIR	draft environmental impact report
DPR	California Department of Parks and Recreation
EIR	environmental impact report
GPS	global positioning system
HFRP	Hidden Falls Regional Park
MLD	Most Likely Descendent
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NCIC	North Central Information Center
NPS	National Park Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OHP	California Office of Historic Preservation
PLT	Placer Land Trust
PRC	Public Resources Code
project	HFRP Trail Network Expansion Project
SEIR	Subsequent Environmental Impact Report
SYW&MC	South Yuba Water and Mining Company
USC	U.S. Code
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

# 1 INTRODUCTION

Placer County (County) owns and operates Hidden Falls Regional Park (HFRP) near Auburn, California. The park opened in 2013 and has approximately 30 miles of multiuse trails and two waterfall overlooks. The popularity and usage of HFRP have grown rapidly. The County evaluated the environmental impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of the park's establishment and operation in an environmental impact report (EIR) that was published in 2009 (EDAW|AECOM 2009) and certified in January 2010.

The County currently proposes to expand the HFRP trail network onto additional lands owned by the Placer Land Trust (PLT), where the County holds trail easement rights, and also onto land owned by the County. The County has prepared a Subsequent EIR (SEIR) for the proposed HFRP Trail Network Expansion Project (project) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 to analyze the potential impacts of this expansion on the environment.

This cultural resources inventory report describes efforts to determine whether any potentially significant cultural resources may be present within the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE), and describes measures to be followed to protect any such resources.

## 1.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The project site is located in western Placer County, approximately 9 miles northwest of Auburn, 11.5 miles northeast of Lincoln, and 40 miles northeast of Sacramento (Figure 1). The existing HFRP encompasses approximately 1,200 acres in the Sierra Nevada foothills, consisting of the properties formerly known as Spears Ranch and Didion Ranch. The regional park has two access points, with a public parking area at Mears Place and space for a future parking area off of Garden Bar Road. Figure 2 shows the existing regional park; the recently acquired parcel off of Garden Bar Road; and the project area, including the boundaries of the parcels for which the County has easements to expand the trail network and regional roadways (e.g., State Route 49) and local roads.

Most of the land in the proposed trail expansion areas is located north and northeast of the existing regional park (Figure 3), in the areas known as Taylor Ranch (321 acres) and Harvego Bear River Preserve (1,773 acres), and Liberty Ranch (313 acres). Trails would also cross the Kotomyan Preserve (160 acres) and Outman Big Hill Preserve (80 acres). In addition, trail connections are proposed from a recently acquired parcel off of Garden Bar Road to the west of the existing park, and from Taylor Ranch to the east, through parcels either owned or held in easement by the County.

With the exception of the privately owned Liberty Ranch parcel, which has a trail easement, the trail expansion areas are owned by PLT and are to be held as conservation land in perpetuity regardless of the project. Access to the trail expansion areas is currently constrained by limited roadways and surrounding private property and entry is limited to guided tours led by PLT. The County has trail easement rights within these properties.

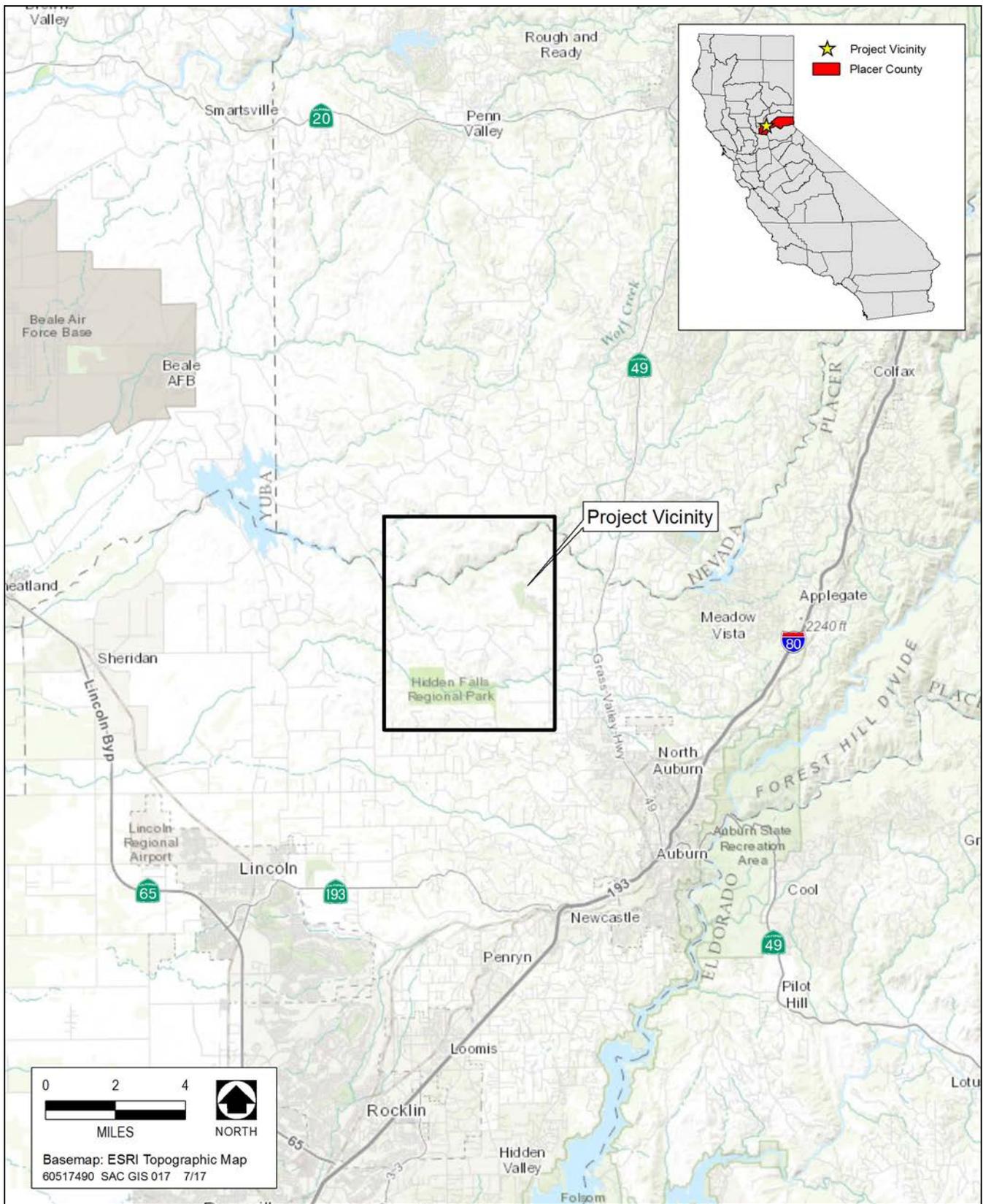


Figure 1. Regional Location Map

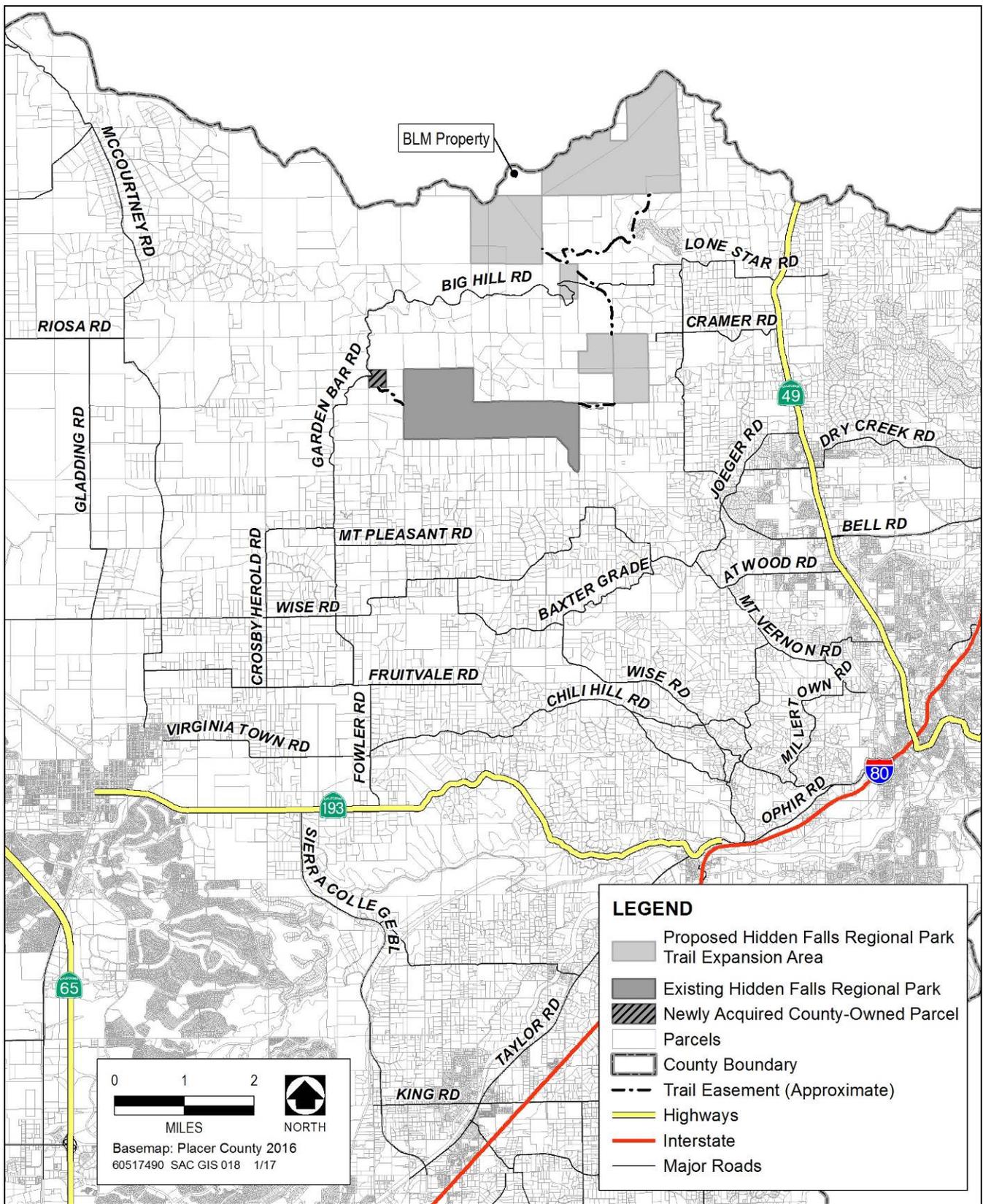


Figure 2. Project Vicinity Map

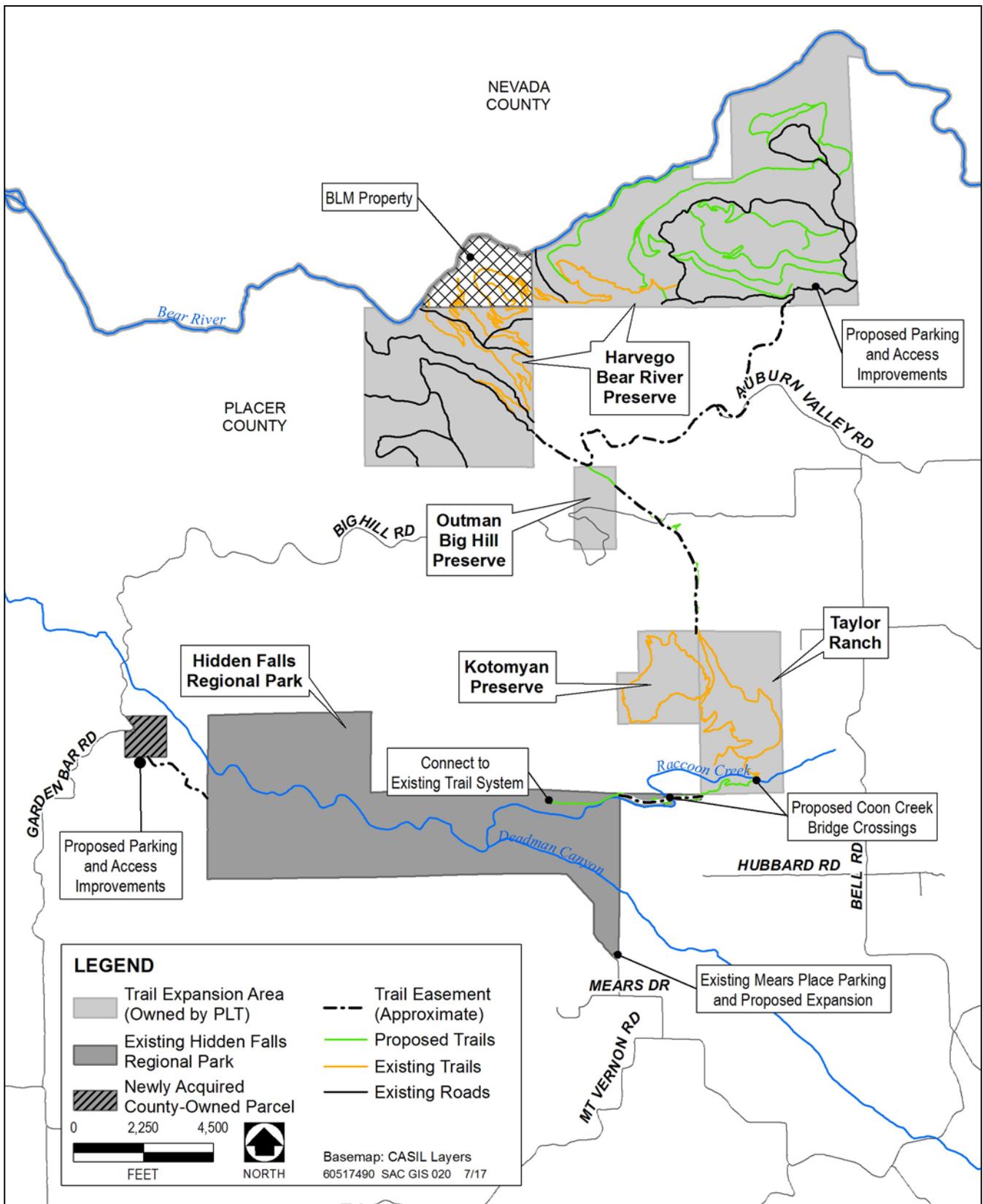


Figure 3. Trail Expansion Areas

Figure 3 shows the boundaries of the trail expansion properties and the proposed new trails. The expansion areas have few roads and include expansive undeveloped areas within the watersheds of Raccoon Creek (known on maps published before 2017 as “Coon Creek”) and the Bear River. The area is characterized by blue oak woodland and oak-foothill pine woodland and is included in the proposed *Placer County Conservation Plan*, currently under development by the County. The area also provides a wildlife migration corridor that connects to protected areas to the north, such as the Spenceville Wildlife Area in Yuba County.

The Harvego Bear River Preserve, Taylor Ranch, Kotomyan Big Hill Preserve, and Outman Big Hill Preserve (Figure 3) are owned in fee by PLT. Harvego Bear River Preserve (1,773 acres) has a working cattle ranch and an extensive network of existing ranch roads and some trails built by PLT and consists of oak woodlands and grasslands adjacent to the Bear River. Taylor Ranch (321 acres) has an existing 4-mile loop trail that also crosses the 160-acre Kotomyan Preserve to the west. Outman Big Hill Preserve (80 acres) has no existing trails.

The Liberty Ranch property (313 acres), a cattle ranch currently under Williamson Act contract, is privately owned and has no existing trails; however, PLT holds a conservation easement on the property, and the County has a dedicated trail easement within the property that connects to the other PLT-owned parcels. The County’s trail easement on the Liberty Ranch property is limited to a previously surveyed 25-foot-wide corridor, whereas the trail easements in the remainder of the expansion areas are “blanket” in nature and not limited to prior established corridors. Because of the nature of the easements owned by the County, there is less opportunity to refine or adjust trail alignments on the Liberty Ranch property than for the rest of the expansion area properties.

The recently acquired parcel west of the park (Figure 3) is characterized by blue oak and oak-foothill pine woodlands. This parcel connects to the park via an existing easement. The County-owned parcels and easement areas directly east of the park abut Raccoon Creek, and connect the existing park with the Taylor Ranch parcel.

The lands surrounding the trail expansion areas consist of rolling hills and comprise primarily private lands used for agriculture, grazing, and rural residences. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management owns the area between the two portions of the Harvego Bear River Preserve and south of the Bear River.

## 1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The County has partnered with PLT to preserve approximately 2,500 acres of open space located north and east of HFRP. These lands, as well as connecting areas directly east and west of the existing regional park that are either owned or held in easement by the County, would accommodate the proposed expansion of the park’s public trail network and associated facilities. The expanded trail network would link the regional park to the Bear River and provide vastly expanded recreation opportunities. Combining the 30 miles of existing trails in the park with additional existing and proposed trails in the trail network expansion areas would provide a regional network of more than 60 miles of multiuse trails. The expanded trails network would connect to the existing trail system in the regional park via existing easements between the park and existing trails in Taylor Ranch and Kotomyan Preserve, with additional connections through Liberty Ranch and Outman Big Hill Preserve to future and existing trails and ranch roads within the Harvego Bear River Preserve.

The County’s discretionary actions for the expanded trails network would include approval of an amended CUP covering the existing HFRP and the expansion areas, including the designated lands to the northeast, the parcel west of the existing park that was recently acquired by the County, and the areas east of the park that connect to Taylor Ranch. The amended CUP would cover:

- ▶ expanding the HFRP trails network from 30 miles to approximately 60 miles through the addition of existing trails and construction of new trails on the lands owned or held in conservation easements by PLT, or on lands owned by Placer County, or where the County holds trail easements;

- ▶ constructing two additional bridges over Raccoon Creek between the existing regional park’s trail network and Taylor Ranch;
- ▶ adding parking and access-area improvements, including parking and access at Harvego Bear River Preserve for access to the northern areas of the expanded trail network and minor changes to the planned parking and access from Garden Bar Road to the west side of the park; and
- ▶ identifying and clarifying the type and size of events and facilities allowed within the existing HFRP and expansion areas.

### 1.3 DEFINITION OF UNDERTAKING

Section 301 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) defines a federal undertaking as “a project, activity, or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal Agency, including (A) those carried out by or on behalf of the agency; (B) those carried out with Federal financial assistance; (C) those requiring a Federal permit license, or approval; and (D) those subject to State or local regulation administered pursuant to a delegation or approval by a Federal Agency” (16 U.S. Code [USC] 470w[7]).

In addition, Section 106 of the NHPA states that “The head of any Federal agency...shall... prior to the issuance of any license...take into account the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register [of Historic Places]” (16 USC 470f).

As proposed, the project would construct pedestrian bridges over Raccoon Creek. The construction of these bridges would affect waters of the United States; therefore, the project proponent must meet the requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which requires a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project is therefore considered an undertaking. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be the lead federal agency for Section 106 compliance. National Environmental Policy Act review has not yet been initiated.

### 1.4 DEFINITION OF AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

The APE is the geographic area (both horizontal and vertical) within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties (e.g., properties that are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places [NRHP]) (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 800.16[d]). The horizontal and vertical extent of the APE is dependent on the activities that are proposed by the project. Figure 4 shows the APE for the project. .

As noted above, the project would encompass multiple different activities:

- ▶ constructing new trails
  - The multi-use trails would be constructed using a combination of techniques, including by hand and by using a combination of small construction equipment. The trail width would vary depending on the type of trail. Multi-use trails would be approximately 5 feet wide. Trails (and bridges) designed to accommodate emergency vehicles would be 8–12 feet wide. Trail surfaces would be excavated using small, earth-moving equipment.
- ▶ constructing two bridges over Raccoon Creek
  - The bridges would be installed by constructing abutments on both sides of Raccoon Creek and spanning the creek by installing a bridge, likely with the use of a crane or helicopter. Streambank protection measures would be installed before construction to minimize habitat and water quality effects.
- ▶ adding or improving parking access at Harvego Bear River Preserve, Mears Place, and Garden Bar Road.

- The new and expanded parking areas would be constructed with heavy construction equipment (e.g., bulldozers, front-end loaders) as required for clearing and grubbing, grading, and excavation. Drainage systems would be installed adjacent to parking areas to collect storm water and minimize erosion.

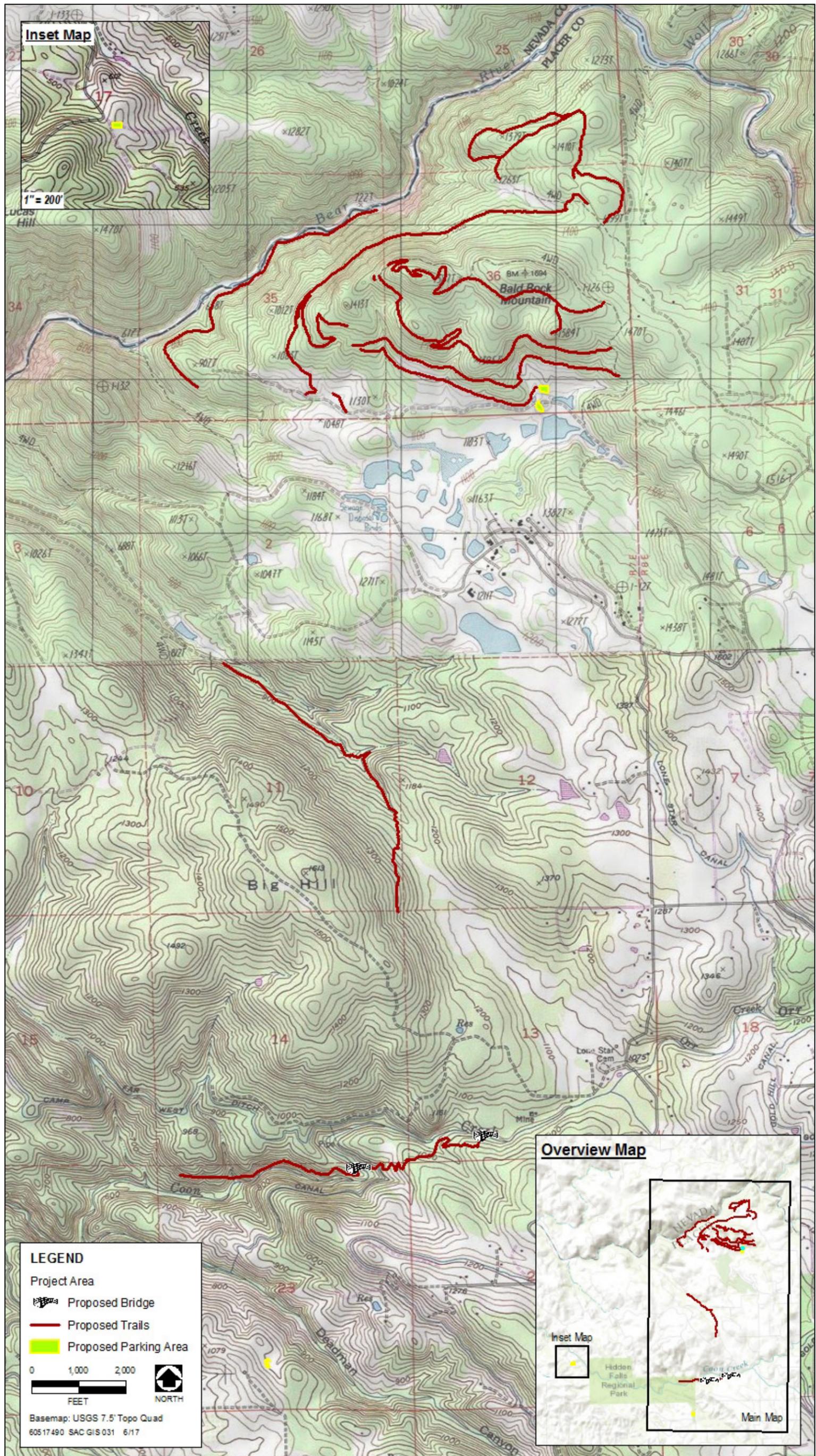


Figure 4. APE Map.

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## 2 REGULATORY CONTEXT

Cultural resources in California are protected by a number of federal, state, and local regulations and ordinances. The most frequently applied legislation consists of the provisions of Section 106 and CEQA that provide for the documentation and protection of significant prehistoric and historic period resources.

### 2.1 FEDERAL REGULATIONS

#### 2.1.1 NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470f), as amended, requires that federal agencies, or those that they fund or permit, to take into account the effects of the undertaking on any historic properties listed on or eligible for listing on the NRHP and offer the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and other interested parties an opportunity to comment on the actions. To determine whether an undertaking could affect historic properties, cultural resources (including archaeological, historical, architectural, and traditional cultural properties) must be inventoried and evaluated for inclusion on the NRHP. Cultural resources can be significant on the federal, state, or local level. The 36 CFR § 60.4 regulations describe the criteria to evaluate cultural resources for inclusion in the NRHP:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and:

- (A) That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- (B) That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- (C) That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- (D) That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

### 2.2 STATE REGULATIONS

#### 2.2.1 CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

CEQA also provides a mechanism for protecting significant cultural resources at the state level. According to the State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15064.5[a][3]), a resource is generally considered historically significant if it meets the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 5024.1; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 4852). An historical resource is defined as any site that:

- is listed in or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission for listing in the CRHR, or is determined to be significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, or cultural annals of California; and
- is eligible for listing in the CRHR (criteria noted below); or

- is included in a local register of historical resources, as defined by PRC Section 5020.1(k), or is identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements of PRC Section 5024.1(g).

The CRHR includes resources that are listed in or formally determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, as well as some California State Landmarks and Points of Historical Interest. Properties of local significance that have been designated under a local preservation ordinance (local landmarks or landmark districts) or that have been identified in a local historical resources inventory may be eligible for listing in the CRHR and are presumed to be significant resources for purposes of CEQA unless a preponderance of evidence indicates otherwise (PRC 5024.1, 14 California Code of Regulations 4850). The eligibility criteria for listing in the CRHR are similar to those for NRHP listing but focus on the importance of the resources to California history and heritage. A cultural resource may be eligible for listing in the CRHR if:

1. it is associated with events or patterns of events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the United States; or
2. it is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or national history; or
3. it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. it has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

The CRHR definition of integrity and its special considerations for certain properties are slightly different from those for the NRHP. Integrity is defined as “the authenticity of an historical resource’s physical identity evidenced by the survival of characteristics that existed during the resource’s period of significance.” The CRHR further states that eligible resources must “retain enough of their historic character or appearance to be recognizable as historical resources and to convey the reasons for their significance,” and lists the same seven aspects of integrity used for evaluating properties under the NRHP criteria. The CRHR’s special considerations for certain property types are limited to moved buildings, structures, or objects; historical resources achieving significance within the past 50 years; and reconstructed buildings.

If a cultural resource does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the CRHR but does meet the definition of a unique archaeological resource as outlined in the Public Resource Code (Section 21083.2), it is entitled to special protection or attention under CEQA. PRC Section 21083.2(g) includes the following definition:

As used in this section, “unique archaeological resource” means an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information,
- (2) has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type, or
- (3) is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

Treatment options under Section 21083.2 of CEQA include activities that preserve such resources in place in an undisturbed state. Other acceptable methods of mitigation under Section 21083.2 include excavation and curation

or study in place without excavation and curation (if the study finds that the artifacts would not meet one or more of the criteria for defining a “unique archaeological resource”).

Public Resources Code Section 15064.5(e) of the State CEQA Guidelines requires that excavation activities be stopped whenever human remains are uncovered and that the county coroner be called in to assess the remains. If the county coroner determines that the remains are those of Native Americans, the Native American Heritage Commission must be contacted within 24 hours. At that time, Section 15064.5(d) of the State CEQA Guidelines directs the lead agency to consult with the appropriate Native Americans as identified by the Native American Heritage Commission and directs the lead agency (or applicant), under certain circumstances, to develop an agreement with the Native Americans for the treatment and disposition of the remains.

## 3 BACKGROUND

### 3.1 ENVIRONMENT

The project is located in the foothill region of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. Elevations in the project area range from 290 m (820 ft) above mean sea level along Raccoon Creek and up to 500 m (1640 ft) along the ridges in the Harvego Bear River Preserve. Geologically, the area is characterized by soils derived from Copper Hill Volcanics (Wagner et al. 1987).

The climate of the region is classed as Mediterranean with cool, wet winters and dry, hot summers. Although this pattern is characteristic of the region in general, there can be marked differences in local climate and vegetation as temperatures are dependent on elevation and proximity to seasonal and perennial water sources. Temperatures are lower in depressions and small valleys, particularly during nights when cooler air moves downward, while it remains warmer on slopes and ridge tops. Because of the earlier ripening of some plant foods on ridge tops, many prehistoric resource gathering and processing sites tended to be located in these warmer areas, while winter village locations are located near perennial water sources.

The area also exhibits a diverse array of floral and faunal species that would have been present at least during more recent prehistoric periods and throughout historic times. Wildlife diversity within the mixed oak, foothill, and mixed evergreen woodlands, predominant throughout the area, tends to be high. Amphibians and reptiles found in these woodlands include Pacific tree frog (*Hyla regilla*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), and California kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulus*). Common resident birds in these forests include acorn woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*), western scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), oak titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus*), and wren-tit (*Chaemaea fasciata*). Common mammals in these mixed woodlands include gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), and Douglas' squirrel (*Tamiasciurus douglasii*). (Deis 2007)

The current vegetation regime is somewhat affected by the use of the area for cattle grazing over the last few decades.

### 3.2 PREHISTORY

Archaeological research within the Sierra Nevada and lower foothill regions over the past several decades has resulted in a substantial amount of new information about prehistory. Researchers have proposed numerous cultural systems and related chronologies to trace cultural and technological change through time.

For the Sacramento Valley and foothill regions, Lillard and Purves (1936) recognized a three-part cultural sequence (Early, Middle, and Late horizons) that was derived from the archaeological analysis of midden and cemetery sites in Central California. This scheme was later described in more detail by Lillard et al. (1939) and was refined by Beardsley (1948 and 1954). In an attempt to unify the various hypothesized cultural periods in California, Fredrickson (1973, 1974, and 1993) proposed an all-encompassing scheme for cultural development, while acknowledging that these general trends may manifest themselves differently and there may be some variation between subregions. The general cultural periods used by Frederickson were the Paleo-Indian,; Early, Middle and Late Archaic; and Emergent (also called Late) periods. This terminology, with some adjustments, is still commonly used in much of California

Relevant to the project area is the document *Framework for Archaeological Research Management (FARM)* (Jackson et al. 1994) which proposes a tentative culture chronology and culture history for the North-Central Sierra Nevada. The proposed cultural chronology has been further refined through investigations conducted

within the South Fork American River watershed by Tremaine and Jackson (1994 and 1995), and Boyd (1998), and is synthesized in Jackson and Ballard (1999). Given the lack of radiocarbon associations within the Sierra Nevada that provide firm dates, Jackson and Ballard (1999) used 1,685 obsidian hydration rim measurements to obtain relative dates. The obsidian specimens were all sourced to the Bodie Hills source, approximately 10 miles north of Mono Lake in Mono County along the California/ Nevada border and were collected from 124 sites throughout North-Central Sierra Nevada. This extensive analysis provides the most recent and relevant cultural/technological chronology for the project area. Jackson and Ballard's (1999) cultural chronology is the basis for the following summary and terminology.

### **LATE PLEISTOCENE PATTERN AND PERIOD (>10,000 B.P.)**

There are no widely accepted archaeological sites in the Sierra Nevada foothills or eastern Sacramento Valley that date to the earliest human occupation of North America. Possible exceptions are CA-SAC-370 and CA-SAC-379, located near Rancho Murieta. These sites produced numerous bifaces, cores, and raw materials (which may be indicative of prehistoric quarrying operations) from gravel strata estimated to be 12,000–18,000 years in age (Moratto 1984). Contextually, interpretation of these sites is challenging because the artifact assemblages may have been redeposited and no organic materials suitable for radiocarbon dating were encountered. However, it is possible that cultural deposits dating to this time period may be covered with several meters of alluvium and have yet to be discovered.

### **EARLY HOLOCENE PATTERN AND PERIOD (CA. 10,000–7000 B.P.)**

Jackson and Ballard (1999) use the all-encompassing Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition to describe this broad time frame, which, as they point out, was first defined by Bedwell (1970) as a human adaptation to lake, marsh, and grassland environments that were prevalent around 11,000 years before present (B.P.); however, the tradition slowly disappeared circa (ca.) 8000–7000 B.P.

If the obsidian hydration rinds in excess of 8.2 microns ( $\mu$ ) (7000 B.P.) documented within the American River drainage represent prehistoric usage during the early Holocene, this may indicate regional usage away from the wetland environments established for the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition (Jackson and Ballard 1999:243). Regardless of the land-use strategy, at the very least, it appears from limited data that the presence of peoples in the region at this time was quite limited.

In the surrounding regions of California, only small isolated locales (e.g., CA-CAL-S342 [Peak and Crew 1990] and CA-CAL-629–630 [under analysis by California State University, Fresno]) have thus far yielded substantial data indicating a presence by peoples along the western front of the Sierra Nevada before 7000 B.P., and both of these have been in the foothill regions south of the project area.

### **ARCHAIC PATTERN AND PERIOD (CA. 7000–3200 B.P.)**

Characterized by generally warm and dry climatic conditions interrupted by brief cool, wet conditions, this period appears to correspond with the appearance of handstones and milling slabs, suggesting that people were gathering and using more vegetal resources, such as seeds and other botanical constituents. Jackson and Ballard (1999:24) also suggest that the early part of this period (7000–4500 B.P.) can be defined by the presence of concave-base and side-notched obsidian bifaces on archaeological sites. These bifaces exhibit hydration rind thicknesses between 8.2 $\mu$  and 5.6 $\mu$ . Stemmed and large corner-notched obsidian projectile points occur during latter parts of this period (4500–3200 B.P.) and show hydration rinds between 5.6 $\mu$  and 3.6 $\mu$ .

Similarly, in the foothills region of Central California, as the climate became warmer and dryer, milling stones were found in increasing abundance, suggesting an emphasis on using plant resources and less focus on hunting. Flaked stone tools were formed primarily from locally procured materials (Moratto 1984). However, the remains of numerous faunal species are often found on sites dating to this period, and the presence of angling hooks and baked clay artifacts possibly used as net or line sinkers indicates a varied and efficient subsistence system.

Sites in the Central Valley also indicate that a great deal of trade was taking place at this time, as evidenced by the presence of obsidian from outside the area, *Haliotis* and *Olivella* shell beads and ornaments, quartz crystals, and other exotic materials (Heizer 1949, 1974; Moratto 1984). Connections between the Great Basin and Central Valley appear to have been established at least by 4000 B.P., and possibly as early as 7000 B.P., as evidenced by the exchange of marine shell beads and other artifacts for obsidian from the east side of the Sierran crest. Many exotic items, such as the quartz crystals and calcite, alabaster, and schist artifacts, have their origins in the foothills. The presence of these materials at sites in the Central Valley indicates consistent contact with foothill peoples and possibly seasonal movements of groups. These seasonal migrations may have involved population shifts to higher elevations during the summer, and valley occupations during the winter (Moratto 1984). Although this was a phenomenon primarily of the Sacramento Valley and lower foothills, similar culture elements are found at elevations up to 3,000 feet amsl in the foothills of the western slope, suggesting that peoples of this time frame may have acted as “middlemen” within this trade network (Bennyhoff and Heizer 1958; Bennyhoff and Hughes 1983).

### **SIERRAN PATTERN (CA. 3200–600 B.P.)**

This broad time period, comprising the Early and Middle Sierran periods (discussed further below), sees an expansion in the use of obsidian, which is interpreted to indicate an increase in regional land use, and the regular use of certain locales. This pattern begins with a return to cool, wet climatic conditions, where forays into the Sierra Nevada may have been by groups with resident populations in the western Sierra foothills, Central Valley, and/or Great Basin. No evidence of permanent, year-round habitation has been found in the American River watershed above 3,500 feet amsl, and it has been suggested that peoples may have timed their forays with the availability of the local resources. Jackson and Ballard (1999:45) suggest that increased use and adaptation is reflected in people’s reliance on acorns and their heavy exploitation of large game.

Using a model of site patterning first proposed by Jackson (1984) and corroborated by geographic information system modeling (Hunt 1999), the increased exploitation of resources during the latter portion of this time period (ca. post–1400 B.P.) is marked by the adoption of mortar technology. The distribution of mortars indicates that the use of this tool is most intense below the snowline, with considerable usage continuing within the black oak and sugar pine woodlands above the snowline, before decreasing in the alpine zone (Hunt 1999). Models of toolstone acquisition suggest that east-west trade routes existed during this period between the Sierran crest and the Central Valley (Markley and Day 1991; Day et al. 1996; McGuire and Bloomer 1996).

### **EARLY SIERRAN PERIOD (CA. 3200–1400 B.P.)**

This period is related to obsidian hydrations rinds of around 5.6 $\mu$  and less, and is marked by the abundant presence of milling slabs and handstones, a substantial increase in the production of obsidian tools, and a climatic shift to a cool, wet regime. Obsidian hydration rim readings are present between 5.6 and 3.6 $\mu$  at major archaeological sites in the region, and these data are either missing or present at very low frequencies at small sites. These findings are cited as evidence of exploitation of the area by small social and residential groups that moved in response to resources, exploiting the resources within range of each prime or major locale. A warm, dry period that occurred around 2200 B.P. corresponds with a dip in the frequency of obsidian hydration rind measurements between 4.7 and 4.3 $\mu$ . Ritter noted that evidence at CA-PLA-101 indicates that this was a period

of seasonal transhumance with similarities in artifact types (i.e., projectile points) found east of the Sierran crest, but that this similarity decreases below 2,500 feet amsl, which would include the current project area (Ritter 1971:528).

In the foothills region, sites from the roughly contemporaneous Upper Archaic period (2500–1000 B.P.) are often quite similar to those of the ensuing Middle Archaic, with features such as red ocher used in burial contexts, and cobble mortars, while “charmstones” and lanceolate point styles occur during both periods. However, during this time a much heavier reliance on acorns as a staple food developed, as evidenced by an increased number of mortars and pestles in the archaeological record. The documented permanent village sites or campsites closest to the project area are within Miner’s Ravine, Dry Creek, and Linda Creek, near modern-day Roseville (Palumbo 1966). From an analysis of time-sensitive artifacts (e.g., shell beads and projectile points) found at these locations, the sites appear to date from the beginning of this period. Similar periods of occupation were also documented in Auburn Ravine by Robinson (1967:122).

### **MIDDLE SIERRAN PERIOD (CA. 1400–600 B.P.)**

The Middle Sierran period begins at approximately 1400 B.P., which corresponds with a dramatic decrease in the use of obsidian, not only in the subregion, but throughout the Sierra Nevada (Hall 1983; Bouey and Basgall 1984). This also sees the introduction of bow and arrow technology. In the Sierra Nevada, two phases are proposed for this period: the Camino Phase (ca. 1400–800 B.P.) and the False Walrus Phase (ca. 800–650 B.P.). Widespread changes occur at similar time frames throughout Central California and the western Great Basin. Social disruption is inferred from changes in artifact assemblages, land use patterns, and a high incidence of violent death. This pattern is followed by relatively intensive land use, active trade, and the establishment of permanent settlements in some regions, inferred as reflecting increased populations (Jackson and Ballard 1999:250).

#### **CAMINO PHASE**

The Camino Phase exhibits a pattern of low obsidian production, possibly resulting from a lack of established exchange patterns or less intensive use of the Sierra Nevada. For the corresponding Kings Beach Phase on the east side of the Sierra, Elston et al. (1994:17) suggest that the point types on the east side of the Sierra are identical in form to their counterparts in California. However, Deis (1999) has presented evidence suggesting that with the possible exception of the Oroville region, there appears to be a discontinuity in projectile point types between the eastern and western sides of the Sierra Nevada around 1400 B.P. Therefore, the crest of the Sierra Nevada may have been a formidable physical and/or cultural barrier between groups at this time. During the latter part of the Camino Phase, the use of bedrock mortars becomes well established and small projectile points with contracting stems and large, hafted bifaces, including large side-notched types, occur frequently (Ritter 1970; White and Origer 1987; Jackson and Ballard 1999:249).

#### **FALSE WALRUS PHASE**

During the False Walrus Phase, it appears that obsidian use and associated land use decreased substantially. While some sites continued to be used seasonally, others such as the False Walrus Site (U.S. Forest Service Site No. 05-03-56-730) appear, based on the lack of obsidian with hydration rind thicknesses of 2.0 to 2.5 $\mu$ , to have been abandoned entirely (Tremaine and Jackson 1995). Evidence showing a decline in seasonal use is also visible at CA-PLA-101, where the site served primarily as a seasonal hunting camp with a secondary use centering on the gathering and processing of acorns (Ritter 1971:536).

In the foothills region, from around 1000 B.P. to 500 B.P., manifestations of what Frederickson (1973, 1974) called the Early Emergent Period indicate that intensive fishing, hunting, and acorn gathering supported large, dense populations. The Emergent Period, or Late Period, is the Late Holocene period that sees the development

of many of the cultural traits present at the time of European Contact. Highly developed exchange systems had evolved and mortuary practices with elaborate ceremonialism indicate a well-stratified society. Earlier sites, however, still bear many similarities to the Late Period's Berkeley Pattern in the Central Valley, suggesting that the Late Period represents elements of local innovation and a blending of traits with the Archaic period (Moratto 1984). Diagnostic artifacts of the False Walrus Phase are *Olivella* lipped beads, "Banjo"-type *Haliotis* ornaments, elaborately incised bird bone whistles and tubes, and flanged sandstone pipes. The bow and arrow are thought to have appeared during this period, with small corner-notched contracting stemmed points, rectangular and disc-shaped *Olivella* beads, and magnesite cylinders.

### **LATE SIERRAN PERIOD (CA. 600–150 B.P.)**

Regionally, this period is characterized by continued intensive use of the western slope of the Sierra Nevada, including significant use of acorns, but with less of a focus on seeds; exploitation of fauna, including deer and rabbits; year-round occupation of sites below 3,500 feet amsl; and short-term seasonal occupation of mid- to high-elevation Sierran sites. The presence of single-component sites dating to this time period is given as evidence for this intensified use (Jackson and Ballard 1999:250). In some subregions, the use of the small points with contracting stems disappears abruptly and is replaced by small Desert Side-notched types, with the continued use of small corner-notched points. However, Jackson and Ballard (1999) suggest the possible reemergence of large corner-notched, stemmed, and contracting stemmed points during the latter portion of this period.

In the foothill region, during the contemporaneous Late (or Emergent) period, archaeological village sites generally correspond to those identified in the ethnographic literature. Diagnostic artifacts are small points with contracting stems, disk beads made of clam shell, and glass trade beads introduced near the end of the period, marking the arrival of European groups (Beardsley 1954:77–79; Elsasser 1978:44; Fredrickson 1984).

## **3.3 ETHNOGRAPHIC CONTEXT**

Ethnographically, the project area is situated within the sphere of influence of the Nisenan (sometimes referred to as the Southern Maidu). The following brief review of the ethnographic literature is valuable in assessing the archaeological sites that are the static remains of past activity. However, archaeological data have the potential to reconstruct patterns of former dynamic cultural systems (Binford 1980). It is through the use of ethnographic data applied to archaeology that the archaeologist has the best chance to recreate past cultural adaptations (Binford 1980:5).

Kroeber (1925) recognized three Nisenan dialects: Northern Hill, Southern Hill, and Valley. The Nisenan territory included the drainages of the Yuba, Bear, and American rivers, and the lower drainages of the Feather River, extending from the crest of the Sierra Nevada to the banks of the Sacramento River. According to Bennyhoff (1961:204–209), the southern boundary with the Miwok was probably a few miles south of the American River, bordering a shared area used by both Miwok and Nisenan groups that extended to the Cosumnes River. It appears that the foothills Nisenan distrusted the valley peoples but had a mostly friendly relationship with the Washoe to the east. Elders recall intergroup marriage and trade, primarily involving the exchange of acorns for fish procured by the Washoe (Wilson 1972:33).

Several political divisions in the Nisenan territory, constituting tribelets, each had headmen in the larger villages. However, the relative levels of influence in these larger population centers are unknown. All of these larger villages were located in the foothills. More substantial and permanent Nisenan villages generally were not established on the valley plain between the Sacramento River and the foothills, although this area was used as a rich hunting and gathering ground. One tribelet consisted of people occupying the territory between the Bear River and the Middle Fork American River. According to Kroeber (1925:831), the larger villages could have had

populations exceeding 500 individuals, although small settlements consisting of 15–25 people and extended families were common. Several village sites are depicted by Wilson and Towne (1978:388) in the vicinity of present-day Auburn, with one ethnographically named village, *Tgi tgi*, located along Raccoon Creek near a town named Ewing, which would place the locale approximately 4 miles west of the project area.

Dance houses for political and ceremonial functions were located in major village sites and were semi-subterranean structures, excavated to a depth of 3–4 feet and constructed with large beams and two to four main support posts (Beals 1933:344). Other structures built on the village sites included sweathouses and cone-shaped dwellings constructed of a framework with a covering of bark slabs, brush, and animal skins. Smaller brush structures or sun shades for outdoor summer work were also present and most village sites had bedrock mortars directly within or very near the habitation areas.

Native American groups would have exploited any number of faunal and floral resources. However, as in many foothill and valley regions throughout California, various species of oak provided the most important staple food, although the black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) was apparently the most preferred (Matson 1972:40). Acorn harvests in the early fall provided the region's native inhabitants with a reliable, large-scale food source that could sustain populations through the winter months. Other important floral foodstuffs that could be stored for long periods included nuts from the gray pine (*Pinus sabiniana*), buckeye (*Aesculus californica*), and hazelnuts (*Corylus rostrata*).

Nisenan seasonal harvests were often communal, and important social behaviors were intricately related to these harvests. Various roots, nuts, wild onion, wild sweet potato, and many varieties of grasses, berries, and fruits were also gathered at various times. Many were processed and stored for winter use, although fresh fruits such as various berries, wild plums, grapes, and other native fruits were likely consumed fresh. Studies conducted within the project vicinity indicate that Native Americans deliberately burned large acreages to increase forage and improve habitat, clear the areas around habitation sites, kill insects, improve wild seed crops, and facilitate travel and hunting (Deal and Bennett 1996; Deal and Alblinger 1998), which is consistent with work conducted by Anderson (1990, 1991, 1993) and Anderson and Nabhan (1991).

The Nisenan used various techniques and weapons for hunting, including the bow and arrow, drives, and decoys. They used nets, traps, rodent hooks, and fire when hunting small game. Fish could be caught with nets, gorges, hooks, and harpoons within the larger perennial drainages of the foothill regions. One technique apparently involved using soap root and turkey mullein to poison the water so fish could be gathered easily. Freshwater clams and mussels were gathered in the larger waterways, such as the American River. Other aquatic food sources available to native populations near the project area would have included fish such as salmon and sturgeon, which would have been netted or caught with the aid of weirs.

The decimation of the Nisenan culture in the 19th century as a result of European colonization, coupled with a reluctance to discuss Nisenan spiritual beliefs and practices, makes it difficult to describe these practices in any detail. However, historic records document a number of observances and dances, some of which are still performed today, that were important ceremonies in early historic times. The Kuksu Cult, the basic religious system noted throughout Central California, appeared among the Nisenan. Cult membership was restricted to those initiated in its spirit and deity-impersonating rites. However, the Kuksu Cult was only one of several levels of religious practice among the Nisenan. Various dances associated with mourning and the change of seasons were also important. One of the last major additions to Nisenan spiritual life occurred sometime shortly after 1872 with a revival of the Kuksu Cult as an adaptation to the Ghost Dance religion (Wilson and Towne 1978).

## 3.4 HISTORIC CONTEXT

### GOLD RUSH ERA

The Sierra Nevada foothills and Sacramento Valley were virtually unknown by Europeans other than early Spanish explorers in the years before the Gold Rush. After gold was discovered at Coloma on the South Fork American River in January 1848, a wave of gold seekers descended on California, including the foothill and mountain regions of the Sierra Nevada. The 1850 U.S. Census put the population of Placer County at 11,417: 6,945 whites, 3,019 Chinese, 89 blacks, 634 other foreign races, and 730 Native Americans (U.S. Census 1850). The population was likely larger, however; the census was biased against minority groups, which were underrepresented.

Mining sites consist of concentrations of artifacts, and their systems reflect the myriad of operations and technologies that have been used in the area. These cycles of occupation and abandonment create layers of components of mining technology. Systems at mining sites are horizontally stratified, with previous operations often altered or obliterated, and often appear discontinuous with the underground structure (Hardesty 1988:11–12). Many times only fragments of technologies and operations are visible. For example, Lindstrom (1989:38) found that during placer mining operations, finer sediments were carried away in the washing process, and only larger cobbles or boulders remained at the site.

Mining camps were ubiquitous in mid–19th century Placer County. Some of the known camps farther upslope along the American River included Dutch Flat, Horseshoe Bar, Smith’s Bar, and Iowa Hill. Two camps in the vicinity of the current project area are Gold Hill and Virginiatown, along Auburn Ravine, approximately 5 miles south of the project area.

Gold Hill, in the Ophir Mining District, was organized as a town in 1852. The community had a sizable population, as indicated by the 444 votes cast in the 1852 presidential election (Hoover 1990:262). Virginiatown was founded in June 1851. The first railroad in California, built in 1852 by Captain John Brislow, carried ore to Auburn Ravine (Gudde 1975:360; Hoover 1990:262). Virginiatown boasted a population of more than 2,000 by 1858, and a post office named Virginia was located there between 1858 and 1860. The county directory indicated that a lack of water prevented development until 1861, when a ditch from the Bear River could be built. It was at Virginiatown that Philip Armour had his butcher shop, which is said to have been the nucleus of the great Armour meat packing business in Chicago (Gudde 1975:360).

Another town, Whiskey Diggins southwest of the project area, appears to have been formed around 1855 (Foster and Foster 1994). In 1876, the community changed its name to Valley View. After the turn of the 20th century, the community became a resort named Kilaga Springs, because of its healthful mineral waters.

Easily mined deposits along perennial streams and rivers were depleted rapidly during the initial stage of the Gold Rush, resulting in a need to divert water to remote locations for placer mining. Several water conveyance systems were used to divert water. One system, the Whiskey Diggins Canal, passes through the southern portion of the present-day HFRP. The canal was constructed in the 1850s by the Gold Hill and Bear River Water Company to divert water from Deadman’s Ravine. The water conveyance system was subsequently sold to a Mr. Hall in 1861. After three changes in ownership during the 1870s, the South Yuba Water and Mining Company (SYW&MC) purchased the water conveyance system in May 1890. Pacific Gas and Electric Company purchased the entire SYW&MC system, including the Whiskey Diggins Canal, in 1905, and in 1933 sold the canal to the Nevada Irrigation District. By the late 19th century, the increase in new mining camps appearing in Placer County slowed considerably, and other economic pursuits such as ranching and agriculture became the backbone of the county’s economy.

## **RANCHING AND AGRICULTURE**

Ranching and agriculture, originally support systems that provided food to the miners, grew to become dominant industries. As thousands of miners poured into the area during the early 1850s, farmers and ranchers put additional acreage into production to meet the demand for potatoes, flour, and various dairy products.

The first of such settlements in Placer County was Sicard's Ranch, a Mexican land grant on the south bank of the Bear River, west of the project area. The grant was given to Theodore Sicard in 1844. Sicard, a French sailor, built an adobe house on the land in 1846, which later became a prominent stopping place for travelers on the way to Sutter's Fort in Sacramento. Sicard and fellow countryman Claude Chana, who had arrived at the ranch in late 1846, planted peach and almond trees, which became the start of the commercial orchard business in the Sacramento Valley. Chana later bought the Sicard grant and sold the products of his orchard, vineyard, and vegetable garden to area miners (Hoover et al. 1990).

### **3.5 SIGNIFICANCE REQUIREMENTS**

This inventory report is intended to identify the presence of cultural resources in the APE that are considered significant under NRHP or CRHR criteria, and are therefore determined to be historic properties; determine whether the project would adversely affect any historic properties; and provide mitigation measures to limit potential impacts on historic properties.

Given the region's prehistoric, ethnographic, and historic contexts as described above, cultural resources in the project area are expected to reflect the mining, ranching, and agricultural activities that occurred in the general project vicinity. However, prehistoric cultural resources may also be present, in the form of bedrock milling features or small campsites.

## **PREHISTORIC RESOURCES**

Based on documentary investigations, Native American consultation, and fieldwork, prehistoric resources that may be uncovered include local manifestations of regional subsistence, settlement, and exchange. Typically, prehistoric resources are bedrock milling features; the remains of human habitation including midden soils, lithic, and faunal remains; and lithic scatters.

To be recommended as significant under NHPA Section 106 or the State CEQA Guidelines, prehistoric sites must possess integrity, and must qualify under one or more of the four NRHP/CRHR significance criteria described in Chapter 2, as explained further below.

- ▶ **NRHP Criterion A or CRHR Criterion 1:** The resource must be associated with events significant to the broad patterns of history. Resources must contain some evidence of such an association. For prehistoric sites, there should be evidence that the site was especially important to the Native American residents of the area as a village, meeting place, or ceremonial site, or in some other capacity. Examples of such evidence include large numbers of residential features and ceremonial objects.
- ▶ **NRHP Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2:** The resource must be associated with the lives of persons significant in the past. Documentary or artifactual evidence could demonstrate, or oral tradition could attest to, such an association. If the evidence were not artifactual, it would have to specify the site's location with sufficient accuracy to allow unequivocal identification of the location. Artifactual evidence would have to support the claim of association, or to reasonably corroborate documentary or testamentary claims.

- ▶ **NRHP Criterion C or CRHR Criterion 3:** The resource must embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or building method; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The presence of prehistoric architecture or rock art would most likely qualify a site under NRHP Criterion C or CRHR Criterion 3.
- ▶ **NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4:** The resource must contain, or must be likely to contain data, that can further our understanding of prehistory. These data must also be in a context that has not been significantly affected by natural processes or subsequent cultural activities.

## **HISTORIC RESOURCES**

A review of historic documents indicates that historic mining and ranching and agriculture constitute the primary historic themes that may be present in the project area. The discussions below address NRHP/CRHR eligibility considerations and integrity considerations for these themes, along with the theme of irrigation and water conveyance systems.

### **MINING-RELATED FEATURES**

The remains of small-scale operations, consisting of prospects, placer mining, and associated refuse, are the types of mining-related sites most likely to be encountered in the project area. These features are limited in duration of use and scale, but they have the potential to provide data not often described in the historic literature.

#### **NRHP/CRHR Eligibility Considerations**

To be considered eligible under NRHP and/or CRHR criteria, mining-related properties must:

- ▶ display evidence of a permanent operation that contributed to the development of mining or mining technology in the region;
- ▶ exhibit evidence of new approaches or represent innovative approaches to mining; or
- ▶ be the first or last of an era.

The presence of archaeological deposits may qualify the site as eligible under NRHP Criterion D and/or CRHR Criterion 4 if the data have the potential to address one or more of the research issues mentioned above. Refuse deposits may provide information about the success of the mining operation, the ability of the operators to adjust to changing technology, operations during a particular period of history, or the lifeways and/or composition of work groups.

Although individual resources may be determined ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP/CRHR, they also may be contributing elements of a mining landscape, a subtype of a rural historic landscape (NPS 1990:3). A rural historic landscape is defined as “a geographical area that historically has been used by people, or shaped or modified by human activity, occupancy, or intervention, and that possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of areas of land use, vegetation, buildings and structures, roads and waterways, and natural features” (NPS 1990:1–2). These landscapes are not planned, but evolve over a period of time (Hardesty 2003).

#### **Integrity Considerations**

Mining features must retain the character and feeling of the original resource, with limited impacts from natural processes or subsequent historic modifications or impacts. Associated archaeological deposits must be in the original matrix and not mixed with subsequent operations or other historic events.

## RANCHING AND AGRICULTURE

Since the Gold Rush, the project area has been dominated by ranching and farming. The heritage of farming and ranching in the project vicinity dates to the 1850s, when settlers established ranches to meet the food demands of mining operations. Local ranchers and farmers have experienced many economic fluctuations since those early years, and rural development has replaced many farms and ranches recently.

Permanent ranch or farming operations with complexes of buildings have been documented in the cultural resources inventory for HFRP. The following types of facilities and remains are likely to be encountered:

- ▶ Water conveyance systems, including dams and catchment basins
- ▶ Corrals
- ▶ Barns and sheds
- ▶ Structural remains
- ▶ Refuse dumps and scatters

### NRHP/CRHR Eligibility Considerations

To be eligible for the NRHP or CRHR, ranching and agriculture–related resources must display the characteristics summarized below.

- ▶ **NRHP Criterion A or B or CRHR Criterion 1 or 2:** The resource must have been permanent and used for a number of sequential years, and thus must be capable of interpretation for its role in the development of the local livestock and farming industry. Alternatively, the site could be associated with the career of a person important in the local evolution of the livestock or farming industry. In this case, to be considered eligible under NRHP Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2, the locale must have been used and occupied by an important personage, not simply owned or remotely operated by the person.

The resource also must maintain enough of its historic fabric to make its function readily apparent. The properties may be found either singularly or as part of a complex or system. In a complex or system, the contributing resource must be at least 50 years old. The features or objects must be in their original location or their location during the period of significance, and the setting must convey their historic feeling or function. For architectural resources, additions or modification must not impair the quality of the historic fabric (design, materials, and workmanship) of the individual resource.

- ▶ **NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4:** The resource must be able to offer significant quantities of information to address research questions and retain a sufficient degree of integrity (as summarized below).

Sites and features in the project area tend to have minimal built or constructed features and generally are considered more important for the information they may contain than for their architectural presence. Thus, these resources generally will not be considered eligible under NRHP Criterion C or CRHR Criterion 3.

### Integrity Considerations

For archaeological expressions to be considered to possess integrity, all of the aforementioned properties, features, and site types must not exhibit evidence of extensive post-depositional disturbance.

For farms and ranches, the resource must convey its historic function and modern repairs. Additions and maintenance activities must not have significantly impaired the resource's historic fabric and character and its relationship to ranching operations. Those same activities are also considered when determining the site's integrity as an archaeological resource, because they would disturb the archaeological matrix.

## IRRIGATION AND WATER CONVEYANCE SYSTEMS

Historically, adequate water has been available for use in Placer County; however, the water was not always conveniently located to meet the irrigation needs of farming, ranching, and mining. Securing water supplies has been a key element of successful Euro-American use of Placer County and California as a whole. During the past 150 years, growing numbers of people in California have recognized the need for adequate and reliable water supplies, at first to supply the needs of miners and later to supply electrical generation facilities and enable irrigation. This recognition led to the development of water storage and distribution systems, which can be categorized by their funding type (private or public), size and scale (small to very large), number of users served, and type of water usage.

The property types pertinent to the study area and the theme of water resource development are irrigation and their component elements, consisting of dams, canals, ditches, laterals or spreaders, diversion dams, head gates, pipes, siphons, drop boxes, flumes, and silt boxes. In the project area, the purpose is to provide irrigation water for agricultural expansion on arid lands. These resources may be eligible under NRHP Criteria A–C or CRHR Criteria 1–3. These resources may also be eligible under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4 if associated archaeological deposits are present. Beyond that, any features must be among the earliest in a given drainage or watershed. For this region of California, any ditches and their water rights must be dateable to the mid-19th or early 20th century (1850–1910). The property types and registration requirements outlined below were determined based on archival research and a review of published sources that show the types of ditches recorded and expected to be found in the study area.

### NRHP/CRHR Eligibility Considerations

To be eligible for the NRHP or CRHR, resources related to irrigation and water conveyance systems must meet the requirements summarized below.

- ▶ **NRHP Criterion A or CRHR Criterion 1:** Irrigation and water conveyance systems (e.g., diversion dams, head gates, pipes, canals, siphons, drop boxes, flumes, silt boxes) must be associated with one or more historic themes important to the development of the region, and must clearly portray that theme. In addition, the features must be good examples of those systems.
- ▶ **NRHP Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2:** The components or system must be associated with an individual or group of individuals who were important in the development of water conveyance systems, ranching, or farming. Furthermore, the associated individuals must have been actively engaged in the operations, and not merely investors or owners.
- ▶ **NRHP Criterion C or CRHR Criterion 3:** Construction materials, features, or methods of construction must be representative of irrigation systems, with engineered elements that are significant or that demonstrate an evolution in the construction of irrigation systems.
- ▶ **NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4:** Archaeological deposits associated with the resources must be capable of use to further define methods of construction, time periods, cultural affinity, or uses of the system.

### Integrity Considerations

Segments of irrigation and water conveyance systems may be found either singularly or as a system. A singular element's function, purpose, and role within the larger system should be capable of interpretation. The feature or object must be in its original location or the location during the period of significance, and the setting must be present to convey a historic feeling and function. Although additions or modifications must not impair the quality or

the historic fabric (e.g., design, materials, and workmanship) of the individual element or system, ditches and their associated delivery systems must be viewed as dynamic when assessing integrity. For example, ongoing maintenance activities must be conducted periodically, which will cause changes to any given ditch. However, substantial upgrades, such as adding concrete lining or converting a dirt ditch to pipe, will be considered to have compromised the historic fabric and feeling. Therefore, a substantially altered ditch, or the altered portions, will be considered ineligible.

In summary, features of irrigation and water conveyance systems should be clearly evident, not filled in or substantially modified, and accurately dated. The only exceptions applicable to these property types occur when the property is representative of a once-larger property category that has now become relatively scarce.

## 4 PRE-FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

Cultural resource investigations for the project consisted of several elements: Native American consultation, pre-field research including previous investigations, and historic documentation. All aspects of the cultural resource study were conducted in accordance with guidelines outlined in the federal *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for the Identification of Cultural Resources* (48 *Federal Register* 44720–44723) and the California Office of Historic Preservation's *Instructions for Recording Historical Resources* (OHP 1995).

### 4.1 RESULTS OF RECORDS SEARCH

A records search of previously recorded archaeological sites and previously conducted cultural resources inventories in and within ¼ mile of the APE was conducted at the North Central Information Center (NCIC) at California State University, Sacramento, on November 28, 2016. A records search assists in determining whether a proposed project could affect known cultural resources and in identifying the types of cultural resources that may be encountered. Records maintained by the NCIC include California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Series 523 archaeological site records, site location maps, maps of previous study coverage, NRHP nomination forms, and relevant historical documentation and maps. The NCIC research also included a review of the following sources, all of which are on file at the information center:

- ▶ NRHP (National Park Service 1996, and computer updates 1966–2015)
- ▶ CRHR (State of California, through 2015)
- ▶ California Points of Historical Interest (State of California, 1992 and updates)
- ▶ Historic Spots in California (State of California, 2002)
- ▶ Directory of Properties in the Historical Resources Inventory (State of California, 1976 and updates)
- ▶ California Historical Landmarks (California Office of Historic Preservation, 1990)

This review indicated that five cultural resources inventories have been conducted within ¼ mile of the APE (Table 1).

No cultural resources have been recorded within the APE. A total of 28 prehistoric and historic archaeological sites have been recorded within ¼ mile of the APE, PLT parcels, or private parcels with trail easements (Table 2). Resources generally consist of prehistoric bedrock milling features and historic habitation, mining, or ranching sites.

**Table 1. Previously Recorded Cultural Resource Inventories within 1/4 Mile of the Area of Potential Effects**

Report #	Authors	Title	Date
5013	Johnson, J., and B. Eddy	<i>Garden Bar Dam and Reservoir Water Power Project FERC No. 522</i>	1988
5773	Johnson, J.	<i>Archaeological Survey of 73.4 Miles of Nevada Irrigation District Canals and Ditches in Placer and Nevada Counties, California</i>	1972
8475	Deis, R.	<i>Cultural Resources Inventory and Assessment, Hidden Falls Regional Park Project</i>	2007
8476	Foster, J., and D. Foster	<i>An Archaeological and Historical Resources Survey and Impact Assessment of the Hidden Falls Project Area, Auburn, California</i>	1994
9168	Neuenschwander, N., D. Osanna, and C. Whittingham	<i>Auburn Valley Country Club Units 3 and 5</i>	1996

Notes: FERC = Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Source: Data compiled by AECOM in 2017

**Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within ¼ mile of APE and PLT parcels or parcels with trail easements.**

Site #	Description	Recorded	Report	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility
P-29-546/ CA-NEV-488	Prehistoric bedrock milling feature and lithic scatter; historic mining/habitation	1985	5013	Potentially Eligible
P-31-654/ CA-PLA-528H	Historic hearths, ditch alignment	1985	5013	Not Eligible
P-31-656/ CA-PLA-530H	Historic structure pad, rock alignment	1985	5013	Not Eligible
P-31-657/ CA-PLA-531H	Historic water conveyance (dam and ditch)	1985	5013	Not Eligible
P-31-3013/ CA-PLA-2077H	Historic placer mining operation with pits, tailing piles, and trenches	2006	8475	Not Eligible
P-31-3014/ CA-PLA-2078H	Historic ranch site with house foundation, water conveyance system, rock cairns, residences, and outbuildings	2006	8475	Not Eligible
P-31-3015/ CA-PLA-2079	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	2006	8475	Potentially Eligible
P-31-3016/ CA-PLA-2080	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	2006	8475	Potentially Eligible
P-31-3017/ CA-PLA-2081	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	2006	8475	Potentially Eligible
P-31-3018/ CA-PLA-2082	Historic concrete dam and diversion canal	2006	8475	Not Eligible
P-31-3019/ CA-PLA-2083	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	2006	8475	Potentially Eligible
P-31-3020	Historic placer mining operation with pits, tailing piles, and trenches	2006	8475	Not Eligible
P-31-2021	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	2006	8475	Potentially Eligible
P-31-3022/ CA-PLA-2084	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	2006	8475	Potentially Eligible
P-31-3023	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	2006	8475	Potentially Eligible
P-31-3024	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	2006	8475	Potentially Eligible
P-31-3025	Prehistoric cupule boulder	2006	8475	Eligible

Site #	Description	Recorded	Report	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility
P-31-3026	Historic water conveyance (canal)	2006	8475	Not Eligible
P-31-3027	Historic stacked rock pile	2006	8475	Not Eligible
P-31-3028	Historic debris (cast iron stove)	2006	8475	Not Eligible
P-31-3029/ CA-PLA-2085	Prehistoric bedrock milling features	1994	8476	Not Eligible
P-31-3030/ CA-PLA-2086H	Historic ranch with barn, cattle chute, corral, and scattered artifacts	1994	8476	Not Eligible
P-31-3031/ CA-PLA-2087H	Historic foundation, well, and trash scatter	1994	8476	Not Eligible
P-31-3032/ CA-PLA-2088H	Historic road alignment	1994	8476	Not Eligible
P-31-3036/ CA-PLA-2092H	Historic Whiskey Diggins canal	1994	8475, 8476	Not Eligible
P-31-3039/ CA-PLA-2076H	Historic structure pad, chimney, and trench	2006	8475	Not Eligible
P-31-3292	Historic rock wall	1996	9168	Not Eligible
P-31-3296	Prehistoric lithic flake	1996	9168	Not Eligible

Notes: CRHR = California Register of Historical Resources; NRHP = National Register of Historic Places  
Source: Data compiled by AECOM in 2017

## 4.2 HISTORIC MAPS

Historic maps were reviewed to define past landscape conditions and determine what buildings or structures may have existed in or near the project area. The 1856, 1868, and 1876 General Land Office plat maps do not depict any structures or roads in the APE (see Figure 5). Few features are indicated in the surrounding area; features included on maps are dry ravines, Raccoon Creek (noted as “Dry Creek”), cultivated fields, and the occasional road. North of the project area, in Nevada County, Township 14 North, Range 7 East is noted as having “Rolling Hills with scattering Oak and Pine Timber” ( Figure 5).

## 4.3 NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION SACRED LANDS SEARCH AND CONSULTATION

AECOM contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento and requested a list of tribal organizations and individuals affiliated with the project area and a search of the NAHC Sacred Lands Files. The Sacred Lands Files search revealed that no known sites of cultural or spiritual importance to the present-day Native American community are known to exist in the project area. The NAHC also provided contact information for groups and individuals affiliated with the project area (Table 3).

Placer County sent letters to each contact provided by the NAHC. One response was received from the United Auburn Indian Community. Although this correspondence did not indicate any specific concerns regarding the project, the tribe requested a copy of this technical report and the SEIR. Copies of all correspondence are presented in Appendix A.

**Table 3. Native American Contacts Provided by the Native American Heritage Commission**

Individual	Address	Affiliation
Grayson Coney, Cultural Director	Tsi-Akim Maidu P.O. Box 1316 Colfax, CA 95713	Maidu
Don Ryberg, Chairperson	Tsi-Akim Maidu 11442 Butler Road Grass Valley, CA 95945	Maidu
Gene Whitehouse, Chairperson	United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria 10720 Indian Hill Road Auburn, CA 95603	Maidu/Miwok
Nicolas Fonseca, Chairperson	Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians P.O. Box 1340 Shingle Springs, CA 95682	Miwok/Maidu

Source: Data compiled by AECOM in 2017

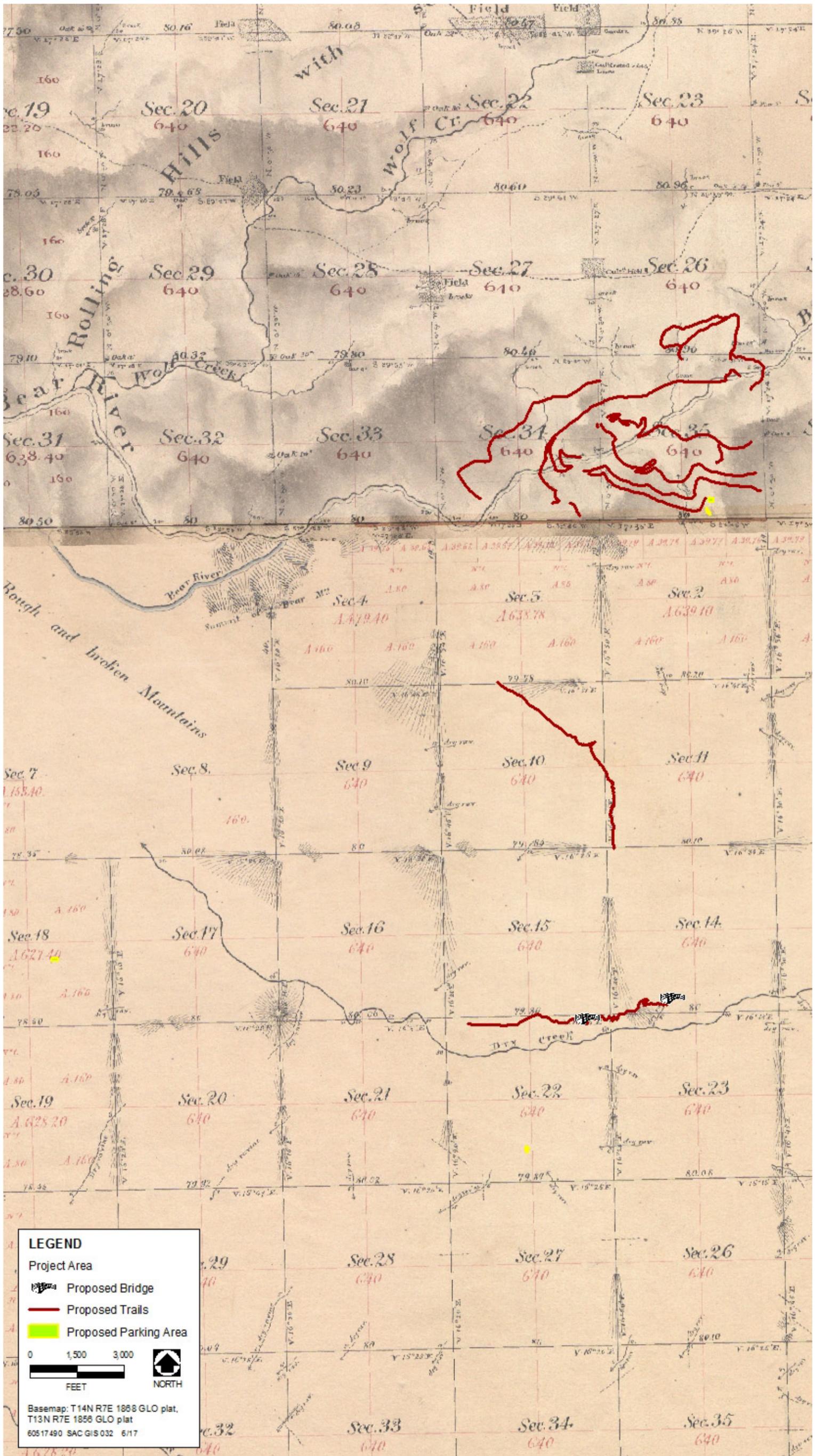


Figure 5. Historic Map—General Land Office Plat, Township 14N, Range 7E (1868), T13N R7E (1856).

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## 5 FIELD INVENTORY

Although no sites and no archaeological investigations have been documented within the APE, previous studies and information provided by the NCIC indicate that the project area and the surrounding vicinity are sensitive for containing evidence of Native American occupation, early mining, and homesteads. This chapter describes the results of a field inventory conducted for the project, indicates whether any newly-documented resources identified in the APE would be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR, and provides management recommendations.

### 5.1 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

AECOM cultural resources specialists Amy Jordan, PhD, and Laura Cook conducted an intensive field survey of the proposed trail segments and parking lots on December 6–8 and December 13–14, 2016, and May 15–16 and June 7, 2017 (Figure 6). Representatives from the United Auburn Indian Community were informed of the fieldwork but did not elect to participate. Consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's standards and guidelines, the proposed parking lots were surveyed using parallel 10-meter transects. Trail segments were surveyed in transects of 3 meters or less, depending on vegetation and terrain. The trail with would not exceed approximately 12 feet (3.65 meters). Rock outcrops were examined carefully for the presence of milling features and rock art. Areas of high archaeological sensitivity (i.e., margins of drainages, areas of gentle terrain) were closely scrutinized. Cut banks, tree fall, and rodent back dirt were examined for evidence of subsurface cultural deposits.

The surveys were guided by the use of a Trimble GeoXH 6000 series handheld global positioning system (GPS) unit. The GPS readings were cross-checked against the topographic features represented on a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle map with a projected North American Datum of 1983 Universal Transverse Mercator grid, as well as aerial photographic images provided by the County.

When a new cultural resource was encountered during the survey, its location was plotted on the appropriate USGS 7.5-minute topographic map. All sites and relevant features were mapped using the GPS technology mentioned above. However, because of dense vegetation, satellite coverage in some portions of the project area was less than ideal.

Site information was recorded on appropriate DPR Series 523 forms in the field. Additional notes were taken to aid in the documentation of more complex sites. A Primary Record (DPR 523A) and an Archaeological Site Record (DPR 523C) was completed for each documented resource.

Survey conditions were variable, ranging from open oak savanna (Figure 7) with 75–100% surface visibility to thick, overgrown blackberry bramble or poison oak (Figure 8), and gentle slopes of 7° or less (Figure 9) to steep slopes of approximately 15° or greater (Figure 10).

### 5.2 SURVEY RESULTS

The inventory of the project area identified two historic cultural resource sites: a series of stacked rock walls and a water conveyance ditch with associated features. These two sites, HF-2016-01 and HF-2017-01, reflect the themes of ranching and mining, respectively, and are discussed in detail below. The locations of these resources are shown in Figure 11 and Figure 12. Site documentation is presented in Appendix B.

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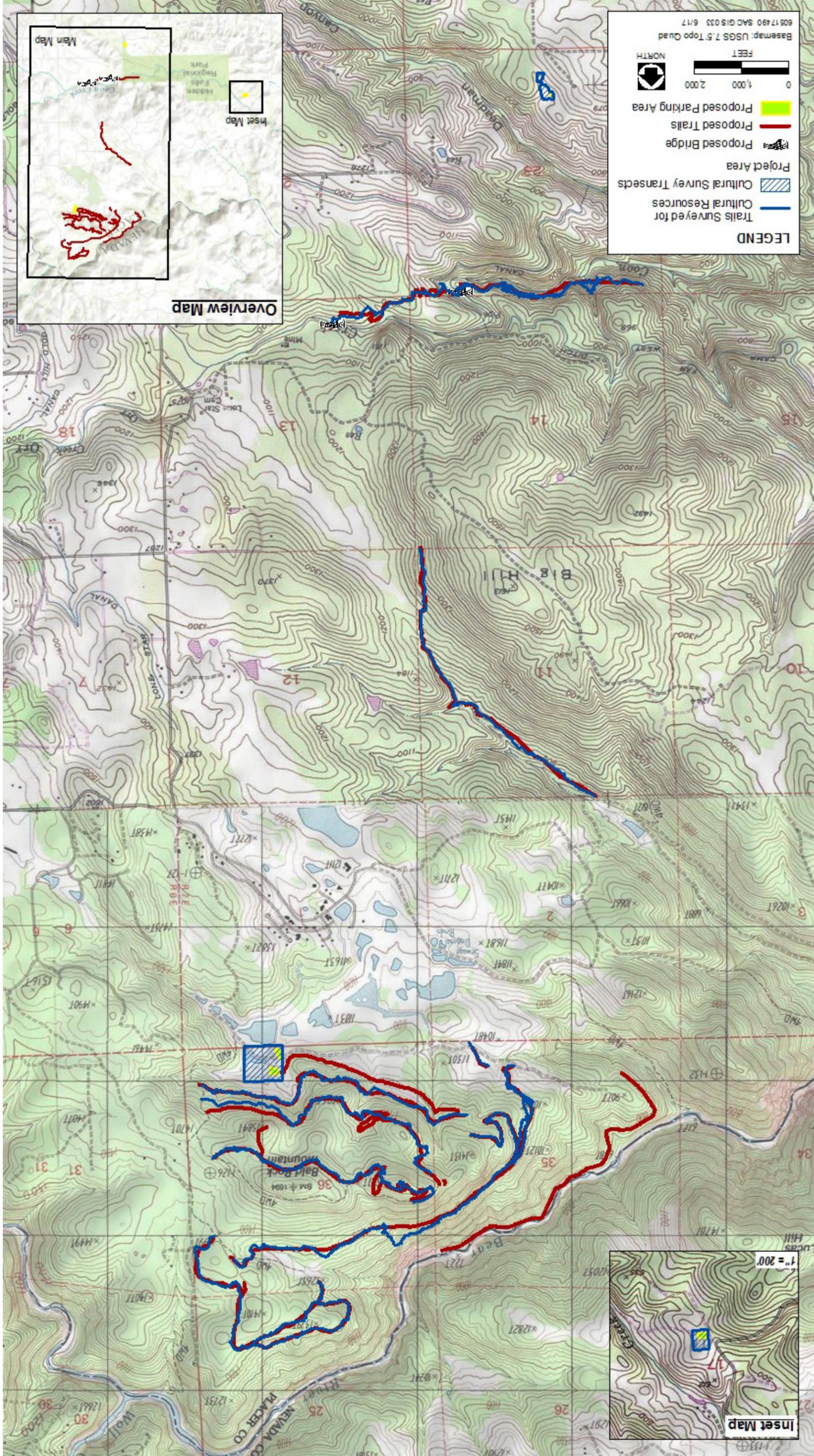


Figure 6. Surveyed Areas, USGS 7.5" Quadrangle Wolf, CA (1995) and Gold Hill, CA (1973)





**Figure 7. Open Oak Savanna in Harvego Bear River Preserve**



**Figure 8. Thick Overgrowth near Raccoon Creek between Hidden Falls Regional Park and Taylor Ranch**



**Figure 9. Typical Area with Gentle Slopes in Harvego Bear River Preserve**



**Figure 10. Typical Area with Moderate Slope in Taylor Ranch**

Location of HF-2016-01  
Not for public review

**Figure 11. Location of Cultural Resource Site HF-2016-01 (USGS 7.5" Quadrangle Wolf, CA 1995)**

Location of HF-2017-01  
Not for public review

**Figure 12. Location of Cultural Resource Site HF-2017-01 (USGS 7.5" Quadrangle Gold Hill, 1973)**

## **HF-2016-01**

HF-2016-01 (Figure 13) is a series of rock walls (Figure 14, Figure 15) that reflect the theme of ranching. The site consists of four segments of mortarless rock walls between 1 and 3 meters high. Three walls are located to the north and one wall to the south of an improved, rock-lined drainage. A wire-wrapped milled lumber post was noted at the site, but no other artifacts were observed. Grasses covered approximately 100% of the ground surface and may have obscured small artifacts, but tin can-sized artifacts would have been visible. The absence of diagnostic artifacts limits the potential to estimate this site's age. Mortarless rock walls are common in Northern California and are often associated with livestock control.

Because of the lack of associated artifacts to identify the time the walls were erected or the identity of the builders, and because it does not represent a distinctive method of construction, this site has little data potential or association with important people/events in history.

## **HF-2017-01**

HF-2017-01 (Figure 16) is a water conveyance ditch and stacked rock wall (Figure 17, Figure 18) that may be associated with Whiskey Diggins Canal, 30 meters to the east. The site consists of a ditch segment with stacked rock walls reinforcing part of the south berm and the remains of a small wooden bridge at its eastern terminus crossing Whiskey Diggins Canal. Metal wire affixed to a tree branch with an eye bolt-like piece of hardware was the only artifact observed, although heavy vegetation may have obscured additional artifacts. The absence of diagnostic artifacts limits the potential to estimate this site's age.

There are four significant breaches in the ditch and berm. Three of the breaches appear to be from cattle and erosion. The fourth breach, near the bridge, appears intentional and likely occurred during construction of the ditch. The bridge appears to be missing components, as evidenced by straight lines of protruding nails on top of the cross beams (see site form in Appendix B for details). Water conveyance ditches are common in the Sierra Nevada foothills region of California and are often associated with mining or irrigation. The wooden bridge may have functioned as a support structure or trestle for a pipe transporting water across the Whiskey Diggins Canal to the segment of the ditch that continues on the other side of the canal. Because of the lack of associated artifacts to identify the time the ditch and associated features were erected or the identity of the builders, and because it does not represent a distinctive method of construction, this site has little data potential or association with important people/events in history.

## **5.3 SUMMARY OF NRHP/CRHR RESOURCE ELIGIBILITY**

No resources were identified in the APE that would be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR. On this basis, there are **no adverse effects** on NRHP-eligible historic properties and **no potentially significant effects** on CRHR-eligible resources that may arise from direct or indirect impacts of the project.

Location of HF-2016-01  
Not for public review

**Figure 13. HF-2016-01 Site Map**



Figure 14. Overview of Site HF-2016-01, Rock Wall, Looking East



Figure 15. Overview of Site HF-2016-01, Ditch and Wall, Looking West

Location of HF-2017-01  
Not for public review



**Figure 16. HF-2017-01 Site Map**

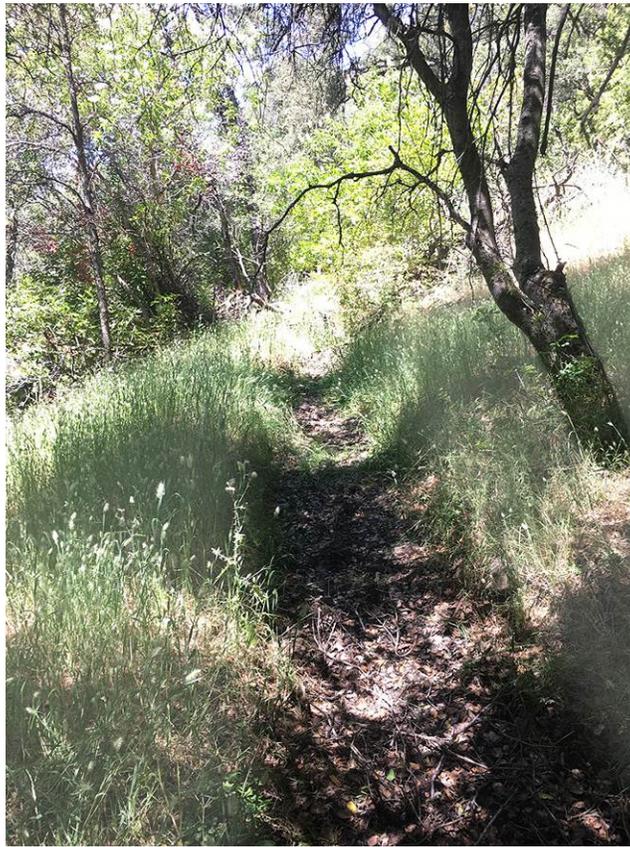


Figure 17. Overview of Site HF-2017-01, Ditch, Looking west.



Figure 18. Site HF-2017-01, Close-Up Views of Stacked Rock

## 5.4 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The newly identified cultural resources are not considered significant under the NRHP or CRHR criteria and the project as designed will have no adverse effects upon significant resources. However, HFRP may wish to alter the alignment of the trails to avoid these resources during trail construction. The rock walls of HF-2016-01 may be an attractive nuisance upon which people would climb and potentially injure themselves. Additionally, the bridge at HF-2017-01 may not be structurally sound and would also be an attractive nuisance to trail users. Alternatively, instead of avoiding the resources, HFRP may prefer to manage the resource for educational value and post interpretive signs discussing early ranching or mining lifeways and requesting that hikers refrain from climbing on the walls and bridge.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

No cultural resources that are considered significant under NHRP or CRHR criteria were identified in the project APE; therefore, there is a finding of **no historic properties affected**.

Although survey methods were developed to identify resources that may be located in the APE, it is possible that unidentified cultural deposits are present in shallow subsurface contexts. Given the potential for subsurface deposits, it is recommended that if undocumented cultural resources are encountered during construction, all earth-disturbing work in the vicinity of the find should cease until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find and, if appropriate, provide recommendations for treatment.

In accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities, the contractor and/or the project proponent shall immediately halt excavation in the area of the burial and notify the Placer County Coroner and a professional archaeologist to determine the nature of the remains. The coroner is required to examine all discoveries of human remains within 48 hours of receiving notice of a discovery on private or state lands (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5[b]). If the coroner determines that the remains are those of a Native American, he or she must contact the NAHC within 24 hours of making that determination (Health and Safety Code Section 7050[c]).

Following the coroner's findings, the archaeologist, and the NAHC-designated Most Likely Descendent (MLD) shall determine the ultimate treatment and disposition of the remains and take appropriate steps to ensure that additional human interments are not disturbed. The MLD shall have 48 hours to complete a site inspection and make recommendations after being granted access to the site. A range of possible treatments for the remains, including nondestructive removal and analysis, preservation in place, relinquishment of the remains and associated items to the descendants, or other culturally appropriate treatment may be discussed. Site protection measures undertaken by the property owner may include one or more of the following:

1. Record the site with the NAHC or the appropriate information center.
2. Utilize an open-space or conservation zoning designation or easement.
3. Record a document with the county in which the property is located.

The landowner or landowner's authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance. If the NAHC is unable to identify an MLD, or if the MLD fails to make a recommendation within 48 hours after being granted access to the site, the landowner or landowner's authorized representative may also reinter the remains in a location not subject to further disturbance if he or she rejects the recommendation of the MLD, and mediation by the NAHC fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner.

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# **APPENDIX A**

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Native American Correspondence

# Local Government Tribal Consultation List Request

## Native American Heritage Commission

1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
916-373-3710  
916-373-5471 – Fax  
[nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)

### Type of List Requested

CEQA Tribal Consultation List (AB 52) – *Per Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1, subs. (b), (d), (e) and 21080.3.2*

General Plan (SB 18) - *Per Government Code § 65352.3.*

#### Local Action Type:

General Plan     General Plan Element     General Plan Amendment

Specific Plan     Specific Plan Amendment     Pre-planning Outreach Activity

### Required Information

Project Title: Hidden Falls SEIR Date: 11/29/2016

Local Government/Lead Agency: Placer County

Contact Person: Laura Cook

Street Address: 2020 L Street, Suite 400

City: Sacramento, CA Zip: 95811

Phone: 916-361-6448 Fax: 916-414-5850

Email: laura.cook2@aecom.com

#### Specific Area Subject to Proposed Action

County: Placer City/Community: Auburn

#### Project Description:

Placer County is proposing to acquire and preserve an additional 2,500 acres of open space to the north and east of the Hidden Falls Regional Park where they will construct an additional 60 miles of multi-use trails, and increase parking and access to the park along Mears Place, Garden Bar, and Auburn Valley roads.

### Additional Request

Sacred Lands File Search - *Required Information:*

USGS Quadrangle Name(s): Gold Hill and Wolf, CA

see attached map

Township: 13N & 14N Range: 7E Section(s): Numerous

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
(916) 373-3710  
(916) 373-5471 FAX



December 7, 2016

Laura Cook  
Consultant on behalf of Placer County

Sent by Email: laura.cook@aecom.com  
Number of Pages: 3

RE: Hidden Falls SEIR, Gold Hill and Wolf, Placer County

Dear Ms. Cook:

Attached is a consultation list of tribes with traditional lands or cultural places located within the boundaries of the above referenced counties. Please note that the intent above reference codes is to avoid and or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, as defined, for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) projects.

As of July 1, 2015, Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 and 21080.3.2 require public agencies to consult with California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose mitigating impacts to tribal cultural resources:

Within 14 days of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section. (Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1(d))

The law does not preclude agencies from initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated with their jurisdictions. The NAHC believes that in fact that this is the best practice to ensure that tribes are consulted commensurate with the intent of the law.

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1(d), formal notification must include a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation. The NAHC believes that agencies should also include with their notification letters information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the APE, such as:

1. The results of any record search that may have been conducted at an Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), including, but not limited to:
  - A listing of any and all known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE;
  - Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
  - If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
  - Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the potential APE; and

- If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:
    - Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure in accordance with Government Code Section 6254.10.
  3. The results of any Sacred Lands File (SFL) check conducted through Native American Heritage Commission. A search of the SFL was completed for the USGS quadrangle information provided with negative results.
  4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the potential APE; and
  5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the potential APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS is not exhaustive, and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a cultural place. **A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource.**

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. In the case that they do, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the consultation process.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our consultation list contains current information.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: [Sharaya.souza@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Sharaya.souza@nahc.ca.gov)

Sincerely,



Sharaya Souza  
Staff Services Analyst

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Tribal Consultation List  
Placer Counties  
December 7, 2016**

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
Nicholas Fonseca, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 1340                      Miwok  
Shingle Springs , CA 95682      Maidu  
nfonseca@ssband.org  
(530) 387-1400

Tsi Akim Maidu  
Grayson Coney, Cultural Director  
P.O. Box 1316                      Maidu  
Colfax , CA 95713  
tsi-akim-maidu@att.net  
(530) 383-7234

Tsi Akim Maidu  
Don Ryberg, Chairperson  
11442 Butler Road                Maidu  
Grass Valley , CA 95945  
tsi-akim-maidu@att.net  
(530) 210-7743

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
Gene Whitehouse, Chairperson  
10720 Indian Hill Road            Maidu  
Auburn , CA 95603                Miwok  
(530) 883-2390 Office

**This list is current only as of the date of this document and is based on the information available to the Commission on the date it was produced.**

**Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.**

**This list is applicable only for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed Hidden Falls SEIR, Placer County.**



MIWOK United Auburn Indian Community  
MAIDU of the Auburn Rancheria

Gene Whitehouse  
Chairman

John L. Williams  
Vice Chairman

Danny Rey  
Secretary

Jason Camp  
Treasurer

Calvin Moman  
Council Member

December 22, 2016

Public Works and Facilities Representative  
County of Placer - Parks Division  
11476 C Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603

Placer County

Subject: Hidden Falls Regional Park Trails Network Expansion Project

Dear Public Works and Facilities Representative,

Thank you for requesting information regarding the above referenced project. The United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC) of the Auburn Rancheria is comprised of Miwok and Southern Maidu (Nisenan) people whose tribal lands are within Placer County and whose service area includes El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, and Yuba counties. The UAIC is concerned about development within its aboriginal territory that has potential to impact the lifeways, cultural sites, and landscapes that may be of sacred or ceremonial significance. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this and other projects in your jurisdiction. The UAIC would like to consult on this project.

In order to ascertain whether the project could affect cultural resources that may be of importance to the UAIC, we would like to receive copies of any archaeological reports that are completed for the project. We also request copies of future environmental documents for the proposed project so that we have the opportunity to comment on potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures related to cultural resources. The UAIC would also like the opportunity to have our tribal monitors accompany you during the field survey. The information gathered will provide us with a better understanding of the project and cultural resources on site and is invaluable for consultation purposes.

The UAIC's preservation committee has identified cultural resources in and around your project area, and would like to recommend that a tribal monitor be present during any ground disturbing activities. Thank you again for taking these matters into consideration, and for involving the UAIC early in the planning process. We look forward to reviewing the documents requested above and consulting on your project. Please contact Marcos Guerrero, Cultural Resources Manager, at (530) 883-2364 or by email at [mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com](mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gene Whitehouse,  
Chairman

CC: Marcos Guerrero, CRM

**From:** [Cook, Laura](#)  
**To:** [mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com](mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com)  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Boucher, Peter](#); [Unger, Petra](#); [Jordan, Amy](#)  
**Subject:** Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 7:50:26 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

---

Good morning Mr. Guerrero,

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Respectfully,

**Laura N. Cook**  
Archaeologist  
AECOM Environment  
D +1 916.361.6448  
M +1 209.263.2932  
[laura.cook2@aecom.com](mailto:laura.cook2@aecom.com)

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F +1 916.414.5850  
[aecom.com](http://aecom.com)

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**From:** Marcos Guerrero  
**To:** [Cook, Laura](#)  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Boucher, Peter](#); [Unger, Petra](#); [Jordan, Amy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:28:06 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Great thanks,

I will confirm availability with my staff. Would it be possible to have a paid monitor accompany you during the survey?

Best,

Marcos Guerrero

---

**From:** Cook, Laura [mailto:[Laura.Cook2@aecom.com](mailto:Laura.Cook2@aecom.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 7:50 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Boucher, Peter](#); [Unger, Petra](#); [Jordan, Amy](#)  
**Subject:** Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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[laura.cook2@aecom.com](mailto:laura.cook2@aecom.com)

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**From:** [Cook, Laura](#)  
**To:** [Marcos Guerrero](#)  
**Cc:** [Unger, Petra](#); [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Boucher, Peter](#); [Jordan, Amy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:37:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

Mr. Guerrero,

Unfortunately, no funding for paid monitors is available for this project. The notice of survey was provided as a courtesy in response to your request to Placer County to be informed of future survey work in support of the project. Please note that the survey is for resource inventory, not construction monitoring.

Respectfully,

**Laura N. Cook**  
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[laura.cook2@aecom.com](mailto:laura.cook2@aecom.com)

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---

**From:** Marcos Guerrero [mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:28 AM  
**To:** Cook, Laura  
**Cc:** LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov; Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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Best,

Marcos Guerrero

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**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 7:50 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
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**To:** [Cook, Laura](#)  
**Cc:** [Unger, Petra](#); [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Boucher, Peter](#); [Jordan, Amy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:43:51 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[UAIC Record Search Program Description \(7-13-16 amendment\).pdf](#)

---

Ms. Cook,

Yes, I understand, we have teams out now on many project getting paid for and completing CEQA and 106 surveys. I have found that our teams are most efficient at finding sites since it is often their cultural items they are identifying. Ive been on several projects where reports are negative, then our teams survey and find numerous, often very complex sites.

Ill try to send staff out on Monday. Are you interested in our records search program. It includes resource maps, interviews, oral histories, and archival documents. See attached. Can you provide a copy of the records search?

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Marcos Guerrero

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**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 8:37 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** [Unger, Petra](#); [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Boucher, Peter](#); [Jordan, Amy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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**From:** Marcos Guerrero [<mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:28 AM  
**To:** Cook, Laura  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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Best,  
Marcos Guerrero

---

**From:** Cook, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Cook2@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 7:50 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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**From:** [Boucher, Peter](#)  
**To:** [Marcos Guerrero](#)  
**Cc:** [Unger, Petra](#); [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Jordan, Amy](#); [Cook, Laura](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 11:55:25 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear Mr. Guerrero,

We are the CEQA consultants on this project and we are not able to engage in government-to-government consultation or authorize payment for monitors or records searches. Please contact Placer County directly on these matters, but please note that Lisa is out of the office until May 22.

We look forward to working with your staff on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> if scheduling permits.

Thanks very much,

Peter

**Peter Boucher**

Project Manager

Environment

D +1 916.414.5861 M +1 916.425.5120

[Peter.Boucher@aecom.com](mailto:Peter.Boucher@aecom.com)

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---

**From:** Marcos Guerrero [<mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:44 AM  
**To:** Cook, Laura  
**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

Ms. Cook,

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**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 8:37 AM  
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**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Jordan, Amy  
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**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:28 AM  
**To:** Cook, Laura  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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Marcos Guerrero

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**From:** Cook, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Cook2@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 7:50 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
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**To:** [Marcos Guerrero](#)  
**Cc:** [Unger, Petra](#); [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Jordan, Amy](#); [Cook, Laura](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017 11:52:47 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hello Mr. Guerrero,

We wanted to let you know that we'll be doing one more cultural resources survey out to the east of Hidden Falls Regional Park for the proposed trail network expansion.

The survey will take place this Friday, June 2. We are planning to meet at 4845 Bell Road at about 9 a.m. to access an area near Coon Creek through a property owned by Patti Beard.

Please let us know if you or your staff plan to attend.

Thanks,

Peter Boucher

**Peter Boucher**

Project Manager

Environment

D +1 916.414.5861 M +1 916.425.5120

[Peter.Boucher@aecom.com](mailto:Peter.Boucher@aecom.com)

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2020 L Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95811 USA

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[www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)

---

**From:** Boucher, Peter

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 11:55 AM

**To:** 'Marcos Guerrero'

**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Jordan, Amy; Cook, Laura

**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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Thanks very much,

Peter

**Peter Boucher**

Project Manager

Environment

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**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:44 AM  
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**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
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**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:28 AM  
**To:** Cook, Laura  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

Great thanks,

I will confirm availability with my staff. Would it be possible to have a paid monitor accompany you during the survey?

Best,

Marcos Guerrero

---

**From:** Cook, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Cook2@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 7:50 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

Good morning Mr. Guerrero,

The AECOM cultural staff, which includes myself and Dr. Amy Jordan, PhD., are planning on continuing our cultural survey of the Hidden Falls Regional Park on Monday May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We will meet in the parking area at 7587 Mears Place in Auburn at 9am. As you requested, we are informing you of when we will be continuing our survey efforts so that you may join us if you so choose. Please do not hesitate to email me with any questions or concerns you may have. If you need to reach me by phone, please call 916-361-6433 or send me an email and I will call you ASAP.

Respectfully,

**Laura N. Cook**  
Archaeologist  
AECOM Environment  
D +1 916.361.6448  
M +1 209.263.2932  
[laura.cook2@aecom.com](mailto:laura.cook2@aecom.com)

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**From:** Marcos Guerrero  
**To:** [Boucher, Peter](#); [Danny Rey](#)  
**Cc:** [Unger, Petra](#); [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Jordan, Amy](#); [Cook, Laura](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017 11:06:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Thanks Peter, have you had any finds or recorded any artifacts or features?  
mg

---

**From:** Boucher, Peter [mailto:[Peter.Boucher@aecom.com](mailto:Peter.Boucher@aecom.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017 11:53 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Jordan, Amy; Cook, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

Hello Mr. Guerrero,

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The survey will take place this Friday, June 2. We are planning to meet at 4845 Bell Road at about 9 a.m. to access an area near Coon Creek through a property owned by Patti Beard.

Please let us know if you or your staff plan to attend.

Thanks,

Peter Boucher

**Peter Boucher**  
Project Manager  
Environment  
D +1 916.414.5861 M +1 916.425.5120  
[Peter.Boucher@aecom.com](mailto:Peter.Boucher@aecom.com)

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[www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)

---

**From:** Boucher, Peter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 11:55 AM  
**To:** 'Marcos Guerrero'  
**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Jordan, Amy; Cook, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

Dear Mr. Guerrero,

We are the CEQA consultants on this project and we are not able to engage in government-to-government consultation or authorize payment for monitors or records searches. Please contact Placer County directly on these matters, but please note that Lisa is out of the office until May 22.

We look forward to working with your staff on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> if scheduling permits.

Thanks very much,

Peter

**Peter Boucher**  
Project Manager  
Environment  
D +1 916.414.5861 M +1 916.425.5120  
[Peter.Boucher@aecom.com](mailto:Peter.Boucher@aecom.com)

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---

**From:** Marcos Guerrero [<mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:44 AM  
**To:** Cook, Laura  
**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

Ms. Cook,

Yes, I understand, we have teams out now on many project getting paid for and completing CEQA and 106 surveys. I have found that our teams are most efficient at finding sites since it is often their cultural items they are identifying. Ive been on several projects where reports are negative, then our teams survey and find numerous, often very complex sites.

Ill try to send staff out on Monday. Are you interested in our records search program. It includes resource maps, interviews, oral histories, and archival documents. See attached. Can you provide a copy of the records search?

Best,

Marcos Guerrero

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**From:** Cook, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Cook2@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 8:37 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

Mr. Guerrero,

Unfortunately, no funding for paid monitors is available for this project. The notice of survey was provided as a courtesy in response to your request to Placer County to be informed of future survey work in support of the project. Please note that the survey is for resource inventory, not construction monitoring.

Respectfully,

**Laura N. Cook**  
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M +1 209.263.2932  
[laura.cook2@aecom.com](mailto:laura.cook2@aecom.com)

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**From:** Marcos Guerrero [<mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:28 AM  
**To:** Cook, Laura  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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Best,

Marcos Guerrero

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**From:** Cook, Laura [<mailto:Laura.Cook2@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017 7:50 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Boucher, Peter; Unger, Petra; Jordan, Amy  
**Subject:** Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

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**From:** [Boucher, Peter](#)  
**To:** [Marcos Guerrero](#); [Danny Rey](#)  
**Cc:** [Unger, Petra](#); [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); [Jordan, Amy](#); [Cook, Laura](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 31, 2017 8:53:25 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hello Mr. Guerrero,  
Nothing so far. Only the remnants of an historic era rock wall.  
Thanks,  
Peter Boucher

**Peter Boucher**  
Project Manager  
Environment  
D +1 916.414.5861 M +1 916.425.5120  
[Peter.Boucher@aecom.com](mailto:Peter.Boucher@aecom.com)

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**From:** Marcos Guerrero [<mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017 11:06 PM  
**To:** Boucher, Peter; Danny Rey  
**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Jordan, Amy; Cook, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Hidden Falls Regional Park Cultural Survey

Thanks Peter, have you had any finds or recorded any artifacts or features?  
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**From:** Boucher, Peter [<mailto:Peter.Boucher@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017 11:53 AM  
**To:** Marcos Guerrero  
**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:LCarnaha@placer.ca.gov); Jordan, Amy; Cook, Laura  
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**Cc:** Unger, Petra; [L.Carnaha@placer.ca.gov](mailto:L.Carnaha@placer.ca.gov); Jordan, Amy; Cook, Laura  
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# **APPENDIX B**

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Site Records

DPR Site Records  
Not for public review

# **ATTACHMENT**

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DPR Forms

DPR record for Milling Feature (MF1)  
Not for public review