

# Mitigation Monitoring & Reporting Program

\*\*\* HCP&BD = Humboldt County Planning and Building Department

\*\*\*\*\*THPOs = Local Tribal Historic Preservation Officers

All of the following mitigation measures are required to mitigate impacts from the proposed project:

## Mitigation Measure AES-1: Prevention of Hazardous Glare

All Solar panels within the arrays shall include an anti-reflective coating and be positioned with a resting angle of 75° and a maximum tracking angle of 65° with the panel array(s) orientated at 180.0°. Resting angles below 17° are prohibited as they were determined to produce yellow glare. The orientation and positioning of panels within the array(s) must be maintained in a fashion that prevents the creation of yellow glare, for the life of the project. Should future changes to the configuration and orientation of the panels be proposed, an updated analysis of solar glare shall be required. Reconfiguration may only be authorized following review and approval by the County Aviation Department.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes   No	Comments / Action Taken
Prior to issuance of the building permit, and during project operations.	Continuous		HCP&BD**		

**Mitigation Measure AG-1: Agriculture Management Plan.** To maintain consistency with General Plan Policy AG-P6 and to prevent a net reduction in land base and agricultural production, the project sponsor shall maintain continual operation of agricultural uses on the property, including but not limited to sheep grazing, the keeping of honey bees, or planting of row crops, on a rotational basis. During rotational periods, the plan should include planting and maintenance of locally appropriate native plants, focusing on species that provide the greatest value to bees, moths, butterflies, and other native pollinators. Some potential options include yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), farewell to spring (*Clarkia amoena*), California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), riverbank lupine (*Lupinus rivularis*), California bee plant (*Scrophularia californica*), and rough hedgesnail (*Stachys rigida*). To maintain habitat value, mowing should not occur during the bloom period, though targeted removal of invasive species is encouraged. Prior to finalization of the building permit for the project, the applicant shall submit an Agricultural Management Plan for review and approval by the Director of Planning & Building Department, or their designee. The plan shall summarize the types and duration of agricultural uses as well as operator information for the property. The Department reserves the right to reject or require revisions to the plan to ensure the effectiveness of the planned agricultural operations.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes   No	Comments / Action Taken
Prior to issuance of the building permit, and during project operations.	Continuous		HCP&BD**		

**Mitigation Measure AG-2: Decommissioning & Remediation Plan.** To ensure the project site will be restored to its original condition at the end of the Project's life, a decommissioning and remediation plan shall be submitted for review and approval to the Director of the Planning and

Building Department, or their designee, prior to the issuance of Building Permits. The decommissioning plan shall include removal and proper disposal of all above and below ground improvements, restoration of the surface grade, placement of topsoil over all removed structures, and revegetation and erosion control as deemed necessary by the Director, as well as an estimated timeframe for completing site restoration, an engineer's cost estimate for all aspects of the removal and restoration plan, and an agreement signed by the property owner and operator.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes   No	Comments / Action Taken
Approval of plan Prior to issuance of the building permit; implementation following site closure.	Continuous		HCP&BD**		

**Mitigation Measure BIO 1: Preconstruction Nesting Bird Surveys.** To the extent feasible, conduct vegetation removal outside of the nesting bird season (generally between March 1 and August 31). If vegetation removal is required during the nesting bird season, conduct take avoidance surveys for nesting birds within 100 feet of areas proposed for vegetation removal. A survey must be conducted by a qualified biologist(s) no more than 7 days prior to vegetation removal. If active nests are observed, a qualified biologist will determine appropriate minimum disturbance buffers or other adaptive mitigation techniques (e.g., biological monitoring of active nests during construction-related activities, staggered schedules, etc.) to ensure that impacts to nesting birds are avoided until the nest is no longer active. If there is a lapse in project-related construction activities of 7 days or more, the biologist shall re-survey the area before work resumes.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes   No	Comments / Action Taken
Prior to issuance of the building permit; or following a lapse of in-season construction of 7 or more days.	Continuous		HCP&BD** *****THPOs		

**Mitigation Measure CUL-1: Archaeological and Native American Monitoring** Native American monitoring should be provided by the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria (BRB) and/or the Wiyot Tribe or their designee(s). The monitor(s) shall have the authority to halt and redirect work should any archaeological resources be identified during monitoring. If archaeological resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work in the immediate area shall halt and the find shall be evaluated for listing in the CRHR and National Register of Historical Places. The Tribe(s) may request that archaeological monitoring be performed under the direction of an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of Interior's PQS for Archaeology (as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, 36 CFR Part 61). The Tribe(s) may also require that the archaeologist prepare a Cultural Resource Monitoring Program (CRMP) and to conduct monitoring of vegetation removal and rough grading activities. The CRMP shall address the details of all activities and provides procedures that must be followed in order to reduce the impacts to cultural, tribal cultural and historic resources to a level that is less than significant as well as address potential impacts to undiscovered buried archaeological resources associated with this project. The CRMP may also require that the Archaeologist conduct Cultural Resource Sensitivity Training, focused on discussing the archaeological and tribal cultural resources that may be encountered during ground-disturbing activities as well as the procedures to be followed in such an event. The retained Qualified Archeologist may also be required to attend the pre-grade meeting with the grading contractors to explain and coordinate the requirements of the monitoring plan.

The monitoring schedule shall be established by the Tribe(s) and may be adjusted based on the scale of disturbance and sensitivity of the location where ground disturbance will occur. Monitoring may be decreased to spot-checking at the discretion of the monitors, as warranted by conditions such as encountering bedrock, a lack of prior discovery following initial monitoring, or similar circumstances. If monitoring is decreased to spot-checking, spot-checking should occur when ground-disturbance moves to a new location in the project site and when ground disturbance extends to depths not previously reached (unless those depths are within bedrock).

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes   No	Comments / Action Taken
Contract for monitoring prior to issuance of the building permit; and as decided by local Tribal Historic Preservation Officers.	During ground disturbing phase of project		HCP&BD** THPOs*****		

**Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources** If cultural resources are encountered during construction activities, the contractor on site shall cease all work in the immediate area and within a 60-foot buffer of the discovery location. A qualified archaeologist as well as the appropriate Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s) are to be contacted to evaluate the discovery and, in consultation with the applicant and lead agency, develop a treatment plan in any instance where significant impacts cannot be avoided.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) can provide information regarding the appropriate Tribal point(s) of contact for a specific area; the NAHC can be reached at 916-653-4082. Prehistoric materials may include obsidian or chert flakes, tools, locally darkened midden soils, groundstone artifacts, shellfish or faunal remains, and human burials. If human remains are found, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 requires that the County Coroner be contacted immediately at 707-445-7242. If the Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the NAHC will then be contacted by the Coroner to determine appropriate treatment of the remains pursuant to PRC 5097.98. Violators shall be prosecuted in accordance with PRC Section 5097.99

If the find is considered a "resource" the Tribe may request either protection in place or recovery, salvage and treatment of the deposits. Recovery, salvage and treatment protocols shall be developed in accordance with applicable provisions of Public Resource Code Section 21083.2 and State CEQA Guidelines 15064.5 and 15126.4 in consultation with the County. Per CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3), preservation in place shall be the preferred means to avoid impacts to archaeological resources qualifying as historical resources. Consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C), if unique archaeological resources cannot be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state, recovery, salvage, and treatment shall be required at the developer/applicant's expense. If significant pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources, as defined by CEQA, are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, the archaeologist shall develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan, the drafts of which shall be provided to the County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department for review and comment. The archaeologist shall monitor the remainder of the project and implement the Plan accordingly.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes   No	Comments / Action Taken
During ground disturbance phase of project	Continuous		HCP&BD**		

**Mitigation Measure PAL-1: Paleontological Resources.** Prior to the start of construction, the following mitigation measures will be implemented to avoid potential impacts to significant paleontological resources if they are encountered during the course of construction activities:

- A trained and qualified paleontological monitor will perform spot-check and/or monitoring of any excavations on the project that have the potential to impact paleontological resources in undisturbed native sediments below 10 feet in depth. The monitor will have the ability to redirect construction activities to ensure avoidance of adverse impacts to paleontological resources. Monitoring is not required during drilling or pile driving for installation of solar panel pylons.
- The project paleontologist may re-evaluate the necessity for paleontological monitoring after examination of the affected sediments during excavation.
- Any potentially significant fossils observed shall be collected and recorded in conjunction with best management practices and Society of Vertebrate Paleontology professional standards.
- Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.
- A report documenting the results of the monitoring, including any salvage activities and the significance of any fossils, will be prepared and submitted to the appropriate personnel.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes   No	Comments / Action Taken
During ground disturbance phase of project	Continuous		HCP&BD**		