

Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

for

Cooks Valley Events – Northern Nights Group & Mateel Community Center

Renewal and Modification of Conditional Use Permits
authorizing annual events in the Cooks Valley area (2023-2027)

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

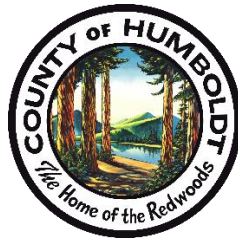
April 17, 2023

Lead Agency:

Humboldt County Planning & Building Department

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DESCRIPTION OF MODIFIED PROJECT:

A five-year renewal and modification of two previously approved Conditional Use Permits, which have historically authorized use of French's Camp and Dimmick Ranch for musical events ordinarily held between May and October. All events feature live music, camping and various vendors, including cannabis-related concessions and consumption within discrete areas on the properties. The County Line Ranch and Cooks Valley Campground span both Humboldt and Mendocino Counties and will serve as the principal venue for all events.

One Use Permit (PLN-2023-18107) is being requested by the Northern Nights Music Group to allow temporary use of County Line Ranch (APN 033-271-033) for two annual events. One event includes camping and parking at the County Line Ranch during a three or four-day, 8,000-person event, ordinarily held on the third weekend of July, known as the Northern Nights Music Festival. The applicant is seeking to expand this event to 10,000 persons. The second event includes entertainment, camping and parking provisions for an additional one-day, 3,000-person event ordinarily held on a weekend in either July or September. The applicant is seeking to expand this event to two (2) days and 5,000 persons.

The other Use Permit (PLN-2023-18108) is being requested by the Mateel Community Center to allow two events annually in a similar size, location, and fashion. One event is the Summer Arts and Music Festival which occurs over two days and is ordinarily held during the third weekend in June. The event was first operated at the County Line Ranch in 2022 and the applicant is seeking to increase attendance from 4,000 to 5,000 persons under the modification request. The second event is Reggae on the River, which ordinarily occurs over three days and is held during the first weekend in August. The Reggae on the River event has not occurred since 2018 and is planned to be held annually beginning in 2024. The event will not be held in 2023. The applicant is seeking to expand attendance at this event to 8,000 persons.

If approved, the term of both permits would be extended through 2027 and a total of four (4) events could be held annually in the Cooks Valley area. The applicants seek flexibility to conduct the four (4) events at any time during the event season (May thru October) with no two events occurring concurrently.

#	*EVENT	PERMITEE / OPERATOR	TOTAL # (MAX)			
			DAYS	CAMPING	ATTENDANCE	VEHICLES
1	Northern Nights	NNMG	4	9000	10,000	4500
2		NNMG	2	4000	5000	2500
3	Summer Arts & Music Fest.	MCC	2	4500	5000	2500
4	Reggae on the River	MCC	3	7000	8000	4000

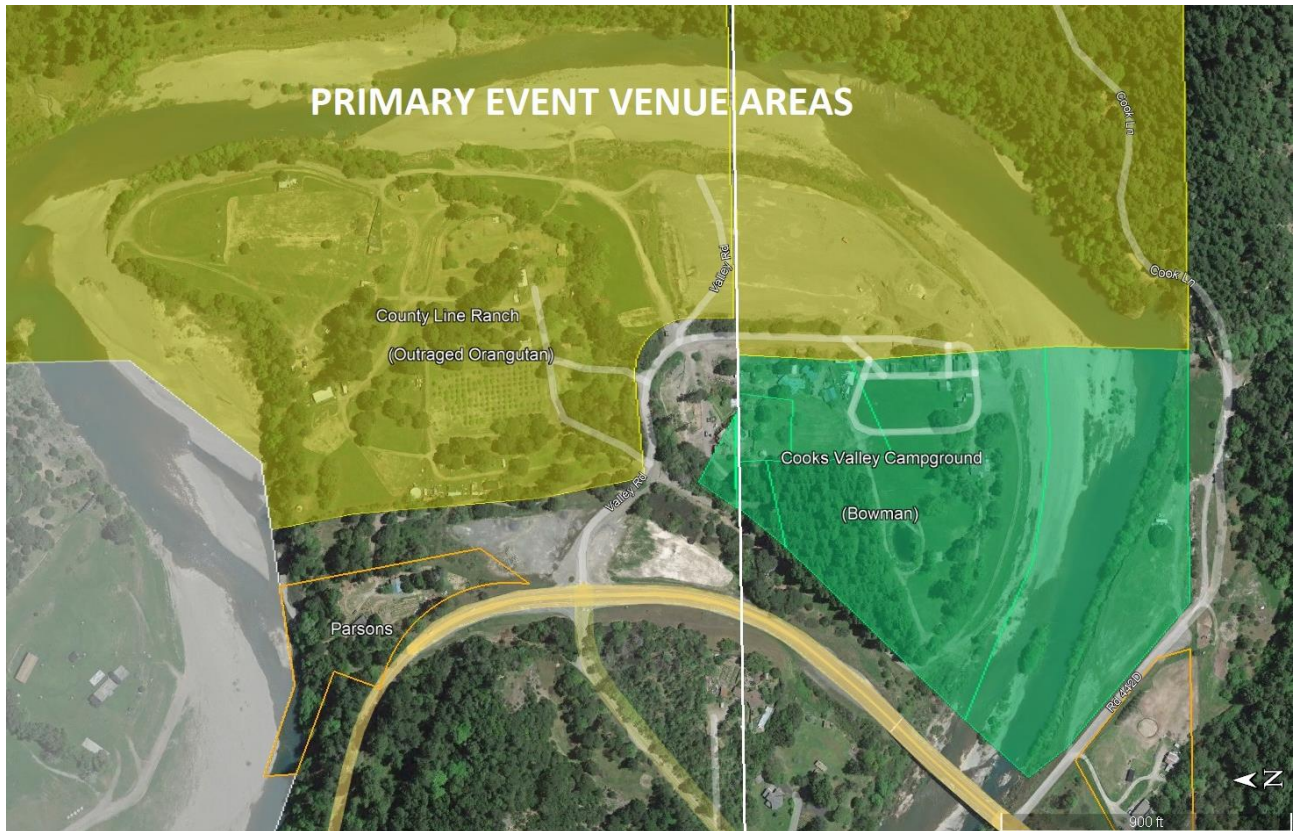
* event name omitted where uncertain
MCC – Mateel Community Center NNMG – Northern Nights Music Group, LLC

PROJECT LOCATION

The project involves events occurring on several parcels spanning the Humboldt/Mendocino County line in the Cooks Valley area, on the properties known as 83950 Road 442E and 240 Cooks Valley Road. Both are located on the east side of State Highway 101 at its intersection with State Highway 271 and Cooks Valley Road. Auxiliary parking and support facilities are found on several parcels adjacent to the event site (located at 325 US Highway 101 and 101 Cook Lane), as well as several parcels to the north located near the southern boundary of Richardson Grove State Park, on properties known as 705 US Highway 101, 750 US Highway 101, and 657 Old Highway 101. The northern auxiliary parcels are host to the One Log House and Dispensary, Richardson Grove RV park, and portions of the French's Camp property located on the west side of the South Fork of the Eel River.

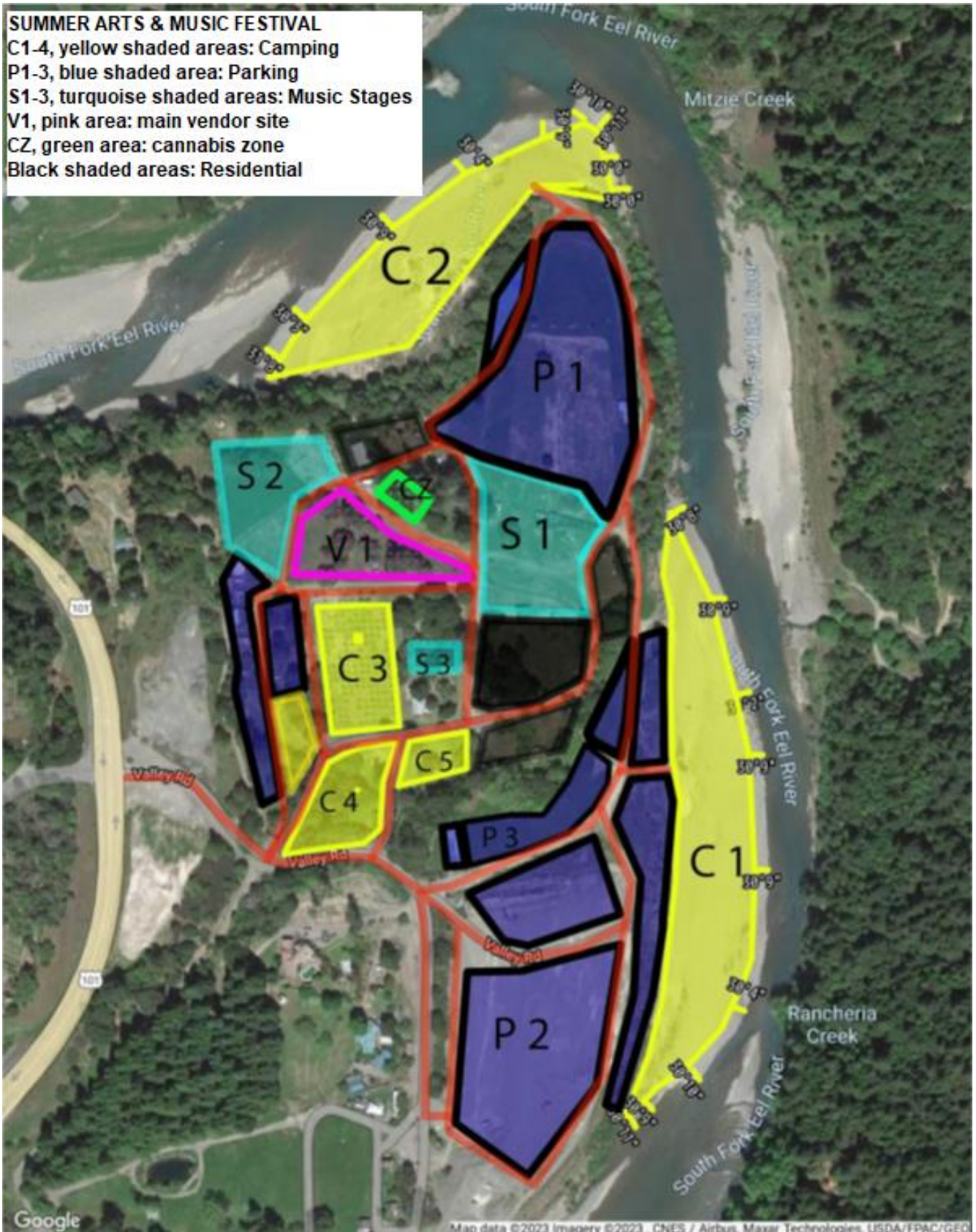


PROJECT AREA(S)

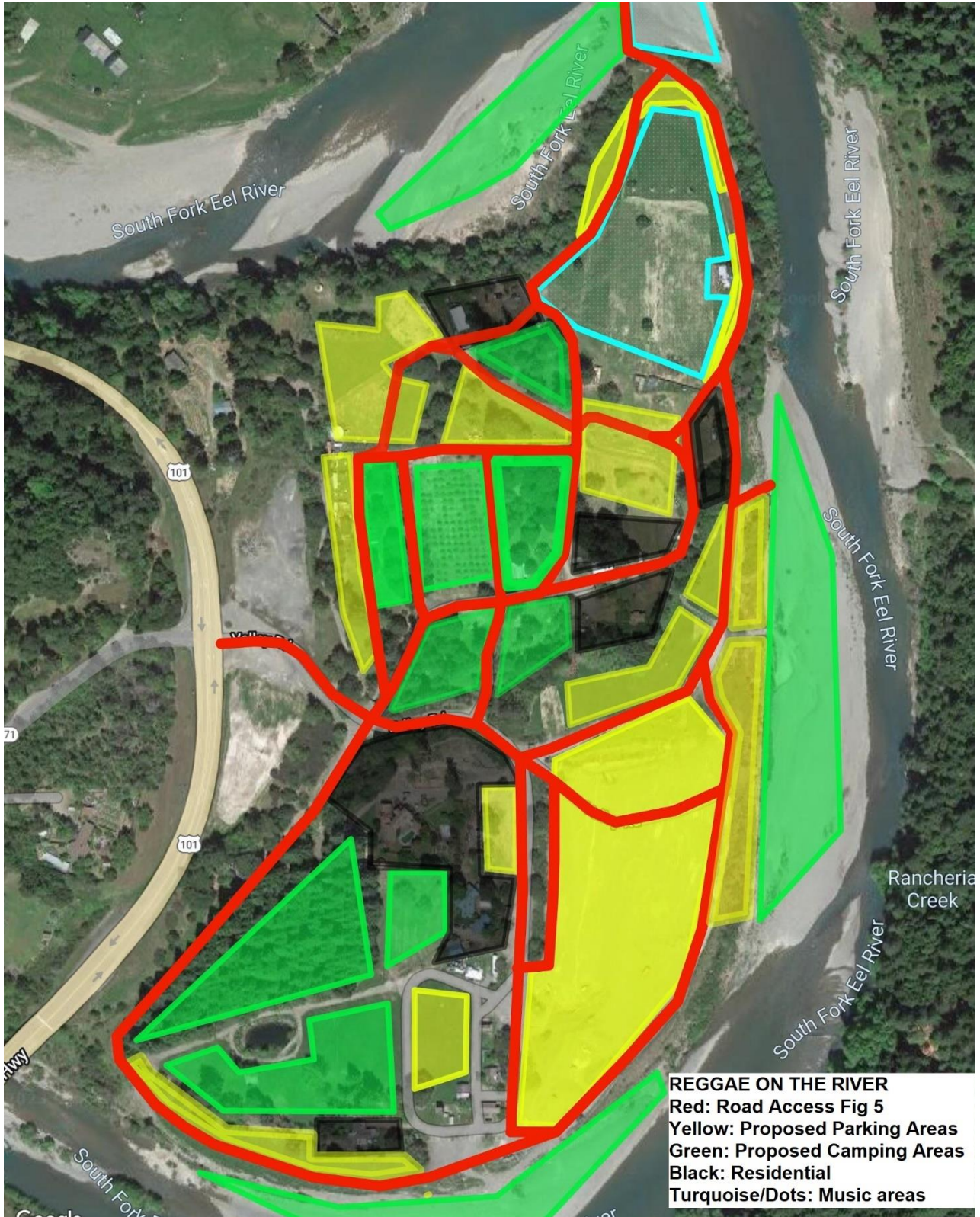


EVENT MAPS

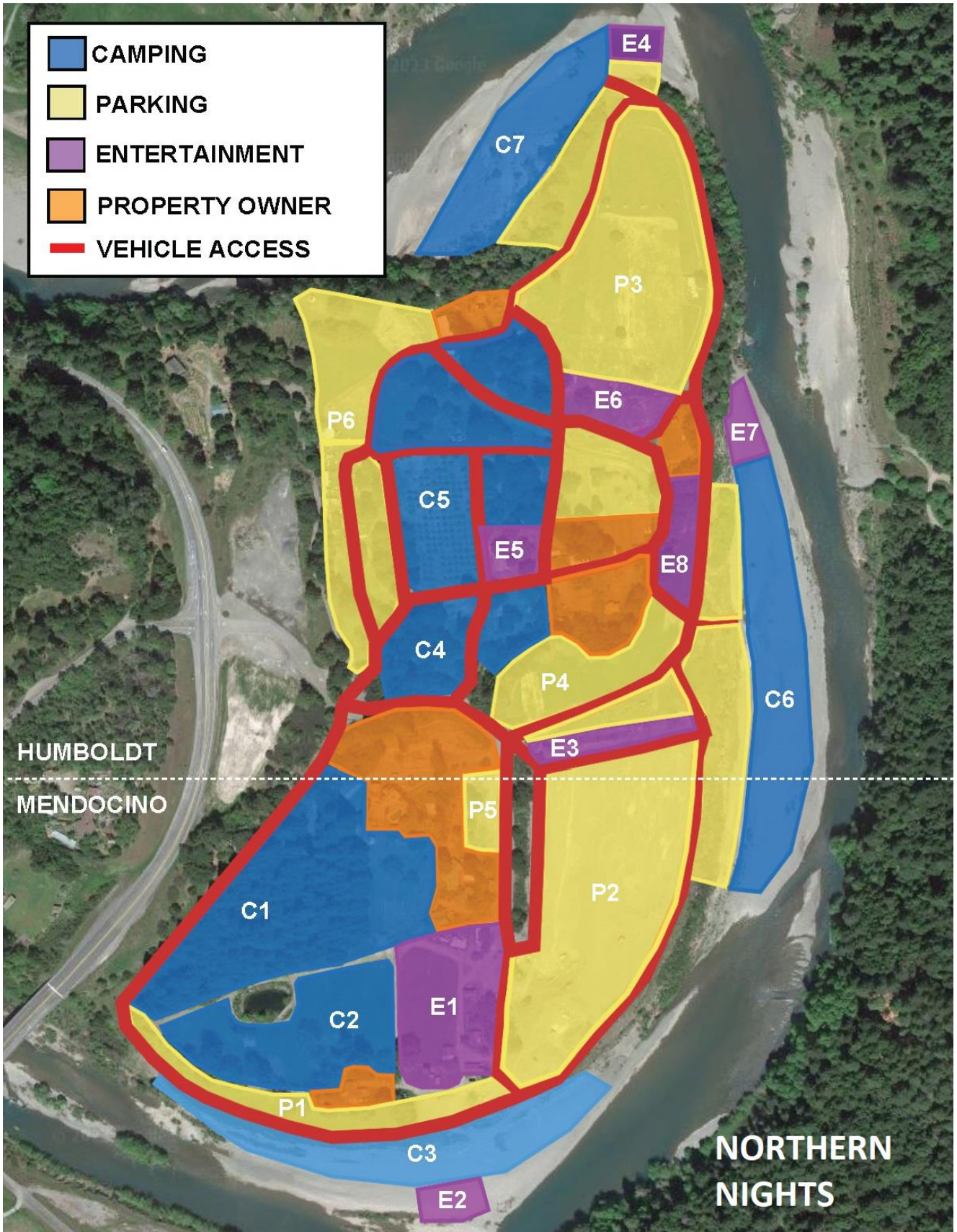
SUMMER ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL
C1-4, yellow shaded areas: Camping
P1-3, blue shaded area: Parking
S1-3, turquoise shaded areas: Music Stages
V1, pink area: main vendor site
CZ, green area: cannabis zone
Black shaded areas: Residential



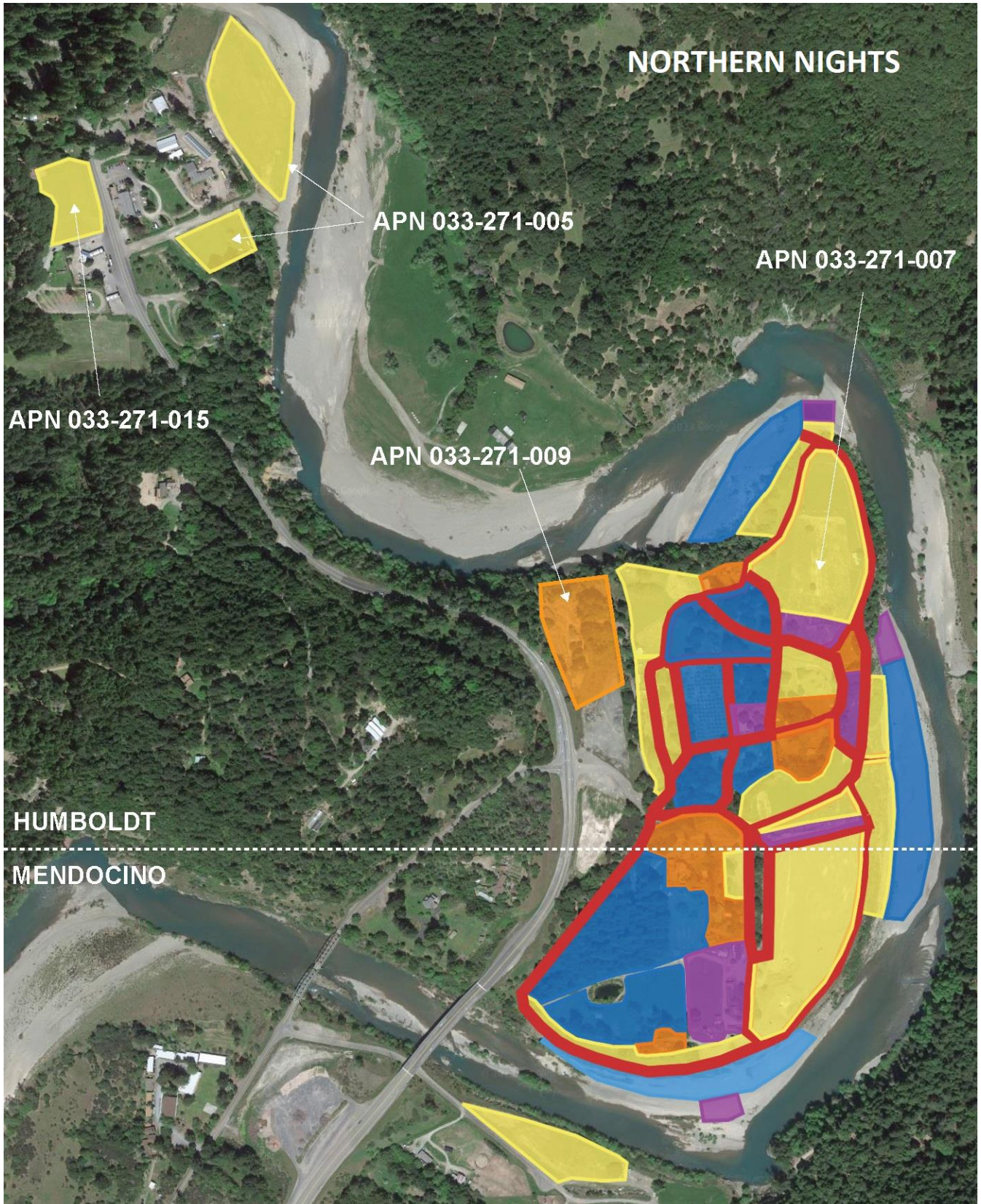
EVENT MAPS



EVENT MAPS



EVENT MAPS



Summary of Past Permitting and Approach to Environmental Review

The modifications to the previously approved projects seek to renew the term of the several Use permits which permitted collectively authorized four events to be held in 2022. Three of the four permitted events occurred exclusively within Humboldt County on the property known as the County Line Ranch (formerly Dimmick). The remaining event (Northern Nights Music Festival) involved joint permitting through Mendocino County to authorize camping, parking, and live music on the property known as Cooks Valley Campground (CVC) in concert with use of the County Line Ranch (CLR) for auxiliary parking, camping, and other uses in support of the overall event.

The modifications currently being sought to these permits would enable all four (4) events the flexibility to utilize either of two properties in support of each event and permit modest increases in event attendance and camping. This flexibility will allow the applicants and landowners to more effectively manage events by taking a more holistic approach to the placement and configuration of event-related infrastructure within the Cooks Valley area. Another benefit of this approach is that it simplifies the mobilization of resources needed and allows for some efficiencies and cost savings to occur. As both of the larger events have historically involved a charitable component with some proceeds being provided to local community organizations, these efficiencies will likely translate to improved annual fundraising by beneficiaries of the charitable donations which occur.

The Northern Nights Music Festival has been authorized to annually occur since 2014 and was the first to utilize this holistic approach to events through dual use of the CVC and CLR properties. The event operators have shown this model to be a successful one and have received permission to scale up event attendance in recent years.

The Summer Arts and Music Festival has historically been operated from the Benbow State Recreation Area. In 2022, the event was authorized to be operated from the County Line Ranch for the first time in recent years, and occurred on June 18th and June 19th, 2023. On-site camping was reserved for event operators and staff. Camping by the general public was prohibited.

Reggae on the River was last held in 2018 and was operated from the French's Camp. In 2019, the permit for the event was modified to allow use of the County Line Ranch and Bowman properties as auxiliary parking areas.

One-day events at the County Line Ranch in Cook's Valley have occurred sporadically over the last 15 years, beginning with Willie Nelson in 2008. The last one-day event to occur was the "Lumberstruck" Country Music Festival held on July 3, 2016

Consolidation of environmental for the two permits is appropriate given their location, nature, and shared impacts. CEQA discourages "piece-mealing" of environmental review and requires that agencies and practitioners analyze "the whole of the project" to extent practicable. In the following document, the lead agency is attempting to do this by updating and memorializing current mitigation measures and adding new ones to address changes to the Appendix G checklist which have occurred in recent years. These changes include use of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) when analyzing Transportation Impacts, introduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) and Wildfire considerations, as well as the advent of protections and recognition of Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs). It should be noted that the County of Mendocino has conducted separate environmental review for the Northern Nights Music Festival Event, in tandem with discretionary permits granted for the festival starting in 2014.

Four (4) different Environmental Impact Reports (EIR's) have been prepared for the permits, which were certified in 1993, 2006, 2008, and 2013. A total seven (7) different addendums have also been prepared between 1993 and 2022. One of the primary purposes of this Mitigated Negative Declaration is to unify applicable mitigation measures, discard ones that are no longer relevant, and add or amend ones that are necessary.

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by the proposed project, and would involve at least one impact that is determined to be a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the follow pages of this report.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture and Forestry Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geology/Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazards & Hazardous Materials
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology/Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Use / Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mineral Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Noise	<input type="checkbox"/>	Population / Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tribal Cultural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilities / Service Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory Findings of Significance

A detailed explanation of responses follows in Section 4 of this report. All answers take into account the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site; cumulative as well as project-level; indirect as well as direct; and construction as well as operational impacts. The explanation of each issue identifies:

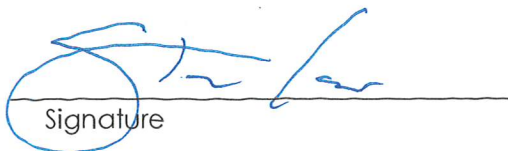
- (a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
- (b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to a less than significant level.

Determination

(To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that 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 that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described 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 upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.


Signature

4/17/23
Date

Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including offsite as well as onsite, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The analysis of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant

1. AESTHETICS. Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The project will not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista. The site being used for events was already evaluated in the EIR and Addendums prepared in 2014 and 2019 which authorize use of various locations for camping, parking, and performance and assembly areas. The County Line Ranch and Cooks Valley Campground have a long history of being used for events of a similar nature and magnitude.

The project will substantially damage scenic resources including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway. The project will not result in the construction or demolition of any new permanent structures so it does not have any potential impacts which would substantially damage scenic resources including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway corridor.

The project will not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. No permanent structures are being proposed which would impair the existing visual character of the sites. After the event is over, all temporary facilities within the venue and the surrounding areas will be removed and the sites will be cleaned up.

The surrounding property along Highway 101 is characterized as Highway Commercial Service, so there is already considerable nighttime lighting in the area. The lights for traffic areas and parking will be as prominent as the lighting that occurred in previous years for events at the same site. To Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires event-related lighting to be directed in a way that ensures it is kept within the boundaries of the property and the event footprint.

2. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest and (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))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conservation of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The project will not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use. No permanent structures are being proposed.

No trees will be removed for the event and no permanent structures will be constructed. The grass-covered areas of the site will be mowed and baled to reduce fire hazard.

The project will not result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use nor impair their forest productivity because the use is temporary, occurring in the summer months during four weekends of the year.

The project will not 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 forestland to non-forest use. The event venue sites are not within a Williamson Act preserve.

The above paragraphs describe how the proposed use will not result in any impacts on the agricultural value of the property. These same measures will protect the existing trees on the property as well, which is sparsely populated with oak, Douglas fir and Redwood trees.

The General Plan Land Use designation is Timberland (T) and Industrial Resource Related (IR), and it is Zoned Agriculture Exclusive (AE) and Timberland Production Zone (TPZ). Presently, the agricultural use of the site predominantly pasture. There is also an extensive 100-year floodplain that has limited agricultural potential due to the presence of exposed gravel bars and river-deposited terraces. Northern and Eastern portions of the parcel (lying on the eastern side of the South Fork Eel River) are primarily composed of Commercial Timberland, and are not affected or utilized during events.

3. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significant criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

According to the PM₁₀ Attainment Plan adopted by NCUAQMD (May 11, 1995), Humboldt County's air quality has violated the California PM₁₀ ambient standard. As a result, the district has been classified as a PM₁₀ non-attainment area.

The PM₁₀ Attainment Plan includes control strategies that are intended to achieve the attainment goals that are identified in the Plan. Control strategies include transportation control measures such as encouraging the use of public transit and replacing the diesel-powered bus fleet with natural gas fueled models, encouraging car-pooling and bicycle commuting, removal or repair of vehicles with inefficient emission control systems, and traffic flow improvements that reduce idling and vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Land use control measures encourage mixed use or more dense development. The PM₁₀ Attainment Plan also includes open burning measures that limit residential burning as well as various measures to encourage the installation of EPA certified woodstoves.

The North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District did not respond to the original Notice of Preparation for the project circulated on August 23, 2012. The project description includes measures that are consistent with the PM₁₀ Attainment Plan. Camping for staff and volunteers is allowed on site, which will reduce vehicle usage during the event. The events proposed are

targeted towards residents in southern portions of Humboldt County and northern Mendocino County. The venue is conveniently situated near population centers in Southern Humboldt (Garberville, Redway, and Benbow) as well as rural communities in northern Mendocino (Piercy, Leggett, and Laytonville) which serves to help allow for carpooling and reduced trip lengths. Dust will be minimized by regularly watering the roads and grassy areas of the site to encourage growth of new grass after mowing. Fires are not permitted on the site. The actions listed above support the proposed mitigation measures and will be sufficient to comply with the applicable air quality plan, minimizing the potential violation of air quality standards.

There is no evidence the event will expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. There are no hospitals or retirement homes within six (6) miles of the site that include a substantial number of sensitive receptors.

The proposed modifications to the event permits will not create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Trash will be removed from the site and will be taken off-site for disposal as soon as practical after the event.

The cannabis concessions and consumption areas will not generate any air quality impacts that were not previously considered in the EIR. An Outdoor Festival, smoking has been customary at these events since their inception. Providing a designated area for cannabis consumption will help isolate these activities from non-smoking attendees and control their potential for nuisance.

The primary source of the project's GHG emissions and energy use is anticipated to be the combustion of fossil fuels from motor vehicles. The project's incremental increases in GHG emissions associated with temporary increases in traffic will contribute to regional and global increases in GHG emissions and associated climate change effects. Review of the State goals for reducing GHG emissions indicate that the project would not conflict with the goals identified in AB 32 (the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006). Mitigation Measures for reducing GHG emission are further described below.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The project will not interfere with migratory movement or impede the use of nursery sites for salmon. The salmonid young of the year will have migrated downstream by the time the event occurs. Native fish species seek refuge in deep pools and at the inlets of creeks and springs. These favorable conditions do not occur in the reach of the river where the project is located based on in-stream temperature conditions measured in 2012.

Spotted Owl & Marbled Murrelet

Marbled Murrelet primarily utilize old-growth redwoods for nesting and therefore Richardson Grove State Park is considered part of their range. There are no nesting populations currently known to exist in the park at this time. According to the 2017 Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) prepared by Caltrans for the Richardson Grove Operational Improvement Project, protocol level surveys were conducted for the Marbled Murrelet (MAMU) in 2011 and 2012 and for the Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) in 2014, 2015, 2016. Neither species was found to be present in Richardson Grove.

A review of Spotted Owl Observations found in the California Natural Diversity Database mapping reveals that the closest activity centers (HUM0012 & MEN0458) are located 2 miles to the north and 3 miles to the east of the event venue. Survey work on neighboring lands across the river (east of the venue) was performed by Hohman & Associates in 2018 and did not result in any positive NSO sightings.

An Initial Biological Assessment was prepared for the property in January 2023. According to the Assessment, potential habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) has been mapped in the area surrounding the footprint of the proposed events. No NSO Activity Centers (ACs) are mapped within 1.3 miles of the event location (see attached NSO map). NSO surveys have been conducted in the area from 2019-2022 by Hohman and Associates, Jacobzoon & Associates as well as BBW for neighboring timber harvest plans. No NSO detections or new ACs have been established in the area since 2019. Additionally, no habitat removal is proposed for the temporary event. Since no known NSO ACs or nest sites are known within 1.3 miles of the events, the proposed events are not expected to have a significant negative impact on the NSO.

An Initial Biological Assessment has been prepared for the property in January 2023 concludes that *"The lack of suitable habitat for the species within ~0.35 miles of nearest stage site coupled with of the "high" or "very high" pre-existing ambient noise associated with Highway 101 makes it unlikely that the events will have a significant negative impact on the Marbled murrelet."* The

report recommends that events minimize potential noise disturbance by constructing performance stages in such a way that, to the extent feasible, noise will be projected away from designated critical habitat for the Marbled Murrelet and from Richardson Grove State Park. Though at present no MAMU population is explicitly known to exist in Richardson Grove State Park, the applicant is taking additional measures to configure the setup of the stages to help direct all amplified sound in the opposite direction of Richardson Grove. This has been memorialized as Mitigation Measure BIO-7 (Stage Orientation).

The proposed project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy or ordinance. The proposed project will not increase the use of the Streamside Management Area compared to previous events.

No habitat conservation plan applies to the site or the surrounding area. Accordingly, the project does not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

Riverbar portions of the properties are subject to seasonal inundation during winter flows and are suitable habitat for the Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog (FYLF). Camping and Parking setbacks are designed to help keep attendees from staging vehicles and equipment within riparian areas where there is a higher likelihood of disturbing wildlife such as FYLF. Mitigation Measure BIO-6 requires education and outreach to event attendees to help ensure they help avoid and protect any populations of frogs encountered during the event.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 involves installation of a floating boom downstream of the event site, in order to intercept and capture any rafts or other floatation devices that inadvertently escape from the event site and float downstream.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2 is designed to address ongoing responsibilities associated with a rainwater pond constructed at the former event site (French's Camp) which was used by the Mateel Community Center to for dust control and irrigation of grassy areas used during events. When left unattended and never completely drained, ponds can serve as habitat for invasive species such as bullfrog. The mitigation measure requires that the Mateel work with the landowner (Arthur Family) to see that the pond is drained annually by September 1st.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 is designed to prevent inadvertent harassment of wildlife by event-related lighting and requires that lightshow elements not be operated in a way that would result in them spilling outside of the event perimeter and into neighboring forested areas.

Mitigation Measure BIO-4 requires careful management and collection of waste during and after events, to prevent access by corvids and other wildlife. The mitigation measure also requires post event macro and micro levels of cleanup both on land and within the river.

Mitigation Measure BIO-5 carries forward differential riparian setbacks for various event infrastructure and activities.

Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires survey of the riverbar and riparian areas for nesting birds such as the Killdeer, at least 2 weeks prior to first event.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 (Floating Boom):

A boom shall be positioned downstream of the event and used to capture rafts and other flotation devices that are inadvertently carried off during events. Netting or similar materials which can entrap wildlife, are prohibited from use.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2 (Bullfrog Management – Arthur Pond):

The pond located on the Arthur Property (French's Camp) shall be completely drained annually. Draining of the pond must be completed by September 1st of each year. Before draining may occur, a plan for discharge of stored water from the pond shall be submitted to the California Department of Fish & Wildlife for review and approval. The plan shall identify the timing, volume, and areas where release of water is proposed. Water from the pond shall not be discharged directly into the South Fork of the Eel River, or its tributaries.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 (Event Lighting):

Elements of the lightshow (such as lasers, projections, and similar lighting) shall be directed in a way that ensures they remain contained within the boundaries of the property and event footprint (i.e. directed at the dance floor and stages, venues, etc. and not onto adjacent forested slopes throughout the river canyon).

Mitigation Measure BIO-4 (Waste Management):

To prevent the overflow spread of litter and access by corvids and other wildlife, trashcans shall be regularly emptied throughout the day. All dumpsters shall be animal proof, or at a minimum, covered. All areas shall be cleaned of all litter within two (2) weeks following the end of each event. Cleanup includes snorkeling and diving of the river to detect and remove litter and lost objects that could be deleterious to fish, wildlife, or other beneficial uses.

Mitigation Measure BIO-5 (Riparian Setbacks):

The following riparian setbacks from the river's wetted edge shall be maintained during all events:

- Walk-in campsites: 30'
- Car campsites/parking on the gravel bar: 100'
- Stages: 50' minimum
- Porta-potties: 50' minimum. Must be placed on a stable surface
- Generators supplying power to event infrastructure: 100 feet. All generators within 200 feet of the wetted edge shall include secondary containment. Fully-stocked spill kits must be available onsite at all times.

A buffer of no less than thirty (30) feet shall be maintained between all project activities and the wetted channel of South Fork Eel River. A one hundred (100) foot buffer shall be maintained between all vehicles and the wetted channel of the South Fork Eel River.

Mitigation Measure BIO-6 (Foothill Yellow-legged Frog):

During all events featuring camping and other use of the riverbar, the applicant shall plan, and implement outreach, announcements, and signage to educate attendees and event staff about foothill yellow-legged frogs (FYLF) at the event site, including ways for attendees to avoid impacting frogs during events. At minimum, these efforts shall include:

- Conspicuously posted signage at each vehicle entry point and at 50-foot intervals along the 30-foot setback from the river bank and 100-foot setback for vehicle parking areas. At minimum, the signage shall be 11" x 17", be posted between 4-5 feet above the ground, include an image of the FYLF and shall indicate "No Camping Beyond This Point" and "No Parking Beyond This Point," respectively. The sign shall also include additional pertinent information to educate attendees on ways to avoid impacts to the FYLF for the duration of the event.
- Education of event staff and security to ensure attendees are not camping or parking in prohibited areas where impacts to the FYLF are most likely to occur.

- Announcements from the Main Stage and River Stage once each morning, afternoon and evening on each day of the event to inform attendees on ways to avoid impacts to the FYLF for the duration of the event.

County and CDFW staff may conduct inspections during the event to ensure compliance with this and all Biological Resource conditions.

Mitigation Measure BIO-7 (Nesting Birds)

Nesting birds or occupied nests shall not be disturbed or disrupted by project activities. Some bird species such as killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*) are cryptic ground nesters known to utilize gravel bars for nesting activities. Riparian vegetation provides suitable habitat for a variety of nesting birds. In order to avoid potential take of the nest or eggs of any bird (prohibited pursuant to Fish and Game Code Sections 3503 and 3503.5), nest surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within 14 days prior to the start of project-related activities, and within 14 days prior to the start of the earliest event. (If all activities will take place within a two-week period, a single survey is acceptable.) The detailed survey results shall be submitted to the County and CDFW for review prior to commencement of site preparation activities and/or the Northern Nights Music Festival. CDFW will provide review and comment within five (5) business days of report submittal. Depending on site-specific conditions, CDFW may recommend buffers of 50 or more feet between identified nests and project activities, and/or other measures to avoid disturbance or take of nests.

Mitigation Measure BIO-8 (Stage Orientation)

To minimize potential noise disturbance all performance stages shall be constructed and positioned in such a way that, to the extent feasible, noise will be projected away from designated critical habitat for the Marbled Murrelet and from Richardson Grove State Park.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The proposed permit modifications will not involve significant ground disturbance to any new areas of the property. No new grading is proposed. There are no mapped cultural, historical or paleontological resources or geologic features or human remains on the property. The property has a long track record of being used in a similar fashion for past and current music festivals and similar events.

6. ENERGY.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed permit modifications will not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project operation.

Festival-related energy use is customary to the event is not expected to exceed baseline levels found during prior years. Therefore, conflicts with or obstruction of a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency is not expected to result.

A number of mitigation measures have been developed to assist with achieving reductions in event related Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Incorporation of these mitigations will also serve to ensure that the energy efficiency will improve over baseline levels in forthcoming years., and energy waste minimized.

7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed project does not expose people or structures to potential adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death.

According to the Geologic Hazards maps of the General Plan, the project is mostly located in an area of low instability. There are steep hillsides on the properties, but the proposed uses will occur on the relatively flat areas of the properties. Additionally, the project site is not located in a special studies zone or mapped in a potentially active fault zone according to the Special Study Maps prepared by the State of California. Accordingly, the project will not expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects from a fault rupture.

The project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving strong seismic ground shaking. According to the Geologic Stability Rating Map, the soils on the project site are classified as relatively stable. The project site is located in Seismic Zone 4, with a seismic Zone factor of 0.4, per Figure 16-2 and Table 16-1 of the 1998 Uniform Building Code (UBC). However, no new construction is proposed.

The project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving seismic-related ground failure and liquefaction. The soils at the site are not in an area mapped as conducive to liquefaction and subsidence on the Geologic Stability Rating Map. In addition, these maps show the site is not located in an area identified with the potential for liquefaction.

The project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving landslides. The relatively stable soils and gentle topography minimize the risk of landslides as a result of the project.

The project will not result in soil erosion or loss of topsoil. The proposed parking will be on level parts of the site with mild slope, which has little potential for erosion. Existing access roads will be used to access the parking areas.

The project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project. The project is primarily confined to relatively level terrain associated with the riverbar and nearby terraces of the Eel River's South Fork.

The project will not be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property. There are no known expansive soils in the area and no permanent structures are proposed.

No event-related sewage will be disposed of in on-site systems. Portable toilets are utilized by event attendees. An on-site greywater system handles event-related wastewater from other sources.

There are no known unique geologic or paleontological features within the festival footprints.

8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The primary source of the project's GHG emissions and energy use is anticipated to be the combustion of fossil fuels from motor vehicles. The project's incremental increases in GHG emissions associated with temporary increases in traffic will contribute to regional and global increases in GHG emissions and associated climate change effects. For those persons parking off-site, the project includes shuttle services to and from those off-site destinations, which will also minimize the use of cars. Locating and consolidating off-site parking areas closer to the event helps reduce energy use by reducing the length and need for shuttle service.

The events proposed are targeted towards residents in southern portions of Humboldt County and northern Mendocino County. The venue is conveniently situated near population centers in Southern Humboldt (Garberville, Redway, and Benbow) as well as rural communities in northern Mendocino (Piercy, Leggett, and Laytonville) which serves to help allow for carpooling and reduced trip lengths. Dust will be minimized by watering the roads with a dust suppressant and watering grassy areas of the site to encourage growth of new grass after mowing. Fires are not permitted on the site.

Traditionally, a large percentage of festival attendees choose to camp within the one of the on-site camping areas. Camping during the 2022 Summer Arts and Music Festival event was limited to staff, vendors, volunteers, and guests of the property owners, resulting in increased vehicle trips by attendees. Festival-related emissions are customary to the event and not expected to exceed baseline levels found during prior years. Review of the State goals for reducing GHG emissions indicate that the project (as modified) would not conflict with the goals identified in AB 32 (the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006), adopted to reduce GHG emissions.

The largest source of GHG emissions from events is linked to emissions from vehicles transporting attendees to and from the event. The second source is tied to use of private generators. Mitigation Measure GHG-1 is designed to reduce GHG emissions below baseline levels. A VMT/GHG exhibit is included within the Appendices and estimates that 790 metric tons of Carbon

Dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions are produced by vehicles transporting patrons to and from the Northern Nights Music Festival Event, and that 45 metric tons of CO₂e emissions result from production and attendee generator use. Through implementing the reduction strategies found in Mitigation Measures GHG-1 and TRANS-1, it is expected that a significant reduction of GHG emissions can be achieved.

Mitigation Measure GHG-1 (GHG Reduction):

Each event shall include and implement select measures to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions generated by the event. Measures include all of the VMT reduction techniques found in Mitigation Measure TRANS-1. Additional measures designed to discourage and reduce generator use, include but are not limited to:

- Providing convenient locations for charging phones and other small portable electronic devices
- Prohibiting use of private generators within all river bar camping areas
- Offering discounts to attendees who bring portable battery power generators
- Promoting use of solar charging and/or other alternative energy generators by attendees
- Using and developing new grid power infrastructure to reduce reliance on generators to power event infrastructure.

9. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The proposed modifications to the event will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. The proposed project does not involve transport, use or the disposal of hazardous materials.

The proposed modifications to the event will not 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. As proposed, the event does not involve the transport, use, or the disposal of hazardous materials (solvent, oils, fuels, etc.).

The proposed modifications to the event will not involve hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. The proposed parking does not involve activities that would result in hazardous emissions or the handling of hazardous materials, nor is it located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.

The proposed event modifications are not 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, it would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. The event site is not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. The California Envirostor database was queried for hazardous materials sites pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. No site is located within the vicinity.

The event site is located approximately three miles from the nearest public airport and is not in an approach or transition zone nor is it designated as an area that has a limited risk. Accordingly, the project will not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

The proposed event site is not within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The proposed event site is more than three (3) miles from a public airstrip so the modification will not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

Mitigation Measure WF-1 includes a raft of measures designed prevent and protect against Wildfire and ensure adequate emergency response resources. As in previous years, the fire suppression resources at the site will provide the necessary fire protection in the local area during the event.

The Critical Incident Team will coordinate implementation of the emergency response plan. The Operations Plan for the event addresses emergency response to wildfire and other disasters and evacuation of attendees from the proposed new parking areas. Conditions of approval require conformance with the approved Operations Plan.

10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The project will not 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. The project includes mitigation measures to offset increases in water demand associated with events.

Event-related water demand comes in two forms:

1. Potable Water
2. Non-potable water

Potable water is provided to the County Line Ranch and Cooks Valley Campground (Bowman) properties through individual wells located on terraces above the South Fork of the Eel River. Both wells are viewed as hydrologically connected to (i.e. diversions from) the South Fork of the Eel River, given their proximity to the river channel. Both wells are also used to furnish water for irrigation on these properties. At the County Line Ranch, well water is pumped and stored in a series of storage tanks totaling approximately 110,000 gallons, located on the parcel's northwest side, before then being distributed throughout the property. Minimal tanked storage is found on the Cooks Valley Campground property.

Non-potable water is primarily used for fire prevention and irrigating roads for dust control. An existing pond on the Cooks Valley Campground (Bowman) property is used to supply non-potable water to both properties. The pond is filled by a combination of rainwater and subsurface flow. Water trucks are used to deliver water for dust control to various locations throughout the properties.

Water right filings have been submitted for both properties and monitoring and reporting of water use has been occurring for over a decade. Mitigation Measure WQ-1 requires that all water usage be monitored prior to, during, and following each event and that this data be recorded and tabulated and provided in the post event report.

Expected water usage for each event is detailed in the table below. These numbers are conservative and are grounded in past experience holding events of a similar type and magnitude from the sites. Metering of both wells has occurred for a number of years and usage data collected for reporting provides a stable source of information for calculating and forecasting future demand. The table below estimates projected water use for each event.

WATER STORAGE AND ESTIMATE OF EVENT-RELATED POTABLE WATER USE							
OPERATOR		NNMG		MCC		TOTALS	
EVENT		NNMF	2-day	SAMF	ROTR		
ATTENDANCE		10,000	5,000	5,000	8,000	28,000	
# of DAYS		4	2	2	3	11	
POTABLE WATER USE (gallons)						WATER STORAGE (gallons)	
VENUE SITE	CLR	32,000	4,000	16,000	32,000	84,000	110,000
	CVC	188,000	26,000	14,000	136,000	364,000	* 770,000
TOTAL(S)		220,000	30,000	30,000	168,000		880,000
SAMF – Summer Arts and Music Festival ROTR – Reggae on the River NNMF – Northern Nights Music Festival MCC – Mateel Community Center NNMG – Northern Nights Music Group, LLC CLR – County Line Ranch CVC – Cooks Valley Campground (Bowman) *non-potable water							

The following table details baseline water use on both properties (CLR and CVC) during the standard forbearance window. (May 15th thru October 31st) during a 2-year period where no events occurred.

Property	Month	Non-event year use average (2020-2021)
		Monthly Average (2020-2021)
County Line Ranch (CLR)	May	41,000
	June	39,500
	July	58,000
	Aug	66,500
	Sept	52,500
	Oct	50,000
	TOTAL	307,500
		Monthly Average (2020-2021)
Cooks Valley Campground (CVC)	May	190,000
	June	167,500
	July	190,000
	Aug	275,000
	Sept	261,000
	Oct	262,500
	TOTAL	1,346,000

Two distinct methods will be used to offset increases in demand for potable water stemming from event-related use. Each approach to offset use is linked to the place of use / point of diversion

(well). Mitigation Measure WQ-1 requires that all water usage be monitored prior to, during, and following each event. Mitigation Measure WQ-2 requires the County Line Ranch to offset event-related water demand by forbearing from use of the well between September 1st and October 15th of each year. Mitigation Measure WQ-3 requires the Cooks Valley Campground owner and occupants reduce water use during the forbearance period (May 15th thru October 31st) by an amount equal to the amount of potable water consumed during events.

The project will not 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. Minimal new grading is proposed. Use of the site will also not 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.

The proposed modifications to the event will not create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The event occurs during the dry time of the year when rain is highly unlikely to fall. No permanent structures or grading activities are proposed. Natural drainage patterns of the site will not be altered. Roads and parking lots will not be graded except as necessary to allow the passage of vehicles.

Mitigation Measure WQ-4 prohibits the use of chemical dust suppressants and Mitigation Measure WQ-5 requires water quality sampling be performed before, during, larger events (3 or more days).

Mitigation Measure WQ-6 requires all vehicles be screened and inspected as they enter the parking areas. Those with obvious leaks of oils or antifreeze will be directed to parking lots in upland areas. Oil-absorbing pads will be placed strategically under the vehicle to catch the drips. After the vehicles depart, the pads and any contaminated soil substrate will be collected and disposed of. All spills and their remediation must be detailed in the annual post event reports to be submitted.

Mitigation Measure WQ-7 requires signage and information be made available to attendees prohibiting the use of soap in the river and encouraging use of ecologically friendly sunscreens and other products.

The project will not place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other hazard delineation map. No permanent structures are proposed.

The proposed modification will not place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows. No new structures are proposed – even-related use of the property occurs outside of the flood season.

The proposed modifications to the event will not result in the exposure of 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. The event occurs during the dry time of the year when rain is highly unlikely to fall, and there are no dams located along the South Fork of the Eel River, upstream of the event site.

The proposed modifications to the event will not result in the exposure of additional people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death in the event of a seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

There is no hazard in the project area or from the project itself from flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam, or by seiche, mudflow or tsunami.

Mitigation Measure WQ-1 (Monitoring Water Usage):

Water use on both the County Line Ranch and Cooks Valley Campground properties shall be monitored throughout the event season (May through October) including prior to, during, and after each event. Daily readings of water use shall be collected from the water meters during each day an event occurs. This information shall be recorded and tabulated and provided in the post event report.

Mitigation Measure WQ-2 (offsetting water use - County Line Ranch):

To offset event-related water demand at County Line Ranch, the property owners and occupants shall agree to forbear from use of the well between September 1st and October 15th. Forbearance shall be required during any year where events occur, for the life of the permit. If enough water storage is developed to meet all event-related water demand at the County Line Ranch place of use, forbearance shall no longer be required.

Mitigation Measure WQ-3 (offsetting water use - Cooks Valley Campground):

To offset event-related water demand at Cooks Valley Campground, the property owner and occupants shall reduce water use during the standard forbearance period (May 15th thru October 31st) so that the total water use during those months is reduced by an amount equal to the amount of water used by all events occurring within that same period.

For example, if all event-related water use totals 200,000 gallons (between May 15th and October 31st), the maximum amount of water that may be taken during the forbearance window shall not exceed 1,146,000 gallons (1,346,000 gallons – 200,000 gallons).

Mitigation Measure WQ-4 (Dust Control)

Use of Chemical Dust Suppressants is prohibited. Water for dust control be sourced from the existing pond at the Cooks Valley Campground.

Mitigation Measure WQ-5 (Water Quality Sampling)

To assess water quality impacts, during all three and four-day events, daily water samples shall be collected by a qualified independent entity. Samples shall be collected both upstream and downstream from the event and shall be tested for total coliforms, fecal coliforms and enterococci.

Mitigation Measure WQ-6 (Inspection & Management of Leaking Vehicles)

Event staff shall inspect vehicles at arrival for leaking fluids, take appropriate steps for dealing with problem vehicles, monitor the parking areas during the event, and provide any required clean up during and after the events.

Event staff will inspect vehicles at arrival for leaking fluids, take appropriate steps for dealing with problem vehicles, monitor the parking areas during the event, and provide any required clean up during and after the event. The applicants/event staff shall provide specific details of the vehicle screening/inspection process to prevent the release of petrochemicals associated with vehicles in areas where these chemicals may pass into the South Fork Eel River. This screening process shall, at a minimum:

- a) Dedicate staff to pollution prevention, both at the entry point and for follow up within the venue for the duration of the event
- b) Identify "problem" vehicles (i.e. leaking) before they enter the venue

- c) Intercept and quarantine "problem" vehicles that are leaking and direct to parking areas away from the river bar
- d) Create a contingency plan for leaking vehicles discovered within the venue, such as absorbent pads effective to contain leaks until proper disposal after the event
- e) Dedicate staff for clean-up and remediation of spots/spills during and after the event
- f) Report post clean-up findings to CDFW and other interested agencies after the event

The applicants shall detail any spills and their clean-up in the annual monitoring report.

Mitigation Measure WQ-7 (Water Quality Education and Enforcement)

Campers and other attendees utilizing the river and river bar areas shall be prohibited from using soap in the river. Signage and other information prohibiting use of soap in the river and encouraging use of ecologically friendly sunscreen options.

11.LAND USE AND PLANNING.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed modifications to the event permitting will not physically divide an established community. The proposed project will not result in the construction of any permanent structures or features.

The proposed modifications will not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. The proposed project is conditionally allowed by the zoning ordinance and land use plan.

The proposed event modifications will not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. The proposal would relocate operate two additional events at a site capable of and accustomed to hosting events of this nature and magnitude.

12. MINERAL RESOURCES.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed event modifications will not 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. The proposed new parking areas will not involve placement of permanent structures.

Additionally, the proposed changes will not 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. The proposed project is a temporary and short-duration event. It could temporarily interfere with potential gravel mining operations on the property. No gravel mining will occur during the event. The project will not result in the permanent loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan.

13. NOISE.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The primary source of noise at the event comes from the daily series of amplified musical performances which occur during events. The stage location and position varies by event.

To help insure the event-related noise does not create a nuisance to neighboring landowners and residents, Mitigation Measure NOI-1 requires each event operator to implement a series of measures designed to facilitate adaptive management of the event. This will occur primarily through collection of feedback from local residents (immediately prior to and) during the event, and implementation of adaptive measures to help reduce, minimize, or resolve the issue(s) identified. The Mitigation Measure also requires that noise levels be measured from the northern, southern, eastern, and western boundaries of the property between 7pm and 2am. The provisions of this Condition are similar to operational measures implemented during earlier years of the festival (immediately following approval of the Use Permit and certification of the most recent EIR) which required measuring sound levels and providing a hotline for local residents to call with concerns.

The proposed use is for a temporary event. It will not result in any permanent increases in ambient noise. These mitigations are similar to ones previously analyzed in the EIR, and will insure the temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity would not result in a potential nuisance to surrounding land uses.

The proposed modifications to the event will not expose people to noise impacts from airports. The festival site is located more than three (3) miles from the nearest airport.

Traffic noise impacts for the residents of the area will be similar to previous years as there will be a similar number of vehicles traveling to and from the event.

Mitigation Measure NOI-1 (Adaptive Management):

1. To provide for adaptive management of the event, including control of unique issues which arise or are observed, the applicant shall perform and implement the following actions and protocols, which are designed to help insure the event is conducted in a way that avoids becoming a nuisance to neighboring land uses and residents.
 - A. The following measures shall be completed **at least two weeks prior** to the event:
 - i. The applicant shall establish a number of channels for soliciting community feedback **before** and **during** operation of the festival, including but not limited to:
 - a. a dedicated local landline with voicemail, answering machine, or equivalent messaging service for receiving feedback, concerns, suggestions, and complaints.
 - b. a dedicated email address for receiving feedback, concerns, suggestions, and complaints.
 - c. A dedicated staff person or team shall be designated and tasked with regularly monitoring communication received through these channels including:
 1. responding to / contacting reporting parties to acknowledge receipt of communication as well as discussion and development of ways to effectively address the issue; and
 2. coordinating implementation of adaptive measures to reduce, minimize, or resolve the issue(s) identified.
 - ii. Notification shall be provided to community members (including neighboring property owners/residents, and others). The notice shall include the festival dates and daily hours of operation and list the phone/email hotline where community members may ask questions, express concerns, or provide feedback related to the event. Notice shall be provided at minimum through the following means:

- a. Flyers shall be posted and handbills left at community message boards and similarly appropriate locations in the Piercy, Cooks Valley, Benbow, and Garberville areas. Flyers should explain that the hotline will be monitored and used to respond to event-related questions and concerns from local residents.
 - b. Hotline information shall be included within event-related PSA's or paid announcements on local radio stations
 - iii. The email account and phone number shall be monitored during the festival as well as the 2-week period leading up to the event. At a minimum, monitoring of these channels shall be performed hourly during the festival and on a daily basis during the period preceding the first day of the event.
- B. The following measures shall be implemented **during** the event:
- i. To characterize and better understand noise levels from the event, a noise meter shall be used to measure and monitor noise levels at the boundaries of the event properties during each night of the festival (between 7pm and 2am). Noise measurements shall be collected at the property lines nearest each of the cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west) from the center of the event.
 - ii. The applicant agrees to adaptively manage concert noise throughout the course of each event, striving to incorporate measures which reduce, minimize, or resolve noise-related issues or similar concerns should complaints or other constructive feedback be received from community members during events. This includes but is not limited to: speaker or stage positioning, amplification levels, or other measures to limit or control noise.
- C. The following measures shall be implemented **following** the event:
- i. The post-event report shall include information discussing compliance with the requirements of this condition, including public outreach and input received, noise level measurements, and adaptive management measures taken.

Mitigation Measure NOI-2 (Quiet Time):

The campground areas shall be posted, and information shall be provided on the event website that a "Quiet Time" shall exist from 11:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. each day. No amplified music is permitted in the campground during "Quiet Time." Event security shall monitor the camping areas to ensure compliance with this condition.

14. POPULATION AND HOUSING.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The proposed event modifications will not induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly. The proposed project is temporary. It will only induce a temporary and transitory population increase in the immediate vicinity during the event.

The proposed modifications will not displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. The proposed project does not include the displacement of any existing housing. No permanent structures are proposed.

Additionally, the proposed changes to the project will not displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. The proposed project will not displace any people because no permanent structures are proposed that could displace people.

15. PUBLIC SERVICES.				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
i. Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv. Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v. Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed modifications to the event will not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered facilities for fire protection or police protection. The proposed project will cause a temporary increase in the need for fire and police protection at the site, which is addressed by the security and emergency response plan.

The proposed changes will also not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered facilities for school, park or other public facilities. There are no permanent structures proposed that would require new school, park or other public facilities.

16. RECREATION.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed modifications to the project will not result in an increase in 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. The event venue is not a public park. A Bowman property hosts a camping area known as the Cook's Valley Campground.

The proposed modifications to the event permitting will not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. The proposed modification does not include construction of new, or the expansion of, existing recreational facilities.

17. TRANSPORTATION.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with * CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)? * <i>Criteria for Analyzing Transportation Impacts, effective July 1, 2020</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed modifications to the event will not cause the project to conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts and bicycle

racks). There will be a minor and temporary increase in traffic during the event, but not at a level that conflict with adopted policies and plans for alternative transportation.

On-site and off-site traffic and parking plans have been developed by the applicant after consultation with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol (CHP). Major concerns that are addressed include alleviating traffic congestion on Highway 101 at the main entrance to the site and pedestrian safety. Pedestrians will be allowed to cross Highway 101 at the Patriot Gas Station to safely travel between the off-site parking areas and the event. Shuttles will also be used to transport people to the event from off-site locations.

Since no increase in festival attendance is proposed, transportation impacts are not expected to exceed baseline levels established during prior years, and further analysis is therefore unwarranted. Except for the changes from relocation of the event to a neighboring property, the proposed modifications to the event will not affect transportation in a way that would result in impacts not previously analyzed or addressed.

The proposed changes to the event permit would not substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible uses. Circulation patterns at the event site will remain consistent with traffic management plans that have already been approved and occurred during prior years.

The Site Plan and Parking Plan show areas where emergency access will be provided throughout the event site. They also show emergency access from the east side of the river to the north, which can be used to evacuate attendees in the event the bridge is incapacitated or incapable of providing sufficient emergency access. The Parking Plan and Plan of Operations describe the capacity of the on-site parking areas. Assuming an average of 3 persons per vehicle, on-site parking has the capacity to accommodate 7,500 persons though attendance of only 4,000 persons is anticipated.

A VMT/GHG exhibit is included within the Appendices and estimates a total expected VMT of 1,962,280 miles for the annual Northern Nights event, based on round-trip mileage per attendee divided by an average of two attendees per vehicle and then summed across origin destinations. Through implementing the reduction strategies found in Mitigation Measure TRANS-1, it is expected that a significant reduction of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) will be achieved across all events.

Mitigation Measure TRANS-1 (VMT Reduction):

Each event shall include and implement select measures to reduce cumulative vehicle miles traveled to and from the event. Measures include but are not limited to:

- Promoting carpooling across marketing and social media channels
- Providing incentives to help ensure camping is maximized amongst multi-day attendees and staff
- Offering discounts (on parking and admission) to event attendees who carpool
- Providing shuttles to the event from locations near where trips to the event originate or where there are other large concentrations of event attendees.
- Chartering local bus service to provide special bussing, express service, or extended service during days the event occurs.

Mitigation Measure TRANS-2 (Traffic Control):

An engineered traffic control plan will be required as part of the Caltrans Encroachment Permit for each Special Event. The traffic control contractor must be a California licensed C31 contractor. Any shuttle stop requested within State right of way will require approval from multiple offices

within Caltrans. The applicant must allocate time for Caltrans to review the shuttle operations prior to submitting an encroachment permit application.

18. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resource Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resource Code section 5020.1(k), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Provisions found in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines concerning Tribal Cultural Resources did not exist in 2012 when the EIR for the project was initially prepared and certified. Nevertheless, since no change in the footprint of the festival is proposed, potential for impacts to tribal cultural resources are not expected to exceed baseline levels established during prior years, and further analysis is therefore unwarranted. The proposed modifications to the event will not result in new impacts to resources not previously analyzed or addressed.

There are no known Tribal Cultural Resources that are listed or eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register. The proposed modifications to the project do not involve expansion of the festival footprint nor do they increase the amount of ground disturbance expected to occur. Both the County Line Ranch (CLR) and Cooks Valley Campground (CVC) properties are accustomed to hosting events and have been used periodically throughout the years for parking associated with the Reggae on the River Festival during earlier configurations of the event. Since 2014, the CVC has hosted the Northern Nights Music Festival and last year the CLR hosted the Summer Arts and Music Festival

No resource(s) significant to a Native American Tribe pursuant to 5024.1(c) are known to exist within the footprint of the project that could be adversely affected as a result of the changes to the event. Given the minor nature of the proposed modifications and long history of use at the County Line Ranch property, further consultation was not necessary.

19. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.				
Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed modifications to the event permitting will not require, or result in, the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or the expansion of existing facilities. Nor will they require, or result in, the construction of new storm water drainage. Nor will the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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. Use of the property for the event is temporary in nature, occurring during one week of the year.

The proposed changes to the project will not require the construction of any stormwater facilities. No new permanent structures are proposed that would affect the quantity of stormwater on the site.

No impact on water supplies is expected to result from the proposed changes to the events. The Plan of Operation describes the water storage on-site, which is capable of providing all the water needed for the proposed event uses.

The proposed modifications to the project will not result in related effluent exceeding wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board. No new sewage disposal facilities are needed for the proposed project modifications.

As modified, the proposed project will be continue to be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs and comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Solid waste will be transported by a licensed hauler to a permitted landfill with adequate capacity.

20. WILDFIRE.				
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Provisions found in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines concerning Wildfire did not exist in 2012 when the EIR for the project was initially prepared and certified. The project site is located within a State Responsibility Area for Fire Protection. Fire Hazard Severity mapping show portions of the festival footprint located within areas of moderate, high, and very high fire hazard. Project-related Wildfire risk is not expected to differ as a result of the currently proposed modifications to the event. Wildfire risk is lessened by the requested modifications as there will be significant reductions in on-site camping and daily attendance. The June event is scheduled to occur near the start of annual fire season and the October event is proposed near the end of fire season.

There is no evidence that the proposed modifications to the event would substantially impair an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan. The festival's Emergency Response Plan requires that all emergency response actions be planned and implemented by a core group known as the Critical Incident Team (CIT). The Team consists of top coordinators from the medical, fire, security, and communication crews, along with festival management and legal representation. The Team meets and plans responses to hypothetical situations in advance of the event as well as meeting daily during the event to address any current or potential areas of concern affecting the safety of event attendees. They team works under the Incident Command System (ICS), the same as most California emergency responders, and has a history of working well in cooperation with CalTrans, CHP, Cal-FIRE, and the Humboldt County Sherriff's Department. Security guards, festival staff, and volunteers also serve as emergency responders.

There is no evidence that, as proposed, the festival would exacerbate wildfire risk and expose attendees to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. The 2022 Plan of Operation in Attachment 3 describes the fire protection measures proposed by the applicant, which are consistent with those successfully implemented during past years. Prior conditions of project approval remain applicable and require that these measures be implemented annually. These include: no barbecues, fireworks, or open campfires are allowed anywhere at the Site. Camp stoves are allowed when accompanied by a fire extinguisher. Grass-covered areas of the festival site are mowed and baled ahead of the event to reduce fire hazard. An Outdoor festival, smoking has been customary at the event since its inception. Providing a designated area for cannabis consumption will help isolate and contain these flammable activities within an area interior to the festival, where potential wildfire risk is moderate and can be more easily controlled. This will result in a reduction in wildfire risk the environmental baseline formed during prior years of festival operation.

Fire suppression resources at the site will provide the necessary fire protection in the local area during the event. As in previous years, the event enjoys cooperative and coordinated fire protection from an assortment of local and state agencies and resources, including California State Parks, the Briceland Volunteer Fire Department, and Cal-FIRE and the office of the State Fire Marshall. Fire suppression apparatus includes: 1 Type III engine and 1 Type VI engine, with required accompaniment, and pre-connections at the pumps, plus water tender. CICC certified trained crews are on site 24-hours a day before, during and after the event. Fire suppression apparatus is stationed in strategic areas for quick access to any incident. Briceland Fire or a similarly qualified outfit provide for and schedule all fire protection and rescue needs. The Garberville and Redway Volunteer Fire Department, the Piercy Volunteer Fire Department, the Leggett Fire Department, and the Whitethorn Volunteer Fire Department are also in the vicinity of the event and available to respond if required. California State Parks' North Coast Redwoods District (NCRD) allow a nearby fire lookout located in Richardson Grove State Park (RGSP) to be used by event staff and fire personnel. The lookout is equipped beforehand with shovels and water packs to facilitate rapid emergency response during the festival.

As outlined in the Plan of Operation, in the instance of threat from an approaching wildland fire, the Critical Incident Team would:

1. Notify offsite emergency responders
2. Secure the affected area
3. Shelter in place along the river bar – dismantle tents and campsites
4. Responding agencies (Cal-FIRE, CHP, EMS) will determine the extent of the evacuation area
5. Clear the evacuation area on foot to the predetermined evacuation zones
6. Use existing onsite resources such as the stage, onsite FM radio broadcasting capabilities, communications central, security, traffic, parking, and camping crew personnel to communicate and direct the public

The Communications/Dispatch center is in radio contact with Humboldt and Mendocino Cal-FIRE dispatch and other emergency frequencies. CIT and Fire, Medical and Security personnel also have Cal-FIRE dispatch radios. The CIT is assigned dedicated pagers and cell phones for dispatch purposes. All phone numbers and contact information is exchanged with involved State and County agencies prior to the event. A helipad is located at the north end of the Loop Lot adjacent to the emergency exit through the One Log House property.

The proposed changes to the event will not require the installation or maintenance of new roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities that would exacerbate fire risk or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. As already discussed, the project

plan of operation and Conditions of Approval already include a suite of measures designed to reduce or eliminate increased wildfire risk while avoiding other inadvertent impacts to the environment.

As modified and proposed, the project is not expected to expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. The majority of the festival footprint is located within the 100-year Flood zone associated with the South Fork of the Eel River. Minimal new grading occurs annually. Use of the site will also not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the property, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site. The festival is temporary and occurs during only one week of the year. Proposed temporary site modifications do not create or contribute runoff water exceeding the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems. The event occurs during the driest time of the year when rain is highly unlikely to fall. No permanent structures or grading activities are proposed. Natural drainage patterns of the site will not be altered. Roads and parking lots will not be graded except as necessary to allow the passage of vehicles.

Mitigation Measure WF-1 (Fire Prevention, Firefighting & Emergency Services Personnel, Equipment & Infrastructure):

1. All grasses in parking and camping areas shall be mowed prior to each event.
2. Emergency water resources need to be established and approved by CalFire. These water resources need to be easily identifiable and remain accessible for emergency vehicles.
3. Fire extinguishers shall be available and mounted in and around campsites. The required number of extinguishers will need to be adequate for each campsite and their occupancy load (placement and number of extinguishers can be determined during site inspection).
4. During events, signage declaring "NO OPEN BURNING" and "NO FIREWORKS" shall be placed in and around the camping areas and areas open to the public. This prohibition shall also be advertised on the event website and handouts noting that fire and fireworks are prohibited.
5. All roadways shall be an all-weather surface, rocked and accessible for all types of vehicles.
6. A 20-foot fire lane shall be established around the perimeter, including parking and camping areas. These areas will need to be easily identifiable and remain clear for emergency vehicles.
7. Staging areas for fire suppression and emergency medical resources shall be established at appropriate locations within the event. These staging areas will need to be easily identifiable and remain clear for access by emergency vehicles.
8. The perimeter of the event area shall be clearly identified and shall be posted to limit access beyond the approved event, camping, and parking area sites. No camping shall be allowed on the opposite side of the South Fork Eel River from the event.
9. Prior to each event, the event operator shall establish an evacuation plan and ensure all cooperating agencies and event emergency services are familiar with and have a copy of the plan.
10. The event operator shall establish an incident action plan (I.A.P) that provides the minimum information to all cooperating agencies such as locations of fire and security stations, locations

of emergency water sources, communications plan including phone numbers for event emergency services and coordinators, transportation plan, and medical plan. The I.A.P must be distributed to all involved agencies prior to each event.

11. Designated locations for fire, medical, and security personnel and parking shall be identified with signs visible to all campers.
12. The following personnel, measures, and equipment shall be in place and in force during all events:
 - a. A minimum of one (1) Type 3 fire engine and one (1) water tender for standby emergency water and dust abatement, with radio communication equivalent to CalFire dispatch and staffed with a minimum of two (2) personnel, staged at the campground 24 hours a day throughout the duration of the event. One fire engine is required for each 5,000 people in attendance. The first engine shall be a Type III engine staffed with an operator and two firefighters. Additional required engines shall be at least Type IVs and staffed with an operator and firefighter. The engine operators shall be minimum NWCG Engine Boss (or equivalent) qualified and the firefighters shall be minimum NWCG Firefighter (or equivalent) qualified. The personnel roster of qualified engine operators and firefighters shall be provided to CAL FIRE within 10 days of the event. Documentation of training may be requested to verify qualifications.
 - b. A minimum of one (1) paramedic and one (1) EMT with ACLS capabilities, and transportation and radio communication equivalent to CalFire dispatch for any life-threatening emergencies. ALS-staffed medical crew must be present on-site for the entire event duration.
 - c. Event fire personnel shall establish and maintain affirmative radio communication between the event site and the Fortuna Interagency Command Center on the Humboldt County Fire Net frequency. The event fire personnel must have no fewer than two radios per engine (one mobile and one portable) capable of transmitting and receiving.
 - d. Each event shall have a designated Fire Chief who shall serve as or delegate duties as the event Fire Marshall. The event Fire Marshall is responsible for the conduct and documentation of daily inspection of electrical fire hazards, fire extinguishers, and acceptable conditions of propane / cooking equipment for vendor booths. The event Fire Marshall shall have the authority to enforce State Fire Marshall standards for the event, and close down a vendor until their operation comes into compliance.
 - e. On-site security shall enforce the prohibition on open burning of any kind.
 - f. All parking lots should be staffed with security personnel twenty-four hours per day and equipped with firefighting tools, water extinguishers, and Class B & C extinguishers. These security personnel shall have direct communications with the event emergency services to ensure immediate incident notification.
 - g. Road from U.S. Highway 101 to Mercer Fraser and Loop Road shall be kept open and clear for emergency vehicle access.
 - h. Piercy byways and exits 627,625, and 271/101 junction shall be limited to local traffic.

All items listed above, with the exception of the staffed fire equipment, shall be in place and approved to the satisfaction of all appropriate agencies prior to each event.

13. The event operator shall contact CAL FIRE at least 45 days prior to an event and provide the agency an opportunity to perform an evaluation of fire and life safety concerns and conduct an initial inspection. Cal-FIRE may request to perform additional inspections, such as within ten days of the event, and re-inspection within 24 hours of the event when fire and emergency resources are in place. All above recommendations, with the exception of the staffed fire equipment, shall be in place and approved ten days prior to the event.

14. A Critical Incident Plan shall be developed and circulated to all safety personnel and emergency service providers a minimum of 30 days prior to each event. All safety personnel and representatives from each agency shall be invited to a meeting held during the week of each event. The critical incident plan shall be utilized by all service providers and coordinated through Humboldt's CalFire Fortuna Emergency Command Center (ECC) and/or Mendocino's Howard Forest Station, per CalFire's instruction for that year's event season.

21. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.				
	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed relocation and change in the number of events for 2023-2027 will not significantly 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. As described in the biological resources section above, the proposed

modifications to the event are not expected to have any significant impact on biological resources. The above responses also suggest the project will not have any impacts which have the potential to significantly degrade the quality of the environment. And the Cultural Resources section describes that the project will not have any potentially significant impacts on historical resources.

The proposed project also will not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

The proposed modifications to the event will not result in impacts that are individually limited becoming cumulatively considerable. The EIR concluded that if a festival on the neighboring property and the Reggae on the River event occurred at the same time, the noise, traffic and hazard impacts described above would have a compounding effect, resulting in greater impacts for both events than evaluated in each individual EIR. For example, noise impacts behave exponentially such that by doubling noise levels, the impacts are more than doubled. The proposed use of the neighboring property for parking which is also the site of the Northern Nights concert event, precludes its simultaneous use as a concert event, so there is no chance of both events occurring at the same time.

MITIGATION MEASURES, MONITORING, AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP)

All of the following mitigation measures are required to mitigate impacts from the proposal to conduct four temporary events in the Cooks Valley area on an annual basis:

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 (Floating Boom):

A boom shall be positioned downstream of the event and used to capture rafts and other flotation devices that are inadvertently carried off during events. Netting or similar materials which can entrap wildlife, are prohibited from use.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2 (Bullfrog Management – Arthur Pond):

The pond located on the Arthur Property (French's Camp) shall be completely drained annually. Draining of the pond must be completed by September 1st of each year. Before draining may occur, a plan for discharge of stored water from the pond shall be submitted to the California Department of Fish & Wildlife for review and approval. The plan shall identify the timing, volume, and areas where release of water is proposed. Water from the pond shall not be discharged directly into the South Fork of the Eel River, or its tributaries.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 (Event Lighting):

Elements of the lightshow (such as lasers, projections, and similar lighting) shall be directed in a way that ensures they remain contained within the boundaries of the property and event footprint (i.e. directed at the dance floor and stages, venues, etc. and not onto adjacent forested slopes throughout the river canyon).

Mitigation Measure BIO-4 (Waste Management):

To prevent the overflow spread of litter and access by corvids and other wildlife, trashcans shall be regularly emptied throughout the day. All dumpsters shall be animal proof, or at a minimum, covered. All areas shall be cleaned of all litter within two (2) weeks following the end of each event. Cleanup includes snorkeling and diving of the river to detect and remove litter and lost objects that could be deleterious to fish, wildlife, or other beneficial uses.

Mitigation Measure BIO-5 (Riparian Setbacks):

The following riparian setbacks from the river's wetted edge shall be maintained during all events:

- Walk-in campsites: 30'
- Car campsites/parking on the gravel bar: 100'
- Stages: 50' minimum
- Porta-potties: 50' minimum. Must be placed on a stable surface
- Generators supplying power to event infrastructure: 100 feet. All generators within 200 feet of the wetted edge shall include secondary containment. Fully-stocked spill kits must be available onsite at all times.

A buffer of no less than thirty (30) feet shall be maintained between all project activities and the wetted channel of South Fork Eel River. A one hundred (100) foot buffer shall be maintained between all vehicles and the wetted channel of the South Fork Eel River.

Mitigation Measure BIO-6 (Foothill Yellow-legged Frog):

During all events featuring camping and other use of the riverbar, the applicant shall plan, and implement outreach, announcements, and signage to educate attendees and event staff about foothill yellow-legged frogs (FYLF) at the event site, including ways for attendees to avoid impacting frogs during events. At minimum, these efforts shall include:

- Conspicuously posted signage at each vehicle entry point and at 50-foot intervals along the 30-foot setback from the river bank and 100-foot setback for vehicle parking areas. At minimum, the signage shall be 11" x 17", be posted between 4-5 feet above the ground, include an image of the FYLF and shall indicate "No Camping Beyond This Point" and "No Parking Beyond This Point," respectively. The sign shall also include additional pertinent information to educate attendees on ways to avoid impacts to the FYLF for the duration of the event.
- Education of event staff and security to ensure attendees are not camping or parking in prohibited areas where impacts to the FYLF are most likely to occur.
- Announcements from the Main Stage and River Stage once each morning, afternoon and evening on each day of the event to inform attendees on ways to avoid impacts to the FYLF for the duration of the event.

County and CDFW staff may conduct inspections during the event to ensure compliance with this and all Biological Resource conditions.

Mitigation Measure BIO-7 (Nesting Birds)

Nesting birds or occupied nests shall not be disturbed or disrupted by project activities. Some bird species such as killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*) are cryptic ground nesters known to utilize gravel bars for nesting activities. Riparian vegetation provides suitable habitat for a variety of nesting birds. In order to avoid potential take of the nest or eggs of any bird (prohibited pursuant to Fish and Game Code Sections 3503 and 3503.5), nest surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within 14 days prior to the start of project-related activities, and within 14 days prior to the start of the earliest event. (If all activities will take place within a two-week period, a single survey is acceptable.) The detailed survey results shall be submitted to the County and CDFW for review prior to commencement of site preparation activities and/or the Northern Nights Music Festival. CDFW will provide review and comment within five (5) business days of report submittal. Depending on site-specific conditions, CDFW may recommend buffers of 50 or more feet between identified nests and project activities, and/or other measures to avoid disturbance or take of nests.

Mitigation Measure BIO-8 (Stage Orientation)

To minimize potential noise disturbance all performance stages shall be constructed and positioned in such a way that, to the extent feasible, noise will be projected away from designated critical habitat for the Marbled Murrelet and from Richardson Grove State Park.

Mitigation Measure GHG-1 (GHG Reduction):

Each event shall include and implement select measures to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions generated by the event. Measures include all of the VMT reduction techniques found in Mitigation Measure TRANS-1. Additional measures designed to discourage and reduce generator use, include but are not limited to:

- Providing convenient locations for charging phones and other small portable electronic devices
- Prohibiting use of private generators within all river bar camping areas
- Offering discounts to attendees who bring portable battery power generators
- Promoting use of solar charging and/or other alternative energy generators by attendees
- Using and developing new grid power infrastructure to reduce reliance on generators to power event infrastructure.

Mitigation Measure WQ-1 (Monitoring Water Usage):

Water use on both the County Line Ranch and Cooks Valley Campground properties shall be monitored throughout the event season (May through October) including prior to, during, and after each event. Daily readings of water use shall be collected from the water meters during each day an event occurs. This information shall be recorded and tabulated and provided in the post event report.

Mitigation Measure WQ-2 (offsetting water use - County Line Ranch):

To offset event-related water demand at County Line Ranch, the property owners and occupants shall agree to forbear from use of the well between September 1st and October 15th. Forbearance shall be required during any year where events occur, for the life of the permit. If enough water storage is developed to meet all event-related water demand at the County Line Ranch place of use, forbearance shall no longer be required.

Mitigation Measure WQ-3 (offsetting water use - Cooks Valley Campground):

To offset event-related water demand at Cooks Valley Campground, the property owner and occupants shall reduce water use during the standard forbearance period (May 15th thru October 31st) so that the total water use during those months is reduced by an amount equal to the amount of water used by all events occurring within that same period.

For example, if all event-related water use totals 200,000 gallons (between May 15th and October 31st), the maximum amount of water that may be taken during the forbearance window shall not exceed 1,146,000 gallons (1,346,000 gallons – 200,000 gallons).

Mitigation Measure WQ-4 (Dust Control)

Use of Chemical Dust Suppressants is prohibited. Water for dust control be sourced from the existing pond at the Cooks Valley Campground.

Mitigation Measure WQ-5 (Water Quality Sampling)

To assess water quality impacts, during all three and four-day events, daily water samples shall be collected by a qualified independent entity. Samples shall be collected both upstream and downstream from the event and shall be tested for total coliforms, fecal coliforms and enterococci.

Mitigation Measure WQ-6 (Inspection & Management of Leaking Vehicles)

Event staff shall inspect vehicles at arrival for leaking fluids, take appropriate steps for dealing with problem vehicles, monitor the parking areas during the event, and provide any required clean up during and after the events.

Event staff will inspect vehicles at arrival for leaking fluids, take appropriate steps for dealing with problem vehicles, monitor the parking areas during the event, and provide any required clean up during and after the event. The applicants/event staff shall provide specific details of the vehicle screening/inspection process to prevent the release of petrochemicals associated with vehicles in areas where these chemicals may pass into the South Fork Eel River. This screening process shall, at a minimum:

- a) Dedicate staff to pollution prevention, both at the entry point and for follow up within the venue for the duration of the event
- b) Identify "problem" vehicles (i.e. leaking) before they enter the venue
- c) Intercept and quarantine "problem" vehicles that are leaking and direct to parking areas away from the river bar

- d) Create a contingency plan for leaking vehicles discovered within the venue, such as absorbent pads effective to contain leaks until proper disposal after the event
- e) Dedicate staff for clean-up and remediation of spots/spills during and after the event
- f) Report post clean-up findings to CDFW and other interested agencies after the event

The applicants shall detail any spills and their clean-up in the annual monitoring report.

Mitigation Measure WQ-7 (Water Quality Education and Enforcement)

Campers and other attendees utilizing the river and river bar areas shall be prohibited from using soap in the river. Signage and other information prohibiting use of soap in the river and encouraging use of ecologically friendly sunscreen options.

Mitigation Measure NOI-1 (Adaptive Management):

- 2. To provide for adaptive management of the event, including control of unique issues which arise or are observed, the applicant shall perform and implement the following actions and protocols, which are designed to help insure the event is conducted in a way that avoids becoming a nuisance to neighboring land uses and residents.

D. The following measures shall be completed **at least two weeks prior** to the event:

- i. The applicant shall establish a number of channels for soliciting community feedback before and during operation of the festival, including but not limited to:

- a. a dedicated local landline with voicemail, answering machine, or equivalent messaging service for receiving feedback, concerns, suggestions, and complaints.
- b. a dedicated email address for receiving feedback, concerns, suggestions, and complaints.
- c. A dedicated staff person or team shall be designated and tasked with regularly monitoring communication received through these channels including:
 - 3. responding to / contacting reporting parties to acknowledge receipt of communication as well as discussion and development of ways to effectively address the issue; and
 - 4. coordinating implementation of adaptive measures to reduce, minimize, or resolve the issue(s) identified.

- ii. Notification shall be provided to community members (including neighboring property owners/residents, and others). The notice shall include the festival dates and daily hours of operation and list the phone/email hotline where community members may ask questions, express concerns, or provide feedback related to the event. Notice shall be provided at minimum through the following means:

- a. Flyers shall be posted and handbills left at community message boards and similarly appropriate locations in the Piercy, Cooks Valley, Benbow, and Garberville areas. Flyers should explain that the hotline will be monitored and used to respond to event-related questions and concerns from local residents.
- b. Hotline information shall be included within event-related PSA's or paid announcements on local radio stations

- iii. The email account and phone number shall be monitored during the festival as well as the 2-week period leading up to the event. At a minimum, monitoring of these channels shall be performed hourly during the festival and on a daily basis during the period preceding the first day of the event.

- E. The following measures shall be implemented **during** the event:
- i. To characterize and better understand noise levels from the event, a noise meter shall be used to measure and monitor noise levels at the boundaries of the event properties during each night of the festival (between 7pm and 2am). Noise measurements shall be collected at the property lines nearest each of the cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west) from the center of the event.
 - ii. The applicant agrees to adaptively manage concert noise throughout the course of each event, striving to incorporate measures which reduce, minimize, or resolve noise-related issues or similar concerns should complaints or other constructive feedback be received from community members during events. This includes but is not limited to: speaker or stage positioning, amplification levels, or other measures to limit or control noise.
- F. The following measures shall be implemented **following** the event:
- i. The post-event report shall include information discussing compliance with the requirements of this condition, including public outreach and input received, noise level measurements, and adaptive management measures taken.

Mitigation Measure NOI-2 (Quiet Time):

The campground areas shall be posted, and information shall be provided on the event website that a "Quiet Time" shall exist from 11:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. each day. No amplified music is permitted in the campground during "Quiet Time." Event security shall monitor the camping areas to ensure compliance with this condition.

Mitigation Measure TRANS-1 (VMT Reduction):

Each event shall include and implement select measures to reduce cumulative vehicle miles traveled to and from the event. Measures include but are not limited to:

- Promoting carpooling across marketing and social media channels
- Providing incentives to help ensure camping is maximized amongst multi-day attendees and staff
- Offering discounts (on parking and admission) to event attendees who carpool
- Providing shuttles to the event from locations near where trips to the event originate or where there are other large concentrations of event attendees.
- Chartering local bus service to provide special bussing, express service, or extended service during days the event occurs.

Mitigation Measure TRANS-2 (Traffic Control):

An engineered traffic control plan will be required as part of the Caltrans Encroachment Permit for each Special Event. The traffic control contractor must be a California licensed C31 contractor. Any shuttle stop requested within State right of way will require approval from multiple offices within Caltrans. The applicant must allocate time for Caltrans to review the shuttle operations prior to submitting an encroachment permit application.

Mitigation Measure WF-1 (Fire Prevention, Firefighting & Emergency Services Personnel, Equipment & Infrastructure):

1. All grasses in parking and camping areas shall be mowed prior to each event.
2. Emergency water resources need to be established and approved by CalFire. These water resources need to be easily identifiable and remain accessible for emergency vehicles.

3. Fire extinguishers shall be available and mounted in and around campsites. The required number of extinguishers will need to be adequate for each campsite and their occupancy load (placement and number of extinguishers can be determined during site inspection).
4. During events, signage declaring "NO OPEN BURNING" and "NO FIREWORKS" shall be placed in and around the camping areas and areas open to the public. This prohibition shall also be advertised on the event website and handouts noting that fire and fireworks are prohibited.
5. All roadways shall be an all-weather surface, rocked and accessible for all types of vehicles.
6. A 20-foot fire lane shall be established around the perimeter, including parking and camping areas. These areas will need to be easily identifiable and remain clear for emergency vehicles.
7. Staging areas for fire suppression and emergency medical resources shall be established at appropriate locations within the event. These staging areas will need to be easily identifiable and remain clear for access by emergency vehicles.
8. The perimeter of the event area shall be clearly identified and shall be posted to limit access beyond the approved event, camping, and parking area sites. No camping shall be allowed on the opposite side of the South Fork Eel River from the event.
9. Prior to each event, the event operator shall establish an evacuation plan and ensure all cooperating agencies and event emergency services are familiar with and have a copy of the plan.
10. The event operator shall establish an incident action plan (I.A.P) that provides the minimum information to all cooperating agencies such as locations of fire and security stations, locations of emergency water sources, communications plan including phone numbers for event emergency services and coordinators, transportation plan, and medical plan. The I.A.P must be distributed to all involved agencies prior to each event.
11. Designated locations for fire, medical, and security personnel and parking shall be identified with signs visible to all campers.
12. The following personnel, measures, and equipment shall be in place and in force during all events:
 - i. A minimum of one (1) Type 3 fire engine and one (1) water tender for standby emergency water and dust abatement, with radio communication equivalent to CalFire dispatch and staffed with a minimum of two (2) personnel, staged at the campground 24 hours a day throughout the duration of the event. One fire engine is required for each 5,000 people in attendance. The first engine shall be a Type III engine staffed with an operator and two firefighters. Additional required engines shall be at least Type IVs and staffed with an operator and firefighter. The engine operators shall be minimum NWCG Engine Boss (or equivalent) qualified and the firefighters shall be minimum NWCG Firefighter (or equivalent) qualified. The personnel roster of qualified engine operators and firefighters shall be provided to CAL FIRE within 10 days of the event. Documentation of training may be requested to verify qualifications.
 - j. A minimum of one (1) paramedic and one (1) EMT with ACLS capabilities, and transportation and radio communication equivalent to CalFire dispatch for any life-

threatening emergencies. ALS-staffed medical crew must be present on-site for the entire event duration.

- k. Event fire personnel shall establish and maintain affirmative radio communication between the event site and the Fortuna Interagency Command Center on the Humboldt County Fire Net frequency. The event fire personnel must have no fewer than two radios per engine (one mobile and one portable) capable of transmitting and receiving.
- l. Each event shall have a designated Fire Chief who shall serve as or delegate duties as the event Fire Marshall. The event Fire Marshall is responsible for the conduct and documentation of daily inspection of electrical fire hazards, fire extinguishers, and acceptable conditions of propane / cooking equipment for vendor booths. The event Fire Marshall shall have the authority to enforce State Fire Marshall standards for the event, and close down a vendor until their operation comes into compliance.
- m. On-site security shall enforce the prohibition on open burning of any kind.
- n. All parking lots should be staffed with security personnel twenty-four hours per day and equipped with firefighting tools, water extinguishers, and Class B & C extinguishers. These security personnel shall have direct communications with the event emergency services to ensure immediate incident notification.
- o. Road from U.S. Highway 101 to Mercer Fraser and Loop Road shall be kept open and clear for emergency vehicle access.
- p. Piercy byways and exits 627,625, and 271/101 junction shall be limited to local traffic.

All items listed above, with the exception of the staffed fire equipment, shall be in place and approved to the satisfaction of all appropriate agencies prior to each event.

- 13. The event operator shall contact CAL FIRE at least 45 days prior to an event and provide the agency an opportunity to perform and evaluation of fire and life safety concerns and conduct an initial inspection. Cal-FIRE may request to perform additional inspections, such as within ten days of the event, and re-inspection within 24 hours of the event when fire and emergency resources are in place. All above recommendations, with the exception of the staffed fire equipment, shall be in place and approved ten days prior to the event.
- 14. A Critical Incident Plan shall be developed and circulated to all safety personnel and emergency service providers a minimum of 30 days prior to each event. All safety personnel and representatives from each agency shall be invited to a meeting held during the week of each event. The critical incident plan shall be utilized by all service providers and coordinated through Humboldt's CalFire Fortuna Emergency Command Center (ECC) and/or Mendocino's Howard Forest Station, per CalFire's instruction for that year's event season.

APPENDICES

- Operations Plan – Northern Nights Music Group events
- Operations Plan – Mateel events
- Vehicle Miles Traveled and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Exhibit
- Table Summarizing prior permitting
- Initial Biological Assessment (prepared 1/11/23)

Humboldt County Use Permit Renewal & Modification

PLN-2019-15400

Project Description

Northern Nights Music Group proposes a five-year renewal (2023-2027) and modification of Humboldt County Use Permit PLN-2019-15400, which authorizes the temporary use of County Line Ranch (APN 033-271-033) for two events annually:

- Camping and parking during a three-day, 8,410-person event on the third weekend of July, known as Northern Nights Music Festival.
- Entertainment, camping and parking provisions for an additional one-day, 3,000-person event on a weekend in either July or September.

The following modifications are proposed:

- With respect to both events, incorporate designated entertainment areas that allow for amplified music and concessions, as well as provisions for use of portions of neighboring Humboldt parcels (APNs 033-271-005, -009, -015) for off-site parking.
- With respect to the Northern Nights event, the modification request includes an increase in attendance capacity from 8,410 to 10,000 and the option to host the event on any one weekend in July, annually.
- With respect to the additional one-day event, the modification request includes an extension to two-days, an increase in attendance capacity from 3,000 to 5,000 and the option to host the event on any one weekend in either June, July or August, annually.

Both events are proposed in conjunction with adjacent Mendocino County parcels (APNs 053-020-10, -11, -12, -13, -14, -16). The Northern Nights event is currently permitted under Mendocino County (UR2021-0006) and a separate authorization has been requested for use of Mendocino during the additional event. The project proponent and applicant is Northern Nights Music Group, LLC. The owner of record for Cook's Valley Campground is Conrad & Trudy Bowman and owner of record for County Line Ranch is Outraged Orangutan, LLC.

Location and Environmental Setting

The Project Site known as County Line Ranch is approximately 160 acres in size and is located adjacent to and east of Highway 101 approximately 8 miles south of Garberville. The South Fork Eel River runs through the entire site, which extends east of the river. The project extends onto over 100 acres into Mendocino County. The total use area is shown in Exhibit A.

Attendance

Proposed camping, attendance and vehicle counts for each event are shown in Table 1.

EVENT	COUNTY	SITE	CAMPING	ATTENDANCE	VEHICLES
Northern Nights (4-Day)	Mendocino	CVC	5000	5500	1000
		CLR	1000	1000	1500
	Humboldt	CLR	3000	3500	1500
		OFF-SITE	0	0	500
	Total			9,000	10,000
TBD (2-Day)	Mendocino	CVC	2000	2500	500
		CLR	0	0	1500
	Humboldt	CLR	2000	2500	500
		OFF-SITE	0	0	0
	Total			4,000	5,000

Table 1. Venue camping, attendance, and vehicle allocations by event

A population of approximately 5% of the total attendance capacity will be on-site two weeks before and two weeks after the event as build and strike crews. Event vendors and staff will start arriving Wednesday before the event.

It is estimated that a population of approximately 25% of the total event capacity will be on-site by the night before the event commences and a population of another 50% of total event capacity will have arrived by the first night of the event. The remaining 25% of the total event capacity will arrive on the next day, resulting in a peak capacity on the second day of the event. For the three-day event, approximately 25% of the population will leave on the third day of the event.

At no-time will the number of individuals on-site exceed the capacity for which infrastructure can reasonably and safely support. Total attendance of the festival can be verified through wristband counts, box office cross-verification, and aerial photography.

Schedule and Hours of Operation

Two months prior to event - water supply and distribution system preparation *One*

month prior to event – general infrastructure and safety preparation *Wednesday*

prior to event – vendors arrive for setup mid-day

Thursday prior to event - gates open in AM for up to 25% of total event capacity, amplified music from 6 PM to 10 PM

Friday of the event – gates open 8 AM, amplified music from 10 AM to 2 AM

Saturday of the event – gates open 8 AM, amplified music from 10 AM to 2 AM

Sunday of the event – gates open 8 AM, amplified music from 10 AM to 12 AM

Monday following the event – attendees depart, strike and cleanup begins *Two*

weeks after the event – strike and cleanup complete

One month after the event – post event community meeting

Camping and Parking

Campers will be required to maintain a 30 ft. setback from the water's edge and vehicles will be required to maintain a 100 ft. setback. Camping and parking locations are identified in Exhibit B.

Traffic Flow and Parking

The festival traffic flow, parking, and encroachment plans can be found in Exhibit C. The plan includes measures for required signage, CMS Boards, cones, light towers, in-and-out regulations, and cancellation procedures. The plan is reviewed annually by CHP & Caltrans in coordination with a licensed traffic control provider. The annual schedule will generally adhere to the following:

Two days prior to the event

The only traffic allowed on-site two days prior to the event will be vendors and staff, resulting in approximately 10% of the total vehicle capacity on-site. Staff vehicles will begin to be parked in off-site parking lots.

One day prior to the event

The only traffic allowed on-site the day before the event includes early entry ticket buyers and staff resulting in approximately 25% of the total vehicle capacity on-site. Additional staff vehicles will be moved to off site parking lots.

During the event

Most of the traffic to the event will be paying ticket holders. The gates will open at 8:00 AM on Friday. If there is a need to open the gates early for safety concerns, the Applicants will have staff in place to handle this, following any commands of on-site Garberville Highway Patrol. Northbound traffic will use the right turn lane at the intersection of Highway 101 and State Route 271. Southbound traffic will use the left turn lane at the intersection of Highway 101 and State Route 271. The Applicants utilize a thorough traffic plan implemented by an experienced traffic crew that has proven very successful during past events at the same location. All vehicles will be directed to traffic lanes away from Highway 101 for processing.

There will be two main access points – one into Humboldt for staff, volunteers and performers, and one into Mendocino for ticket holders. Upon arrival to Mendocino, the entry will be divided into four to six lanes for wristband retrieval and impact checks.

Day after the event

The campground will close no later than noon on the day following the event and it is estimated that 5% of the total vehicle capacity will remain on-site for clean up over the following two weeks.

Re-entry

During the event, patrons will be allowed to leave the event only as necessary and only by vehicle. Patrons will be prohibited from leaving the premises as pedestrians, and this will be enforced by security staff and/or CHP. Re-entry shall be permitted only with appropriate credentials.

Shuttle Services

A licensed transportation company shall manage shuttles to and from off-site parking as well as the Garberville area, to provide safe means of transportation for the local community as well as to encourage out-of-town attendees to utilize local hospitality options. Designated transportation hubs for drop-off and pick-ups will be shown on public event maps and messaged to all attendees prior to and during the event.

Public Safety

Contact with local law enforcement, fire agencies, and emergency response personnel will be made more than two (2) months prior to the event. Any warranted walkthroughs will be made during the week of the event. A briefing sheet will be supplied during the walkthrough with contact and schedule information for all on-site emergency personnel.

The detailed emergency plan will be reviewed, updated and implemented annually in coordination with Humboldt and Mendocino County Sherriff's Offices, CalFire, CHP, CalTrans, Piercy, Garberville, Leggett and Redway Fire Departments, Jerold Phelps Community Hospital and City Ambulance.

Communications will be conducted through the use of radios, cell phones, and a land line in the event that cell phone reception is poor.

Emergency Medical Plan

An experienced medical service team will be contracted as the on-site medical care provider for the duration of the event. The ALS-staffed medical team will be available around the clock at an established medical tent accessible to anyone on-site. The team will consist of licensed E.M.T.'s, paramedics, M.D.'s, and nurses. Highly visible signage will identify the medical tent.

All medical and security staff will communicate via radio with the command center. The Applicants will provide the identity and on-site contact information for medical team members at least 14 days prior to the event. Communication and transportation equivalent to Cal Fire dispatch will be on-site and available for any life-threatening emergencies. A helicopter landing area is available for emergency evacuation. Jerold Phelps Community Hospital in Garberville and City Ambulance will be notified of the event dates.

An evacuation plan satisfying emergency service agencies will be available prior to the event and the contracted medical team documentation will be submitted to the Planning Commission at least one month before the event.

Emergency Fire Plan

A Cal Fire Safety Regulations Package will be submitted to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire). On-site fire safety support at the event will be supervised by Piercy & Garberville Volunteer Fire Departments who will be available for the duration of the event around the clock with a minimum of two (2) personnel and supported with a minimum of one (1) Type 3 fire engine and one (1) water tender for standby emergency water and dust abatement, and radio communication equivalent to Cal Fire dispatch. An all-weather surfaced 20-ft fire lane existing around the perimeter of the campground will be designated for fire and emergency use. Visible signage will indicate designated locations for fire, medical, and security personnel. Fire extinguishers will be mounted accessibly around the event site.

The applicants employ a team to specifically target prohibited burning and open flames, including fireworks, in addition to posting signage and informing patrons and staff of fire danger and the strict no burn and no fireworks policies. The Applicants will advertise this information on the event website, email, social media, and local radio.

Emergency Response Plan

Prior to each event, members of the medical, security and fire teams will meet and plan responses to emergency scenarios as well as identify and correct potential safety risks. A Communications Leader will be designated. Contact information will be organized and shared to facilitate emergency communication during the event.

If there is an emergency situation during the event, the Communications Leader will coordinate response efforts involving the event producers, security, medical, and fire team leads, and on-site law enforcement. In the case of a medical evacuation, the Communications Leader will also communicate with CalFire, City Ambulance, the destination care center and as well as law enforcement and traffic crew to ensure a clear path for emergency vehicles. A helicopter landing area will be made available for emergency evacuation.

The various emergency response teams will communicate using handheld radios and cell phones. The Communications Leader will be able to contact Cal Fire dispatch, as will fire, medical and security personnel.

As necessary, event producers will communicate information to event attendees using main stage amplification and provide instructions to ensure emergency service providers can safely and quickly access necessary locations.

If a fire occurs, the Communications Leader will coordinate with the lead fire department, Cal Fire dispatch, on-site law enforcement, event security, medical, and traffic teams to ensure a clear path for emergency vehicles and to implement the Emergency Fire Plan as follows:

- 1) Notify off-site responders
- 2) Secure and clear the affected area
- 3) Shelter in place along the river bar; in the case of approaching wild land fire dismantle tents and campsites.
- 4) Responding agencies will determine extent of evacuation area.
- 5) Clear the evacuation area on foot to the predetermined evacuation zones

6) Use on-site communications resources such as the stage PA, on-site FM radio broadcasting, and event staff to inform and direct the public.

Security

Professional on-site security services shall be secured for the event and will work with event management to schedule and implement festival wide security policies. The contracted team will be given distinctive colored clothing as approved by the Sheriff's Office.

Temporary fencing around the perimeter of the site will be installed to mitigate trespassing onto adjacent properties. Twenty-four hour per day security will be provided on-site for the protection and service to attendees and neighboring property owners. Every attempt will be made to limit encroachment/trespassing onto neighboring properties. The perimeter of the site shall be clearly identified and fenced and shall be posted to limit access beyond the approved event, camping, and parking area sites.

Security will be on site beginning Wednesday prior to the event until Tuesday following the event and operating 24 hours a day reaching closet to 75 staff members at peak times.

There will be (2) security positions assigned to the River Stage swimming area during the operating hours of 12 PM – 8 PM, in addition to the (3) medical staff composed of (2) lifeguards and (1) staff. During all other times at the River Stage swimming area, signs will be posted advising "NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY".

There will be (2) security roamers throughout the festival, with emphasis on the campgrounds, specifically assigned to monitoring those attendees under 21.

Northern Nights Music Group will remain in consistent contact with the Sheriff's Office, CHP, and contracted security as the event approaches.

Entertainment

Temporary stages will be installed and oriented away from Highway 101 and developed residences in the Piercy area, keeping them shielded from the main source of light and sound.

The stages will be separated from the highway by a number of mature trees and is at least 40 feet lower in elevation than the highway, further mitigating any paths of direct light to properties across the highway. Any lighting other than performance displays (such as light towers) will be downcast and shielded from adjacent properties. Stages will be placed in entertainment areas, locations which are shown in Exhibit B.

Food Service

Permitted food vendors will be provided with hot and cold water by existing County Line Ranch water systems and located in the entertainment areas shown in Exhibit B. Solid waste will be disposed of in waste receptacles, collected and then hauled by a licensed service provider. Liquid waste will be disposed into the on-site water treatment system or stored, collected and hauled by a licensed service provider.

Food vendors operating in Humboldt County will be subject to Humboldt County Division of Public Health operating standards and criteria.

Alcohol Service

Alcohol will be served and managed by a licensed concessionaire, within designated premises located within the entertainment areas. All attendees who wish to purchase or consume alcohol will be required to show identification to demonstrate 21 years of age or older. All ABC rules and regulations will apply and be enforced.

Cannabis Service

Cannabis will be served and managed by a licensed cannabis event organizer, within designated premises located within the entertainment areas. All attendees who wish to purchase or consume cannabis will be required to show identification to demonstrate 21 years of age or older. All DCC rules and regulations will apply and be enforced.

Water Supply and Distribution

County Line Ranch sources water from a well located on the eastern side of the property. The well water is pumped and stored in one 30,000-gallon and eight 5,000-gallon storage tanks on the northwest side and then distributed across the property.

Potable water stations are positioned throughout the venue at high traffic locations. Potable water is treated in four steps: (1) at the point of service via a sediment filter, (2) a 5-micron carbon block filter, (3) a UV filter and (4) a 1-micron carbon filter, and as directed by respective county officials.

Water use is measured before, during and after the event via flow meters and reported in accordance with the regional requirements. Specifically, a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (EPIMS-HUM-MEN-236970R1) is in place with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, requiring that records are maintained 8 weeks prior and 8 weeks following the event. The Agreement can be found in Exhibit C.

Water quality samples are collected and tested before, during and after the event at point of service, at the source, and in the areas along the Eel River both upstream and downstream.

Sanitary Facilities

Portable toilets (including ADA) will be placed and serviced throughout the venue by a licensed service provider, maintaining a ratio of 25-40 persons per facility. Hand wash stations are provided wherever toilets are located with a minimum of one wash station for every 10 toilets. Sewage will be disposed off-site at a licensed disposal facility by a commercial hauler.

Solid Waste

A commercial provider will prepare, service and maintain waste receptacles throughout the venue two weeks before, during and two weeks after the event. Forty-yard dumpsters will be filled and transferred to a permitted waste disposal facility by a commercial hauler. Waste stations and recycling containers will be placed in strategic locations to discourage littering. The site will be cleared of all waste within two weeks following the event.

Wastewater

The property is serviced by an on-site wastewater treatment system as well as a local service provider who collects and stores wastewater on-site before it is hauled off-site to an approved waste-water facility.

Monitoring

The proposed project incorporates mitigation measures in the project design to minimize environmental impacts. Aspects of the environmental Monitoring program will continue to include:

- Vehicles will be subjected to an “Impact Check” when arriving to look for leaking fluids, fireworks, and other prohibited items.
- Water quality (potable and river) will be monitored before, during and after the event.
- Noise levels will be monitored throughout the event.
- Dust will be controlled through the use of a water truck as necessary.
- No significant vegetation removal is required or proposed, other than for fire safety.
- No camping will be permitted within 30 ft of the river and no parking permitted within 100 ft of the river.

Event Cancellation Protocol

This is in case of a cancellation of event for any reasons such as fire, earthquake, or any other occurrence that may harm the public. In case of event cancellation, there will be several

Mateel Community Center – Plan of Operations (2023-2027)

methods used for notifying the public that the event is cancelled and not to arrive at County Line Ranch.

Notification techniques include:

- Posting on event website and social media outlets notifying public of cancellation.
- Computerized message boards on Highway 101 notifying regional travelers of cancellation
- Targeted emails to all ticketholders with notification of cancelled event.
- Local newspaper and radio advertisements.

Introductory Summary

Mateel Community Center

Festivals at County Line Ranch 2023-2027

Contact: Alisha Goodrich, rastapontop@gmail.com, 805-393-3334

This version of our plan reflects the continued development of the 2022 approved plan and is not intended to detract from any plans for the ongoing events like, Northern Nights Music Festival or other approved events at County Line Ranch.

The Mateel Community Center is seeking a 5 year renewal and modification of a conditional use permit to reflect changes for 2023-2027.

We are seeking a modification to accommodate our 46th annual Summer Arts and Music Festival, at County Line Ranch, to include the addition of public camping for 2023-2027. This family friendly craft fair event was held at this site in 2022 successfully. The addition of camping will help reduce our carbon footprint by decreasing the amount of cars coming and going over the weekend. Secondly, we request an increase in attendance for this event by 1000 attendees with total capacity then still only amounting to less than 60% of historically approved capacity for this site.

The Mateel's second proposed event, Reggae on the River, will also be held at County Line Ranch and neighboring properties in 2024-2027. This event was previously approved for 9000 attendees. Our request to set attendance to 8000 attendees is still significantly less impact than our historic Reggae on the River. This event will take place following the Northern Nights Music Festival. Increasing our land usage into neighboring properties allows the space for increased camping and capacity.

Both Reggae on the River (ROTR) and Summer Arts and Music (SAMF) follow the same plan for traffic, parking, fire, medical, security, water, sanitation, highway control, law enforcement, site and emergency access, food and beverages, and other aspects with ratios and predictions adjusted slightly based on expected attendances. All efforts will be made to work with all property owners in the immediate project area to create a cohesive design and plan that is suitable for all needs.

Operations Plan

Mateel Community Center

Festivals at County Line Ranch 2023

Contact: Alisha Goodrich, rastapontop@gmail.com, 805-393-3334

Purpose of this Document

This Operations Plan describes the planning and logistics required to produce two events that follow a very similar plan. The two events: Summer Arts & Music Festival (SAMF) and Reggae on the River(ROTR), will be held in June and late July or early August respectively.

SAMF is a craft type fair with music and peak attendance of 5000 people. ROTR is mostly a music festival with peak attendance of 8000 people. ROTR will include camping and parking into the neighboring Cooks Valley for a use plan more similar to Northern Nights Festival. All events will be held in compliance with the Conditional Use Permit and other permits issued by the County and involved regulatory agencies.

Location

The Project Site is known as County Line Ranch, which is located adjacent to and east of Highway 101 directly across from Highway 271 approximately 8 miles south of Garberville, CA. The address is 240 Cooks Valley Road. The Assessor’s Parcel Number is 033-271-007. (Mendocino County entrance is APN 053-020-11.) The Site consists of approximately 160 acres. The South Fork Eel River runs through the entire site, which extends east of the river.

Access to the Site is down Cooks Valley Road off Highway 101 across from highway 271. The event will also utilize the neighboring property, Cooks Valley Campground with appropriate permits for the County of Mendocino.

Property Owner - Project Proponent - Agent

County Line Ranch is owned by Outraged Orangutan, LLC. The Project proponent and festival owner/ promoter is the Mateel Community Center LLC, a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization located in Redway, CA. The Mateel has a lease agreement with the Outraged Orangutan and has previously been granted several conditional use permits by Humboldt County. The Mateel has over 30-years of history hosting events at French’s Camp and County Line Ranch, and over 40 years at the Benbow Lake State Recreation Area. These events are major fund-raisers for the Mateel Community Center, numerous local businesses, and a variety of nonprofits that participate.

Calendar:

Event - Summer Arts and Music Festival (SAMF)

A weekend in June near the summer solstice

Event - Reggae on the River (ROTR)

Typically the first weekend in August

Attendance -Two Day Event with Camping option (SAMF)

The two day event includes a peak capacity at County Line Ranch for 5000 attendees and 2,000 vehicles. Historic and 2022 peak attendance is 3500 attendees and 1400 vehicles at any one time. With the addition of camping available, increased attendance could be allowed with expanded use of the site. It is still expected since most of the historic ticket sales are within the county of Humboldt, it is predicted approximately 50 % of daytime attendees will return to their homes. Camping capacity of this property in this event's land use configuration is approximately 10,000 people in up to ten designated camping areas spread over more than 25 acres.

A population of less than 5% of the total capacity will be on-site up to two weeks before and two weeks after the event as build and strike crews. Event vendors and additional staff and volunteers will arrive Thursday and Friday before the event. It is estimated that a population of up to 20% of the total event capacity will be on-site by Friday evening consisting of Staff, Volunteers, Vendors, Artist, VIPs and others not considered General Admissions. Peak attendance is expected on Saturday at around 2pm. 50% of attendees are expected to leave by 10 pm. The property will be swept of all General Admission, non-camping patrons, just after midnight. Sunday attendance is expected to be approximately 70% of Saturday and will follow the same pattern. The Applicants are event management professionals and ensure that the number of individuals on-site will not exceed the capacity for which infrastructure can reasonably and safely support. Total attendance of the festival can be verified through wristband counts, box office cross-verification, parking fullness estimates, and on-site security.

Should the area reach capacity, as determined by staff or emergency personnel, advance signage on the Caltrans Encroachment Permit mandated CMS boards for both north and south bound traffic will read "EVENT SOLD OUT" and notifications posted through the event website, emails, social media, and local radio, indicating a sold out event.

Calendar Schedule Weekend Event (SAMF)

- **Six Weeks Before** First event of the season: (~May 1st) - Water system preparation; Site Infrastructure Projects.
- **Two Weeks Before** opening: Fencing, electrical, signage and general infrastructure setup.
- **Monday - Wednesday Before** Opening: Some Staff arrival
- **Thursday Before Opening:** Additional Staff and Volunteers working Friday Arrive.
- **Friday, day before opening:** Vendors arrive 12p-8p for set up, volunteers arrive.
- **Saturday Event Open:** Gates open at 9AM, amplified music from 10 AM to Midnight
- **Sunday Event Open-** gates open 9 AM, amplified music from 10 AM to Midnight
- **Monday following the event** - Vendors and Volunteers depart, strike and cleanup begins
- Approximately **One week following:** strike and cleanup complete
- **Dec 31st** - Post Event Report Submitted to County

Hours of Operation (SAMF)

Friday:

- 10 AM -10 PM Staff Vendors and Volunteers site open hours.
- 10 PM site shutdown and sweep

Saturday and Sunday:

- 8 AM Staff, Vendors, and Volunteers setup.
- 10 AM Gates and Vendors Open, Music Begins
- Midnight Music Ends, Sweep of Property, Site Closes

Attendance - Three Day Event (ROTR)

This three day and three night (camping optional) event includes 8000 paid attendees and up to an additional 20% Staff, Volunteers, Vendors, Artist etc. with a peak attendance of 8000 people and 3000 vehicles at any one time. The on-site camping capacity of the event has been estimated at approximately 10,000 attendees which occurs in designated camping areas spread over more than 25 acres. The on-site parking capacity is approximately 4,500 vehicles. A population of less than 5% of the total attendance capacity will be on-site two weeks before and two weeks after the event as build and strike crews. Event vendors and staff will start arriving Monday through Thursday before the event. It is estimated that a population of approximately 15 % of the total event attendees will be on-site by Thursday evening and another 50% of attendees will have arrived by Friday evening. The remaining 35% of attendees will arrive Saturday resulting in peak capacities Saturday night. It is expected that a minimum of 25% and up to about 50% of the population will leave Sunday by 5 pm. It is estimated that 70% of attendees will stay on-site and that 30% will stay off-site at other area camping facilities, hotels, with friends, or at their home. The Applicants are event management professionals and will ensure that the number of individuals on-site will not exceed the capacity for which infrastructure can reasonably and safely support. Total attendance of the festival can be verified through wristband counts, box office cross-verification, parking fullness estimates, and on-site security.

Should the area reach capacity, as determined by staff or emergency personnel, advance signage on the Caltrans Encroachment Permit mandated CMS boards for both north and south bound traffic will read "EVENT SOLD OUT" and notifications posted through the event website, emails, social media, and local radio, indicating a sold out event.

Calendar Schedule Three Day Event (ROTR)

- **Two Weeks Before** opening: general infrastructure setup.
- **Monday - Wednesday Before** Opening: Some Staff arrival
- **Thursday Before Opening:** Vendors 12p-8p for set up, Staff and Volunteers Arrive.
- **Friday, day before opening:**, Gates at 9AM, Music begins 12AM to 4AM
- **Saturday Event Open:** Gates at 9AM, Music begins 12AM to 4AM
- **Sunday Event Open-** gates open 9 AM, amplified music from 10 AM to Midnight
- **Monday following the event** - Vendors and Volunteers depart, strike and cleanup begins
- Approximately **One week following:** strike and cleanup complete
- **Dec 31st** - Post Event Report Submitted to County

Festival Hours of Operation - Three Day Event (ROTR) Monday-Wednesday:

- 9 AM - 9 PM Sitework

Thursday:

- 10 AM -10 PM Staff Vendors and Volunteers site open hours.
- 10 PM site shutdown and sweep

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

- 7 AM Staff, Vendors, and Volunteers setup.
- 10 AM Gates and Vendors Open
- 12 PM Music Begins, Main acts after 5PM
- 2 AM Music Ends, Sweep of Property, Bowl and Vendor area Closes
- 4 AM After Party Closes

Monday

- Noon : All patrons leave
- 2PM : Property Sweep
- 8PM : Most Vendors, Staff, Volunteers leave

Concert and Infrastructure

Several permanent structures and systems were built between 2000 and 2009 on County Line Ranch, most of which was designed by Mateel with contractors as infrastructure to support future planned events, fulfilling specifications and needs based on previous Conditional Use Permit recommendations. These include an electrical system, water system, fencing, shade support beams, and various other structures to support these events, which, at the time, was approved for an event with an expected population of over 14,000. The Mateel is committed to working with Northern Nights Music Group and all property owners in continuing development of all shared infrastructure.

Any lighting (such as light towers] will be downcast and shielded from adjacent properties.

After Hours Area

The applicant will operate a limited stage and music after the close of the main stage to provide an area for overnight campers to congregate for health and safety. Good lighting and security will be provided. The stage will be located on the North Beach away from event camping areas and neighboring residences. This area will be monitored with security teams and medical teams until close. Less than 10% of attendees are expected to participate in this limited offering.

Camping Weekend Event (SAMF)

This event is primarily a daytime attendance event with approximately 50% of attendees leaving the site when the event and the grounds closes each night. A camping option will be offered, however 50% or less of total attendees are expected to camp. Camping for these participants will be provided on County Line Ranch. The planned on-site camping capacity is 2500 people in four areas of which less than 50% occupancy is expected to be utilized.

Camping Three Day Event (ROTR)

Camping for the participants and staff will be provided on County Line Ranch and neighboring

properties. The expected on-site camping is approximately 60-70% of attendees, with other participants returning home, staying with friends, at local hotels, or campgrounds. Campers will be required to maintain a 30 ft. setback from the water's edge and vehicles will be required to maintain a 100 ft. setback. These setbacks will allow for pedestrian traffic and as emergency access, as well as to protect our watershed.

Parking Weekend Event (SAMF)

The planned on-site parking capacity for this event configuration is approximately 1,930 vehicles in five designated parking areas. Additional parking will be available at the Arthur property. A shuttle will service this area in an attempt to reduce the number of cars on the festival site.

Parking Three Day Event (ROTR)

The planned on-site parking capacity for this event configuration is approximately 4500 vehicles. This is more than adequate given our historical vehicle occupancy rates and government suggested estimation guidelines, however additional nearby lots will be used such as the Loop Lot on the Arthur Property, or a lot at Richardson's Grove RV park, pending owner permission. These lots will be serviced by our shuttle system and increase vehicle capacity for an available parking capacity of over 5000 vehicles. Incentives will be given for carpooling and the shuttle system will be in place to encourage local attendees to leave their vehicles at home.

Shuttle Service:

A Shuttle service provider will service Garberville & Redway. Shuttle stops will also be provided at local campgrounds: Benbow SP, Richardson's Grove SP, & RGRV. All auxiliary parking areas will have shuttle access.

Off-Site Accommodations:

In effort to bolster the entire Southern Humboldt Community and decrease the carbon footprint of these events, off site accommodations will be promoted through our website, emails, and social media outlets. Information for these guests regarding shuttle services to/from the event, ways to carpool, and parking information will be delivered to these guests through the previously mentioned channels.

Re-Entry Policy:

During the event, patrons will be allowed to leave the event only as necessary and only by vehicle. Re-entry is discouraged though identical full price event parking charges and will be processed identically to single entry according to existing rules and hours of operation.

Patrons will be prohibited from leaving the premises as pedestrians, and this will be enforced by highway security staff and/or CHP.

Any General Store will have reasonable prices to discourage attendees from leaving the property for additional supplies.

Traffic Two Day Event (SAMF)

Thursday (2 days prior to the event)

The only traffic allowed on-site two days prior to the event will be vendors and staff, resulting in less than 5% of the total vehicle capacity on-site.

Friday (1 day prior to the event)

The only traffic allowed on-site the day before the event will be vendors and staff, resulting in approximately 20% of the total vehicle capacity on-site.

Saturday and Sunday (during the event)

Most of the traffic to the event will be paying attendees. The gates will open at 10:00 AM on Saturday. In the unlikely scenario for this smaller local event, there is a need to open the gates early for safety concerns, the Applicants will have staff in place to handle this, following any commands of on-site Garberville Highway Patrol. Northbound traffic will use the right turn lane at the intersection of Highway 101 and State Route 271. Southbound traffic will use the left turn lane at the intersection of Highway 101 and State Route

271. The Applicants utilize a thorough traffic plan implemented by an experienced traffic crew that has proven very successful during past events at the same location and for events many times this size. All vehicles will be directed to traffic lanes away from Highway 101 for processing.

As nearly all volunteers and staff will be already onsite, one main access point will be utilized by patrons to go through and be processed that can also support any additional volunteers, staff, performers or other attendees. An auxiliary parking lot and support staff, a temporary 'Check-In Lot', is located adjacent to the main access point to facilitate solving potential issues to avoid disrupting the flow through the main access point.

Monday (day after the event)

The grounds will close no later than noon on the Monday following the event and it is estimated that 5% of the total vehicle capacity will remain on-site for clean up over the following two weeks. Leaving during the event, attendees will be allowed to leave the event by vehicle at any time. Attendees will be prohibited from leaving the event as pedestrians, and this will be enforced by Mateel staff and on-site law enforcement.

Re-Entry: All reentry will be processed identically to single entry according to existing rules and hours of operation.

Traffic - Three Day Event (ROTR)

The festival traffic flow, parking, and encroachment plans will be the same as previous years for events held at this location including the much larger (8,000 attendees) Northern Nights Music Festival Approved plan and can be found in Appendix A. The plan has been designed by the Applicant and Stop N Go Traffic and reviewed by Caltrans, Garberville CHP, and stamped by a licensed traffic engineer. The plan includes measures for required signage, CMS Boards, cones, light towers, in-and-out regulations, and cancellation procedures.\ **Wednesday** (2 days prior to the event)

The only traffic allowed on-site two days prior to the event will be volunteers and staff, resulting in less than 10% of the total vehicle capacity on-site.

Thursday (1 day prior to the event)

The only traffic allowed on-site the day before the event will be vendors, volunteers, and staff, resulting in approximately 20% of the total vehicle capacity on-site.

Friday (Open day of the event]

Most of the traffic to the event will be paying attendees. One main access point will be utilized by patrons for processing. The same access point can also support any additional volunteers, staff, performers or other attendees. The gates will open at 10:00 AM on Friday. Music will start later on Friday and popular artists scheduled after 5pm to encourage steady arrival throughout the day. Peak arrival is expected around 3pm. If there is a need to open the gates earlier than 10 AM for any reason the Applicants will have staff in place to handle this, following any commands of on-site Garberville Highway Patrol. Northbound traffic will use the right turn lane at the intersection of Highway 101 and State Route 271. Southbound traffic will use the left turn lane at the intersection of Highway 101 and State Route 271. The Applicants utilize a thorough traffic plan implemented by an experienced traffic crew that has proven very successful during past events at the same location and for events with higher numbers of attendees. All vehicles will be directed to traffic lanes away from Highway 101 for processing. An auxiliary parking lot and support staff, a temporary 'Check-In Lot', is located adjacent to the main access point to facilitate solving potential issues to avoid disrupting the flow through the main access point.

Saturday and Sunday (during the event)

Saturday mornings have historically seen somewhat less traffic than Friday night with an expected peak around 10 AM. It is expected that Saturday and Sunday will mostly be later arriving paying attendees. The gates will remain open on Saturday and Sunday and follow the same traffic plan as Friday. Most patrons stay onsite and there is significantly less traffic through the rest of the weekend. It is expected that a minimum of 25% and up to about 50% of the population will leave Sunday by 5 pm

Monday (day after the event)

The grounds will close no later than noon on the Monday for patrons and 6 PM for the majority of Vendors, Staff and Volunteers following the event and it is estimated that 5% of the total vehicle capacity will remain on-site for clean up over the following two weeks.

Leaving.

During the event, attendees will be allowed to leave the event by vehicle at any time. Attendees

will be prohibited from leaving the event as pedestrians, and this will be enforced by Mateel staff and on-site law enforcement.

Re-Entry: Reentry is discouraged though identical full price event parking charges and will be processed identically to single entry according to existing rules and hours of operation.

Public Safety

Contact with local law enforcement, fire agencies, and emergency response personnel will be made more than two (2) months prior to the event. Any warranted walkthroughs will be made during the week of the event. A briefing sheet will be supplied during the walkthrough with contact and schedule information for all on-site emergency personnel. A detailed emergency plan will be finalized in conjunction with emergency providers to include fire, medical, law enforcement and evacuation procedures. The final plan will contain detailed checklists and direct contact information for use by security and safety personnel. The plan will be submitted to the Humboldt County Planning Division and Sheriff's Office at least two months before the commencement of the event. The Applicant has and will continue to coordinate with Humboldt and Mendocino County Sheriff's Offices, Piercy, Leggett, Briceland, and Garberville Fire Departments, CAL Fire, California State Parks, City Ambulance and Garberville CHP to ensure cross-county safety and clear emergency service provider communication. Communications will be conducted through the use of radios, cell phones, and a landline in the event that cell phone reception is poor.

Emergency Medical Plan

An experienced medical service team will be contracted as the on-site medical care provider for the duration of the event. The ALS-staffed medical team will be available during event hours at an established medical tent accessible to anyone on-site. The team will consist of licensed EMTs, paramedics, M.D.s, and nurses. Highly visible signage will identify the medical tent. All medical and security staff will communicate via radio with the command center. The Applicants will provide the identity and on-site contact information for medical team members at least 14 days prior to the event. Communication and transportation equivalent to Cal Fire dispatch will be on-site and available for any life-threatening emergencies. A helicopter landing area is available for emergency evacuation. Jerold Phelps Community Hospital in Garberville and City Ambulance will be notified of the event dates. An evacuation plan satisfying emergency service agencies will be available prior to the event and the contracted medical team documentation will be submitted to the Planning Commission at least one month before the event.

Security

Professional on-site security services will be contracted for periods before, during and after the event. An experienced security service provider will be used as a lead supervising company to organize and lay out security locations and protocols. This security team will police attendee activity, restrict access to off-limit areas, monitor the control of alcohol, and prevent illegal drug consumption. An additional security team will be contracted to monitor perimeter and off-site areas. It is estimated that approximately 20-40 security personnel will be contracted by the Mateel for Daily Events (SAMF & ROTR.)

Every attempt will be made to limit encroachment and trespassing onto neighboring properties including installation of temporary fencing around the site perimeter. The perimeter of the site will

include fencing and posted signs restricting access to areas not used for camping and parking.

The Applicants will maintain contact with the emergency service providers before, during, and after the event, and are committed to responsible management practices and an open communication with local law enforcement. After the event, a post-event meeting open to community members will be held.

The security plan will be reviewed by Garberville CHP and the Humboldt Sheriff's Office and written correspondence with these agencies will be submitted to the Planning Division at least one month before the event.

Water Supply and Distribution

County Line Ranch sources water from a well located on the eastern side of the property. The well water is pumped and stored seasonally before May into a 50,000-gallon storage tank on the northwest side and then distributed across the property. An additional 72,000 gallons of water in an assortment of 5,000 and 2,500 gallon tanks stored across the river in the Applicants tanks at French's Camp could be accessed in emergency situations. The Applicants purchased eight, 5,000 gallon tanks(40,000 gal,) that have been placed on County Line Ranch for Mateel specific events. Water stored on French's can could be accessed according to need. Total accessible water tank storage is approximately 112,000 gallons in support of a historic 14,400 person expected population four day event.

Mateel has provided an additional 40,000 gallons of storage to supplement and improve previous water storage on County Line Ranch.

The Applicants will work with each County's respective environmental health department to ensure compliance of activities within each respective County. Water samples will be collected before, during and after the event at point of service, at the source, and in the areas along the Eel River both upstream and downstream from the events.

Potable water is treated in four steps: [1] at the point of service via a sediment filter, (2) a 5- micron carbon block filter, (3) a UV filter and [4] a 1 micron carbon filter, as directed by Humboldt DEH.

Environmental Impacts and Monitoring

The proposed project incorporates mitigation measures in the project design to minimize environmental impacts as documented in the Environmental Impact Report and Supplemental Environmental Impact Report.

- Vehicles will be subjected to an "Impact Check" when arriving to look for leaking fluids, fireworks, and other prohibited items.
- Water quality (potable and river) will be monitored before, during, and after the event by a qualified water treatment operator.
- Noise levels will be monitored throughout the event.
- Dust will be controlled through the use of a water truck as necessary.
- No significant vegetation removal is required or proposed, other than for fire safety.

- No camping will be permitted within 30 ft of the river and no parking permitted within 100 ft of the river.
- In order to mitigate Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT) and Greenhouse Gases (GHG), attendees will be encouraged via marketing campaigns to carpool and provided incentives for doing so. On-site monitoring will include spot checks upon entry to the event as well.

Waste Water Disposal

The Final Installation Report for the onsite greywater system and Enrollment Letter with the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board was completed in November of 2016. In addition, a local service provider collects and stores wastewater on-site before it is hauled off-site to an approved waste-water facility.

Greywater levels are monitored throughout the event and included in the annual post event reports.

Sanitary Facilities

There will be up to 125 at Weekend Event (SAMF) and up to 200 at the Three Day Event portable toilets (including ADA) placed around the venue by a licensed service provider, maintaining a 40-50 people per facility. Hand wash stations are provided wherever toilets are located and will well exceed the minimum requirement of one wash station for every 10 toilets. Sewage will be disposed off-site at an approved disposal facility by the service provider.

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling

A "Green Crew" will roam the event area and periodically empty the barrels at each station. Materials are taken to the recycling area to sort and store for disposal. Forty-yard dumpsters will be used for trash and large totes for recyclables. All collections are transferred to a permitted waste disposal facility or recycling center by a commercial hauler. Waste stations and recycling containers will be placed in strategic locations to discourage littering.

The "Green Crew" remains on-site for up to two weeks following the event, sorting recyclables from solid waste, picking up "microtrash" from the entire site, including the full length of the river bar and swimming areas.

Food Service

Food vendors in Humboldt County will be provided with hot and cold water by existing County Line Ranch water systems. Cooking will be done with propane gas supplied by each vendor. Solid waste will be disposed of in general waste receptacles, until a full analysis of composting regulations is completed. Liquid waste is disposed of into the onsite permitted greywater system. All food vendors operating in Humboldt County will be subject to Humboldt County Division of Public Health operating standards and criteria.

Alcohol

Alcohol will be served from designated booths managed by Mateel staff in accordance with any non-profit regulations. All ABC rules and regulations apply and will be enforced. Attendees will not be allowed to bring their own alcoholic beverages into the concert area.

Craft Booths

There will be approximately 150 craft booths around the perimeter of the performance area and throughout the event grounds. Booths are mixed, for profit and non-profit organizations. All booths will adhere to Cal Fire Special Event Requirements.

Event Cancellation Protocol

This is in case of a cancellation of an event for any reasons such as fire, earthquake, or any other occurrence that may harm the public. In case of event cancellation, there will be several methods used for notifying the public that the event is canceled and not to arrive at County Line Ranch.

Notification techniques include:

- Posting on event websites and social media outlets notifying the public of cancellation.
- Computerized message boards on Highway 101 notifying regional travelers of cancellation
- Targeted emails to all ticket holders with notification of canceled events.
- Local newspaper and radio advertisements.

The Cannabis Zone will be composed of four types of licensed participants:

- **Cannabis Event Organizer** - responsible for organization, coordination and compliance within The Cannabis Zone. ‘Proper Wellness’ or similar organization.
- **Retailer** - may sell cannabis goods to retail customers within The Cannabis Zone.
- **Distributors** - may transport cannabis goods to and from The Cannabis Zone and may also distribute cannabis goods to the Retailer within The Cannabis Zone.
- **Exhibitors** - all other pre-approved licensed entities who may exhibit cannabis goods demonstrations within The Cannabis Zone, however, are prohibited from selling or distributing Cannabis goods within The Cannabis Zone.

The Cannabis Event Organizer will comply with all Rules and Regulations mandated by the State of California and Humboldt County. The Event Organizer will provide a Standard Operating Procedures Agreement, which will be provided to retailers, distributors and exhibitors prior to the event. All licensed participants, including their staff, must read, adhere to and sign the Standard Operating Procedures Agreement.

Premises

Cannabis sales and consumption will be designated and strictly limited to a secured area called the "Premises" as shown on the Site Plan.

There are four main components to the Premises - the Retail Area (A), the Distribution Areas (B), the Consumption Area (C) and the Distribution Receiving Area (D). Licensed Participants Proper Wellness* (or similar organization) will operate as the licensed Cannabis Event Organizer to manage and coordinate The Cannabis Zone, a separate secured and fenced location from The Mateel festival.

Sales of cannabis goods to retail customers will be conducted by a licensed CA retailer at a central Retail Area located within The Cannabis Zone and shown on the Premise Diagram. Transportation of Cannabis goods to and from The Cannabis Zone will be conducted by a California state licensed distributor within the Distribution Receiving Area, shown on the Premise

Diagram. The licensed distributor(s) will distribute cannabis goods to the Retail Area via the Distribution Areas, also shown on the Premise Diagram. All Cannabis goods transported and/or distributed in and out of The Cannabis Zone shall be accompanied by a manifest.

All exhibitors must prominently display their temporary event location number and state licenses within the plain site of the public throughout the duration of the event. Exhibitor employees will wear name badges with photograph identifying employee and employer pursuant to state and local law and will be issued working passes for event access. Proper Wellness will provide Humboldt County and the State of California the list of licensed participants at least 72 hours prior to the event to ensure that all activities are conducted by licensed entities and to verify that all licenses are in good standing.

Access and Consumption Access to The Cannabis Zone will be limited to those patrons that are 21 years of age or older. A valid government issued identification will be required to be provided by the patron to security prior to receiving a 21+ event wristband, which shall be verified by the security staff prior to entry to The Cannabis Zone. In addition, all retail personnel shall verify the customer's government issued ID prior to enacting any sale of cannabis goods to the retail customer. We have a double verification system to ensure compliance with the age restriction. Consumption of cannabis will be allowed in the Consumption Area will be limited to those patrons 21 years of age and older, shall not be visible to the public or non- age restricted area and in an area where sale or consumption of alcohol or tobacco is prohibited.

Hours of Operation

The Cannabis Zone shall be operated only during hours that comply with local and state regulations.

Security

The Cannabis Event Organizer shall hire security and comply with Chapters 11.4 & 11.5 of Business & Professions Code. Exhibitors may not hire private security for the event. The perimeter of The Cannabis Zone shall be clearly identified and fenced to prevent non-eligible persons from entering The Cannabis Zone. Signs shall be posted at or near each public entrance to The Cannabis Zone, stating, "No Persons Under 21 Allowed" in sizes no less than 7" x 11". Fencing will be eight feet in height and opaque to facilitate security, privacy and prevent other event participants from observing sales and consumption activities. Security personnel will be stationed at the entrance and exits of the premise, as well as at the Retail Area, Distribution Area, Distribution Receiving Area and throughout The Cannabis Zone. The Retail Area and Distribution Areas will be composed of secured, lockable storage containers equipped with commercial grade locks. The Distribution Receiving Area will be equipped with high resolution cameras that record all cannabis goods transfers in and out of the Tree Lounge Premise. Each Distribution Area will have a dedicated security guard 24 hours a day. Security personnel will monitor and escort all retrievals of cannabis goods to and from secure storage containers.

Inventory

All cannabis goods sold will be subject to all state mandated testing, quality assurance, packaging and labeling requirements and shall be placed in an opaque exit package prior to sale. All cannabis goods shall be transported by a licensed distributor and all cannabis goods shall be checked and reconciled prior to delivery, to prevent prohibited items from entering the licensed

premises. Point of Sale (POS) and track and trace software will be utilized in order to follow record retention provisions required by the state track and trace regulations as well as to ensure all tax requirements are followed and ensure timely and accurate payments of all applicable taxes. Cannabis goods may only be displayed within the designated premises. Any cannabis goods removed from the packaging for display or returned by a customer must be destroyed at the end of the event in a manner that is compliant with local and state rules. All cannabis goods shall be stored in secure, locked containers inaccessible to the public with 24 hour a day security and shall not be left unattended.

Daily Limits

The Retailer shall not sell more than 28.5 grams of non-concentrated cannabis, 8 grams of concentrated cannabis or 6 immature plants to a single customer in a single day.

Notification of Theft, Loss and Criminal Activity

Proper Wellness will notify the Bureau of Cannabis Control and local law enforcement within 24 hours of discovery of any of the following situations:

- A significant discrepancy in inventory due to diversion, theft, loss, or any other criminal activity pertaining to the sale of cannabis goods at the Event is discovered.
- The discovery of unauthorized alteration of inventory records related to the storage or sale of cannabis goods.
- A breach of security or attempted breach of security by event participants is brought to the attention of Proper Wellness staff.

Upon notification from the Bureau or local authorities security shall immediately expel from the event any person selling cannabis goods without a valid license. Security shall remain with the individual being expelled until he or she vacates the premises.

Free Cannabis goods Prohibited

Licensed participants are prohibited from providing free cannabis goods to any person or entity at The Cannabis Zone.

Cannabis Waste

All cannabis waste generated at the event shall be stored in the designated cannabis waist area and shall be destroyed and documented in compliance with all applicable local and State rules and regulations.

Customer Return of Cannabis Goods

Customer returns of cannabis goods shall be accepted only with goods that were purchased at The Cannabis Zone. Customer returns of cannabis goods that were sold to a customer prior to, or outside of, The Cannabis Zone is prohibited. All defective cannabis goods shall be destroyed and stored as noted above.

Advertising & Marketing

All signage, advertising & marketing must comply with applicable regulations.

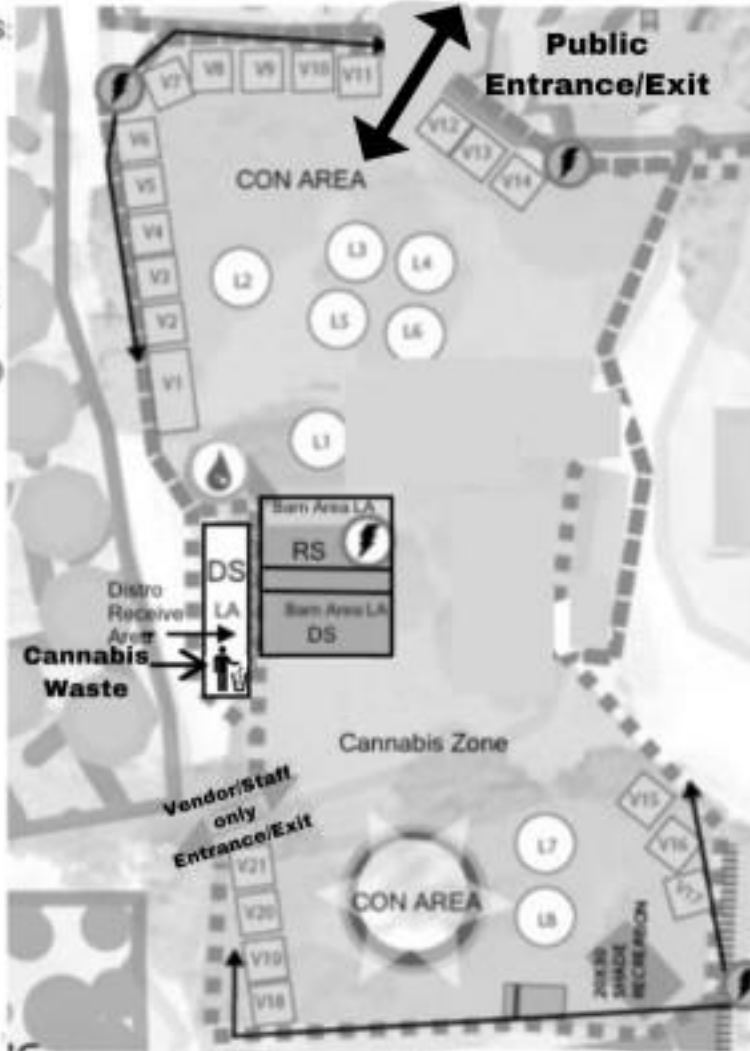
1 of 1

CANNABIS ZONE HOURS:
 Friday Load In:
 8AM-10PM
 Saturday (Sales):
 8AM-10PM
 Sunday:
 8AM-(
 (Load Out)

BOOTH ALLOCATION

- V1 - Proper Wellness (Sales)
- V2 -
- V3 - V2-V21 are tbd
- V4 -
- V5 -
- V6 -
- V7 -
- V8 -
- V9 -
- V10-
- V11-
- V12 -
- V13 -
- V14 -
- V15 -
- V16 -
- V17 -
- V18 -
- V19 -
- V20 -
- V21 -

Barn DS=Always Proper
 Distribution Inc
 Barn RS= Proper
 Wellness Inc



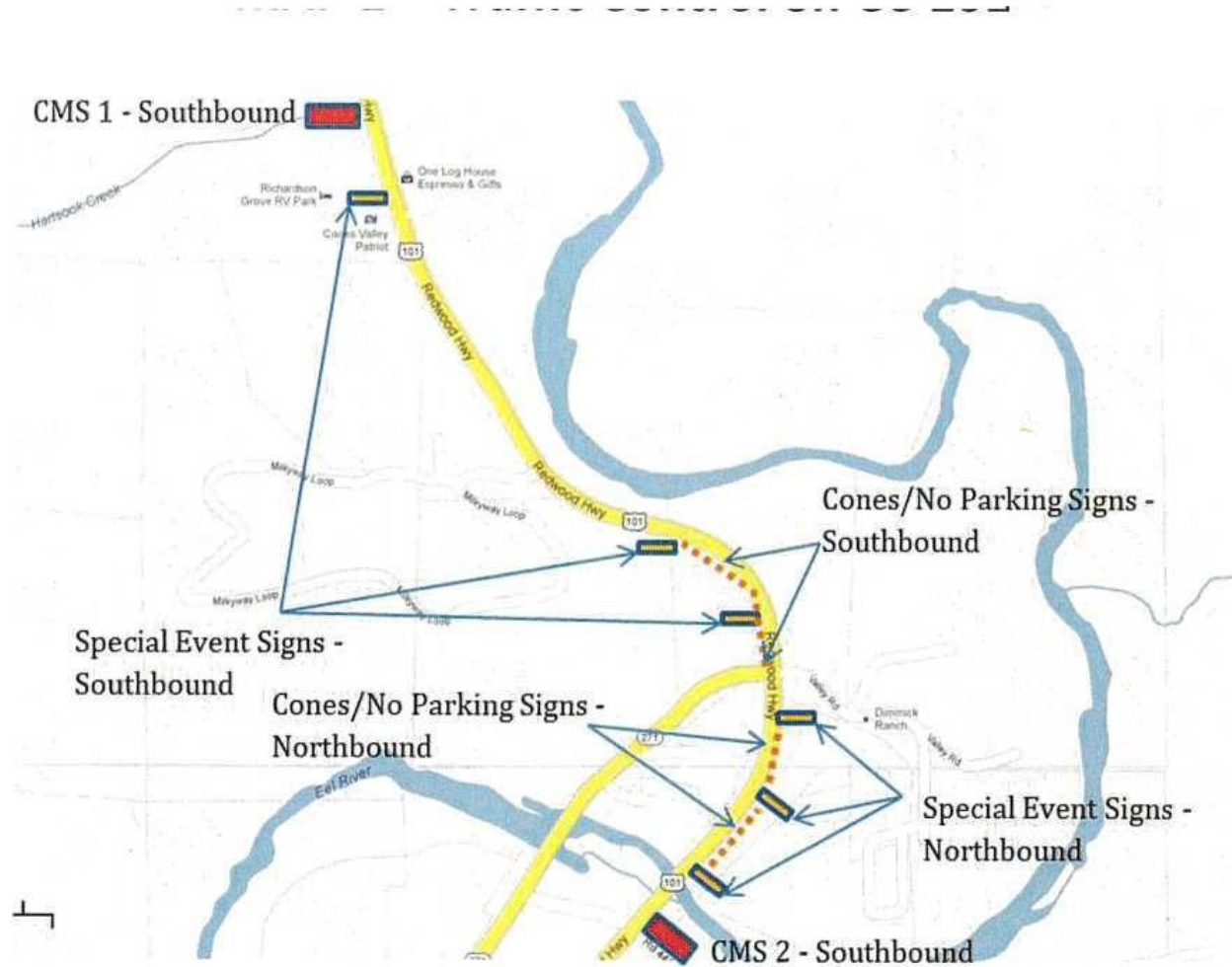
DS= Distribution Storage
 RS= Retail Storage
 = 8 Ft Tall Fencing
 (all dashed lines)
 LA=Limited Access
 CON AREA= Consumption Area

**240 COOKS VALLEY ROAD
 PIERCY, CA 95567**



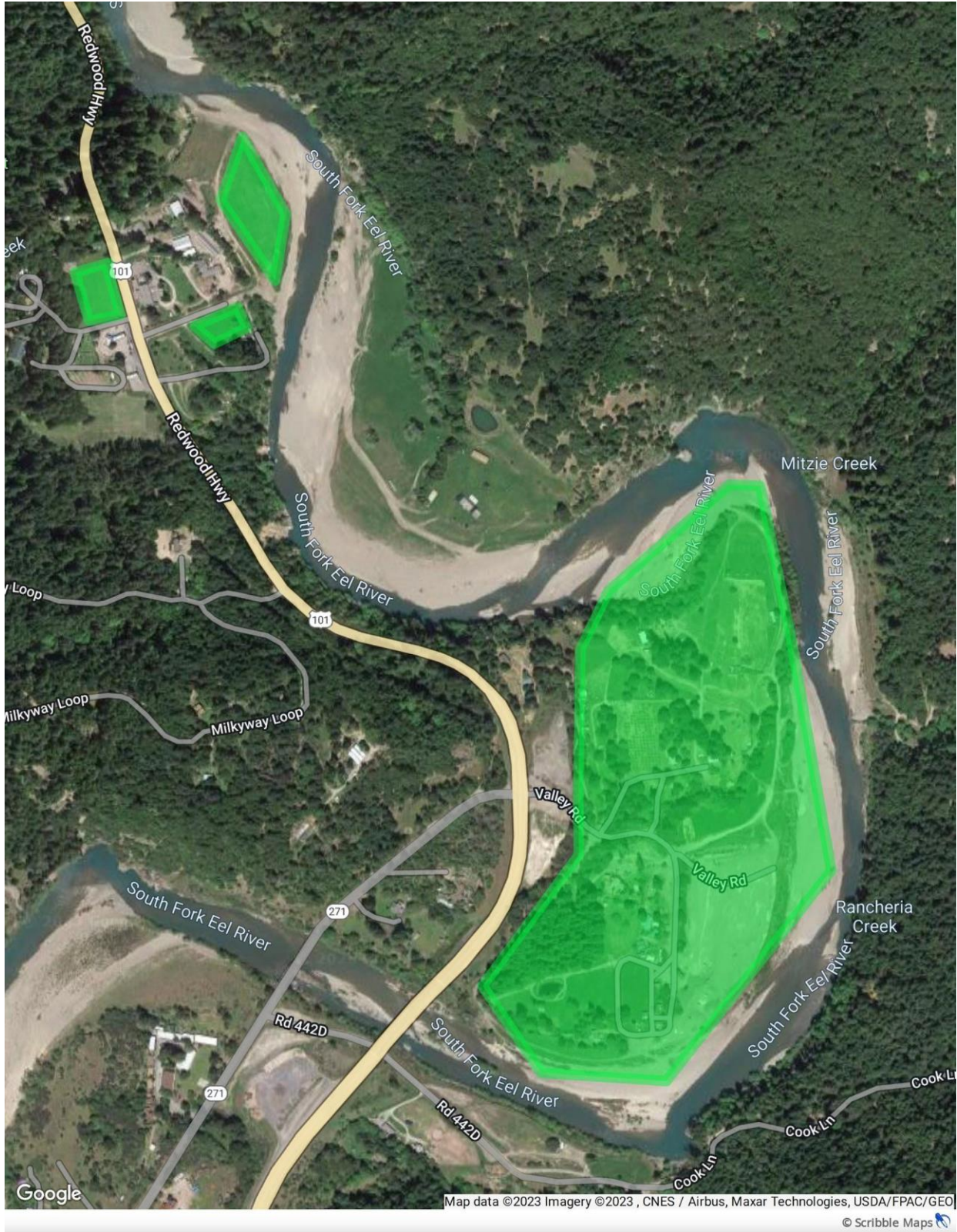
Project Area, County Line Ranch

Fig 1



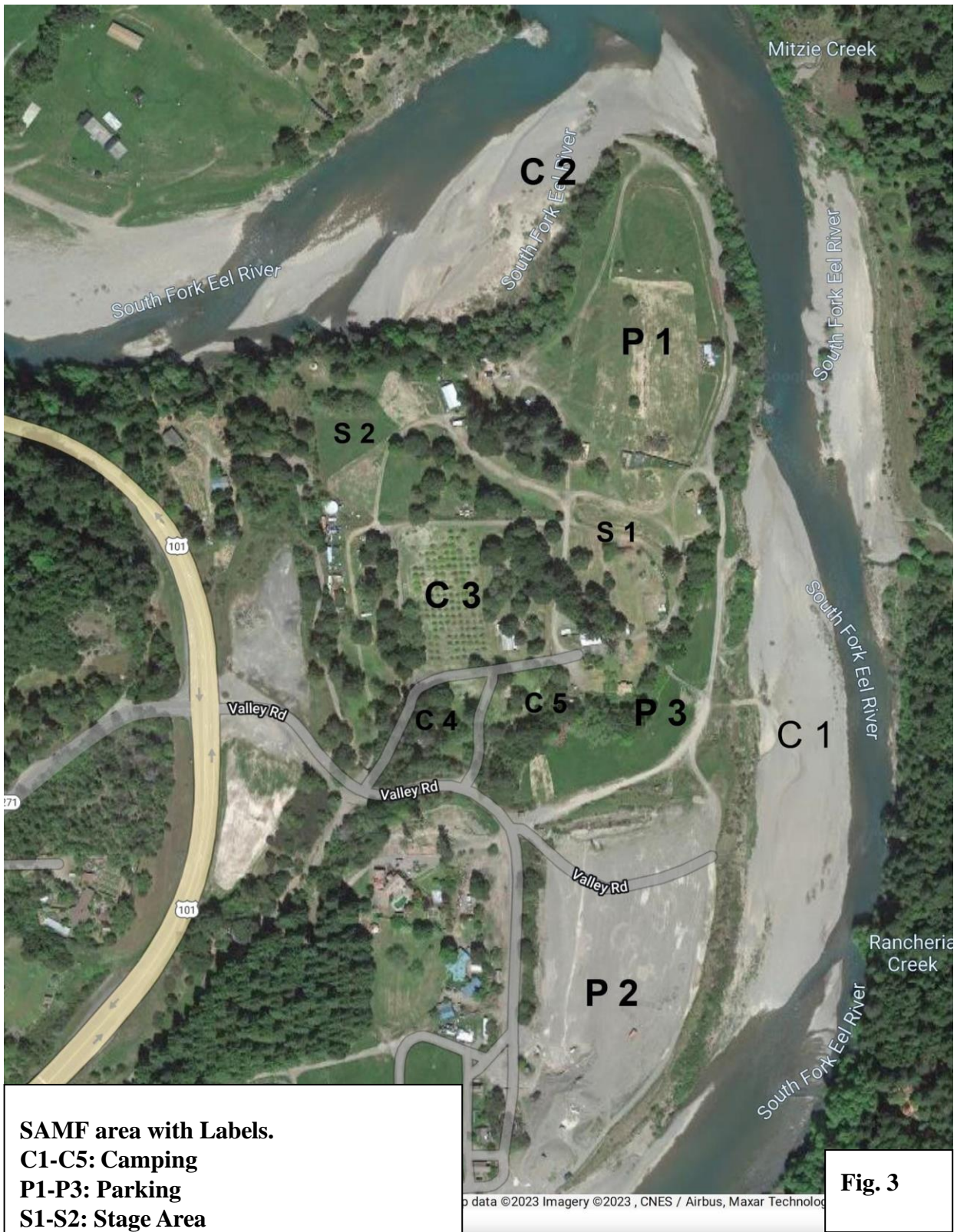
Highway Traffic Control

Fig 2



Project area with auxiliary parking

Fig 3



SAMF Proposed Venue Plan

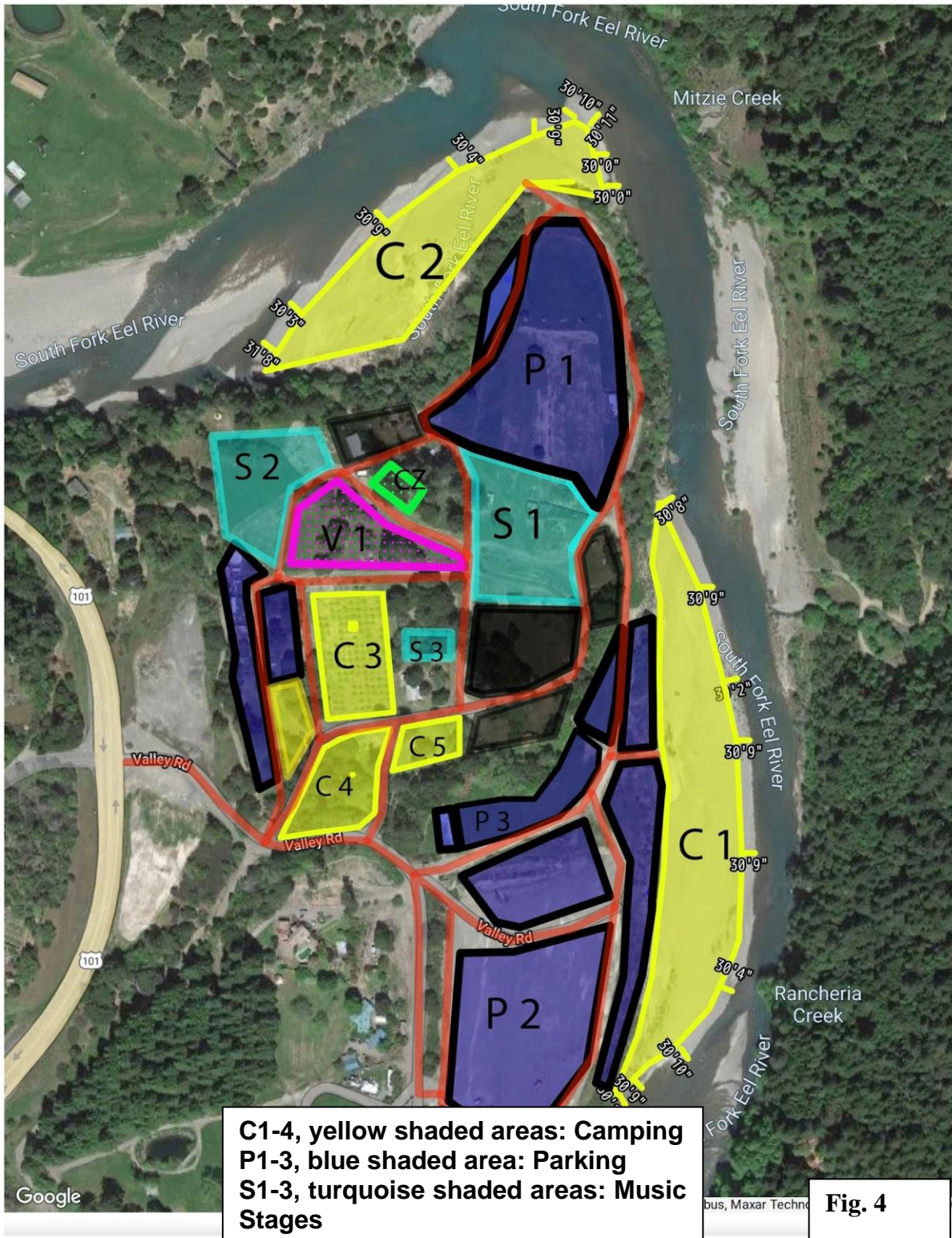
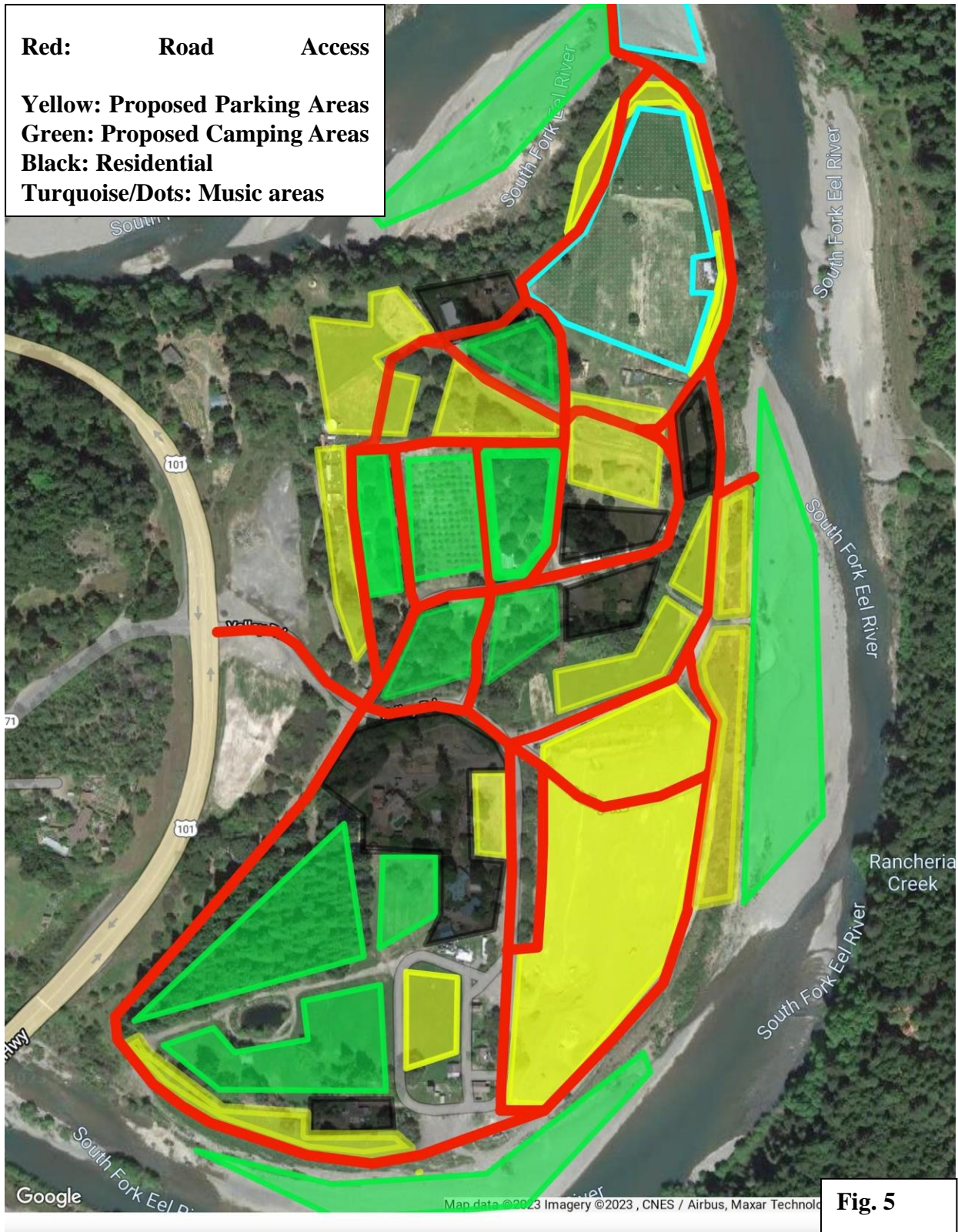


Fig. 4

ROTR Proposed Venue Plan



Vehicle Miles Traveled and Greenhouse Gases

Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT) refers to the total distance traveled by vehicles, including cars, trucks, and buses. VMT contributes to the emission of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and particulate matter (PM). This historical analysis segments attendees and staff based on where they are visiting from.

Historical data provides the following percentages from respective macro-origin destinations:

- San Francisco Bay Area (55%)
- Sacramento (15%)
- Northern Humboldt (15%)
- Southern California (10%)
- Pacific Northwest (5%)

For those traveling from any other location, they are counted as part of the San Francisco Bay Area as the majority of those attendees would fly into SFO or OAK and then drive up to the event site.

For an 8,000 attendee event, the above percentages can be multiplied by the approximate round-trip mileage per attendee divided by an average of two attendees per vehicle and then summed across origin destinations for a total expected VMT of 1,962,280 miles per event.

According to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Greenhouse Gas Equivalency of an average gasoline-powered passenger vehicle is 4.03 x 10⁻⁴ metric tons CO₂E/mile.

This results in an expected 790 metric tons CO₂E per 8,000 attendee event in Southern Humboldt.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from generator usage at music festivals are the primary source of GHG emissions, including carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and methane (CH₄). The primary source of GHG emissions from generators is the combustion of fossil fuels, such as diesel, gasoline, and propane. The energy produced by these generators is used to power lighting, sound systems, and other equipment at music festivals, as well as convenience power for campers.

There are two primary types of generators found at events – “Production Generators” or those rented by the production company, are typically diesel generators in the 15-125 kW range. “Attendee Generators” are smaller gas-powered generators brought by attendees which typically range from 1-15 kW.

Based on historical generator rental documentation, diesel consumed and hours those generators are run over the course of the previous events, it can be estimated that in total,

Vehicle Miles Traveled / GHG Analysis – Northern Nights Music Festival

Production Generators produce approximately 33 metric tons CO₂E.
To assess GHG from attendee generators, the following is assumed:

- Every other RV is accompanied by a 15-kW generator running for 24 hours over a 72-hour period.
- Every 10 VIP ticket holders are accompanied by a 2-kW generator running for 24 hours over a 72-hour period.
- Every 20 GA ticket holders are accompanied by a 2-kW generator running for 24 hours over a 72-hour period.

Using historical breakdowns of RV, VIP and GA tickets purchased for an 8,000 attendee event, Attendee Generators produce approximately 12 metric tons CO₂E.

GHG from VMT + Production Generators + Attendee Generators is therefore approximated at 835 metric tons CO₂E. This analysis makes it very clear that efforts to reduce GHG due to the event should be largely focused on mitigating VMT, which account for 95% of the total estimated emissions.

In order to reduce VMT & GHG due to the events, Northern Nights will implement the following mitigation measures:

- Promote carpooling across marketing and social media channels.
- Offer discounts for those who carpool.
- Provide event shuttles from central travel origins.
- Encourage the use of solar and other alternative energy generators to be used by attendees.
- Use and install new grid power options to reduce reliance on larger generators.

Case # / PROJECT ID	filing date	decision date	base permit	permit type	current request	APN(s)	location(s)	env. doc	3-day event name	DECISION	description
CUP-15-91	3/12/1991	5/23/1991	CUP-15-91	Use Permit		033-271-005	French's Camp (Arthur)		ROTR		
		6/17/1993				033-271-005	French's Camp (Arthur)	EIR	ROTR	approval	A Five Year CUP (1993-1997) for the annual ROTR event held at French's Camp on the 1st wknd in Aug., certification of EIR on 6/17/1993
CUP-24-97		7/2/1998	CUP-24-97	Use Permit		033-271-005	French's Camp (Arthur)	MND	ROTR	approval	Conditional Use Permit for the 15th through the 21st annual Reggae on the River music festival to be held over the first weekend of August, 1998-2004, from 2:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Saturday/Sunday, and 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Sunday. Attendance will be limited to 8,500 ticket-holders, and approximately 2,000 staff, volunteers, performers, guests, etc. for a peak total of 10,500 persons. The festival producers intend to conduct the event in accordance with the Plan of Operation and Mitigation Program established for the 1992-97 events. The proposed project requests a 5% (500 person) increase over the previous 10,000 person attendance maximum.
CUP-04-38		6/2/2005	CUP-04-38	Use Permit		033-271-005	French's Camp (Arthur)	Addendum to MND	ROTR	approval	Conditional Use Permit for the 22nd through the 24th annual Reggae on the River music festival to be held over the first weekend of August, 2005-2007, from 2:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Saturday/Sunday, and 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Sunday. Attendance will be limited to 8,500 ticket-holders, and approximately 2,000 staff, volunteers, performers, guests, etc. for a peak total of 10,500 persons. The festival producers intend to conduct the event in accordance with the Plan of Operation and Mitigation Program established for the 1998 - 2004 events, which includes off-site parking on four sites within 2 miles of the event site (on Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) 033-271-09, 033-191-05, 033-150-07&08, and APN 033-160-13). The on-site medivac helicopter site is being moved off-site to a State Highway Right of Way along Highway 101 just south of the Humboldt County line.
CUP-04-38M		3/2/2006	CUP-04-38	Use Permit	CUP-04-38M	033-271-005 & 033-271-007,	Dimmick Ranch & French's Camp (Arthur)	Supplemental EIR #1 (2006)	RR	approval	certification of Supplemental EIR, extension of permit term from 2007 to 2015. Attendance range from low (8500 + 2000 staff) to max (14,500 + 2400 staff), shifting of main concert venue to the Dimmick Ranch, portion of French's Camp on east side of river will still be used for camping, allowance for early arrivals on Thursday.
CUP-04-38MM		6/12/2008	CUP-04-38	Use Permit	CUP-04-38MM	033-271-005	Dimmick Ranch & French's Camp (Arthur)	Supplemental EIR #2 (2008)	RR	approval	certification of Supplemental EIR, modification of permit to allow addition of one (1) 1-day event with a maximum of 5,000 total persons on the last wknd in August (August 31st in 2008)
CUP-04-38MMM		6/4/2009	CUP-04-38	Use Permit	CUP-04-38MMM	033-271-005 & 033-271-007, 033-041-033	Dimmick Ranch & French's Camp (Arthur)	Addendum to the 2nd Supplemental EIR	RR	approval	addition of one (1) 1-day event with a maximum of 5,000 total persons on the last wknd in August (August 30th in 2009)
CUP-04-38MMM		6/17/2010	CUP-04-38	Use Permit	CUP-04-38MMM	033-271-005 & 033-271-007, 033-041-033	Dimmick Ranch & French's Camp (Arthur)		RR	denial	Review of Annual report for 2009 Reggae Rising event and cancellation of 2010 Reggae Rising event because applicant failed to comply with required conditions of approval of the CUP : failed to provide a complete annual report for the 2009 event, have not demonstrated compliance with the required conditions of approval and the mitigation measures in the EIR.
CUP-12-017		1/3/2013	CUP-12-017	Use Permit	CUP-12-017	033-271-005 & 033-160-013	French's Camp (Arthur) & Benbow	Supplemental EIR #3 (2013)	ROTR	approval	certification of Supplemental EIR, Conditional Use Permit and Special Permit for the Reggae on the River music festival to be held from Thursday through Sunday over the first weekend of August, 2013 - 2017. Amplified music will be provided from 7pm Thursday night to 1 a.m. Friday morning, from 11:00 am Friday morning to 1:00 a.m. Saturday morning, from 11:00 a.m. Saturday morning to 1:00 a.m. Sunday morning, and from 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning to 8:00 p.m. Sunday night. Attendance for the 2013 event will be limited to 6,000 ticket-holders, and 2,000 staff, volunteers, performers, guests, etc. for a peak total of 8,000 persons. Attendance for the 2014 - 2017 events will be limited to 8,000 ticket-holders, and 2,500 staff, volunteers, performers, guests, etc. for a peak total of 10,500 persons. Up to 4,000 persons may be camping on the site throughout each event. Food booths and vendors will be on the site throughout the event. Off-site parking will be provided on three sites within 6 miles of the event site (on Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) 033-160-13 - Benbow Golf Course parking area). Up to 300 cars may be parked at that off-site location. Traffic control measures are proposed along Highway 101. A temporary flat-car bridge is proposed to be placed across the South Fork of the Eel River to provide access for vehicles and pedestrians; a Special Permit is required to place the bridge within the Streamside Management Area. The parcel is served by on-site water, which may be supplemented by water supplied by nearby community service districts. Sewage disposal for the event will be provided by portable toilets.
MON-14-002 / CUP-04-38MMM		4/3/2014	CUP-04-38	Substantial Conformance Review	MON-14-002 / CUP-04-38MMM	033-271-007 & 033-271-009	County Line Ranch & Bowman	Addendum to the 2nd Supplemental EIR	NNMF	approval	This project is a substantial conformance review of CUP-04-38MMM so that the applicant may use a portion of the site for auxiliary parking for a three-day outdoor music and art event known as "Northern Nights Music Festival" (NNMF). The festival will be held in Mendocino County from Thursday, July 17, 2014 through Monday, July 21, 2014. While CUP-04-38MMM contains APNs 033-271-005, -007, -009, APN 033-271-007 is the only parcel where the auxiliary parking for the NNMF will occur. The intent of the project is to exercise certain land use entitlements of the existing conditional use permit (CUP-04-38-MMM), which allows the site to be occupied for a public assembly activity, including attendant off-street parking, to accommodate, on a temporary basis, parking for the NNMF parking event. This review does not authorize re-initiation of the music festival (Reggae Rising) previously permitted on the project site, for which separate authorization will be required by the Planning Commission. No events have been held on this site since the 2010 event was cancelled by prior action of the Humboldt County Planning Commission.
CUP-12-017M		5/13/2014	CUP-12-017	Use Permit	CUP-12-017M	033-271-005 & 033-160-013	French's Camp (Arthur) & Benbow	Addendum to the 3rd Supplemental EIR	ROTR	approval	Appeal to BOS, Approval of 2013 event and allowance for 500 additional persons (total attendance of 9000 persons including all guests, staff, and performers), removal of condition restricting holding RR and ROTR in the same year.
CUP-04-38MMMM		5/5/2016	CUP-04-38	Use Permit	CUP-04-38MMMM	033-271-007 & 033-271-009	County Line Ranch & Bowman	Addendum to the 2nd Supplemental EIR	NNMF	approval	A modification to CUP-04-38MMM in order to provide supplemental parking and camping to accommodate 2,000 attendees and 2,000 vehicles, food vendors, a silent disco and to provide site access for early arrivals on Thursday, July 14, 2016. The modification also seeks authorization to move the date of the one-day concert previously authorized for the last weekend in August to July 2 or July 3, 2016, which is the Fourth of July holiday weekend and set the attendance of the one-day concert to 2,000 people. The term of the permit was set to expire in 2015 and the modification will extend it for one additional year.
CUP-04-38MMMMM		5/18/2017	CUP-04-38	Use Permit	CUP-04-38MMMMM	033-271-007 & 033-271-009	County Line Ranch & Bowman	Addendum to the 2nd Supplemental EIR	NNMF	approval	A modification is sought to allow the annual flexibility to move the date of the one-day concert previously authorized for the last weekend in August to either the last weekend in August (Labor Day) or the Fourth of July holiday weekend, and set the attendance of the one-day concert to 2,000 people. No changes are proposed for the operations of the three day NNMF event – this modification would simply extend the life of the permit through the year 2022.
CUP-12-017MM		6/21/2018	CUP-12-017	Use Permit	CUP-12-017MM	033-271-005 & 033-160-013	French's Camp (Arthur) & Benbow	Addendum to the 3rd Supplemental EIR	ROTR	approval	Modification to the approved Conditional Use Permit and Special Permit for the Reggae on the River music festival to allow the festival to occur for an additional five years from 2018 through 2022. The Planning Commission will also be reviewing the Annual Report for the 2017 event. The applicant proposes no increase in attendance levels. Attendance for the 2018 event will be limited to 6,500 ticket holders and 2,500 staff, performers and others, the same as for the previous events.
PLN-2019-15401		5/2/2019	CUP-12-017	Use Permit	PLN-2019-15401	033-271-005 & 033-271-007	French's Camp & County Line Ranch	Addendum to the 3rd Supplemental EIR	ROTR	approval	A modification to allow proposes to continue conducting the event consistent with festival attendance levels authorized for previous years, which limit daily attendance to a maximum of 9,000 persons (6,500 ticket holders and 2,500 staff, performers and others). Authorization of the following permit modifications is currently requested: 1. Parking of up to 2,500 vehicles at the County Line Ranch (formerly Dimmick), instead of using previously authorized off-site parking areas at Benbow and Richardson Grove RV Park and Campground; 2. Erection of a stage and Late Night Music Area at Center Beach operating from midnight to 4am during each night of the festival; and 3. Establishment and operation of a cannabis vending and consumption area
PLN-2019-15400		5/16/2019	CUP-04-38	Use Permit	PLN-2019-15401	033-271-005 & 033-271-007	County Line Ranch & Bowman	Addendum to the 2nd Supplemental EIR	ROTR	approval	The modification to the permit is primarily being requested to allow establishment and operation of a cannabis vending and consumption area within the Humboldt County portion of each event. The permit modification is also being requested to establish consistency with the approved attendance levels (8000 persons) and festival duration recently authorized by the County of Mendocino for a 4-day event (NNMF), and to allow attendance during the 1-day event to be increased from 2,000 persons to 3,000 persons, through use of lands within the Mendocino County portion of the ranch for auxiliary parking and camping.
PLN-2022-17653	2/28/2022	4/21/2022	CUP-12-017	Use Permit	PLN-2021-17653	033-271-005 & 033-160-013	French's Camp (Arthur) & Benbow	Addendum to the 3rd Supplemental EIR	ROTR	approval	A modification to an approved Special Event Use Permit (CUP-12-17 / SP-12-030) authorizing operation of the Reggae on the River Music Festival (ROTR) for a period of five (5) years (2018-2022). A three-day event featuring live music and on-site camping at the property known as "French's Camp", it is held annually during the first weekend of August. The event was not held in 2019, 2020, and 2021. The requested modification seeks permission to operate two (2) two-day events in lieu of the annual 3-day camping event. Both events are proposed to occur exclusively on the neighboring County Line Ranch property (formerly Dimmick). Events proposed for 2022 include the annual Summer Arts & Music Festival to be held on June 18th and 19th and the Harvest Hangout, to be held on October 1st and 2nd. Daily attendance at both events will not exceed 4,000 persons and on-site camping will be restricted to staff, vendors, volunteers, artists, and guests of the property owners (maximum 400 persons). Parking for a maximum of 2,000 vehicles is expected to be needed and is available on the property.



P.O. Box 733, Hydesville, CA 95547 . (707) 768-3743 . (707) 768-3747 fax

Initial Biological Assessment

APN(s): Humboldt County: 033-271-007

Mendocino County: 053-020-11, 053-020-10,
053-020-12, 053-020-13, 053-020-14 & 053-020-16

Prepared by
Corrina Kamoroff
1/11/2023

For
Hohman and Associates Forestry Consultants

Signature: *Corrina Kamoroff*

Date: 1/11/2023

Summary

This biological assessment was prepared on behalf of Adam Klyce. The applicant would like to host four separate events: Mateel's Summer Art & Music, Reggae on the River, Northern Nights Music Festival and Country Music Weekend. Each event will be held in Mendocino and Humboldt Counties for 2 to 3 days in from June 16th through July 31st in 2023. The intent of the events is to accommodate numerous music stages, vendors, camping and parking on a temporary basis on Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs): 033-271-007, 053-020-11, 053-020-10, 053-020-12, 053-020-13, 053-020-14, and 053-020-16. APN 033-271-007, known as "County Line Ranch," is the only parcel where the project will occur within Humboldt County. The rest of the parcels are located in Mendocino County. The majority of each festival will be held at Cooks Valley Campground in Mendocino County. This document assesses habitats, potentially occurring special-status animals. This document also identifies potential impacts of the proposed event on biological resources.

Project Location

The events will be located in the Cooks Valley area ~ 2.5 miles north of Piercy, CA and ~.75 miles south of Richardson Grove State Park. The event site is located ~ 450 feet east of the intersection of Highway 101 and Cooks Valley Road south of the Cooks Valley on the County Line Ranch. The property is located at 240 Cooks Valley Road north of the Humboldt/Mendocino County line and at 83950 County Road 442 E Piercy, CA south of the Humboldt/Mendocino County line.

Biological Assessment Area

The Biological Assessment Area (BAA) for this project includes a 1.3-mile buffer area around the project boundary. The assessment considers off-site impacts to habitats and species that may be in the BAA buffer area. Consideration of off-site impacts in the BAA is potentially relevant to sensitive species and habitats downslope or downstream of operations (e.g. riparian habitat or salmonids), and to species that require a large range and may be sensitive to disturbance (e.g. the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet).

Special status animals evaluated in this report include animal taxa listed or proposed for listing under Federal and State Endangered Species Acts, CDFW Fully Protected, CDFW Watch List, CDFW Species of Special Concern, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Sensitive Species, and other special species and other taxa tracked by CDFW. Impacts to special status animals are evaluated in this section based on their likelihood of occurrence in the area, habitat and life-history needs, and sensitivity to proposed activities. Likelihood of inhabiting the area was based on documented occurrences in the Garberville 9-quad area, and availability of potential habitat.

Database Search

A list of special-status animal and plant species to consider was downloaded from CNDDDB BIOS for the Garberville 9-quad areas. Animals on the CNDDDB list were primarily included based on state or federal listing status or CDFW designation. Additional species were added to the CNDDDB list for consideration based on potential habitat or high levels of conservation concern

Qualifications

The biological assessment for this project was conducted by Corrina Kamoroff. Corrina Kamoroff is a Wildlife Biologist for Hohman and Associates Forestry Consultants. Corrina received her B.S. in Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity from University of California, Davis. Corrina is currently pursuing her M.S. in Natural Resources with a concentration in Wildlife from Cal Poly Humboldt. Corrina has over 9 years of wildlife experience in Northern California, including over three years conducting biological surveys and evaluating potential impacts in fulfillment of CEQA requirements.

Special Status Animals Documented by CNDDDB in the Garberville 9-Quad Area

Table 1. Birds

Scientific Name	Common Name	FESA	CESA	CDFW	GRank	SRank	Potential in BAA
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk	None	None	WL	G5	S4	Yes
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	northern goshawk	None	None	SSC	G5	S4	Yes
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	golden eagle	None	None	FP ; WL	G5	S3	Yes
<i>Empidonax traillii brewsteri</i>	little willow flycatcher	None	Endangered	-	G5T3T4	S1S2	Yes
<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	American peregrine falcon	Delisted	Delisted	FP	G4T4	S3S4	Yes
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	bald eagle	Delisted	Endangered	FP	G5	S3	Yes
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	osprey	None	None	WL	G5	S4	Yes
<i>Pelecanus occidentalis californicus</i>	California brown pelican	Delisted	Delisted	FP	G4T3T4	S3	No-coastal
<i>Psiloscops flammeolus</i>	Flammulated owl	None	None	-	G4	S2S4	Yes
<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>	Marbled murrelet	Threatened	Endangered	-	G3	S2	Yes
<i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i>	northern spotted owl	Threatened	Threatened	SSC	G3T3	S2S3	Yes

Table 2. Mammals

Scientific Name	Common Name	FESA	CESA	CDFW	GRank	SRank	Potential in BAA
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	pallid bat	None	None	SSC	G5	S3	Yes
<i>Arborimus pomo</i>	Sonoma tree vole	None	None	SSC	G3	S3	Yes
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Townsend's big-eared bat	None	None	SSC	G3G4	S2	Yes
<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	North American porcupine	None	None	-	G5	S3	Yes
<i>Myotis evotis</i>	Long-eared myotis	None	None	-	G5	S3	Yes
<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	Fringed myotis	None	None	-	G4	S3	Yes
<i>Pekania pennanti</i>	fisher	None	None	SSC	G5	S2S3	Yes

Table 3. Amphibians and Reptiles

Scientific Name	Common Name	FESA	CESA	CDFW	GRank	SRank	Potential in BAA
<i>Ascaphus truei</i>	Pacific tailed frog	None	None	SSC	G4	S3S4	Yes
<i>Emys marmorata</i>	Western pond turtle	None	None	SSC	G3G4	S3	Yes
<i>Rana aurora</i>	northern red-legged frog	None	None	SSC	G4	S3	Yes
<i>Rana boylei</i>	foothill yellow-legged frog	None	Candidate Threatened	SSC	G3	S3	Yes
<i>Rhyacotriton variegatus</i>	Southern torrent salamander	None	None	SSC	G3G4	S2S3	Yes
<i>Taricha rivularis</i>	Red-bellied newt	None	None	SSC	G4	S2	Yes

Table 4. Fish

Scientific Name	Common Name	FESA	CESA	CDFW	GRank	SRank	Potential in BAA
<i>Entosphenus tridentatus</i>	Pacific lamprey	None	None	SSC	G4	S4	Yes
<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i> pop. 2	coho salmon - southern Oregon / northern California ESU	Threatened	Threatened	-	G4T2Q	S2?	Yes
<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i> pop. 4	coho salmon - central California coast ESU	Endangered	Endangered	-	G4	S2?	Yes
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> pop. 16	steelhead - northern California DPS	Threatened	None	-	G5T2T3Q	S2S3	Yes
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> pop. 36	summer-run steelhead trout	None	None	SSC	G5T4Q	S2	Yes
<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i> pop. 17	chinook salmon - California coastal ESU	Threatened	None	-	G5	S1	Yes

Table 5. Invertebrates

Scientific Name	Common Name	FESA	CESA	CDFW	GRank	SRank	Potential in BAA
<i>Bombus caliginosus</i>	obscure bumble bee	None	None	-	G4?	S1S2	Yes
<i>Bombus occidentalis</i>	western bumble bee	None	None	-	G2G3	S1	Yes

Potential Impacts to Special Status Animals

BIRDS

1. Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*)

Special Status: CDFW Watch List; Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act; NatureServe Ranks: G5, S4

Family: Accipitridae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Cooper's hawks are common year-round residents in wooded areas of California, and they can be found in urban and suburban areas as well (Cornell Lab). The raptor commonly nests in riparian and lowland habitats throughout much of Humboldt County (Hunter et al. 2005). The medium-sized hawk builds nests made of piles of sticks over two feet wide in tall trees, typically 25-50 feet off the ground (Cornell Lab). Nesting trees include pines, oaks and Douglas firs (Cornell Lab). Dense stands are typically used for nesting and patchy open areas are commonly used for hunting (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: The area could provide habitat for the Cooper's hawk. The raptor is on the CDFW Watch List and Protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Noise disturbance is expected to increase for the duration of the events. No known nest sites are within 0.5 miles of the event location. The temporary increase in noise disturbance is not expected to significantly impact nest sites or the species.

2. Northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*)

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern; Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act; NatureServe Ranks: G5, S4

Family: Accipitridae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The northern goshawk inhabits mature coniferous and mixed-coniferous forests that provide suitable nesting structures and adequate prey for this large hawk (Shuford and Gardali 2008). The northern goshawk builds nests that are 3-4 feet wide (Cornell Lab) in stands of large trees with high canopy closure and an open understory (Shuford and Gardali 2008). Northern goshawks are known to breed in the Klamath and Inner North Coast Ranges (Hunter et al. 2005). They have also been spotted in the southwestern area of the county (Hunter et al. 2005). The northern goshawk is sensitive to disturbance, and aggressive toward intruders near their nest. They typically nest in wild forested areas, away from human-caused disturbances (Cornell Lab).

Potential Impact: The BAA could provide habitat for the northern goshawk. The raptor is on the CDFW Species of Special Concern and protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Noise disturbance is expected to increase for the duration of the events. No known nest sites are within 0.5 miles of the event location. The temporary increase in noise disturbance is not expected to significantly impact nest sites or the species.

3. Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

Special Status: CDFW Fully Protected and Watch List; Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; NatureServe Ranks: G5, S3

Family: Accipitridae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The golden eagle is an uncommon migrant and year-round resident (Zeiner et al. 1988). The golden eagle typically utilizes open habitats away from human environments (Sibley 2003). Small mammals are the primary prey for the golden eagle

(Sibley 2003). One of the largest raptors in North America, the golden eagle builds massive nests, about 6 feet across (Cornell Lab). Nests are typically located on cliffs, but may also be found on trees, man-made structures, or on the ground (Cornell Lab).

Potential Impact: Open areas for foraging occur within the BAA. Potential nest trees are also available on the property. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is over 5 miles from the project site. No foraging or nesting habitat is within 1 mile of the event location. The temporary event is not expected to significantly impact the Golden eagle.

4. **Little willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii brewsteri*)**

Special Status: California Endangered, Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act;

NatureServe Ranks: G5T3T4, S1S2

Family: Tyrannidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The little willow flycatcher is a rare to locally uncommon summer resident that breeds in the Cascades and the Sierra Nevada (Craig and Williams 1998). The little willow flycatcher breeds in wet meadows and montane riparian habitats at 2,000-8,000 feet elevation (Craig and Williams 1998). The riparian songbird requires dense willow thickets for nesting and roosting (Bombay et al. 2003, Zeiner et al. 1988). Destruction of riparian vegetation, modification of hydrology, and nest parasitism by brown headed cowbirds are the main threats to this species (Bombay et al. 2003).

Potential Impact: Riparian habitat does occur on the parcel and in the surrounding BAA. No dense willow thickets habitat will be impacted by the events. The events are not expected to significantly impact the species.

5. **American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*)**

Special Status: Federally Delisted, State Delisted, CDFW Fully Protected; Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act; NatureServe Ranks: G4T4, S3S4

Family: Falconidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The formerly federally endangered American peregrine falcon was delisted in 1999 due to recovery (USFWS ECOS). The American peregrine falcon is an uncommon year-round resident and migrant in California (Zeiner et al. 1988). Peregrine falcons typically use cliffs and ledges near bodies of water for cover and nesting areas, but they may also nest on buildings or bridges in the city (Sibley 2003, Cornell Lab). Peregrine falcons may breed in woodland, forest, or coastal habitat (Zeiner et al. 1988). Riparian and wetland areas are important habitat yearlong (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: Peregrine falcons may breed in a wide variety of habitats, and they have the potential to nest in the area on suitable ledges or other structures. No suitable nesting structures are located within 0.5 miles of the event location. The Miranda quad, over 7 miles to the north of the project site, is a sensitive EO in CNDDDB for the bird. Noise disturbance is expected to increase for the duration of the events. No known nest sites are within 0.5 miles of the event location. The temporary increase in noise disturbance is not expected to significantly impact nest sites or the species.

6. **Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)**

Special Status: Federally Delisted, California Endangered, CDFW Fully Protected; Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; NatureServe Ranks: G5, S3

Family: Accipitridae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Federally delisted, but still considered Endangered in California, bald eagles occur along rivers, large creeks, and coastlines throughout Northwestern California (Harris 2005). Fish are a primary source of prey, and bald eagles are typically found in forested areas near large fish-bearing waters (Cornell Lab). Bald eagles build large nests about 6 feet wide. Nests are typically found in large trees, but may be built on other available vegetation or structures (Cornell Lab).

Potential Impact: The bald eagle may occur in the BAA, which has fish bearing waters and large trees. Noise disturbance is expected to increase for the duration of the events. No known nest sites are within 1 mile of the event location. The temporary increase in noise disturbance is not expected to significantly impact nest sites or the species.

7. Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Special Status: CDFW Watch List; Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act; NatureServe Ranks: G5, S4

Family: Accipitridae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Ospreys primarily prey on fish and they require large fish-bearing waters for hunting (Zeiner et al. 1988). Ospreys are widespread along the Trinity, Klamath, Van Duzen, Eel, and South Fork Eel Rivers in Humboldt County (Harris 2005). Ospreys typically make large nests in tall snags or trees high off the ground in open forest habitats (Zeiner et al.).

Potential Impact/Mitigation: Osprey may occur in the BAA, which has fish bearing waters and large trees. No known nest sites are within 1 mile of the event location. While the noise disturbance will temporarily increase for the duration of the event, the event is not expected to significantly impact the species.

8. Marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*)

Special Status: State Endangered, Federally Threatened, and BOF Sensitive Species

Family: Alcidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The Marbled murrelet nests in large trees in mature coastal forests along the Pacific coast, especially old-growth redwood and Douglas-fir forests (Zeiner et al. 1988). U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has designated areas of mature coastal forest in Northern California as critical habitat based on the presence of individual trees with potential nesting platforms, and forested areas within 0.25 miles of individual trees with potential nesting platforms that had a canopy height of at least one-half the average maximum potential height for trees given local growing conditions (USFWS 2011). The presence of trees with potential nesting platforms is considered the most important predictor of Marbled murrelet presence (Hammer et al.). The Marbled murrelet may also use suitable mature coniferous forests in more inland areas.

Potential Impact: Designated critical habitat for the Marbled murrelet is located adjacent to the parcel boundary and ~ 0.35 miles away from the nearest musical stage location events. No habitat will be removed, but temporary noise disturbance will occur during the duration of the summer music events. To minimize potential noise disturbance musical stages should be situated to direct noise disturbance away from the marbled murrelet designated critical habitat. The events are not expected to significantly impact the marbled murrelet. See discussion in Conclusions section of this report.

9. **Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*)**

Special Status: Federally Threatened, California Threatened, CDFW Species of Special Concern, Protected under Migratory Bird Treaty Act; NatureServe Ranks: G3T3, S2S3.

Family: Strigidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Northern spotted owls typically nest or roost in multi-layered, mature coniferous forest with high canopy closure, large overstory trees, and broken-topped trees or other nesting platforms (USFWS 2012). Confirmed breeding areas are widespread throughout Humboldt County (Hunter et al. 2005). Northern spotted owls may use a broad range of habitats for foraging. Their favored prey, the dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes*), typically inhabits the forest edge (Harris 2005).

Potential Impact: USFWS protocol surveys are needed for any activity that may modify nesting, roosting, or foraging habitats for northern spotted owls (USFWS 2012). Potential habitat has been mapped on the property and surrounding 1.3 miles. No NSO AC are mapped within 1.3 miles of the event location. Noise disturbance can negatively impact the NSO, however no known NSO AC are within 1.3 miles of the event. The proposed events are not expected to significantly impact the NSO. See discussion in Conclusions section of this report.

1. **Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*)**

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern, NatureServe Ranks: G5, S3

Family: Vespertilionidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The pallid bat may occupy a wide range of low-elevation habitats, and roost in a wide variety of structures (Zeiner et al. 1988). The bat prefers to roost in outcrops, cliffs, and crevices with access to open areas for foraging (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: The pallid bat has the potential to occur in the area. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is with the BAA. While the noise disturbance will temporarily increase for the duration of the events, the events are not expected to significantly impact the species.

2. **Sonoma tree vole (*Arborimus pomo*)**

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern, NatureServe Ranks: G3, S3

Family: Muridae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The Sonoma tree vole occurs along the North Coast in old-growth and other forests, mainly Douglas-fir, redwood, and montane hardwood-conifer habitats (Zeiner et al. 1988). The small rodent specializes in feeding on Douglas-fir and grand fir needles, and typically constructs nests in Douglas-fir trees (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: The arboreal rodent has the potential to occur in the area. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is 3 miles south from the project. While the noise disturbance will temporarily increase for the duration of the events, the events are not expected to significantly impact the species.

3. **Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*)**

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern, NatureServe Ranks: G3G4, S2.

Family: Vespertilionidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Although it can be found in a wide range of habitats, the bat requires caves, mines, tunnels, buildings, or other human-made structures for roosting (Zeiner et al. 1988). Townsend's big-eared bat is highly sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is over 10 miles from the project. While the noise disturbance will temporarily increase for the duration of the events, the events are not expected to significantly impact the species.

4. Fisher - West Coast DPS (*Pekania pennanti*)

Special Status: Federally Proposed as Threatened, State Threatened, Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks: G5T2T3Q, S2S3

Family: Mustelidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The fisher uses large expanses of forest with moderate to high canopy closure, and will avoid open forest, grasslands, and wetlands (USFWS 2014). Fishers use cavities in live trees, snags and down logs for reproductive dens (USFWS 2014). Structural complexity is a critical element of fisher habitat, necessary to provide cover for resting and denning, and habitat for prey (USFWS 2014).

Potential Impact: The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB the BAA. The property and the surrounding BAA has potential habitat for the fisher. No expansion into mature forests is planned and no permanent impacts are expected. While the noise disturbance will temporarily increase for the duration of the events, the events are not expected to significantly impact the species.

AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

1. Pacific tailed frog (*Ascaphus truei*)

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks: G4, S3S4

Family: Ascaphidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The Pacific tailed frog requires permanent, cool streams in conifer-dominated habitats including redwood, Douglas fir, mixed-conifer, and ponderosa pine habitats (Zeiner et al. 1988). They prefer turbulent waters with rocky substrates in steep-walled valleys with dense vegetation, where the water temperature remains low (Zeiner et al. 1988). Increased water temperature and siltation from logging pose threats to the amphibian (Zeiner et al. 1988). Additionally, invasive American bullfrogs may pose a threat to native amphibians through competition, predation, and spread of disease.

Potential Impact: Steep, densely vegetated streams in the surrounding area could provide habitat for the Pacific tailed frog. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is over 5 miles from the project, in the Mattole watershed. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the events. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to directly impact important habitat for the Pacific tailed frog. As a result, the events are not expected to significantly impact the Pacific tailed frog.

2. Northern red-legged frog (*Rana aurora*)

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks: G4, S3

Family: Ranidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The northern red-legged frog inhabits low-elevation wetlands of the North Coast Ranges from Del Norte to Mendocino Counties (Zeiner et al. 1988). The northern red-legged frog requires permanent or nearly permanent pools in streams, marshes, or ponds (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: Areas of permanent or near-permanent water in the surrounding area could provide habitat for the northern red-legged frog. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is

over 10 miles away. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the event. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to directly impact important habitat for the northern red-legged frog. As a result, the events are not expected to significantly impact the northern red-legged frog.

3. Foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*)

Special Status: State Candidate for listing as Threatened; CDFW Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks: G3, S3

Family: Ranidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements The foothill yellow legged frog primarily inhabits rocky streams or rivers with permanent water, and may be found in many habitats, including valley-foothill hardwood, valley-foothill hardwood-conifer, valley-foothill riparian, ponderosa pine, mixed conifer, coastal scrub, mixed chaparral, and wet meadows (Zeiner et al. 1988). Breeding primarily occurs in low-velocity, shallow stream habitats with high habitat heterogeneity (Yarnell 2013). Foothill yellow-legged frogs may also travel substantial distances overland and use seasonally wet areas (Bourque 2008). The invasive American bullfrog and introduced fish species contribute to the reduction of foothill yellow legged frog populations (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: Riparian areas on the property in the BAA provide habitat for the foothill yellow-legged frog. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB overlaps with the parcels, on the northwest of the project area near the South Fork Eel River. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the event. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to directly impact important habitat for the foothill yellow-legged frog. As a result, the events are not expected to significantly impact the foothill yellow-legged frog.

4. Western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*)

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks: G3G4, S3

Family: Emydidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The western pond turtle is associated with permanent or nearly permanent water in ponds, lakes, streams, irrigation ditches or permanent pools along intermittent streams (Ziener et al. 1988). Invasive American bullfrogs prey upon hatchlings and juveniles (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: The BAA provides habitat for the western pond turtle. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is within the BAA, less than a 1 mile from the project along the South Fork Eel River. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the event. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to directly impact important habitat for the western pond turtle. As a result, the events are not expected to significantly impact the western pond turtle.

5. Southern torrent salamander (*Rhyacotriton variegatus*)

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks: G3G4, S2S3

Family: Rhyacotritonidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The southern torrent salamander primarily occupies cold, shaded permanent streams and seeps in redwood, Douglas fir, mixed conifer, montane riparian and montane hardwood-conifer habitats in Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt and Lake Counties

(Zeiner et al. 1988). The newt requires rapid, permanent streams with rocky substrate for breeding and larval development (Zeiner et al. 1988).

Potential Impact: Permanent, rocky streams in the surrounding area could provide habitat for the southern torrent salamander. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is over 6 miles from the project. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the event. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to directly impact important habitat for southern torrent salamander. As a result, the events are not expected to significantly impact the southern torrent salamander.

6. Red-bellied newt (*Taricha rivularis*)

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks:G4, S2

Family: Salamandridae

Habitat/Life "The red bellied newt primarily occupies redwood forest, but also found within mixed conifer, valley-foothill woodland, montane hardwood and hardwood-conifer habitats (Zeiner et al. 1988). Although adults are terrestrial, the poisonous newt requires rapid, rocky permanent streams for breeding and larval development (Zeiner et al. 1988)."

Potential Impact Permanent, rocky streams in the surrounding area could provide habitat for the red-bellied newt. The nearest occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is over 10 miles from the project, in the Mattole watershed. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the event. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to directly impact important habitat for red-bellied newt. As a result, the events are not expected to significantly impact the red-bellied newt.

FISH

1. Pacific Lamprey (*Entosphenus tridentatus*)

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks: G4, S4

Family: Petromyzontidae

Habitat/Life History: Pacific lamprey requires cool, permanent streams with a variety of substrates and structural complexity (CalFish). Lampreys are anadromous and must have unimpeded access to the ocean (CalFish).

Potential Impact: The Eel River and its tributaries provide habitat for the fish. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the events. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to significantly impact the Pacific Lamprey.

2. Coho salmon - southern Oregon / northern California ESU (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*)

Special Status: Federally Threatened, State Threatened; NatureServe Ranks: G4T2Q,S2?

Family: Salmonidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Coho salmon are a federally and state-listed anadromous fish that occupy low gradient rivers and coastal streams (CDFW). The anadromous salmonids return to these watersheds in the fall and early winter to spawn in gravel substrate, after the first major rains (Moyle et al. 2008). Coho require cool, clear perennial streams and rivers with structural complexity for cover and low suspended sediment (Moyle et al. 2008). Juveniles are most abundant in well-shaded, deep pools with many structural elements that provide cover (Moyle et al. 2008). Sedimentation is a major threat to salmonids in their early life stages. The southern Oregon/northern California ESU range includes watersheds from Cape Blanco in Oregon south to the Mattole River (Moyle et al. 2008).

Potential Impact: The Eel River and its tributaries provide habitat for the anadromous salmonid. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the events. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to significantly impact the species.

3. Coho salmon – central California coast ESU (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*)

Special Status: Federally Endangered, California Endangered, NatureServe Ranks:

Family: Salmonidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Coho salmon are a federally and state-listed anadromous fish that occupy low gradient rivers and coastal streams (CDFW). The anadromous salmonids return to these watersheds in the fall and early winter to spawn in gravel substrate, after the first major rains (Moyle et al. 2008). Coho require cool, clear perennial streams and rivers with structural complexity for cover and low suspended sediment (Moyle et al. 2008). Juveniles are most abundant in well-shaded, deep pools with many structural elements that provide cover (Moyle et al. 2008). Sedimentation is a major threat to salmonids in their early life stages.

Potential Impact/Mitigation: The Eel River and its tributaries provide habitat for the anadromous salmonid. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the events. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to significantly impact the species.

4. Steelhead - northern California DPS (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*)

Special Status: Federally Threatened; NatureServe Ranks: G5T2T3Q, S2S3

Family: Salmonidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Steelhead are anadromous rainbow trout that migrate to the ocean as juveniles and return to freshwater habitats to spawn. The Northern California Distinct Population Segment (DPS) ranges from Redwood Creek to just south of the Gualala River, and includes the Eel River watershed (Moyle et al. 2008). Salmonids, including steelhead, require cool, clear perennial streams and rivers with structural complexity for cover and low suspended sediment. Steelhead may swim upstream in during the winter to spawn in stream segments that are not accessible to other salmonids during low flows (Moyle et al. 2008). Sedimentation is a major threat to salmonids in their early life stages.

Potential Impact: The Eel River and its tributaries provide habitat for the anadromous salmonid. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the events. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to significantly impact the species.

5. Summer-run steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*)

Special Status: CDFW Species of Special Concern; NatureServe Ranks: G5T4Q, S2

Family: Salmonidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: Summer-run steelhead trout remain in freshwater habitats until they reach maturity (Moyle et al. 2008). These steelhead have similar requirements during their juvenile stages, with an additional need for freshwater habitats to remain suitable throughout the summer (Moyle et al. 2008). Summer steelhead are sensitive to human disturbance and typically are only found in the most remote areas of the watersheds (Moyle et al. 2008). Sedimentation is a major threat to salmonids in their early life stages.

Potential Impact: The Eel River and its tributaries provide habitat for the anadromous salmonid. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the

events. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to significantly impact the species.

6. Chinook salmon - California coastal ESU (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)

Special Status: Federally Threatened; NatureServe Ranks: G5, S1

Family: Salmonidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The Federally Threatened Chinook salmon is the largest Pacific salmonid (Moyle et al. 2008). The California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) is composed of Chinook spawning in watersheds ranging from Redwood Creek south to the Russian River (Moyle et al. 2008). The anadromous salmonids return to these watersheds in the fall to spawn, after the first major rains (Moyle et al. 2008). Chinook, like other salmonids, require cool, clear perennial streams and rivers with structural complexity for cover and low suspended sediment (Moyle et al. 2008). Juvenile chinook may inhabit estuaries for an extended period (Moyle et al. 2008). Chinook are particularly sensitive to temperature and water quality, and require larger cobble and coarse gravel substrate for spawning compared to other salmonids (Moyle et al. 2008). Sedimentation is a major threat to salmonids in their early life stages.

Potential Impact: The Eel River and its tributaries provide habitat for the anadromous salmonid. There will likely be increased recreational use of the South Fork eel river during the events. The temporary increase in recreational activities is not expected to significantly impact the species.

INVERTEBRATES

1. Obscure bumble bee (*Bombus caliginosus*)

Special Status: CDFW Special Animals List (2017); NatureServe Ranks: G4?, S1S2

Family: Apidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The obscure bumble bee occupies open grassy coastal prairies and Coast Range meadows (IUCN). This long-tongued species may pollinate flowers with elongated corollas, such as *Keckiella* spp. (IUCN). The obscure bumblebee does not fare well in agricultural or urban/suburban environments, where it is often outcompeted by more common bumblebees (NatureServe 2017). The obscure bumblebee has declined in the San Francisco Bay area, and may be threatened by habitat loss from development (NatureServe 2017).

Potential Impact: An occurrence mapped in CNDDDB overlaps with the BAA. The property has the potential to support many native pollinators. The events are not expected impact important habitat for the bee or significantly impact the species.

2. Western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis*)

Special Status: CDFW Special Animals List (2017); NatureServe Ranks: G2G3, S1

Family: Apidae

Habitat/Life-history Requirements: The western bumble bee is a generalist short-tongued forager that may be found in open habitats such as grassy areas, urban parks and gardens, chaparral and shrub areas, and mountain meadows (IUCN). Like many bumble bees, the western bumble bee nests underground in abandoned rodent holes (IUCN). The western bumble bee is threatened by disease, habitat loss and degradation, and insecticides.

Potential Impact: An occurrence mapped in CNDDDB is over one mile away to the northwest of the project. The property has the potential to support many native pollinators. The temporary event is not expected to impact important habitat for the bee or significantly impact the species.

3. Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*)

Status: State Candidate Endangered

Key Habitat: The Crotch bumble bee is a generalist short-or medium-tongued forager that may be found in open habitats such as grassland or scrub areas. Like many bumble bees, the Crotch bumble bee nests underground often in abandoned rodent holes. The Crotch bumble bee is threatened by disease, habitat loss and degradation, and insecticides.

Mitigations: The Crotch bumble bee has not been documented within 10 miles of the project area. Open meadows and other wet areas are considered the bees most important habitat type. The proposed events will not impact grassy, chaparral and shrub areas. As a result, the proposed events are not expected to directly impact habitat for the Crotch bumble bee.

4. Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee (*Bombus suckleyi*)

Status: State Candidate Endangered

Key Habitat: The Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee range is not well known due to the rarity of the species; however, it is thought that the species has a limited range in the northernmost part of California. The species is reliant on meadows large confined to mountainous regions with abundant flowering plants.

Mitigations: The Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee has not been documented within 10 miles of the project area. Open meadows and other wet areas are considered the bees most important habitat type. Meadows and riparian habitat. The proposed events will not impact grassy, chaparral and shrub areas. As a result, the proposed events are not expected to directly impact habitat for the Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee.

Conclusions

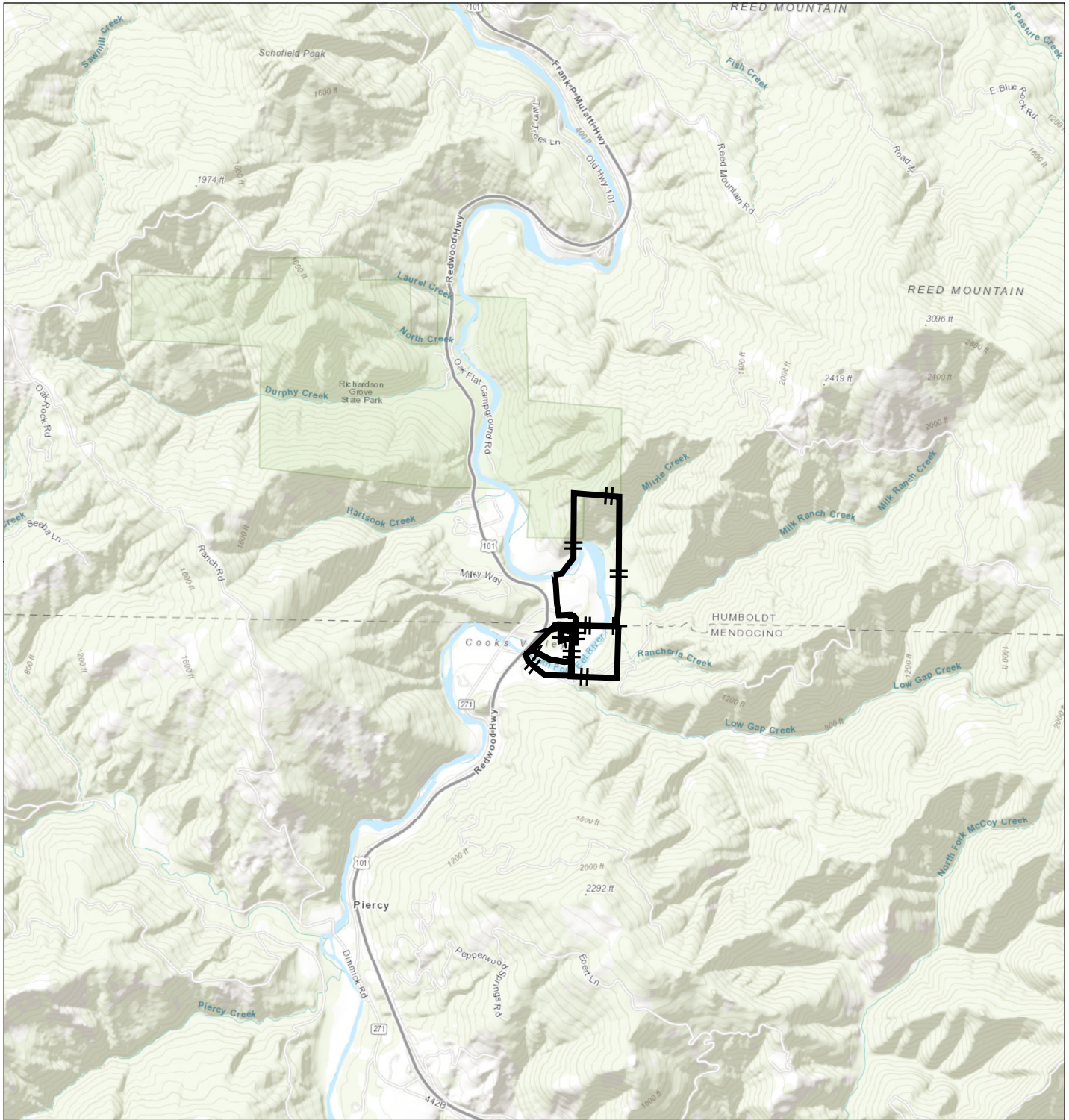
The applicant would like to host four separate festival events: Mateel's Summer Art & Music, Reggae on the River, Northern Nights Music Festival and Country Music Weekend. Each event will be held in Mendocino and Humboldt Counties for 2 to 3 days from June 16th through July 31st in 2023. Each event intends to accommodate numerous music stages, vendors, camping and parking on a temporary basis. Given the remote location of the proposed events in Mendocino and Humboldt Counties along the South Fork Eel River, the surrounding area provides potential habitat for numerous listed and sensitive species that have been considered in this report. No habitat removal is proposed as part of the events; however, the events will create noise disturbance by temporarily increasing the ambient noise levels in the surrounding area. The Marbled murrelet and the Northern Spotted Owl are two species that may occur in the area and are sensitive to increased noise disturbance. However, the proposed events will not likely result in a significant negative impact to the Marbled murrelet or the Northern Spotted Owl. See discussion below.

Temporary elevated noise disturbance will occur for the duration of the summer music events that has the potential to disturb nesting birds. Designated Critical Habitat for the Marbled murrelet is located adjacent to the parcel boundary that will host the proposed events. The designated Critical Habitat for the Marbled murrelet is ~ 0.35 miles away from the nearest musical stage site for the events (see attached Marbled murrelet map). The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) conducted Marbled murrelet surveys for the 2016-2017 and 2011-2012 seasons in the Richardson Grove State Park. The surveys were conducted as part of improvements proposed for the U.S. Highway 101 that runs through Richardson Grove. No Marbled murrelet were detected for the duration of the surveys.

The Critical Habitat for the Marbled murrelet exists near and within Richardson Grove State Park and is located ~0.35 miles from the nearest music stage site. Additionally, no vegetation will be removed as part of the events. Even if birds are nesting within the Critical Habitat, the noise disturbance is expected to be minimal and not result in a negative impact to the species. Additionally, the designated Critical Habitat for the species is located adjacent to Highway 101. The existing highway is a source of pre-existing elevated ambient noise to the surrounding area. The average ambient noise due to traffic on highway 101 is categorized as "high" or "very high" in the USFWS guidelines (USFWS 2006). The lack of suitable habitat for the species within ~0.35 miles of nearest stage site coupled with of the "high" or "very high" pre-existing ambient noise associated with Highway 101 makes it unlikely that the events will have a significant negative impact on the Marbled murrelet. However, the events should minimize potential noise disturbance by constructing performance stages, to the extent feasible, to project noise away from the designated Critical habitat for the Marbled murrelet and from Richardson Grove State Park.

Potential habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) has been mapped in the area surrounding the footprint of the proposed events. No NSO Activity Centers (ACs) are mapped within 1.3 miles of the event location (see attached NSO map). NSO surveys have been conducted in the area from 2019-2022 by Hohman and Associates, Jacobzoon & Associates as well as BBW for neighboring timber harvest plans. No NSO detections or new ACs have been established in the area since 2019. Additionally, no habitat removal is proposed for the temporary event. Since no known NSO ACs or nest sites are known within 1.3 miles of the events, the proposed events are not expected to have a significant negative impact on the NSO.

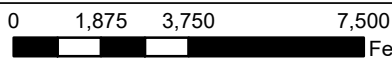
Location Map



Location Map

APNs: 033-271-007, 053-020-011, 053-020-10, 053-020-12, 053-020-13, 053-020-14, & 053-020-16.

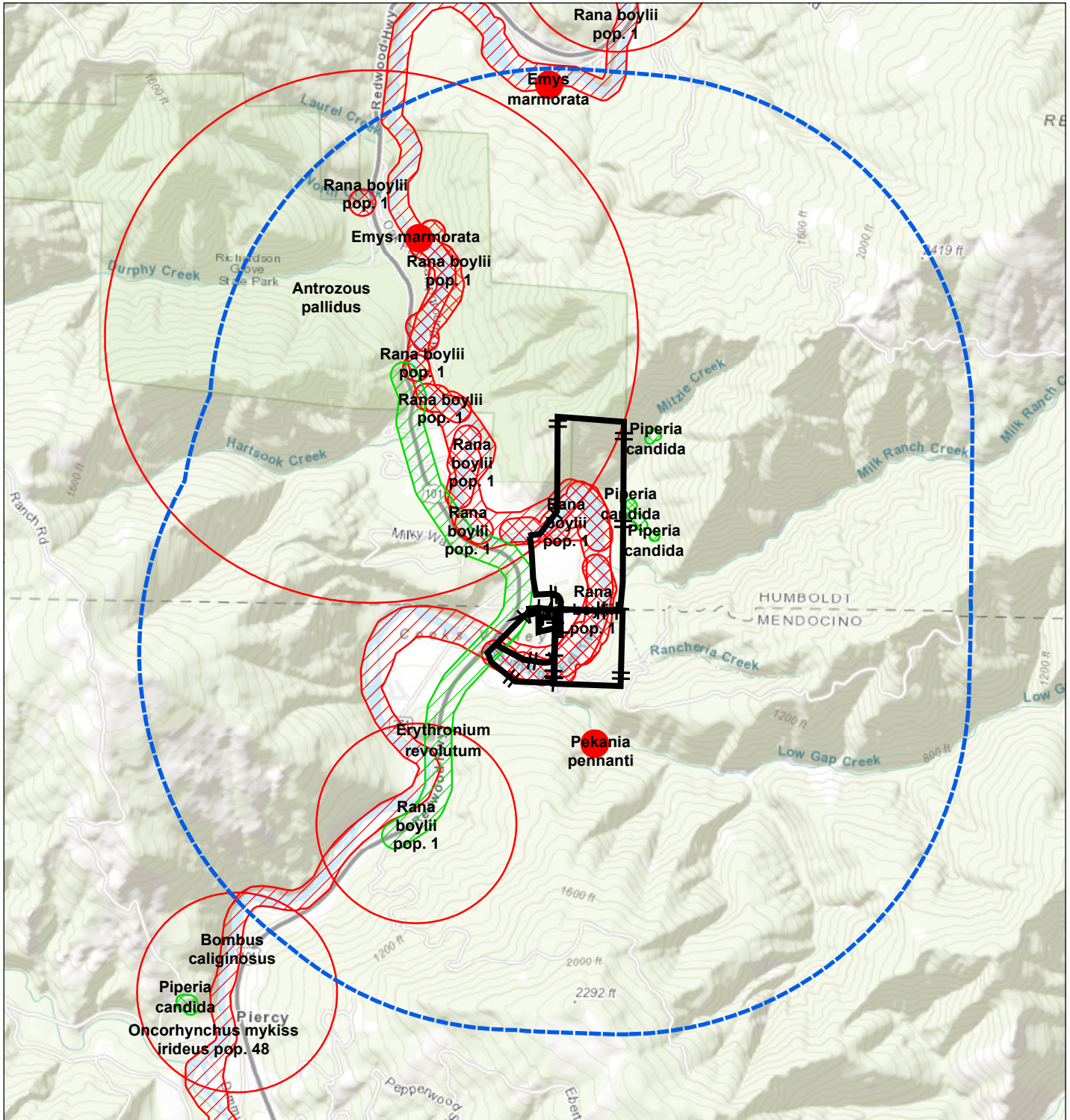
*Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19 T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and Mendocino County
Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'*



Contour Interval: 40'
1 inch = 4,115 feet

Hohman And Associates Forestry Consultants
Date: 1/9/2023









CNDDDB Database Map

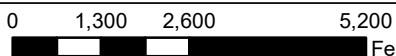


CNDDDB

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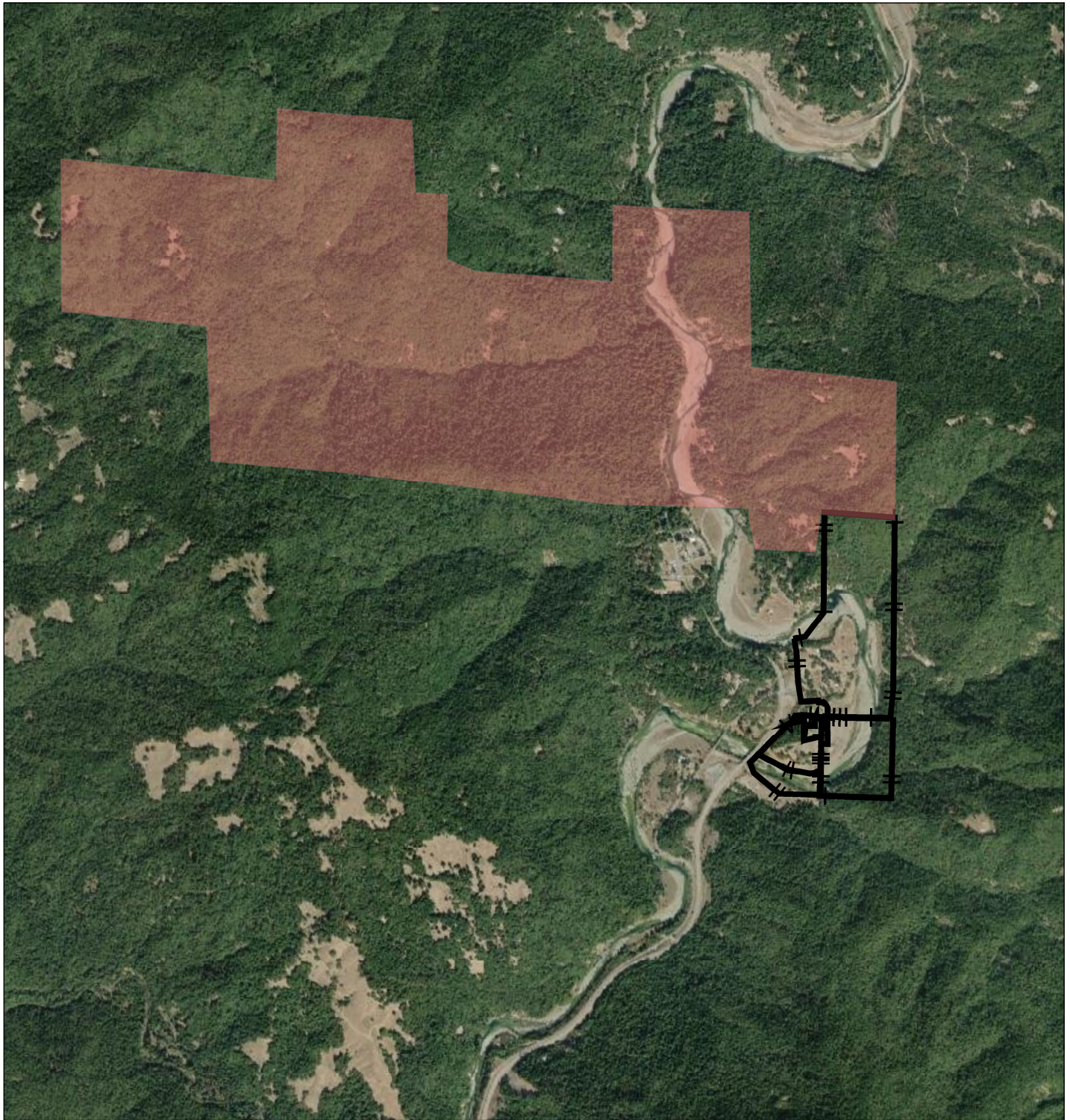
Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19 T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and Mendocino County
 Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'

-  Parcel Boundary
-  1.3 mi buffer
-  Plant (specific)
-  Plant (non-specific)
-  Animal (80m)
-  Animal (specific)
-  Animal (non-specific)
-  Animal (circular)



Contour Interval: 40'
 1 inch = 2,827 feet

MAMU Critical Habitat Map



MAMU Map

APNs: 033-271-007, 053-020-011, 053-020-10, 053-020-12, 053-020-13, 053-020-14, & 053-020-16.

Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19
T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and
Mendocino County
Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'



Parcel Boundary



MAMU Critical Habitat



0 1,200 2,400 4,800

Feet

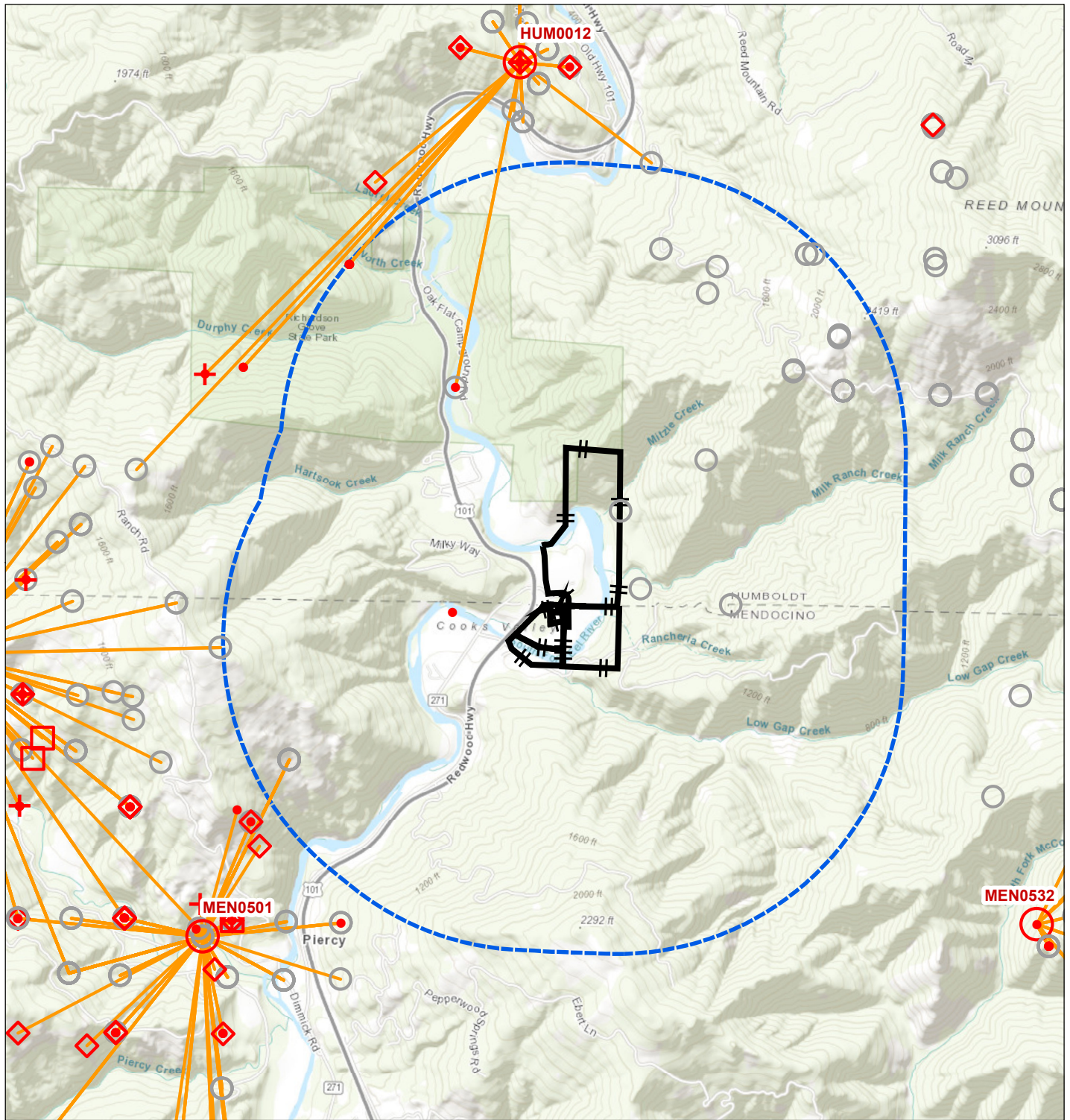
Contour Interval: 40'

1 inch = 2,660 feet

Hohman And Associates Forestry Consultants

Date: 1/9/2023






NSO Database Map







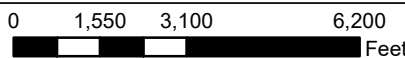
NSO Database Check

APNs: 033-271-007, 053-020-011, 053-020-10, 053-020-12, 053-020-13, 053-020-14, & 053-020-16.

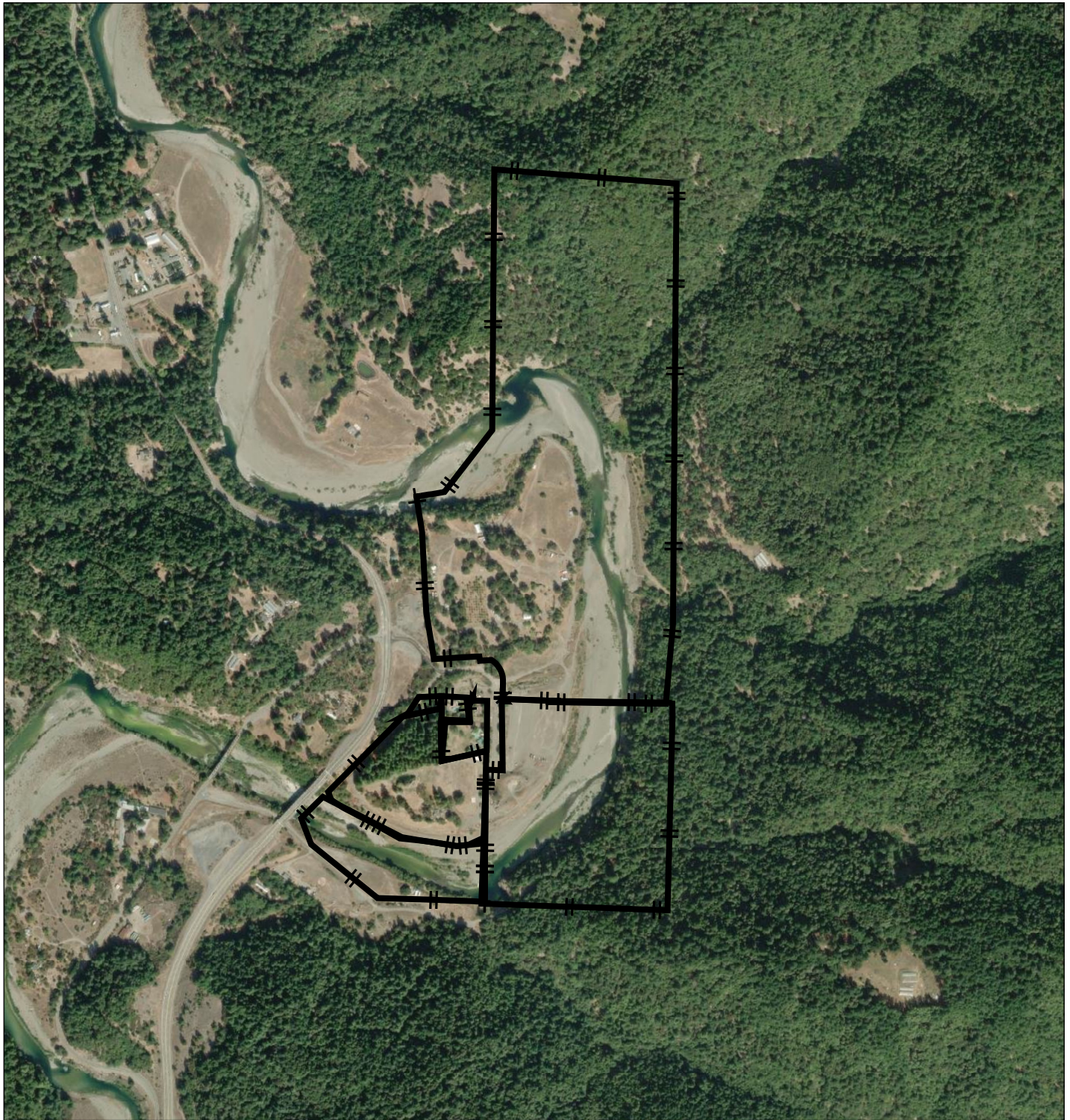
Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19 T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and Mendocino County
Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'

-  Parcel Boundary
-  1.3 mi buffer
-  Nest
-  Young
-  Pair

-  Other Positive Observation
-  Negative Observation
-  Activity Center
-  Spotted Owl Spider Diagram



Contour Interval: 40'
1 inch = 3,440 feet



Imagery

APNs: 033-271-007, 053-020-011, 053-020-10, 053-020-12, 053-020-13, 053-020-14, & 053-020-16.

*Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19
T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and
Mendocino County
Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'*



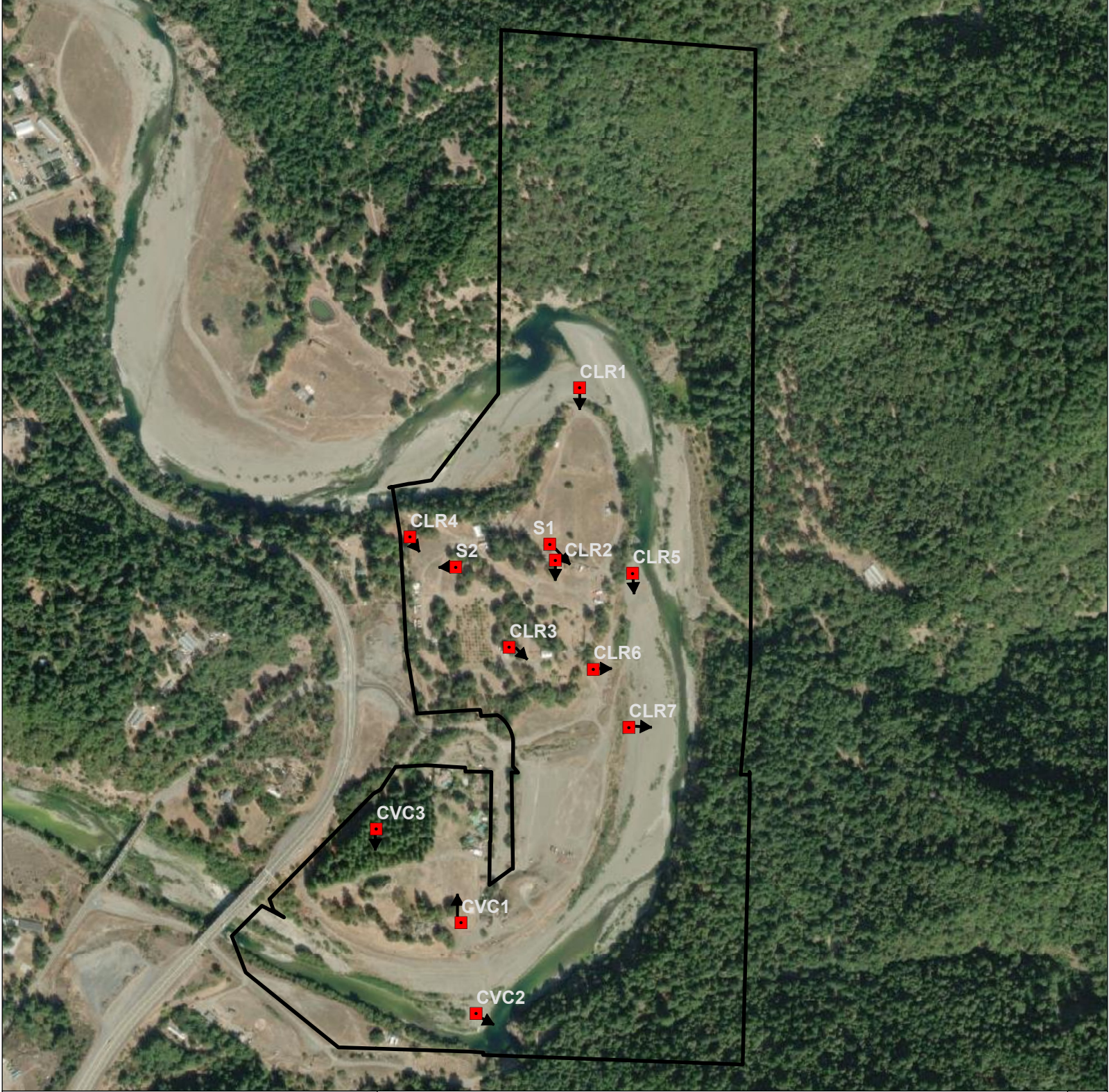
0 475 950 1,900

Contour Interval: 40'

Hohman And Associates Forestry Consultants

Feet 1 inch = 1,026 feet




Date: 1/9/2023

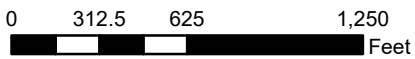


Stage Locations

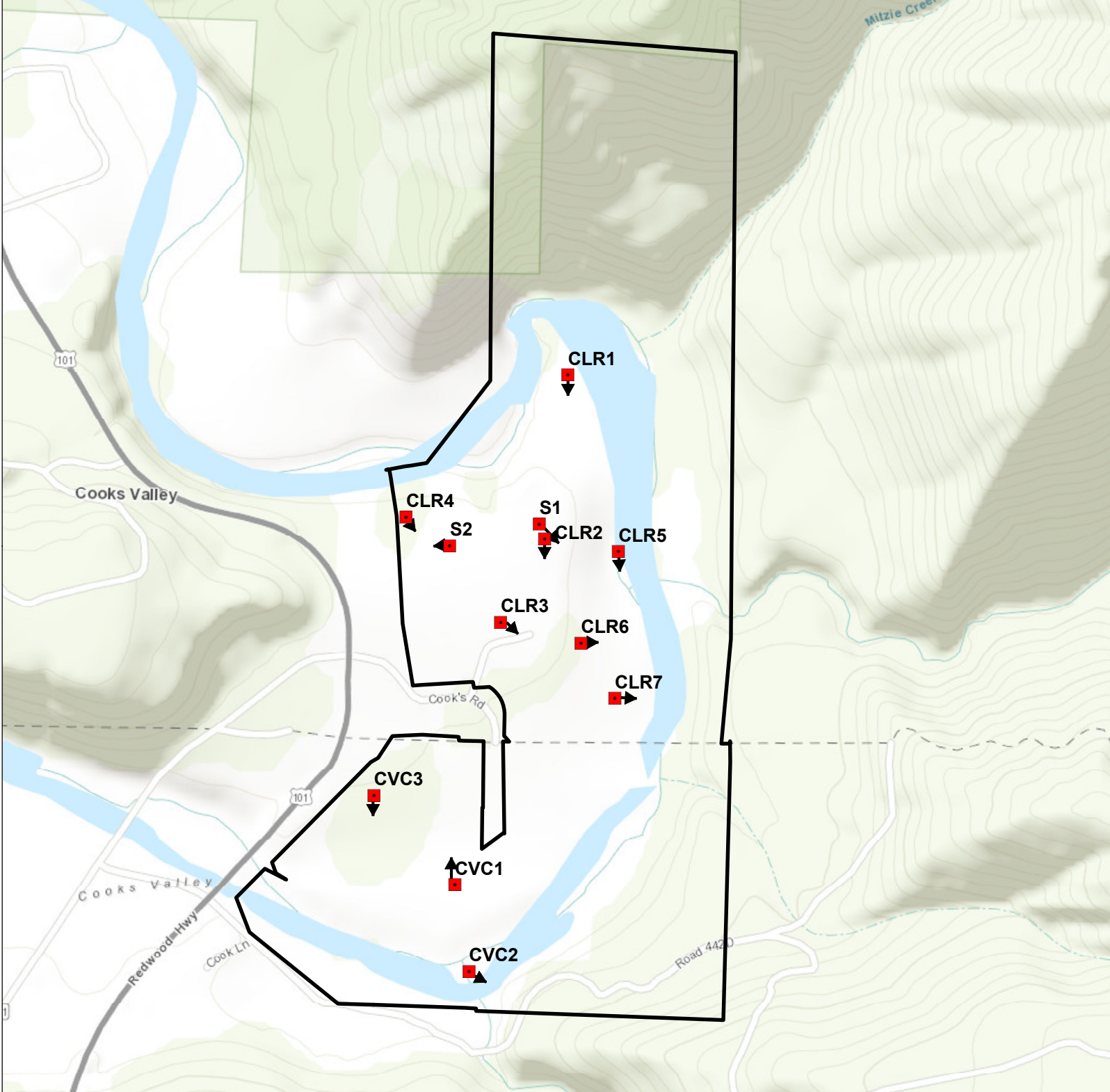
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*Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19 T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and Mendocino County
Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'*

-  Parcel Boundaries
-  Stage Locations
-  Sound Projection






Contour Interval: 40'
1 inch = 683 feet

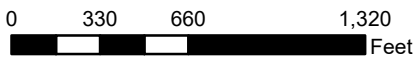


Stage Locations

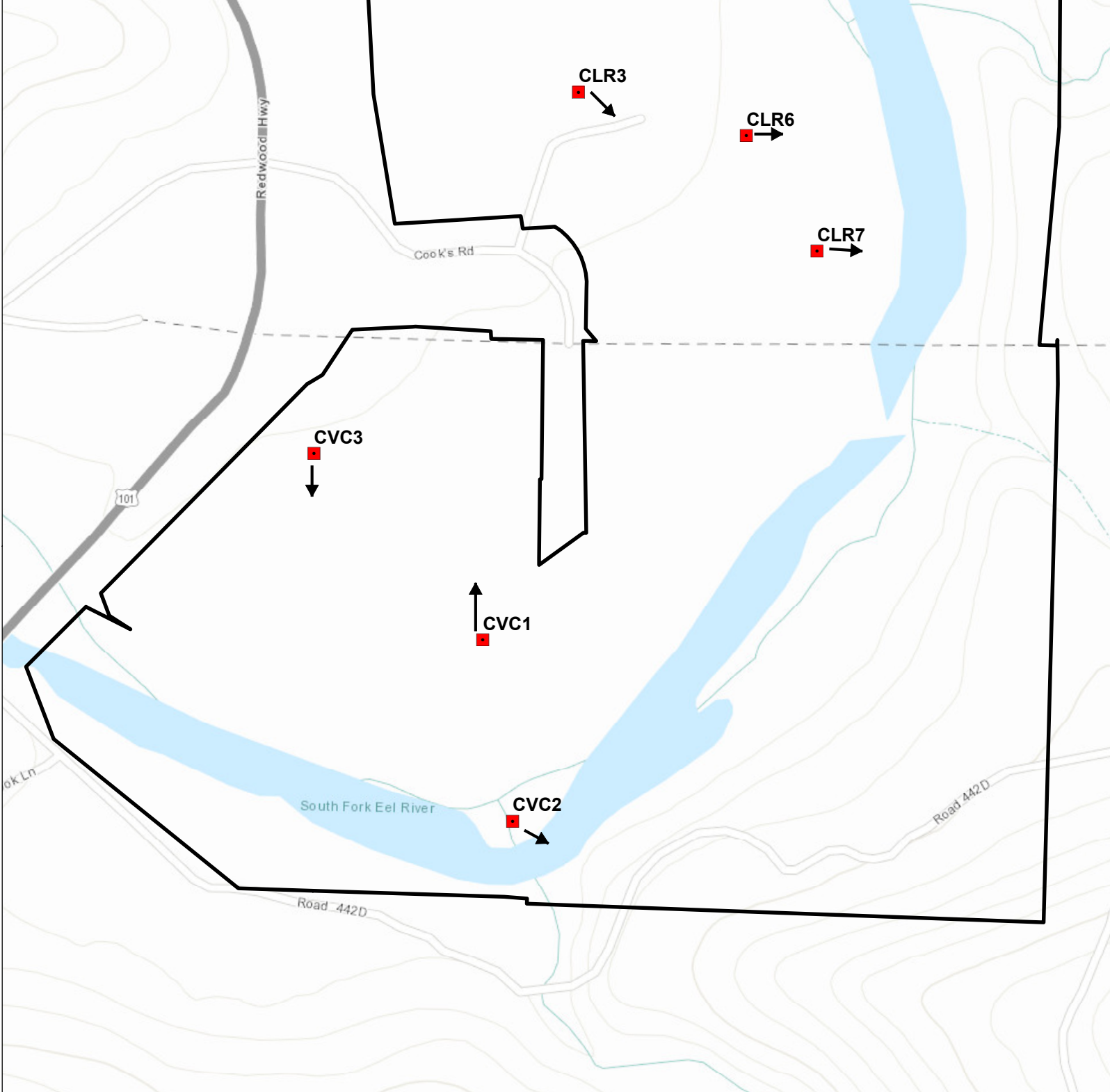
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*Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19
T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and
Mendocino County
Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'*

-  Parcel Boundaries
-  Stage Locations
-  Sound Projection






Contour Interval: 40'
1 inch = 717 feet

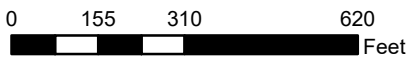


**Stage Locations
Detail 1**

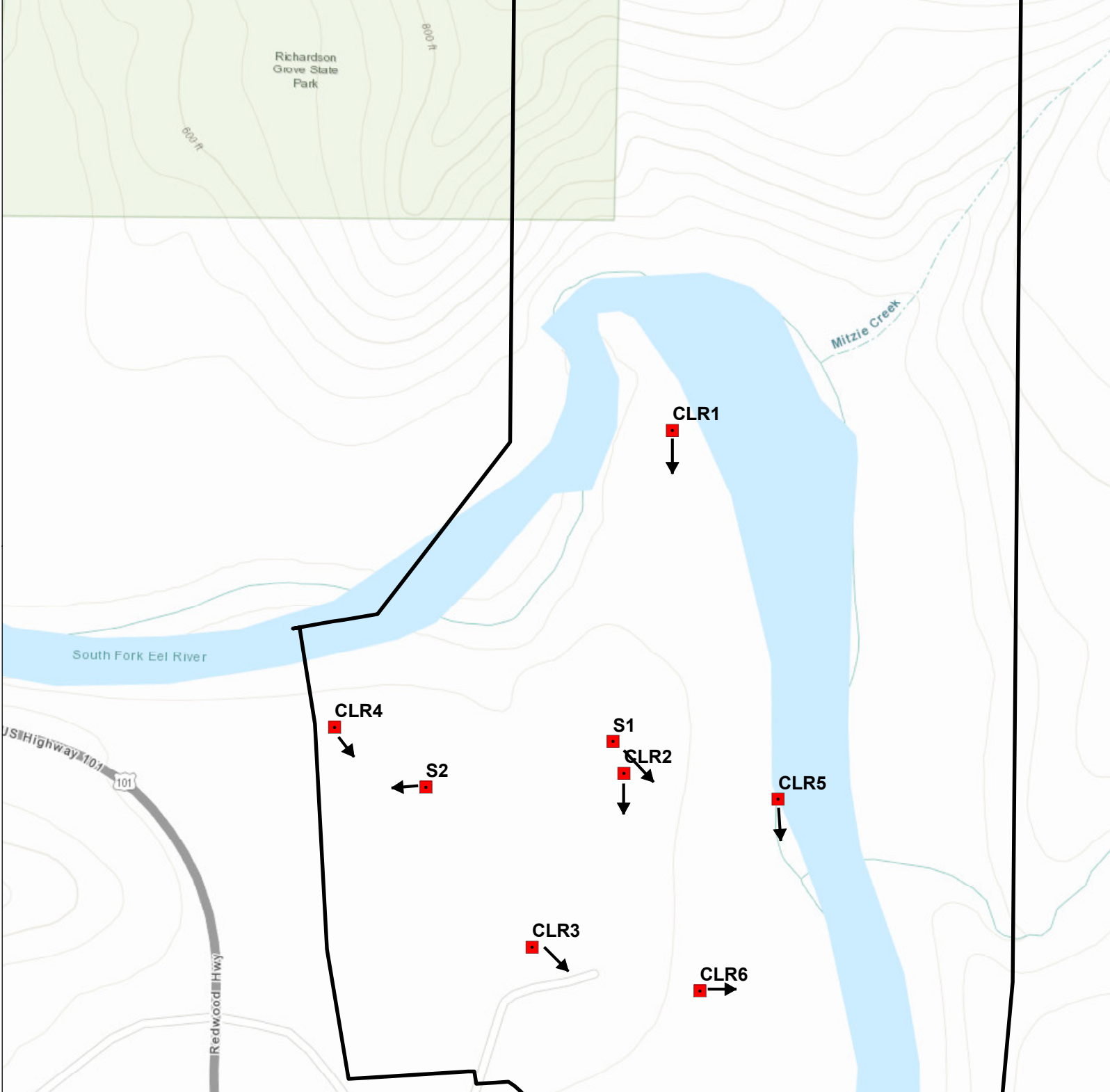
APNs: 033-271-007, 053-020-011, 053-020-10, 053-020-12, 053-020-13, 053-020-14, & 053-020-16

*Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19
T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and
Mendocino County
Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'*

-  Parcel Boundaries
-  Stage Locations
-  Sound Projection






Contour Interval: 40'
1 inch = 344 feet

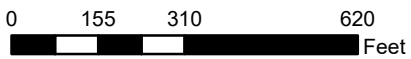


**Stage Locations
Detail 2**

APNs: 033-271-007, 053-020-011, 053-020-10, 053-020-12, 053-020-13, 053-020-14, & 053-020-16

*Sections 24, & 25; T5S; R3E; & Section 19
T5S; T3E HB&M; Humboldt County and
Mendocino County
Located on the Garberville & Piercy 7.5'*

-  Parcel Boundaries
-  Stage Locations
-  Sound Projection



Contour Interval: 40'
1 inch = 344 feet

Stage Use Schedule

Event	Permittee/ Operator	Venue	Stage Name	2023 Date(s) of Use
Summer Art & Music	Mateel Community Center	County Line Ranch	S1	June 23-24
Summer Art & Music	Mateel Community Center	County Line Ranch	S2	June 23-24
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	County Line Ranch	CLR1	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	County Line Ranch	CLR2	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	County Line Ranch	CLR3	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	County Line Ranch	CLR4	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	County Line Ranch	CLR5	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	County Line Ranch	CLR6	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	County Line Ranch	CLR7	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	Cooks Valley Campground	CVC1	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	Cooks Valley Campground	CVC2	July 14-16
Northern Nights Music Festival	NNMF	Cooks Valley Campground	CVC3	July 14-16
Reggae on the River	Mateel Community Center	County Line Ranch	S1	TBD August 3-5 or July 27-29
Reggae on the River	Mateel Community Center	County Line Ranch	S2	TBD August 3-5 or July 27-29
Country Music Weekend	TBD	County Line Ranch	S1	TBD
Country Music Weekend	TBD	County Line Ranch	S2	TBD

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