INITIAL STUDY

- AND -

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PEACH TREE ROAD AT PANCHO RICO CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

MONTEREY COUNTY BRIDGE NUMBER 412

MONTEREY COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

JUNE 2014

PREFACE

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This document contains the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study for the Peach Tree Road at Pancho Rico Creek Bridge Replacement Project in Monterey County. These documents were made available for public review and comment for 30 days, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The documents were also sent to the State Clearinghouse (SCH Number 2014041065). Notices of availability of the documents and the Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration were posted at the project site, at the Monterey County Clerk's Office, and were published in the *Monterey County Weekly*, a local newspaper.

No comments were received from any public agency, organization, and/or member of the public.

Mitigated Negative Declaration

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

Project Description

The Monterey County Public Works Department (the "County") proposes to replace the existing Peach Tree Road at Pancho Rico Creek Bridge. The project is located in an unincorporated area of southern Monterey County, approximately 14 miles east of the community of San Ardo.

Determination

This proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is included to give notice to interested agencies and the public that it is the County's intent to adopt a MND for this project. This does not mean that the County's decision regarding the project is final. This MND is subject to modification based on comments received by interested agencies and the public.

The County has prepared an Initial Study for this project, and pending public review, expects to determine from this study that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

The proposed project would have no effect on aesthetics, agricultural lands, land use, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, and utilities and services.

In addition, the proposed project would have no significant effect on air quality, cultural resources, geology, greenhouse gas emissions, hazardous materials, hydrology, noise, and cumulative impacts.

The proposed project would have no significant adverse effect on biological resources because the following mitigation measures would reduce potential effects to insignificance:

California Red-legged Frog

- Pre-construction surveys for the California red-legged frog will be undertaken by a qualified biologist using the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) protocol for this species.
- If any red-legged frogs are found during the pre-construction surveys, consultation with the USFWS, in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, will immediately commence. No work will occur in the area of the find prior to the completion of the Section 7 consultation process.

San Joaquin Kit Fox

- A qualified biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys for the San Joaquin kit fox, and the USFWS' Standard Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox (1997, updated 1999) will be implemented.

California Tiger Salamander (CTS)

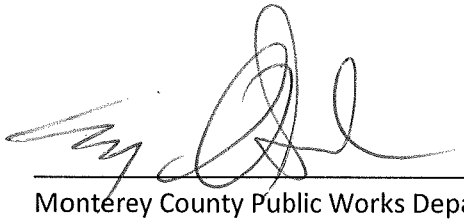
- The limits of the work area will be flagged prior to the start of construction.
- Exclusion fencing will be installed just outside of this work limit if work is conducted within Pancho Rico Creek at a time of year when water is present within the low-flow channel. The fencing will be installed during the dry season and prior to the start of construction (after April 15) and will be a minimum of 3.5 feet tall following installation. If plywood is used, the ends of each sheet must overlap by at least 6 inches and be tightly fastened together. The fencing will be inspected daily to ensure that it is in good repair, and repaired as necessary.
- Work and worker access will be prevented in areas outside of the established work limits.
- During construction, dedicated construction personnel will conduct daily checks of the exclusion fencing to ensure that it is functioning correctly (e.g., without any gaps through which CTS might enter the work area), and to maintain the fencing as needed.
- All steep walled holes and trenches will be covered with plywood or similar material at the end of each work day and uncovered and inspected at the beginning of each work day to prevent entrapment of amphibians.
- Workers will be trained on identification of CTS, their potential to occur in the project site, measures to avoid adverse effects, and penalties for not doing so.
- A County-approved, qualified biologist will be responsible for monitoring project activities to ensure avoidance of take of CTS and to minimize disturbance of CTS habitat.
- The biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey of the work site and be on-site during all initial ground disturbance activities.
- The biologist will resurvey the project impact area following all rain events and prior to restarting construction for the duration of the project.
- To the extent possible, all project related storage and equipment area and any other surface-disturbing activities will be confined to previously disturbed areas.
- In the event that a CTS is discovered during construction, all activities will cease that would adversely affect the species and the USFWS and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will be notified immediately. Work that could affect the species will not continue without authorization from both agencies.
- Construction activities will be limited to April 15 to October 15.
- CTS habitat temporarily affected by project activities will be restored to pre-construction conditions.
- Within 18 months of issuance of an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) from the CDFW, the County will acquire an easement on, preserve (via a conservation easement), and manage (via a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan [HMMP]) conservation lands off-site that will provide habitat for CTS of greater value compared to the habitat being impacted on the project site. A total of at least one acre of land will be included in the conservation easement in order to allow mitigation of the project's impact on approximately 0.51 acre of potential CTS habitat at a 2:1 ratio. Prior to acquisition of the conservation lands, the presence of CTS on-site will be confirmed or, if CTS presence cannot be confirmed, CTS presence on-site will be demonstrated to be likely based on

confirmation of CTS presence at another site nearby, within the dispersal capabilities of the species.

- The County will prepare an HMMP describing the measures that will be taken to manage the mitigation site and to monitor the effects of management on the CTS. The HMMP will be submitted to the CDFW for review and approval after ITP issuance. The HMMP will describe (1) management measures to be implemented on the proposed mitigation site; (2) the proposed habitat enhancement measures; (3) monitoring measures to evaluate implementation of the HMMP and maintenance of high-quality habitat; and (4) a long-term endowment for management of the site, which will be approved by the CDFW. The County will begin implementing the HMMP within 90 days of the CDFW's approval of the HMMP and completion of the purchase of a conservation easement on the mitigation lands.
- To ensure that the mitigation is provided, the County will provide the CDFW with a Letter of Credit to cover costs for the CDFW to acquire, preserve, and manage at least one acre of conservation lands in the same manner described above, in the event that the County does not perform the mitigation described in the previous paragraph within 18 months of ITP issuance.

Nesting Raptors

- Pre-construction surveys for nesting raptors will be conducted by a qualified ornithologist or wildlife biologist to ensure that no raptor nests will be disturbed during project implementation. This survey will be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the initiation of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (January through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of these activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through August). During this survey, the biologist will inspect all trees in and immediately adjacent to the impact areas for raptor nests. If an active raptor nest is found close enough to the construction area to be disturbed by these activities, the ornithologist, in consultation with the CDFW, will determine the extent of a construction-free buffer zone to be established around the nest.



Monterey County Public Works Department

6·11 2014

Date

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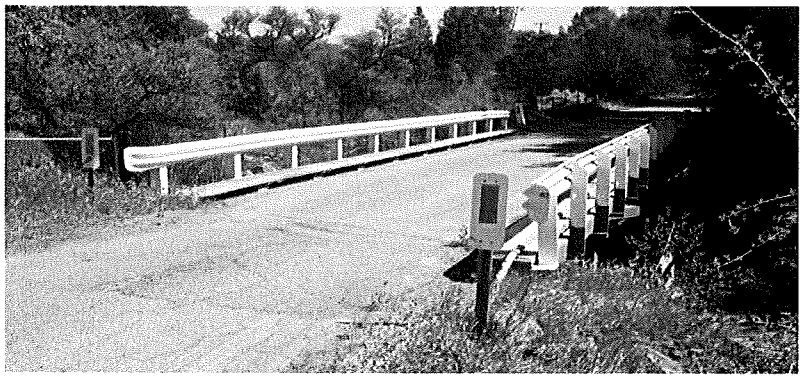
CHAPTER 1.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

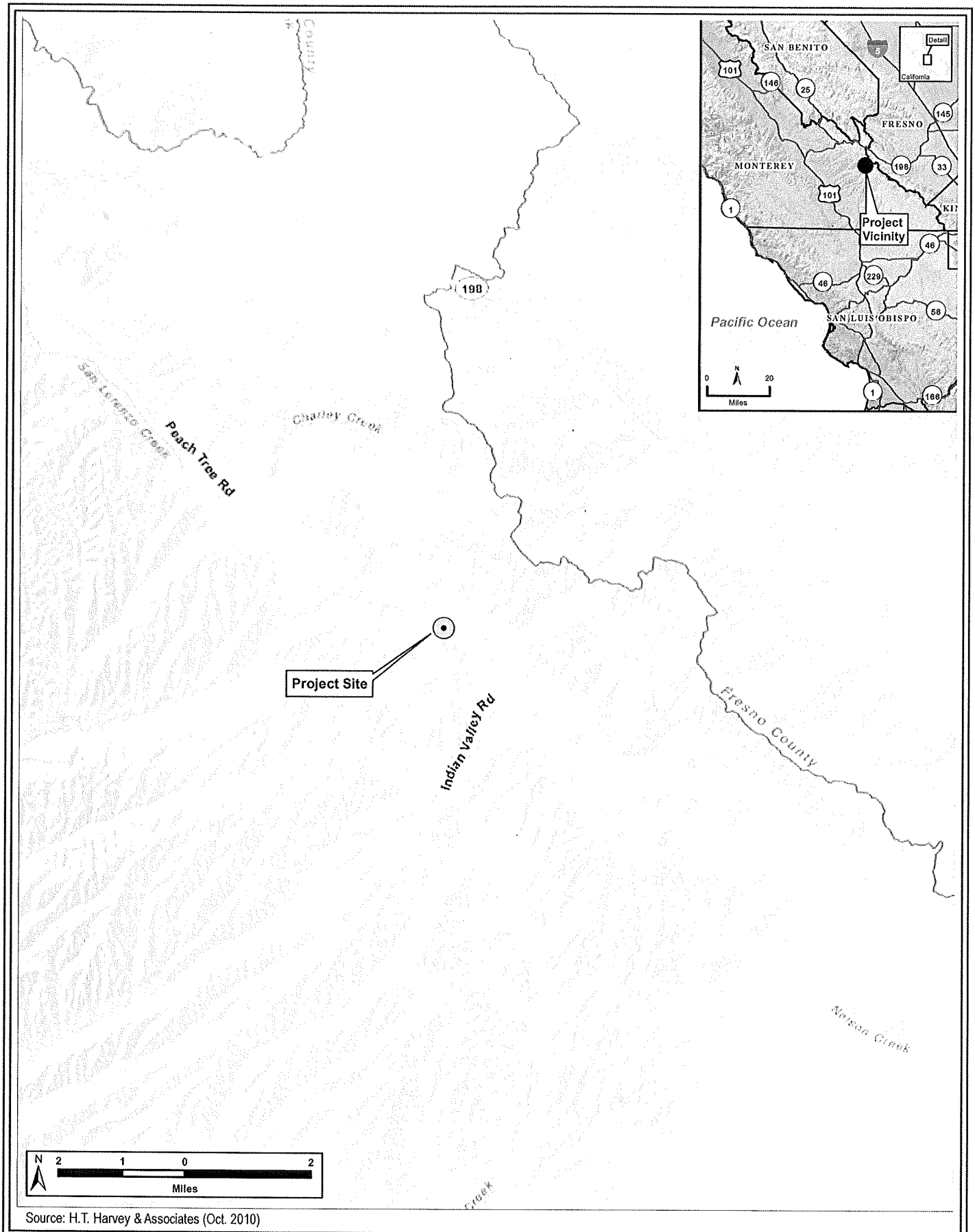


The Monterey County Department of Public Works (the "County") is proposing to replace the existing Peach Tree Road Bridge over Pancho Rico Creek. The bridge is Monterey County Bridge Number 412 and Caltrans Bridge Number 44C-151. As shown on Figures 1 and 2, the project site is located in an unincorporated area of southern Monterey County, approximately 14 miles east of the community of San Ardo. The bridge is located in the vicinity of the Slack Canyon Conservation Camp, which is currently vacant and inactive. The existing 3-span bridge was constructed in 1955, and is approximately 17 feet wide and 59 feet long. The existing bridge does not meet current design or seismic safety standards.

The replacement bridge will be located along the same alignment as the existing bridge. The existing bridge will be removed and a new bridge will be constructed in its place. The new bridge will be approximately 27 feet wide and 80 feet long. The new bridge will consist of a clear-span structure over Pancho Rico Creek. The new bridge will be supported by two abutments, one on each side of the creek. Each abutment will have short wing walls and will be supported on 24-inch diameter cast-in-drilled-hole concrete pilings. Rock slope protection (1/4-ton rock) will be provided at each abutment to protect against bank scour.

Work within the creek channel will be limited to removal of the existing steel piles. Stream diversion is not anticipated to be required. There is an environmentally sensitive area known as the McMillian Spring located south of the bridge on the east side of Peach Tree Road. To ensure that no impacts to this resource occur, exclusion fencing will be placed around this area prior to the start of construction and the fencing will remain until construction is completed.

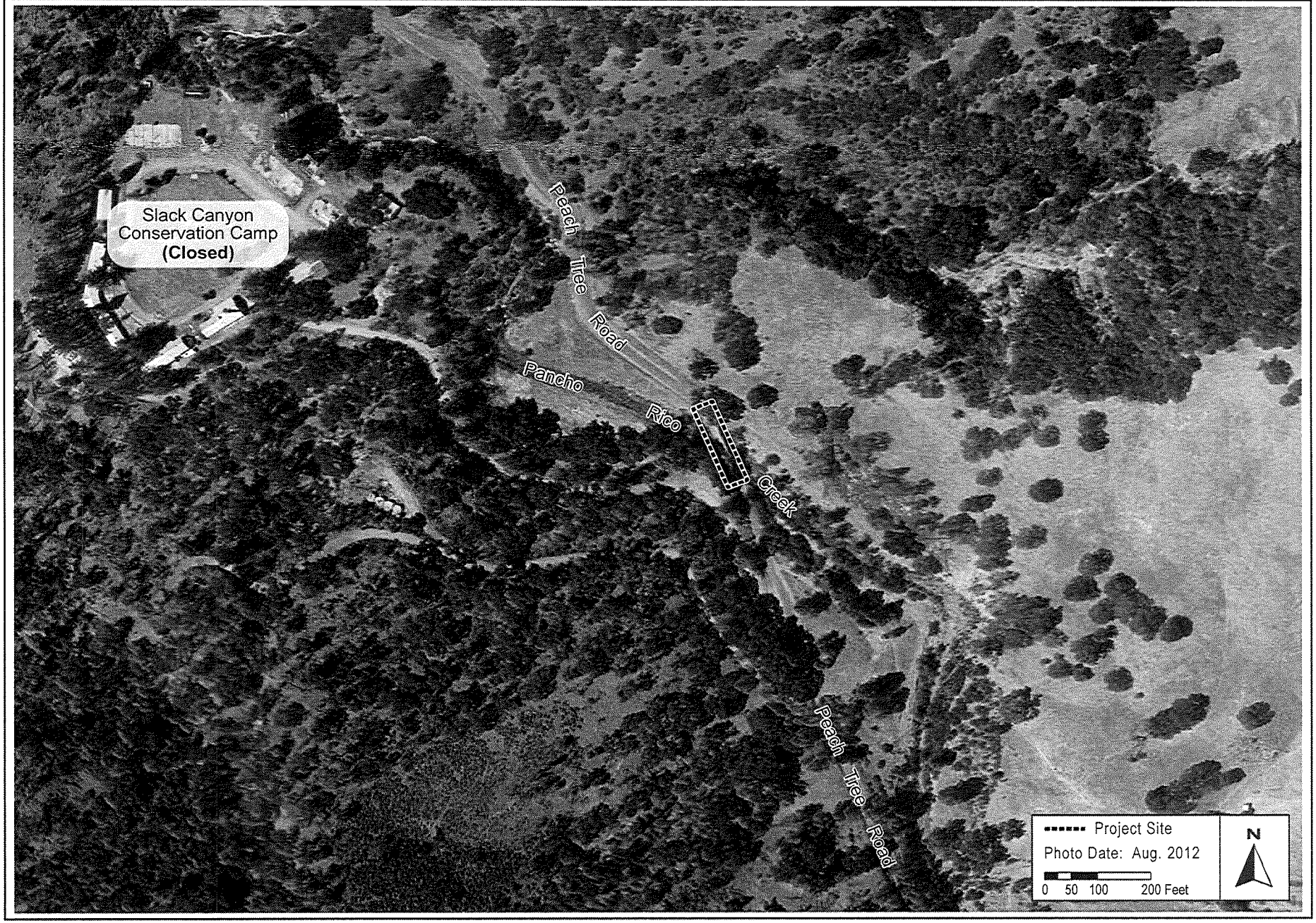
During construction, Peach Tree Road will be closed to thru traffic at the bridge site for approximately three months. With one exception during this closure, access across the creek for local traffic will be provided during non-construction hours. The exception will be one full closure for up to seven days to allow for the removal of the existing bridge and the installation of the new bridge superstructure. Advance notice of the full closure will be provided to residents, emergency responders, and service providers. Construction activities will also include the temporary relocation of overhead power lines in the vicinity of the bridge.



Source: H.T. Harvey & Associates (Oct. 2010)

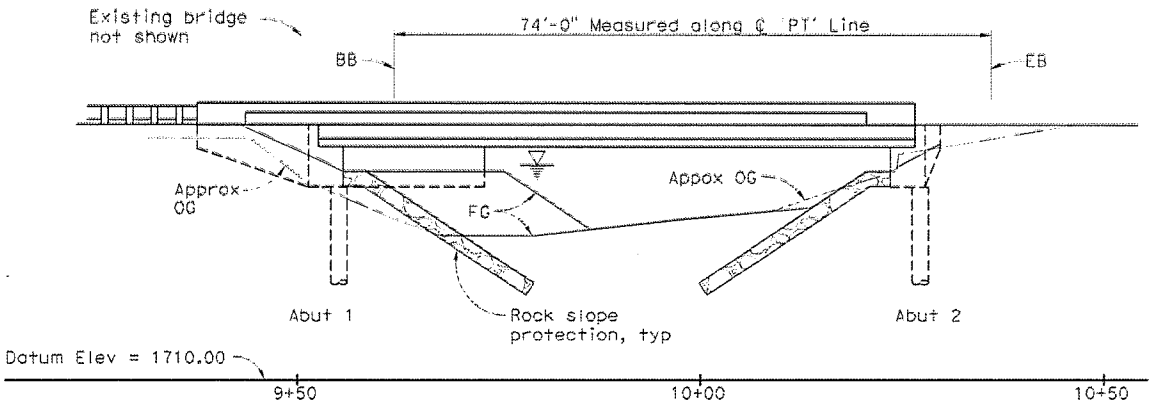
PROJECT LOCATION

FIGURE 1

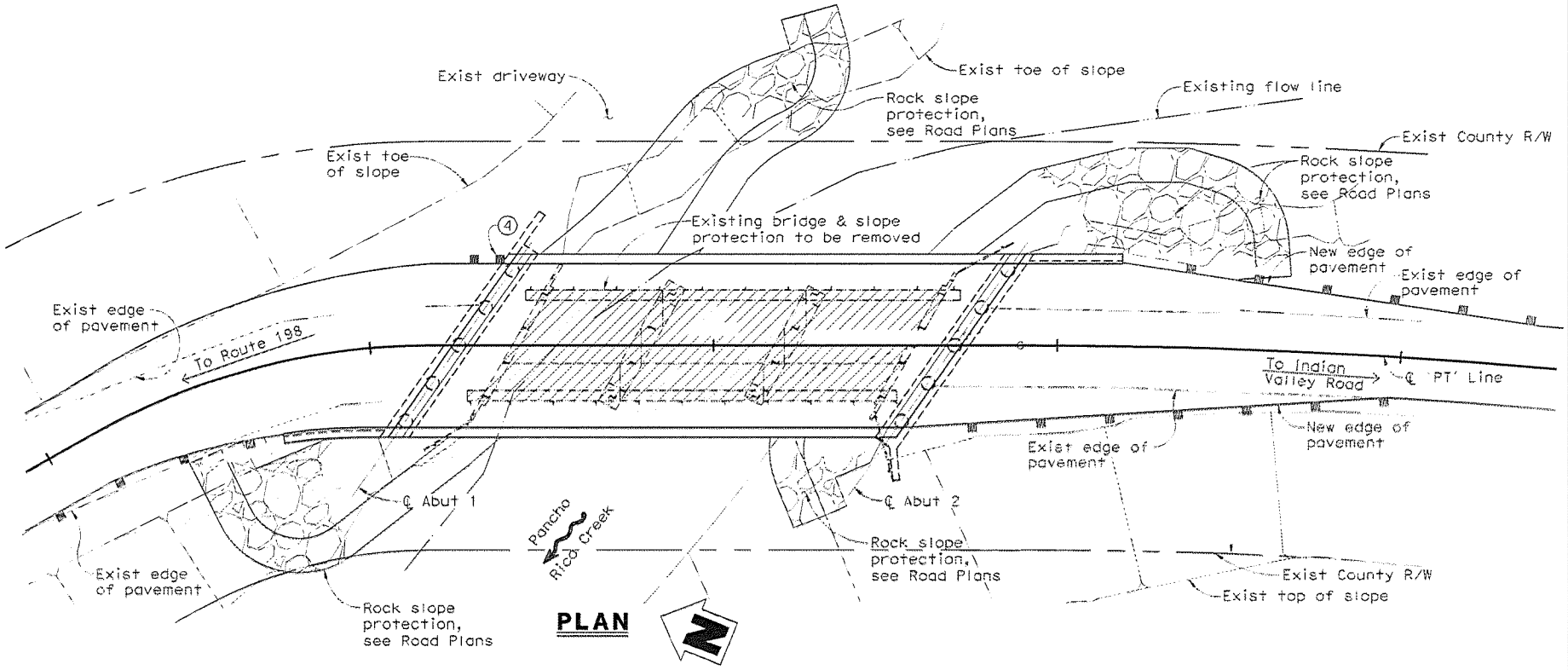


AERIAL OF PROJECT SITE

FIGURE 2



ELEVATION



PLANS

FIGURE 3

1.2 PROJECT FUNDING AND SCHEDULE

The proposed project is being funded by the Federal Highway Bridge Program and the Monterey County Department of Public Works.

The proposed project is expected to be constructed in roughly five months or less, with an approximate seasonal start date of April 15th. Construction activities would generally occur from Monday through Friday between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.

1.3 RIGHT-OF-WAY REQUIREMENTS

The project will require minor easements from the adjacent parcels for utilities and roadway slopes. Temporary construction easements are also anticipated. No structures will be impacted.

1.4 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The objective of the project is to provide a safe crossing of Pancho Rico Creek on Peach Tree Road. As used in this context, "safe" means a crossing that meets current design and seismic safety criteria. The current bridge, which was constructed in 1955, does not meet current design or seismic safety standards.

1.5 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY IMPACTED

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

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agricultural & Forest Resources	☐ Air Quality
☒ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Geology & Soils
☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials	☐ Hydrology & Water Quality
☐ Land Use	☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Noise
☐ Population & Housing	☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation
☐ Transportation & Traffic	☐ Utilities &Service Systems	☒ Mandatory Findings of Significance

1.6 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this Initial Study:

☐	I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
☒	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
☐	I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) is required.
☐	I find the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" effect on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in a previous document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
☐	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed on the proposed project, nothing further is required.

/s/ Enrique Saavedra, P.E.
Monterey County Public Works Department

April 9, 2014
Date

CHAPTER 2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST AND IMPACTS

This section describes the existing environmental conditions on and near the project area, as well as environmental impacts associated with the proposed project. The environmental checklist, as recommended in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, identifies environmental impacts that could occur if the proposed project is implemented.

The right-hand column in the checklist lists the source(s) for the answer to each question. The sources cited are identified at the end of this section. Mitigation measures are identified for all significant project impacts. "Mitigation Measures" are measures that will minimize, avoid, or eliminate a significant impact (CEQA Guideline 15370).

2.1 AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?* **[No Impact]**

The project will replace an existing bridge with a new bridge of similar size and function at the same location. No scenic vistas will be blocked.

b) *Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?* **[No Impact]**

The project is not located within a state scenic highway. No scenic resources will be damaged as the project is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge with a new bridge of similar size and function at the same location.

c) *Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?* **[No Impact]**

The project will not alter the existing visual character of the site. The existing bridge will be replaced with a bridge of similar size at the same location.

d) *Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?* **[No Impact]**

The project will not create any new source(s) of light or glare. It is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge with a new bridge of similar size and function on the same alignment.

2.2 AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
d) Result in a loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?* **[No Impact]**

There is no farmland at, or adjacent to, the project site. The project is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge on the same alignment.

b) *Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?* **[No Impact]**

There are no agricultural uses at, or adjacent to, the project site. The project is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge on the same alignment.

c) *Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?* **[No Impact]**

There are no forest lands or timberlands within the project footprint. The project is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge on the same alignment.

d) *Result in a loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?* **[No Impact]**

There are no forest lands on, or adjacent to, the project site. The project is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge on the same alignment.

e) *Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?* **[No Impact]**

There are no forest or agricultural lands on, or adjacent to, the project site. The project is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge on the same alignment.

2.3 AIR QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s
Would the project:						
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 2
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is classified as non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan*? **[No Impact]**

No air quality plans are directly applicable to this project as it is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge with a new bridge of similar size and function at the same location.

b) *Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

Over the long-term (i.e., operational phase), the project will have no effect on air quality as it is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge with a new bridge of similar size and function. The number of vehicle trips in the area will not change if the project is implemented.

During the short-term (i.e., construction phase), equipment at the project site may include vehicles such as long flat-bed trucks for delivering materials to the site, drilling equipment, cranes, concrete pumps, concrete mixer trucks, compaction equipment, loaders, and haulers. This equipment would temporarily emit quantities of particulate matter (PM_{10}) and exhaust. To reduce such emissions, the project will implement the following measures, as recommended in the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District's CEQA Air Quality Guidelines:

- Water all active construction areas at least twice daily. Frequency should be based on the type of operation, soil, and wind exposure.

- Prohibit all grading activities during periods of high wind (over 15 mph).
- Apply chemical soil stabilizers on inactive construction areas (disturbed lands within construction projects that are unused for at least four consecutive days).
- Apply non-toxic binders (e.g., latex acrylic copolymer) to exposed areas after cut and fill operations and hydroseed area.
- Haul trucks shall maintain at least two feet of freeboard.
- Cover all trucks hauling dirt, sand, or loose materials.
- Plant vegetative ground cover in disturbed areas as soon as possible.
- Cover inactive storage piles.
- Install wheel washers at the entrance to construction sites for all exiting trucks.
- Sweep streets if visible soil material is carried out from the construction site.
- Post a publicly visible sign which specifies the telephone number and person to contact regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond to complaints and take corrective action within 48 hours. The phone number of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District shall be visible to ensure compliance with Rule 402 (Nuisance).
- Limit the area under construction at any one time.

c) *Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is classified as non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors?* **[No Impact]**

As stated above, the project will not result in any long-term air quality impacts. Therefore, by definition, there will be no cumulative air quality effects.

d) *Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?* **[No Impact]**

The project site is located in a rural area of Monterey County. There are no nearby receptors, sensitive or otherwise.

e) *Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?* **[No Impact]**

If any odors are created by construction activities, such odors would not affect a substantial number of people as the project is located in a remote area where there are no adjacent populations.

There will be no long-term odors created by the project as it is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge with a new bridge of similar size and function at the same location.

2.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	1, 3, 4, 5
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 3, 4, 5
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1, 3
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1, 3
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 3, 4, 5
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

The analysis in this section is based in part on a Natural Environment Study and update (HT Harvey, 2000 and 2010) and a California Tiger Salamander Site Assessment. These reports can be found in Appendices A and B of this Initial Study.

a) *Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?* **[Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated]**

Threatened and Endangered Species

A biological study was prepared for the project (H.T. Harvey & Associates, July 2000) to determine if the project would impact any threatened or endangered species. The study concluded the project was not likely to adversely affect the California red-legged frog. The study also concluded that the project would have no effect on the purple amole, the San Joaquin kit fox, the arroyo toad, the longhorn fairy shrimp, the vernal pool tadpole shrimp, or the bald eagle. On February 4, 2002, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) concurred with these conclusions, contingent on the following measures being implemented by the County:

- Pre-construction surveys for the California red-legged frog will be undertaken by a qualified biologist using the USFWS protocol for this species.
- If any red-legged frogs are found during the pre-construction surveys, consultation with the USFWS, in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, will immediately commence. No work will occur in the area of the find prior to the completion of the Section 7 consultation process.
- A qualified biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys for the San Joaquin kit fox, and the USFWS' Standard Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox (1997, updated 1999) will be implemented.

California Tiger Salamander

Due to the passage of time and a minor revision in the bridge design, an update to the July 2000 biological study was also prepared (H.T. Harvey & Associates, July 2010). The 2010 update reaffirmed the conclusions reached in 2000 for the above-listed species. However, the 2010 update noted that a post-2000-listed species, the California tiger salamander (CTS), could potentially occur at the project site. Therefore, a follow-up CTS Site Assessment Report (H.T. Harvey & Associates, October 2010) was prepared. The CTS Site Assessment Report concluded the following:

> "Due to the proximity of the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB)-mapped occurrence, which was at a vernal pool assumed to be a breeding site for a population of CTS 1.1 miles from

the project site, it is possible for CTS to disperse to the project site, as they are known to disperse up to 1.3 miles from breeding sites. The project site and adjacent lands provide dispersal habitat and the project site itself provides aestivation habitat for CTS. The project site does not provide breeding habitat for CTS and there is no apparent breeding habitat within the immediate vicinity of the project site. CTS abundance has been shown to decrease with increasing distance from a breeding pond, with few individuals dispersing 1 mile or more from the breeding pond. Given the lack of breeding habitat in the immediate vicinity, the relatively small size of the project site, and the distance between the project site and the assumed breeding site associated with the nearest occurrence, it is the opinion of H. T. Harvey & Associates' herpetologist that there is a low probability of CTS presence on the project site, though occurrence of the species cannot be ruled out."

On December 8, 2011, based on the CTS Site Assessment, the USFWS concluded that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the CTS, subject to the following measures being implemented by the project:

- The limits of the work area will be flagged prior to the start of construction.
- Exclusion fencing will be installed just outside of this work limit if work is conducted within Pancho Rico Creek at a time of year when water is present within the low-flow channel.[1] The fencing will be installed during the dry season and prior to the start of construction (after April 15) and will be a minimum of 3.5 feet tall following installation. If plywood is used, the ends of each sheet must overlap by at least 6 inches and be tightly fastened together. The fencing will be inspected daily to ensure that it is in good repair, and repaired as necessary.
- Work and worker access will be prevented in areas outside of the established work limits.
- During construction, dedicated construction personnel will conduct daily checks of the exclusion fencing to ensure that it is functioning correctly (e.g., without any gaps through which CTS might enter the work area), and to maintain the fencing as needed.
- All steep walled holes and trenches will be covered with plywood or similar material at the end of each work day and uncovered and inspected at the beginning of each work day to prevent entrapment of amphibians.
- Workers will be trained on identification of CTS, their potential to occur in the project site, measures to avoid adverse effects, and penalties for not doing so.
- A County-approved, qualified biologist will be responsible for monitoring project activities to ensure avoidance of take of CTS and to minimize disturbance of CTS habitat.
- The biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey of the work site and be on-site during all initial ground disturbance activities.
- The biologist will resurvey the project impact area following all rain events and prior to restarting construction for the duration of the project.

[1] Exclusion fencing for tiger salamanders is commonly created by installing smooth-faced fencing material (silt fence or plywood) buried in the ground a minimum of 6 inches and held in place by rigid stakes and/or by attachment to another type of fencing (e.g., chain-link) to ensure that the fencing remains upright.

- To the extent possible, all project related storage and equipment area and any other surface-disturbing activities will be confined to previously disturbed areas.
- In the event that a CTS is discovered during construction, all activities will cease that would adversely affect the species and the USFWS and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will be notified immediately. Work that could affect the species will not continue without authorization from both agencies.
- Construction activities will be limited to April 15 to October 15.
- CTS habitat temporarily affected by project activities will be restored to pre-construction conditions.

In 2013, the CDFW determined that the above-described measures were inadequate to ensure that no individual CTS would be harmed by construction of the replacement bridge. Therefore, pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act, the County will apply for an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) from the CDFW. As part of the ITP process, and in addition to the above-described measures, the County will implement the following mitigation:

- Within 18 months of issuance of the ITP, the County will acquire an easement on, preserve (via a conservation easement), and manage (via a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan [HMMP]) conservation lands off-site that will provide habitat for CTS of greater value compared to the habitat being impacted on the project site. A total of at least one acre of land will be included in the conservation easement in order to allow mitigation of the project's impact on approximately 0.51 acre of potential CTS habitat at a 2:1 ratio. Prior to acquisition of the conservation lands, the presence of CTS on-site will be confirmed or, if CTS presence cannot be confirmed, CTS presence on-site will be demonstrated to be likely based on confirmation of CTS presence at another site nearby, within the dispersal capabilities of the species.
- The County will prepare an HMMP describing the measures that will be taken to manage the mitigation site and to monitor the effects of management on the CTS. The HMMP will be submitted to the CDFW for review and approval after ITP issuance. The HMMP will describe (1) management measures to be implemented on the proposed mitigation site; (2) the proposed habitat enhancement measures; (3) monitoring measures to evaluate implementation of the HMMP and maintenance of high-quality habitat; and (4) a long-term endowment for management of the site, which will be approved by the CDFW. The County will begin implementing the HMMP within 90 days of the CDFW's approval of the HMMP and completion of the purchase of a conservation easement on the mitigation lands.
- To ensure that the mitigation is provided, the County will provide the CDFW with a Letter of Credit to cover costs for the CDFW to acquire, preserve, and manage at least one acre of conservation lands in the same manner described above, in the event that the County

does not perform the mitigation described in the previous paragraph within 18 months of ITP issuance. [2]

Nesting Raptors

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code protect migratory birds, including their eggs, nests, and young. The killing or harassment of such birds, including activities that may result in the abandonment of active nests during the nesting season, is prohibited.

Construction activities could adversely impact birds that nest in the trees and shrubs within or adjacent to the project impact area. Potential impacts include the destruction of active nests, the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings, or the abandonment of nests. To avoid such impacts, the following mitigation measure will be implemented by the County:

- Pre-construction surveys for nesting raptors will be conducted by a qualified ornithologist or wildlife biologist to ensure that no raptor nests will be disturbed during project implementation. This survey will be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the initiation of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (January through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of these activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through August). During this survey, the biologist will inspect all trees in and immediately adjacent to the impact areas for raptor nests. If an active raptor nest is found close enough to the construction area to be disturbed by these activities, the ornithologist, in consultation with the CDFW, will determine the extent of a construction-free buffer zone to be established around the nest.

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

As shown in Table 1, the permanent effect of the project on all biological habitats combined will be only 0.03 acres. This impact is not significant, especially when considered in relation to the amount of such habitats that are present in the area.

[2] A rough estimate of the amount required in the Letter of Credit is $52,000-$53,000, including $40,000 for land cost (based on the median price per acre of land in Monterey County), $4,500 for an endowment for management of the conservation easement, $1,200 for real estate fees (3% of land cost), $520 for escrow fees (1.3% of land costs), and $6,000 for account set-up fees. [Source: E-Mail Correspondence between John Hesler of David Powers & Associates and Annee Ferranti of CDFW dated 4/8/2013 and 4/10/2013]

Table 1: Impacts by Habitat Type [Expressed in Square Feet]

Habitat Type	Temporary Impact	Permanent Impact
Aquatic	1,655	87
Sandbar	3,579	341
Ruderal	854	453
Mulefat Scrub	2,178	0
Foothill-pine Woodland	9,239	344
Non-native Annual Grassland	3,262	222
Totals:	**20,767 (0.48 acres)**	**1,447 (0.03 acres)**

Proposed fill within Waters of the United States (i.e., the area of Pancho Rico Creek below ordinary high water) will be limited to an area of approximately 104 square feet, such fill consisting of ¼-ton rock to protect the bridge abutments from bank scour. This fill will be offset by the removal of the existing bridge piers that are within the Creek, as the surface area of the piers totals approximately 100 square feet.

Temporary impacts to biological habitats will total 0.48 acres. Per the project's Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), attached as Appendix C, the County will restore and revegetate on-site all temporarily disturbed areas at a 1:1 ratio. The temporarily disturbed areas will be seeded with weed-free straw or mulch containing a blend of a minimum of three (3) locally native grass species. One (1) or two (2) sterile non-native perennial grass species may be added to the seed mix provided that amount does not exceed 25 percent of the total seed mix by count. Locally native wildflower and/or shrub seeds may also be included in the seed mix. The seeding shall be completed as soon as possible, but no later than November 15 of the year construction ends. The proposed seed mixture shall be submitted to the CDFW for approval prior to application.

At approximately ninety (90) days after initial seeding, all exposed areas where seeding is considered unsuccessful shall receive appropriate soil preparation and a second application of seeding, straw, or mulch as soon as is practical.

The success of the revegetation will be determined using percent cover. Monitoring to quantify percent cover shall be conducted in the late spring to early summer of each of the subsequent first three years after seeding in the revegetation area occurs. Percent cover shall be estimated by using one-meter square quadrat to include between 5 and 7 sample plot locations within the revegetation area. The northwest corner of every sample plot shall be staked with a single piece of rebar buried to the approximate ground surface and the location described with a GPS to allow ease of finding the sample location in subsequent sample years. A similar methodology shall be applied to a reference site comprising a similar grass/forb plant community located in the proximity (i.e. within 300 feet) of the revegetation area. The average for percent cover value

obtained from the revegetation site shall be within 20% of the average value for percent cover obtained from the reference site. Use of the reference site allows more valid comparison of the development of the revegetation site and it takes into consideration variability in growth due to factors outside of the control of the applicant such as weather.

If the percent cover criteria are not met, then an analysis of the failure will be provided along with recommended remedial action. If appropriate, additional work will be performed to correct the deficiency. The monitoring period will be extended for the appropriate length of time following any remedial action. Should enhancement planting establishment fail to meet designated performance criteria, an intensive planting program and/or contingency enhancement site will be developed as an alternate.

The annual monitoring reports will be submitted to the CDFW and the RWQCB.

c) *Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?* **[No Impact]**

As shown in Table 1, the project will not result in any temporary or permanent impacts to wetlands.

d) *Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?* **[No Impact]**

The existing bridge has piers within Pancho Rico Creek. The new bridge will have no piers in the creek, which would improve fish passage through the site.

The new bridge will be longer than the existing bridge, which allows for the abutments to be pulled back. This will create a larger opening under the bridge, which would facilitate any wildlife movement through this area.

e) *Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The construction of the replacement bridge may impact a number of trees. Therefore, as specified in the project's Water Quality Certification from the RWQCB, attached as Appendix C, the following measures will be implemented:

- The County will document the number and species of all riparian woody-stemmed plants in excess of four (4) inches diameter at breast height (DBH) that will be cut, removed, or

damaged during construction activities. Riparian trees and shrubs with a DBH of four (4) inches or greater that are damaged or removed will be replaced by replanting appropriate native species at a 3:1 ratio (replaced to lost), except that heritage trees 24-inches or greater shall require replanting of like species at a 10:1 ratio in or immediately adjacent to the project site.

- For trees greater than four (4) inches DBH that will be removed, the County will develop a Revegetation Plan for the site and submit it to the CDFW for approval prior to commencement of project activities. The Revegetation Plan will specify monitoring and maintenance requirements to ensure a minimum of 70 percent survival for the plantings after five (5) years, and without any supplemental irrigation for the final 2 (two) years.
- If the 70% survival criterion is not met, then an analysis of the failure will be provided along with recommended remedial action. If appropriate, additional work will be performed to correct the deficiency. The monitoring period will be extended for the appropriate length of time following any remedial action. Should enhancement planting establishment fail to meet designated performance criteria, an intensive planting program and/or contingency enhancement site will be developed as an alternate.
- All monitoring reports prepared pursuant to the Revegetation Plan will be submitted to the CDFW and the RWQCB.

f) *Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?* **[No Impact]**

There is no adopted HCP or NCCP that covers the project area.

2.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1, 7
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 6
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 6
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 6

This section is based in part on a "Short Form Historic Property Survey Report (HPSR)" and a "Negative Archaeological Survey Report (ASR)" prepared by *Basin Research Associates* in 1997. These reports are available for review by qualified personnel at the Monterey County Public Works Department.

a) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource as defined in §15064.5?* **[No Impact]**

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed project encompasses all areas where work associated with the project would occur. Based on cultural resources studies completed by Caltrans in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the existing bridge was constructed in 1955 and is considered "Category 5", meaning it does not meet any of the criteria for National Register or California Register eligibility. In addition, the HPSR did not identify any potentially-eligible historic resources in the area, including the existing bridge.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in §15064.5? **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

There are no recorded prehistoric or historic archaeological sites located within a mile of the project site. A records search found no cultural resources reports for known sites near the project site, and a field survey found no surface indicators of cultural materials on the site.

The project area is situated within the ethnographic and historic boundaries of the Native American group known as the Salinan. According to a letter received from the President of the Salinan Nation, the Slack Canyon area near the project site has yielded flakes and broken arrow heads. While it is not likely that there are archaeological deposits present on the project site, there is always the possibility that construction and excavation may uncover buried cultural materials or human remains. The project, therefore, includes the following standard construction measures to avoid potential impacts to unknown subsurface archaeological or prehistoric resources.

- In the event that construction unearths any archaeological site indicators (as described below), work shall be halted within 200 feet of the discovery until a qualified archaeologist has been retained to inspect it. If the project archaeologist determines that a potentially significant resource will be impacted by additional activities, a plan for evaluative testing shall be submitted to the Monterey County Director of Planning.

- If testing (normally limited hand excavation) demonstrates that the resource is eligible, a plan for mitigation of impacts shall be submitted to the Monterey County Director of

Planning for approval before work can recommence inside the zone described as archaeologically-sensitive. Mitigation can include limited data retrieval through additional hand excavation coupled with archaeological monitoring of soils removal from the zone of archaeological sensitivity in order to insure that significant archaeological materials and data are retrieved for analysis. If any indicators found are of Native American origin, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) shall be contacted.

- In the event that human remains are encountered, work shall be stopped within a zone around the discovery determined by the project archaeologist until the Monterey County Coroner's Office and the NAHC have been contacted. It is the responsibility of the NAHC to name a Most Likely Descendant (MLD), who will be responsible for advising the project sponsor regarding the method of exposure, removal and reburial of any human remains and/or associated grave goods discovered during construction. (Pursuant to Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code and Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California).

These measures will be implemented during construction if needed. However, as stated previously, there is a very low probability that archaeological resources would be encountered, therefore the proposed project would result in a less than significant impact to archaeological resources.

c) *Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The measures included as part of the project and described in response b) above would ensure that no unknown paleontological resources are destroyed by the proposed project.

d) *Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

Please see the discussion and avoidance measures in response b) above.

2.6 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:						
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as described on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1, 8
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1, 8
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 13
iv. Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1, 13
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that will become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Section 1802.3.2 of the California Building Code (2007), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:*

i. *Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as described on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)* **[Beneficial Impact]**

The project site is not located in an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone, however it is located approximately 0.5 miles southwest of a mapped fault zone for the San Andreas Fault.[3] There is an existing bridge on the site that was constructed in 1955. The existing bridge, which does not meet current seismic safety design criteria, would be replaced with a new bridge in the same location. The proposed bridge would be constructed using modern engineering techniques and meeting the most recent building codes. Therefore the proposed project would reduce the potential hazards from fault rupture at the project site.

ii. *Strong seismic ground shaking?* **[Beneficial Impact]**

As with the existing bridge, the proposed replacement bridge could be subject to ground shaking during a seismic event. The proposed bridge will reduce hazards associated with seismic activity on the project site, as described above. Therefore the proposed project would reduce the potential for ground shaking hazards.

iii. *Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?* **[No Impact]**

The project site is located in an area considered to have high relative liquefaction susceptibility during a seismic event.[4] The proposed bridge replacement would be constructed consistent with a design-specific geotechnical report and Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria to ensure that the project is designed to account for any potentially liquefiable soils that might be found on-site. Therefore the project would not expose people or structures to hazards from seismic-related ground failure.

iv. *Landslides?* **[No Impact]**

The project site is located in a valley surrounded by undulating hillsides that may have the potential for sliding during heavy precipitation or seismic activity. In addition, the surrounding area is considered to have a medium to high potential for earthquake-induced landslides.[5] This condition exists in the vicinity of the site today and could potentially affect users of the existing bridge. This would not change with construction of a replacement bridge, therefore, the project would not expose people to any new risks associated with landslides.

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[3] State of California, The Resources Agency, Department of Conservation. *Special Studies Zones – Slack Canyon Quadrangle, California, 7.5 Minute Series.* Effective July 1, 1974. Available at: http://www.quake.ca.gov/gmaps/WH/regulatorymaps.htm

[4] County of Monterey. *2007 General Plan Draft EIR.* September 2008. Exhibit 4.4.3 – Relative Liquefaction Potential. Available at: http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/planning/gpu/2007_GPU_DEIR_Sept_2008/2007_GPU_DEIR_September_2008.htm

[5] Ibid, Exhibit 4.4.4 – Earthquake Induced Landslide Susceptibility.

b) *Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The proposed bridge replacement would require demolition of the existing bridge and grading to prepare the site for the proposed replacement bridge. During implementation of the project, best management practices would be implemented to reduce soil erosion and water quality impacts, as discussed in ***Section 2.9, Hydrology and Water Quality*** of this Initial Study. Following construction, no erosion or loss of topsoil would be anticipated. Temporary impacts that would be avoided through implementation of runoff prevention measures would be less than significant.

c) *Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that will become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse*? **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

Due to the presence of open faces and the proximity of the site to the San Andreas Fault, the project site could be susceptible to liquefaction, lateral spreading, or other geologic hazards. The proposed bridge replacement would be constructed in accordance with the recommendations of a design-specific geotechnical report and Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria to ensure that the project is designed to account for any potential soil-related hazards that might be found on-site. Therefore the project would not expose people or structures to hazards from ground failure.

d) *Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Section 1802.3.2 of the California Building Code (2007), creating substantial risks to life or property?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The proposed bridge replacement would be constructed in accordance with the recommendations of a design-specific geotechnical report and Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria to ensure that the project is designed to account for any potential soil-related hazards that might be found on-site. Therefore the project would not create a substantial risk associated with expansive soils.

e) *Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?* **[No Impact]**

No septic tanks or wastewater disposal systems are included in the project.

2.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1, 9

a) *Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The proposed project is the replacement of an existing bridge with a new bridge of equal capacity, and would not increase greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in operation. Equipment used for demolition of the existing bridge and construction of the new bridge would release GHG emissions, as would production of materials required for the construction process including bridge supports, asphalt and coatings, and steel rebar. The proposed project is expected to be constructed in roughly five months or less, therefore GHG emissions would be temporary and would be negligible compared to the scale and volume of global GHG emissions. The project would not result in a significant impact to the global climate.

b) *Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would not increase GHG emissions in operation and would not conflict with any policies contained in the Draft Monterey County Municipal Climate Action Plan or Monterey County General Plan and adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Therefore the proposed project would not impede the state's ability to reach the emission reduction limits/standards set forth by the State of California by Executive Order S-3-05 and AB 32.

2.8 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 10
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1, 10
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
g) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1,11

a) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The proposed bridge replacement project would not involve the use, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials following construction. Therefore, no long-term impacts involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment would occur as a result of project implementation.

Project construction would require the temporary use of heavy equipment. Construction would also require the use of hazardous materials including petroleum products, lubricants, cleaners, paints, and solvents. These materials would be used in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. If used properly, these materials would not pose a hazard to workers or persons in the vicinity.

b) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

There are no known underground storage tanks, hazardous material cleanup sites, land disposal sites, or other sites known to contain hazardous waste in the project area.[6] Hazardous materials associated with construction equipment would be used in accordance with applicable laws and would not pose a significant hazard to the public or environment through reasonably foreseeable conditions.

c) *Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?* **[No Impact]**

There are no schools within one-quarter mile of the project site, and no hazardous materials would be associated with the project in operation.

d) *Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?* **[No Impact]**

[6] California State Water Resources Control Board. *Geotracker.* 2014. Accessed March 5, 2014. Available at: http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/

There are no sites in the project area that are included on a list compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. See response b) for additional detail.

e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?* **[No Impact]**

The project site is not located within an airport land use plan and there are no airports within two miles of the project site.

f) *For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?* **[No Impact]**

There are no private airstrips in the vicinity of the project site.

g) *Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

During construction, Peach Tree Road will be closed to through traffic at the bridge site for approximately three months. With one exception during this closure, access across the creek for local traffic will be provided during non-construction hours. The exception will be one full closure over a weekend to allow for the removal of the existing bridge and the installation of the new bridge superstructure.

Bridge closure would be temporary and would not interfere with an emergency response plan. Peach Tree Road connects to Highway 198 to the northwest and Indian Valley Road to the southeast, and temporary closure would not render any properties or residences inaccessible or hinder emergency access.

h) *Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The project site is located in a Moderate to High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.[7] The proposed project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires more than the existing bridge does. Construction equipment would be maintained and operated in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, and

[7] California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. *Fire Hazard Severity Zones in SRA – Monterey County.* Adopted November 7, 2007. Map. Available at: http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fhsz_maps_monterey.php

approximately five months. This would not create a significant risk of loss to people or structures, therefore the project would have a less than significant impact related to wildland fires.

2.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1, 12
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-or off-site?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1, 12
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1, 12

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1, 12
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
j) Be subject to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

This discussion is based in part on the "Bridge Hydraulics Study – Peach Tree Road at Pancho Rico Creek, Bridge 412," completed in March 2010 by *Schaaf & Wheeler*. This report is attached to the Initial Study as Appendix D.

a) *Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

The proposed project is the replacement of an existing bridge over Pancho Rico Creek with a new clear-span structure. The new bridge will be supported by two abutments, one on each side of the creek. Each abutment will have short wing walls and will be supported on 24-inch diameter cast-in-drilled-hole concrete pilings. Rock slope protection (1/4-ton rock) will be provided at each abutment to protect against bank scour. Work within the creek channel will be limited to removal of the existing steel piles. Stream diversion is not anticipated to be required.

Construction activities would take place within the riverbed during the dry season, and are not likely to affect water quality in the river. In addition, the project would implement the following measures to avoid potential water quality impacts.

- Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be utilized by the contractor during construction, as per the contract specifications. The BMPs will be incorporated into a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for the project, as required by the County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.
- Over the long-term, rock slope protection is included in the project to minimize the potential for erosion and bank destabilization.

The proposed project would comply with all applicable wastewater discharge requirements and would not contribute to any violations of water quality standards. The project has also received

a Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, a copy of which is attached as Appendix C. Therefore the project would result in a less than significant impact.

b) *Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project is the replacement of an existing bridge and would not affect groundwater recharge or groundwater supplies. There is an environmentally sensitive area known as the McMillian Spring located south of the bridge on the east side of Peach Tree Road. To ensure that no impacts to this resource occur, exclusion fencing will be placed around this area prior to the start of construction and the fencing will remain until construction is completed.

c) *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on-or off-site?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

Construction activities would take place within the riverbed during the dry season, and are not likely to affect water quality in the river. Implementation of BMPs will minimize erosion. In addition, the project would improve hydraulic conditions at the bridge because the proposed bridge would have a longer span with no bents in the channel, as exists on the site today. Therefore erosion and siltation impacts would be less than significant.

d) *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-or off-site?* **[Beneficial Impact]**

Based on the Hydraulics Study completed for the project, the existing Peach Tree Road Bridge at Pancho Rico Creek does not have capacity for the estimated 50-year flood or 100-year flood. In the case of a 50-year flood (a flood with a two percent chance to occur each year), the water surface elevation would be approximately 0.9 feet above the upstream bridge soffit. During a 100-year flood, the water surface elevation would be 0.1 feet above the existing top of road, and floods greater than that in scale would overtop the bridge and flood the approach roads.

The proposed replacement bridge would improve hydraulic conditions at the bridge by constructing a longer span with no support structures in the channel. The proposed bridge would have 1.7 feet of freeboard (distance between water surface elevation and the underside of the

bridge) for the 50-year flood, and 1.0 feet for the 100-year flood. The proposed project would eliminate the potential for flooding that exists today, therefore the project's flood-related effects are beneficial.

e) *Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

Rock slope protection (1/4-ton rock) will be provided at each abutment to protect against bank scour. Work within the creek channel will be limited to removal of the existing steel piles. Stream diversion is not anticipated to be required, and there are no stormwater facilities in the area that would be affected by the proposed project.

Construction activities would take place within the riverbed during the dry season and would implement BMPs. The project would improve bank and bed conditions and would be constructed within five months during the dry season. Therefore the proposed project would not exceed the capacity of stormwater systems or substantially increase polluted runoff.

f) *Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

Please see response a), above. The project includes measures to avoid water quality impacts and would comply with the County NPDES permit.

g) *Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?* **[No Impact]**

Though the project site is within a flood zone, the proposed project is a bridge replacement and would not construct any housing.

h) *Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?* **[Beneficial Impact]**

Pancho Rico Creek, including the project site, is a 100-year flood hazard area. As described in response d) above and in Appendix D, the proposed project would improve the hydraulic conditions of the site and improve a portion of Peach Tree Road that is currently susceptible to flooding during a 50-year or 100-year flood event. Therefore the proposed project would result in a beneficial flooding impact.

i) *Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would improve the hydraulic conditions of the creek at this location and reduce the potential for flooding. Therefore the project would not result in any impacts relating to dam or levee failure.

j) *Be subject to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would not be subject to inundation or tsunami, and would have the same likelihood of being exposed to mudflow as the existing bridge does.

2.10 LAND USE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1, 13
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Physically divide an established community?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project is the replacement of an existing bridge in the same location and would not physically divide an established community. Bridge closures during construction would be temporary, and access would be available during non-construction hours. The project will require minor easements from the adjacent parcels for utilities and roadway slopes. Temporary construction easements are also anticipated. No structures aside from the existing bridge will be impacted.

b) *Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan,*

local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would replace the existing Peach Tree Road Bridge over Pancho Rico Creek with a new bridge constructed in the same location. The project would include erosion control best management practices and would improve the hydraulic capacity of the creek by lengthening the bridge structure and removing structures from the creek channel. The proposed project would not result in any significant environmental impacts and would not conflict with any plans or policies adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

c) *Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?* **[No Impact]**

There are no applicable habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans affecting the project site.

2.11 MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed bridge replacement would be constructed in the same location as the existing bridge and would not impact any known mineral resources.

b) *Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?* **[No Impact]**

The project would not make any mineral resources unavailable.

2.12 NOISE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project result in:						
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would replace an existing bridge with a new bridge of equal capacity, and would not result in a noise increase in operation. There are no people or active land uses within 1,000 feet of the project site, therefore no people aside from construction workers would be exposed to noise during project construction. No pile driving is proposed as part of the project, and construction workers are required to wear appropriate noise-attenuating equipment during loud construction activity. Therefore the proposed project would not result in any exposure of people to noise levels in excess of established standards.

b) *Exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?* **[No Impact]**

There are no people in the project area that could be exposed to groundborne construction noise or vibration.

c) *A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed bridge replacement would not increase the number of vehicles using Peach Tree Road, therefore ambient noise levels would not increase above the existing condition.

d) *A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

Construction of the proposed project would result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. The proposed project would not include pile driving, however, which is typically the stage of construction that emits the most noise. In addition, construction is estimated to take up to five months and would generally occur between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm Monday – Friday. Based on these factors as well as the fact that there are no nearby sensitive noise receptors (e.g., residences), any impacts associated with the temporary noise increase resulting from project construction would not be substantial.

e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?* **[No Impact]**

The project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport.

f) *For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?* **[No Impact]**

There are no airports, public or private, within the vicinity of the project site.

2.13 POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would not increase the capacity of the bridge or roadway, therefore it would not induce population growth in the area.

b) *Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?* **[No Impact]**

There is no housing in the area that could be displaced by the proposed project.

c) *Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would require minor easements from the adjacent parcels for utilities and roadway slopes. Temporary construction easements are also anticipated. There are no people, housing, or structures that would be affected by the project.

2.14 PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:						
• Fire Protection?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1
• Police Protection?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1
• Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
• Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
• Other Public Facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

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

Implementation of the proposed bridge replacement project would not require additional government facilities or services. By constructing a new bridge that meets current design and seismic safety criteria, the proposed project would reduce the potential for vehicle hazards at the bridge and would also provide improved emergency vehicle access. Therefore the project would not result in any environmental impacts associated with new or physically altered government facilities, and would improve the ability of police and fire services to maintain acceptable service ratios or to meet their performance objectives.

2.15 RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would replace an existing bridge and would have no effect on the use of parks or recreational facilities.

b) *Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project does not include recreational facilities.

2.16 TRANSPORTATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible land uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	1

a) *Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would replace an existing 17-foot wide bridge with an approximately 27-foot wide bridge, which will include two 10-foot wide travel lanes, two-foot wide shoulders on each side, and concrete barriers along the edges of the bridge deck. The proposed project would improve the effectiveness of the transportation system by providing a bridge wide enough for vehicles to travel across the bridge in opposite directions simultaneously. Therefore the project

would not conflict with any plans, ordinances, or policies measuring the effectiveness of the circulation system.

b) *Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would improve the operation of Peach Tree Road by replacing the existing bridge with a wider bridge that will accommodate two lanes of traffic in accordance with current design standards. This improvement would not be capacity increasing, but would improve access and reduce hazards.

c) *Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would have no impact on air traffic.

d) *Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible land uses (e.g., farm equipment)?* **[Beneficial Impact]**

The existing bridge does not comply with current standards and is not wide enough for two vehicles to pass each other simultaneously. Replacing the bridge with a wider, two-lane bridge in the same alignment would reduce potential design-related hazards.

e) *Result in inadequate emergency access?* **[Beneficial Impact]**

During construction, Peach Tree Road will be closed to through traffic at the bridge site for approximately three months. With one exception during this closure, access across the creek for local traffic will be provided during non-construction hours. The exception will be one full closure over a weekend to allow for the removal of the existing bridge and the installation of the new bridge superstructure. This temporary closure would not prevent emergency access to any people or land uses because access along Peach Tree Road would still be available from Highway 198 and Indian Valley Road.

Over the long-term, the proposed project would improve regional emergency access by widening the bridge and providing two-foot wide shoulders on either side consistent with current design standards.

f) *Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?* **[Beneficial Impact]**

The proposed project would improve the Peach Tree Road Bridge's ability to support bicycles and pedestrians by increasing bridge width, constructing shoulders, and erecting new, improved, concrete barriers along the edges of the bridge deck.

2.17 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
Would the project:						
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1

a) *Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed bridge replacement project would not generate any sewage or wastewater.

b) *Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would not use or generate any water or wastewater in operation, therefore no additional facilities would be required.

c) *Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would not require the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities, and would improve the capacity of the creek to accommodate stormwater by removing the existing piers from the creek channel. See ***Section 3.9, Hydrology and Water Quality*** for a more detailed discussion of the project's benefits to the hydraulic capacity of Pancho Rico Creek.

d) *Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed bridge replacement project would not use any water in operation.

e) *Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project would not generate any wastewater in operation.

f) *Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?* **[No Impact]**

The proposed project is limited to the replacement of an existing bridge and would not generate solid waste. Construction debris will be recycled in conformance with applicable policies and regulations.

g) *Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?* **[No Impact]**

The project would comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

2.18 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Beneficial Impact	Information Source(s)
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	1-14
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	1-14
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	1-14

a) *Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?* **[Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Incorporated in the Project]**

As described in ***Section 2.4, Biological Resources*** of this Initial Study, the proposed project has the potential to impact biological resources. As a result, avoidance and mitigation measures have been incorporated as part of the project, which would ensure that the project has no significant impacts to these resources.

b) *Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?* **[Less Than Significant Impact]**

There are no other projects occurring or expected to occur in the area that would have environmental impacts to which the proposed project would contribute. The proposed bridge replacement would improve traffic safety conditions, river scour concerns, and bank erosion over existing conditions. Impacts to riparian habitat and special-status species would be mitigated to a less than significant level, and the project would not increase air quality, noise, traffic, or greenhouse gas emissions over the long-term. Therefore the proposed project would not contribute to a cumulatively significant environmental impact.

c) *Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?* **[No Impact]**

Based on the analysis contained in this Initial Study, the proposed project does not have the potential to cause substantial adverse effects on human beings.

CHAPTER 3.0 CHECKLIST SOURCES

1. CEQA Guidelines – Environmental Thresholds (Professional judgment, expertise, and review of project plans).

2. Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District. *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines.* 2008.

3. H.T. Harvey & Associates. *Monterey Bridges Natural Environment Study, Bridge Number 412, Monterey County, California.* April 6, 1999 (Rev July 13, 2000).

4. H.T. Harvey & Associates. *Monterey Bridges Natural Environment Study Update – Peach Tree Road Bridge Number 412, Monterey County, California.* July 22, 2010.

5. H.T. Harvey & Associates. *Peachtree Road Bridge California Tiger Salamander Site Assessment.* October 29, 2010.

6. Basin Research Associates. *Negative Archaeological Survey Report for Peach Tree Road at Pancho Rico Creek Bridge.* 1997.

7. Basin Research Associates. *Seismic Retrofit Programmatic Agreement Short Form HPSR for Peach Tree Road at Pancho Rico Creek Bridge.* 1997.

8. State of California, The Resources Agency, Department of Conservation. *Special Studies Zones – Slack Canyon Quadrangle, California, 7.5 Minute Series.* Effective July 1, 1974.

9. Monterey County. *Draft Municipal Climate Action Plan.* April 2013.

10. California State Water Resources Control Board. *Geotracker.* 2014.

11. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. *Fire Hazard Severity Zones in SRA – Monterey County.* Adopted November 7, 2007. Map.

12. Schaaf & Wheeler. *Bridge Hydraulics Study for Peach Tree Road at Pancho Rico Creek Bridge.* March 9, 2010.

13. Monterey County. *2010 Monterey County General Plan.* October 26, 2010. And, *2007 Monterey County General Plan Draft EIR.* September 2008.

CHAPTER 4.0 REFERENCES

Basin Research Associates. *Negative Archaeological Survey Report for Peach Tree Road at Pancho Rico Creek Bridge.* 1997.

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Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. *Water Quality Certification Number 32712WQ05 for Peach Tree Road at Pancho Rico Creek Bridge Replacement Project, Monterey County.* March 8, 2013.

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--. *Monterey Bridges Natural Environment Study Update – Peach Tree Road Bridge Number 412, Monterey County, California.* July 22, 2010.

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--. *2007 General Plan Draft EIR.* September 2008. Available at: http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/planning/gpu/2007_GPU_DEIR_Sept_2008/2007_GPU_DEIR_September_2008.htm

--. *Draft Municipal Climate Action Plan.* April 2013.

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State of California, The Resources Agency, Department of Conservation. *Special Studies Zones – Slack Canyon Quadrangle, California, 7.5 Minute Series.* Effective July 1, 1974. Available at: http://www.quake.ca.gov/gmaps/WH/regulatorymaps.htm .

Personal Communications:

Ferranti, A. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. April 8, 2013, and April 10, 2013.

CHAPTER 5.0 LEAD AGENCY AND CONSULTANTS

LEAD AGENCY

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