



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT
CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION

3015 H Street Eureka CA 95501
Phone: (707)445-7541 Fax: (707) 268-3792

Hearing Date: November 19, 2020

To: Humboldt County Planning Commission

From: Steve Werner, Supervising Planner

Subject: **MCSD Habitat Restoration and Public Access**
Case Number PLN-2019-15879
Assessor's Parcel Number 506-341-017, 508-021-006 & 508-021-007
McKinleyville area

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Please contact Joshua Dorris, Planner, at 707-268-3779, or by email at jdorris@co.humboldt.ca.us, if you have any questions about the scheduled public hearing item.

AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL

Hearing Date	Subject	Contact
November 19, 2020	Conditional Use Permit	Joshua Dorris

Project: A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the McKinleyville Community Services District for habitat restoration, establishing public access, and road modifications. A consolidated Coastal Development Permit will be processed by the California Coastal Commission.

Project Location: The project is located in the McKinleyville area, on the west side of Fischer Avenue, approximately 6,200 feet southwest from the intersection of Fischer Avenue and School Road, and at the western portion of School Road from Ocean Drive to Verwer Avenue, on property known to be in Section 01 of Township 06 North, Range 01 West, Humboldt Base & Meridian.

Present Plan Designations: Agriculture Exclusive/Prime Lands, Natural Resource (AEP, NR); McKinleyville Area Plan (MCKAP); Slope Stability: Relatively Stable (A0).

Present Zoning: Agriculture Exclusive, Natural Resources; with combining zone Flood Hazard Areas, Streams and Riparian Corridor Protection (AE-60/F, R; NR/R);

Case Number: PLN -2019-15879

Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 506-341-017, 508-021-006, 508-021-007 and County road rights-of-way

Applicant	Owner	Agent
McKinleyville Community Services District Attn: Greg Orsini PO Box 2037 McKinleyville, CA 95519	McKinleyville Community Services District	GHD Attn: Andrea Hilton 718 3 rd St Eureka, CA 95502

Environmental Review: As Lead Agency under CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) *McKinleyville Community Services District* filed a notice of completion for a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Mad River Floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project (SCH # 2020039047).

Pursuant to Section 15096 (Process for a Responsible Agency) of the CEQA Guidelines, Humboldt County Planning and Building Department, as the CEQA Responsible Agency, is obligated to make a CEQA determination regarding the activity that is proposed to be undertaken.

Major Issues: None.

State Appeal Status: A Consolidated Coastal Development Permit will be processed by the California Coastal Commission.

MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
MAD RIVER FLOODPLAIN AND PUBLIC ACCESS ENHANCEMENT PROJECT CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Case Number: PLN -2019-15879

Assessor's Parcel Number 506-341-017, 508-021-006 & 508-021-007

Recommended Commission Action:

1. Describe the application as part of the Consent Agenda.
2. Survey the audience for any person who would like to discuss the application.
3. If no one requests discussion, make the following motion to approve the application as a part of the consent agenda:

Find the proposed project consistent with Section 15096 (Process for a Responsible Agency) of the CEQA Guidelines, that all significant environmental impacts have been addressed in the MND for the project, and that no new changes or alterations have been made that require additional environmental review, and make all of the required findings for approval of the Conditional Use Permit based on evidence in the staff report and any public testimony, and adopt the Resolution approving the proposed McKinleyville Community Services District Mad River Floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project Conditional Use Permit subject to the recommended conditions.

Executive Summary: A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for McKinleyville Community Services District for habitat restoration, establishing public access, and road modifications.

Habitat Restoration

Habitat Restoration would include removing infrastructure in the floodplain to restore a more natural connection to the Mad River and thereby increase the quantity and quality of available salmonid habitat on the Mad River watershed and includes 1) Decommission and revegetate 4.25 acres of infrastructure in the floodplain currently being utilized as percolation ponds; 2) after decommissioning the ponds, establish 2.0 acres of new wetland within the depression, 1.4 new acres of open water to be used as off-channel rearing refugia habitat for salmonids, and 0.5 new acres of riparian habitat; 3) establish a 1,775 foot channel to connect the river to the pond increasing accessibility for juvenile fish and to avoid stranding in the decommissioned pond footprint; and 4) off-channel refugia will be created by reconnecting the river to the floodplain through the project area and establishment of natural features.

Public Access

Public Access would include: 1) a ADA compliant access to an overlook of the Mad River from the paved School Road Trail; 2) a trail from the overlook to the floodplain and a defined river access point; 3) instructional and interpretive signage and bench resting sites; 4) parallel parking along School Road to include an ADA parking stall and five additional parking spots. Parking to include a safe turnaround for traffic circulation.

Road Modifications

Road Modifications would include from the westerly end of School Road (a county-maintained road) from Ocean Drive (a county-maintained road) to Verwer Avenue (a non-county-maintained road) constructing a turnaround area prior to Verwer Avenue; establishing no parking anytime zones to facilitate vehicles using the turnaround area; signing and striping the no parking zones; placing rocks, bollards, logs, or other materials to channelize traffic and control parking; constructing curbs, dikes, swales, and ditches to control storm water runoff; improving storm water quality by constructing/using best management practices; landscaping and replanting of areas disturbed by construction; signage directing the public to the river access; enhancing road signage along School Road and Ocean Drive; and reconfiguring how Verwer Avenue intersects School Road. Additional public road right of way may need to be acquired from the property to the south of School Road (APN 508-021-007, McKinleyville Community Services District) in order to construct the turnaround as well as relocating existing fencing to accommodate the turnaround area. Additionally, the project includes

modifications to the southerly end of Verwer Avenue at School Road. These include reconfiguring the road within the existing right of way; placing rocks, bollards, logs, or other materials to channelize traffic and control parking; landscaping and replanting of areas disturbed by construction; repairing the road; and installation of a gate and appurtenances. These appurtenances include, but are not limited to, signage that addresses the use of the Verwer Avenue. Improvements to Verwer Avenue will be funded and constructed by others.

This ambitious project will enhance valuable fish and wildlife habitat as well as enhance public access and recreation opportunities while preserving open space. The origin of the project began in 2012 while MCSD staff conducted permitted county storm drain maintenance because of the flooding caused to its pasture lands. California Department of Fish and Wildlife was called with reports of wetlands being drained. A warden and environmental scientist from the Department contacted our Staff to inquire and requested a site visit. After they determined that the work being conducted was appropriate, conversations continued between CDFW and District Staff about future use of the site and the planned decommissioning of the percolation ponds. The potential for the pond conversion to off stream habitat and grant funding opportunities were discussed that day and later developed into grant applications. The funding for project design and compliance came from: CDFW FRGP; CA State Coastal Conservancy; and USFWS Coastal Program. California Trout Inc was the fiscal sponsor for these funds and MCSD obtained a Habitat Conservation Fund grant that supported design. A project team was developed including multiple local firms and collaboration with the Wiyot tribe. Agency representatives served on the technical review committee from CDFW, SCC, and NOAA.

Residents of the Verwer Court neighborhood at the west terminus of School Road contacted the applicant and county representatives to explore ways to better control traffic circulation and provide a turnaround for westbound traffic seeking to use the new public trail access. This involved a site meeting with the neighborhood and on-going work by Bob Bronkall, Deputy, Director of Public Works, working with property owners to fashion a suite of road modifications to lessen the impact to the neighborhood. MCSD and the project sponsors have participated in these discussions and the proposed measures have become part of the project.

The Mad River Floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project is consistent with the McKinleyville Area Plan (MCAP) and the Humboldt County Zoning Code (HCC) for the following reasons: 1) fish and wildlife habitat restoration and public access facilities are principally permitted and compatible uses in the Natural Resource(NR) land use designation and zone, and are conditionally permitted uses in Agriculture Exclusive Zone and AEP land use designation, 2) the proposed development complies with all development standards of the zone, and 3) the proposed development, with inclusion of road modifications, will not have adverse impacts on the neighborhood or the environment. A consolidated Coastal Development Permit is being processed by the California Coastal Commission.

Based upon the on-site inspection, a review of Planning Division reference sources, and comments from all responding referral agencies, planning staff believes that the applicant has submitted evidence in support of making all of the required findings for approving the Conditional Use Permit.

Alternatives: The Planning Commission could elect not to approve the project, require the applicant to submit further evidence, or modify the project. These alternatives could be implemented if the Commission is unable to make all required findings. Planning Division staff has stated that the required findings in support of the proposal have been made. Consequently, Planning Division staff does not recommend further consideration of the alternatives.

**RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION
OF THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Resolution Number 20-**

**Case Number PLN-2019-15879
Assessor's Parcel Numbers 506-341-017, 508-021-006 & 508-021-007**

Makes the required findings for certifying compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and conditionally approves the McKinleyville Community Services District Mad River Floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project Conditional Use Permit.

WHEREAS, GHD on behalf of McKinleyville Community Services District submitted an application and evidence in support of approving the Conditional Use Permit for habitat restoration, establishing public access, and road modifications; and

WHEREAS, the County Planning Division has reviewed the submitted application and evidence and has referred the application and evidence to reviewing agencies for site inspections, comments and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15096 (Process for a Responsible Agency) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Humboldt County Planning and Building Department, as the CEQA Responsible Agency, is obligated to make a CEQA determination regarding the activity that is proposed to be undertaken; and

WHEREAS, Attachment 2 in the Planning Division staff report includes evidence in support of making all of the required findings for approving the proposed Conditional Use Permit (Case No. PLN -2019-15879); and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on the matter before the Humboldt County Planning Commission on November 19, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, determined, and ordered by the Humboldt County Planning Commission:

1. That proposed project was evaluated under the Environmental Initial Study for the McKinleyville Community Services District Mad River Floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project Conditional Use Permit, and the County of Humboldt, as Responsible Agency pursuant to Section 15096 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, determined that the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration have adequately identified and reduced environmental effects to less than significant and that no further environmental review is required; and
2. Makes the findings in Attachment 2 of the Planning Division staff report for Case Number PLN-2019-15879 based on the submitted evidence; and
3. Approves the Conditional Use Permit Case Number PLN-2019-15879 as recommended and conditioned in Attachment 1.

Adopted after review and consideration of all the evidence on November 19, 2020.

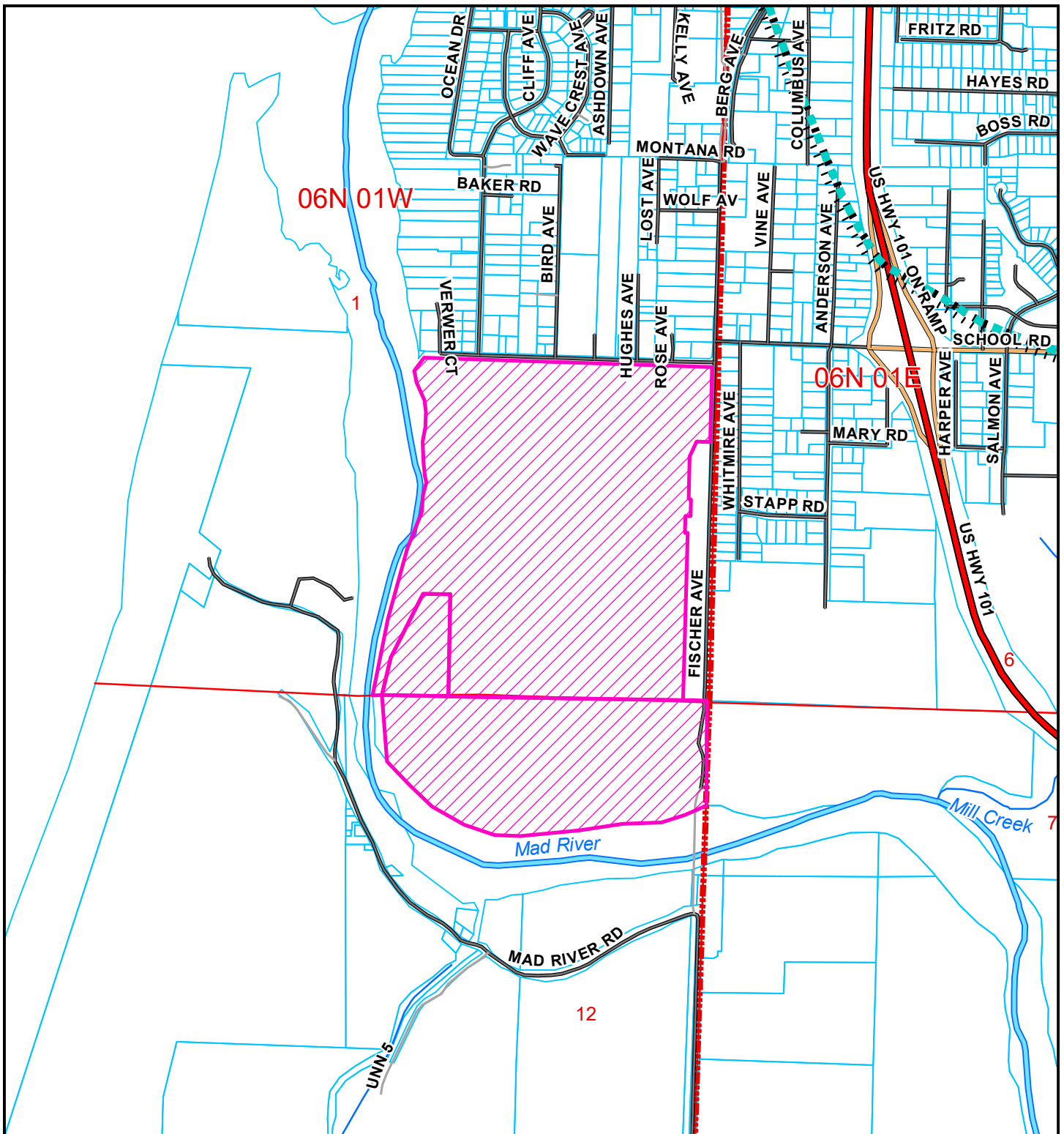
The motion was made by Commissioner _____
and seconded by Commissioner _____

AYES: Commissioners:

ABSTAIN: Commissioners:
ABSENT: Commissioners:
DECISION: Motion carries

I, John H. Ford, Secretary to the Planning Commission of the County of Humboldt, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct record of the action taken on the above entitled matter by said Commission at a meeting held on the date noted above.

John H. Ford, Director
Planning and Building Department



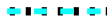
LOCATION MAP

PROPOSED MCKINLEYVILLE CSD CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT & COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT MCKINLEYVILLE AREA

PLN-2019-15879

APN: 508-021-006 et al
T06N R01E S01 HB&M (Tyee City)

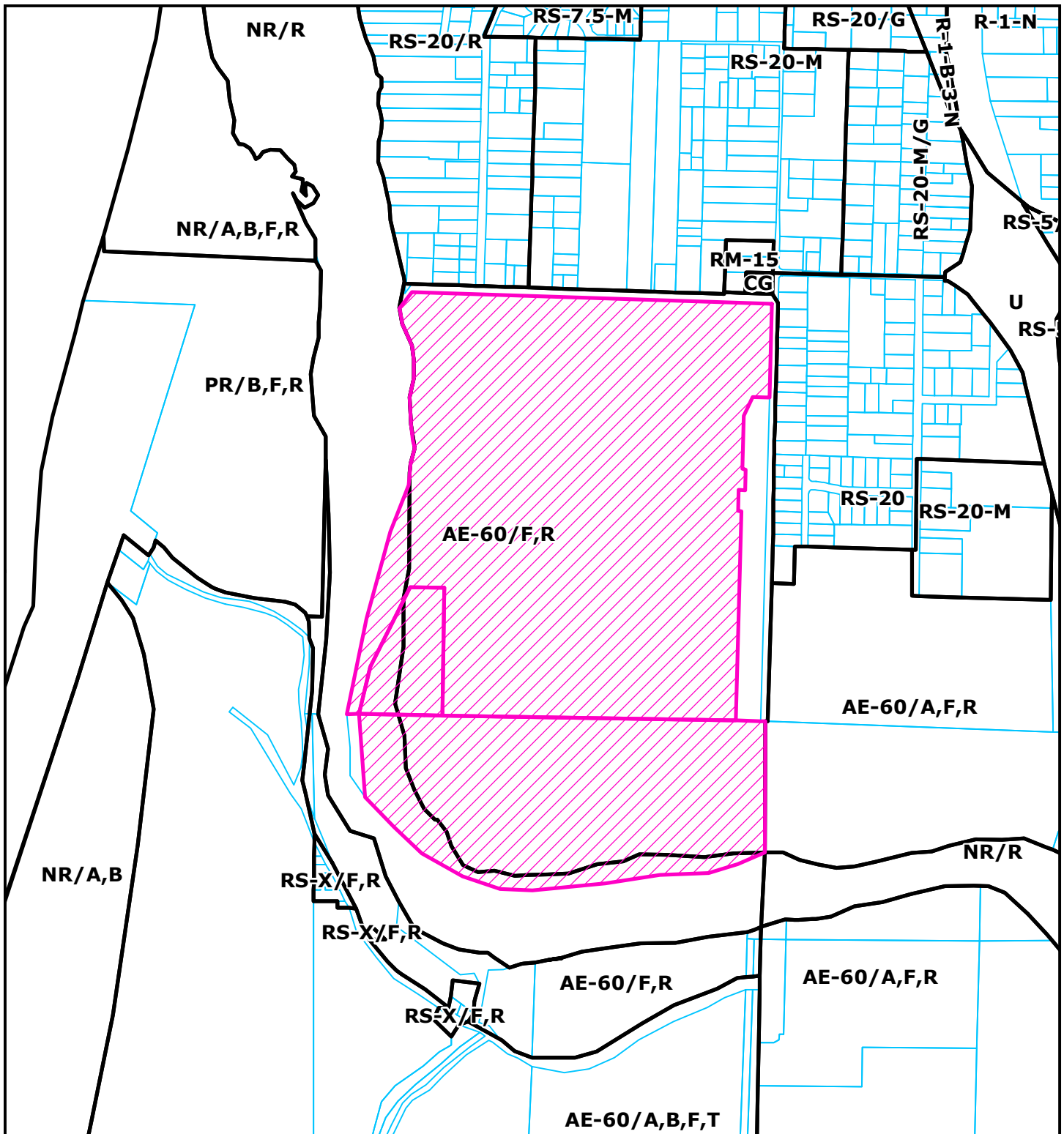
Project Area = 

Coastal Zone Boundary 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.



0 300 600 900 1,200
 Feet



ZONING MAP

**PROPOSED MCKINLEYVILLE CSD
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT &
COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT
MCKINLEYVILLE AREA
PLN-2019-15879**

**APN: 508-021-006 et al
T06N R01E S01 HB&M (Tyee City)**

Project Area = 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.



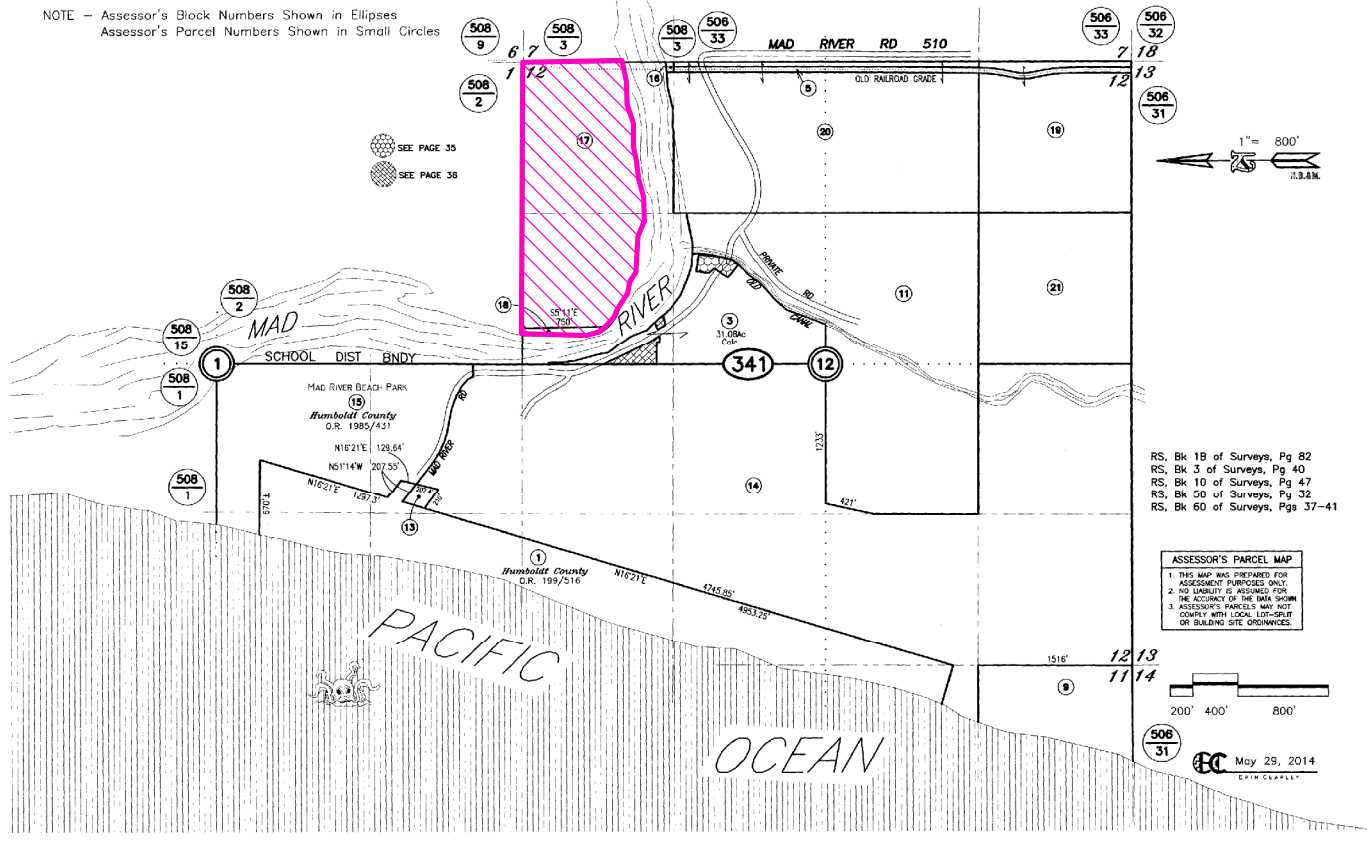
0 250 500 750 1,000
Feet

Assessor's Map Bk. 506, Pg. 34
County of Humboldt, CA.

PTNS SEC 1,11 & 12 T6N R1W H.B.& M.

506-34

NOTE - Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Small Circles



ASSESSOR PARCEL MAP

**PROPOSED MCKINLEYVILLE CSD
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT &
COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT
MCKINLEYVILLE AREA**

PLN-2019-15879

APN: 506-341-017

T06N R01E S01 HB&M (Tyee City)

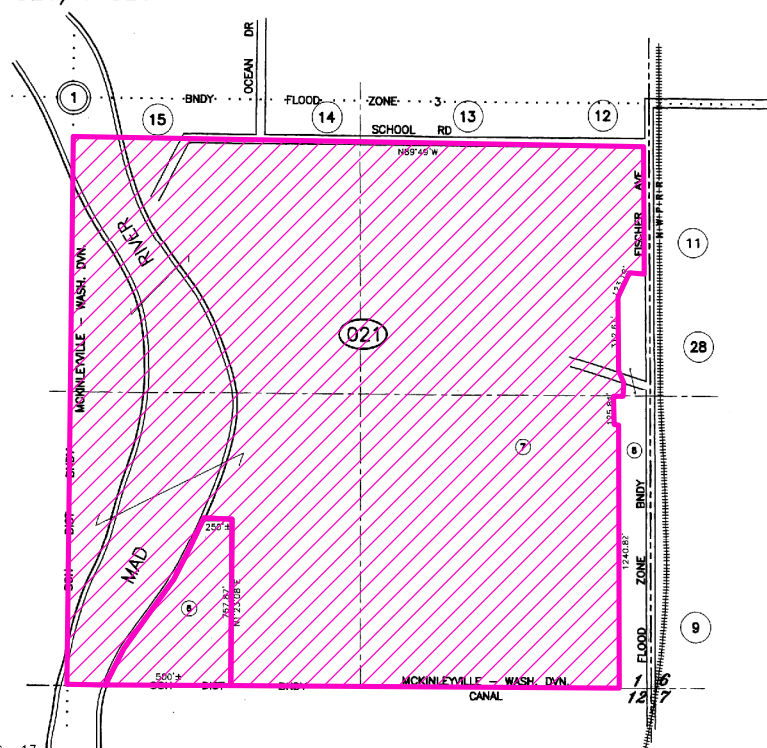
Project Area = 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.



MAP NOT TO SCALE

508-02



ASSESSOR'S PARCEL MAP

1. THIS MAP WAS PREPARED FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY.
2. NO LIABILITY IS ASSUMED FOR THE ACCURACY OF THE DATA SHOWN.
3. ASSESSOR'S PARCELS MAY NOT COMPLY WITH LOCAL LOT-SPLIT OR BUILDING SITE ORDINANCES.

RM, Bk 12 of MAPS, Pg 13
RS, Bk 1B of surveys, Pg 75
RS, Bk 11 of surveys, Pg 162
RS, Bk 12 of surveys, Pg 42
RS, Bk 13 of surveys, Pg 123

NOTE - Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles.

Assessor's Map Bk.508, Pg.02
County of Humboldt, CA.

100' 200' 400'

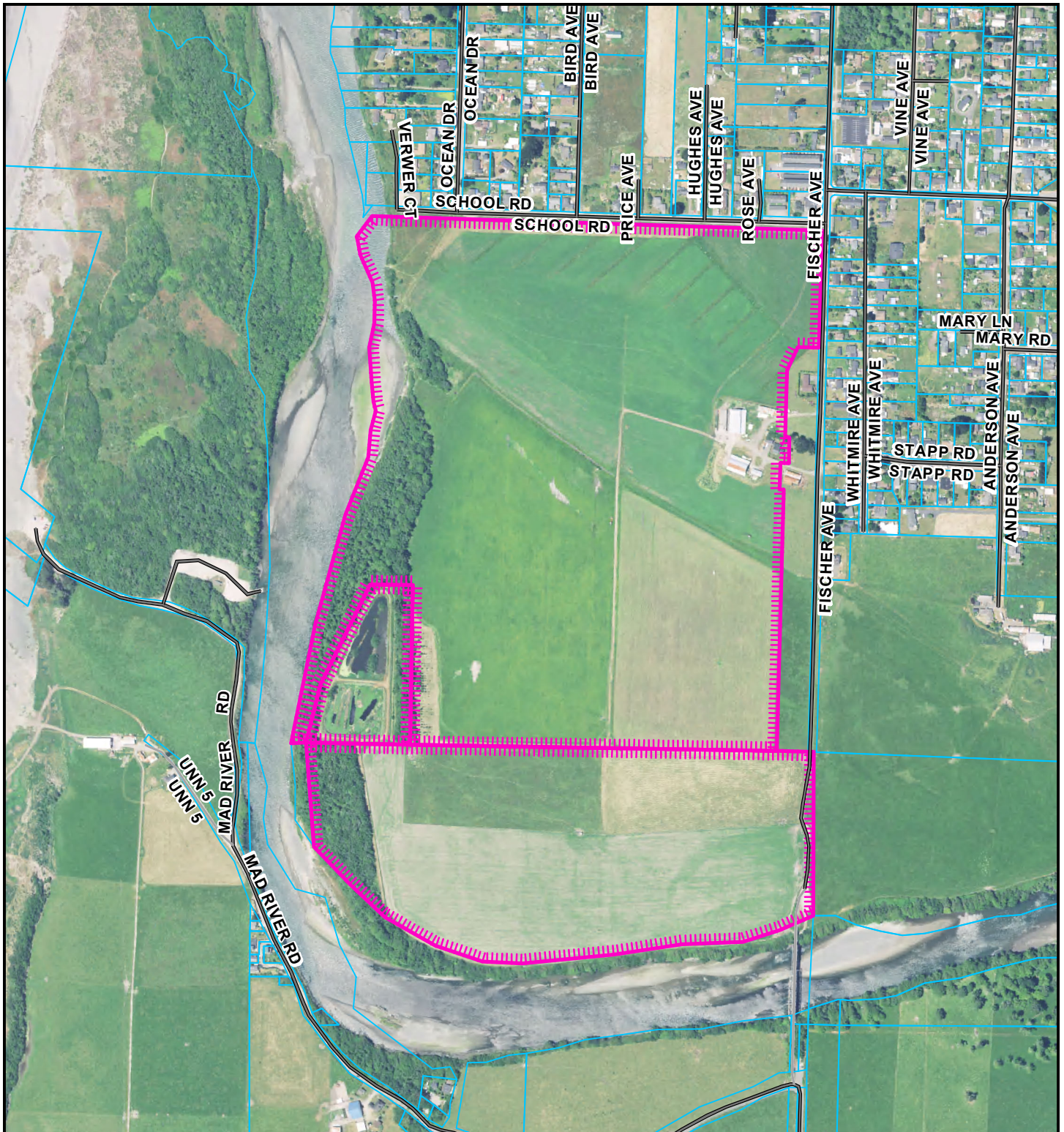
Ⓛ Jun 27, 2011

Project Area =

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.

APN: 508-021-006 & 508-021-007
T06N R01E S01 HB&M (Tyee City)

MAP NOT TO SCALE



AERIAL MAP

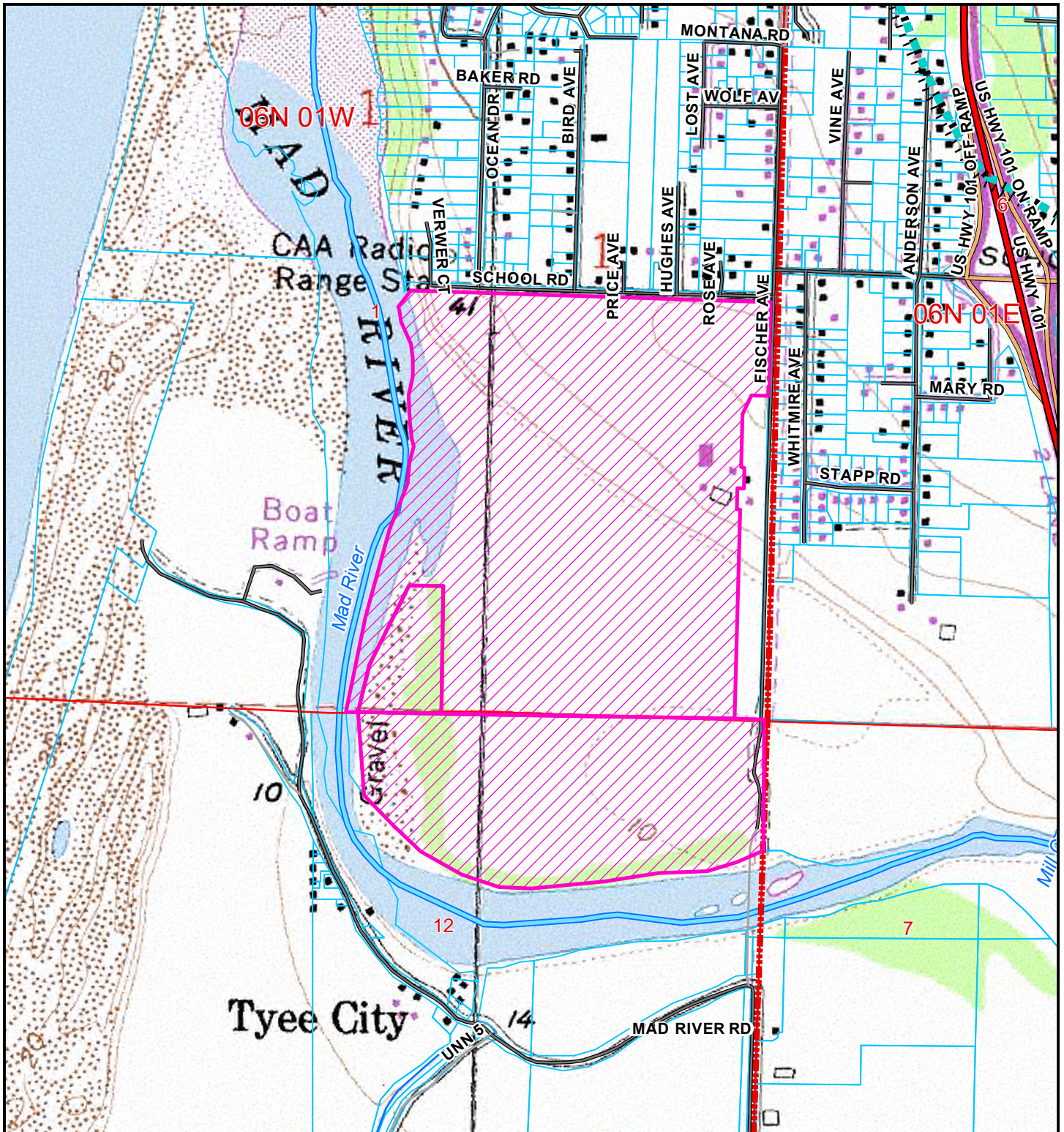
**PROPOSED MCKINLEYVILLE CSD
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT &
COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT
MCKINLEYVILLE AREA
PLN-2019-15879
APN: 508-021-006 et al
T06N R01E S01 HB&M (Tyee City)**

Project Area = 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.



0 250 500 750
Feet



TOPO MAP

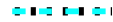
PROPOSED MCKINLEYVILLE CSD CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT & COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT MCKINLEYVILLE AREA

PLN-2019-15879

APN: 508-021-006 et al

T06N R01E S01 HB&M (Tyee City)

Project Area = 

Coastal Zone Boundary 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.



0 250 500 750 1,000
Feet

MAD RIVER ESTUARY RESTORATION: OFF-CHANNEL HABITAT DESIGNS

HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

RECEIVED
OCT - 3 2019
Humboldt County
Building Division



SHEET INDEX

SHEET	DESCRIPTION
G1	COVER SHEET
G2	NOTES
C1	SITE PLAN
C2	DEMOLITION PLAN
C3	GRADING PLAN & PROFILE: STATIONS 12+00 TO 24+00
C4	GRADING PLAN & PROFILE: STATIONS 0+00 TO 12+00
C5	GRADING SECTIONS & TRIBUTARY PROFILES
C6	DESIGN DETAILS



 Northern Hydrology & Engineering Engineering - Hydrology - Geomorphology - Water Resources PO BOX 2515, MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519 (707) 839-2195	DESIGNED: JRP	SUB SHEET NO. G1	COVER MAD RIVER FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION CALTROUT, MCSD, CDFW, SCC	SHEET 1 OF 8
	DRAFTED: CEP, CP			
	TECH. REVIEW: JRP, JKA			
	DATE: 2/15/2018			

GENERAL NOTES

- 1 THE LAND OWNER IS THE MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT. LAND OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION:
GREG ORSINI, GENERAL MANAGER
MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 2037
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
(707) 839-3251
- 2 THE PROJECT ENGINEER INFORMATION:
J. ROSE PATENAUIDE, P.E.
NORTHERN HYDROLOGY & ENGINEERING
P.O. BOX 2315
MCKINLEYVILLE, CA 95519
707-839-2185
- 3 THESE PLANS REPRESENT THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED FOR THE MAD RIVER ESTUARY RESTORATION & OFF-CHANNEL HABITAT PROJECT.
- 4 ALL IMPROVEMENTS SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED UNDER THE APPROVAL, INSPECTION AND TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE OWNER OR OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE, AND PROJECT ENGINEER. ALL OF THE CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS SHALL COMPLY WITH THESE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND NOTES.
- 5 SHOULD IT APPEAR THAT THE WORK TO BE DONE, OR ANY MATTER RELATIVE THERETO, IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY DETAILED OR EXPLAINED ON THESE PLANS, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CONTACT THE PROJECT ENGINEER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLAN PREPARATION BEFORE CONDUCTING WORK ON THAT PORTION OF THE PROJECT.
- 6 IT WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR TO NOTIFY UNDERGROUND SEARCH ALERT (USA) PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORK TO VERIFY THE LOCATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA.
- 7 THE LOCATION OF ANY UTILITIES SHOWN ON THESE PLANS IS APPROXIMATE AND FOR INFORMATION ONLY. THE LOCATION, TYPE, SIZE AND/OR DEPTH INDICATED WERE OBTAINED FROM SOURCES OF VARYING RELIABILITY. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING THE ACTUAL LOCATION, TYPE, SIZE AND/OR DEPTH PRIOR TO PERFORMING ANY EXCAVATION OR OTHER WORK CLOSE TO ANY UNDERGROUND PIPELINE, CONDUIT, DUCTS, WIRE, STRUCTURE OR OTHER UTILITIES SUBJECT TO CONCERNS FOR SAFETY, DISPLACEMENT, AND/OR DAMAGE BY REASONS OF THEIR OPERATIONS.
- 8 CONSTRUCTION HOURS SHALL BE MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY BETWEEN 7:00 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M. UNLESS PRIOR APPROVAL IS RECEIVED FROM THE CONSULTANT TEAM.
- 9 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL AGREE TO ASSUME SOLE AND COMPLETE RESPONSIBILITY FOR JOB SITE CONDITIONS DURING THE COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION OF THIS PROJECT, INCLUDING SAFETY OF ALL PERSONS AND PROPERTY, AND FURTHER AGREES THAT THIS REQUIREMENT SHALL APPLY CONTINUOUSLY AND NOT BE LIMITED TO NORMAL WORKING HOURS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OUTLINED BY THE PROJECT CONTRACT.
- 10 IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR AND HIS/HER SUBCONTRACTOR(S) TO EXAMINE THE PROJECT SITE PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORK. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE WORK IS TO BE PERFORMED, SUCH AS THE NATURE AND LOCATION OF THE WORK AND THE GENERAL AND LOCAL CONDITIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE AFFECTING THE AVAILABILITY OF TRANSPORTATION, ACCESS TO AND FROM THE SITE, THE DISPOSAL, HANDLING, AND STORAGE OF MATERIALS, AVAILABILITY OF LABOR, WATER, ELECTRICITY, ROADS, THE UNCERTAINTIES OF WEATHER, THE CONDITIONS OF THE GROUND, SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE MATERIALS, THE EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES NEEDED PRIMARILY FOR AND DURING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK, AND THE COSTS THEREOF. ANY FAILURE BY THE CONTRACTOR AND SUBCONTRACTOR(S) TO ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH ALL THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION WILL NOT RELIEVE HIM FROM RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPERLY ESTIMATING THE DIFFICULTY AND COST OF SUCCESSFULLY PERFORMING THE WORK.
- 11 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN A SET OF PLANS ON THE JOB SHOWING "AS-CONSTRUCTED" CHANGES MADE TO DATE. UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SUPPLY TO THE OWNER, OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE, OR PROJECT ENGINEER A SET OF PLANS, MARKED UP TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE CONSULTANT TEAM, REFLECTING THE AS-CONSTRUCTED MODIFICATIONS.
- 12 ALL REVISIONS TO THESE PLANS MUST BE MADE BY THE PROJECT ENGINEER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLAN PREPARATION, AND SHALL ACCURATELY BE SHOWN ON REVISED PLANS.
- 13 COPIES OF ALL ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE CONTRACTOR AND MUST BE KEPT ON-SITE AT ALL TIMES DURING CONSTRUCTION. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL OBTAIN AT HIS/HER OWN EXPENSE ALL PERMITS, LICENSES, INSURANCE POLICIES, ETC., NOT ALREADY OBTAINED BY THE CONSULTANT TEAM, AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH STATE AND LOCAL LAWS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK. CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLYING WITH ALL PERMITS.

- 14 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE ON THE PLANS, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL EXISTING SURVEY MONUMENTS AND OTHER SURVEY MARKERS IDENTIFIED IN THESE PLANS.
- 15 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE, PLACE, AND MAINTAIN ALL LIGHTS, SIGNS, BARRICADES, FLAG PERSONS, PILOT CAR, OR OTHER DEVICES NECESSARY TO CONTROL TRAFFIC THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION AREA AND FOR PUBLIC SAFETY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE PLANS, THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND CHAPTER 5 OF THE STATE TRAFFIC MANUAL, "MANUAL OF TRAFFIC CONTROLS."
- 16 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL USE ONLY DESIGNATED SPECIFIC SITES FOR STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS AS SHOWN ON THESE PLANS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY OF ALL EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS.
- 17 AT NO TIME SHALL THE CONTRACTOR UNDERTAKE TO CLOSE OFF ANY EXISTING UTILITY LINES OR OPEN VALVES OR TAKE ANY OTHER ACTION WHICH WOULD AFFECT THE OPERATION OF EXISTING WATER OR UTILITY SYSTEMS WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE OWNER OR OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE. APPROVAL SHALL BE REQUESTED AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE TIME THAT THE INTERRUPTION OF THE EXISTING SYSTEM IS REQUIRED. ANY INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE TO UTILITY SERVICES, WHETHER INTENTIONAL OR NOT, MUST BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM TIME PERIOD.
- 18 THE OWNER, OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE, OR PROJECT ENGINEER WILL FURNISH THE CONSTRUCTION STAKING TO THE CONTRACTOR.
- 19 ALL CONTROL STATIONING AND DATA DIMENSIONING ARE REFERENCED TO THE CENTERLINE OF THE DESIGN CHANNEL SHOWN UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
- 20 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PRESERVE AND PROTECT ALL EXISTING UTILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE LIMITS OF THE PROJECT AREA.
- 21 EQUIPMENT EXCLUSION AREAS SHALL BE CLEARLY FLAGGED BY THE OWNER OR OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION TO SERVE AS A BUFFER FOR SENSITIVE SPECIES AND RESOURCES.
- 22 NO TREES OR WETLAND VEGETATION SHALL BE REMOVED UNLESS THEY ARE SHOWN AND NOTED TO BE REMOVED ON THE PLANS, OR AS DIRECTLY SPECIFIED ON-SITE BY THE OWNER OR OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE.
- 23 IF, DURING CONSTRUCTION, ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS ARE ENCOUNTERED, CONSTRUCTION IN THE VICINITY SHALL BE HALTED, AND THE OWNER, OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE, OR PROJECT ENGINEER SHALL BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY.
- 24 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL COORDINATE THE WORK WITH OTHERS AT THE LIMITS OF THE CONSTRUCTION LINES SHOWN IN THESE PLANS.
- 25 EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES SHALL CONTAIN AND CONTROL EROSION AND PROVIDE FOR THE SAFE DISCHARGE OF SILT-FREE RUNOFF FROM THE PROJECT SITE INTO RECEIVING WATER BODIES. SUITABLE SUPPLIES FOR MITIGATING SEDIMENT IMPACTS TO ONSITE WATERWAYS SHALL BE MAINTAINED AT THE PROJECT SITE BY THE CONTRACTOR DURING CONSTRUCTION. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING ALL TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL MEASURES. THE EROSION CONTROL MEASURES SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE PLANS, THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS, LOCAL, COUNTY AND STATE ORDINANCES, AND APPLICABLE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CONTACT THE OWNER, OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE, OR PROJECT ENGINEER PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORK FOR A PRE-GRADING INSPECTION OF THE INSTALLED TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL FACILITIES. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL MEASURES THROUGHOUT THE DURATION OF THE PROJECT.
- 26 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL KEEP ALL AREAS GENERATING DUST WELL WATERED DURING THE TERM OF THIS CONTRACT. THIS INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, ACCESS RAMPS, ROADS, FILL AREAS AND ANY OTHER AREAS THAT MAY GENERATE DUST AS A RESULT OF THE CONTRACTOR'S OPERATIONS.
- 27 NONE OF THE NOTES, OR CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS SHALL PRECLUDE THE CONTRACTOR FROM SUBSTITUTION OF MATERIALS OR PRACTICES NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN A TIMELY AND ECONOMICAL MANNER. ANY SUBSTITUTION OR FORGONE INSPECTIONS WITHOUT THE EXPLICIT CONSENT OF THE OWNER, OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE, OR PROJECT ENGINEER BECOME THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR. WHERE THE SPECIFICATIONS, NOTES, OR CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS ARE NOT CONSISTENT WITH LOCAL REGULATIONS, AN EXPLICIT RECONSIDERATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS BY THE CONSULTANT TEAM IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO ENACTMENT OF ANY CHANGES.

DISCLAIMERS

- 1 THE PROJECT ENGINEER RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION OF THESE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR, OR LIABLE FOR, UNAUTHORIZED CHANGES TO OR USES OF THESE PLANS. ALL CHANGES TO THE PLANS MUST BE IN WRITING AND MUST BE APPROVED BY THE PROJECT ENGINEER RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION OF THESE PLANS.

TOPOGRAPHY NOTES

- 1 BEARINGS, DISTANCES AND COORDINATES FOR THESE PLANS ARE BASED ON THE CALIFORNIA STATE PLANE, ZONE 1 NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD83), US FOOT.
- 2 VERTICAL DISTANCE FOR THESE PLANS IS BASED ON THE NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988 (NAVD88), US FOOT.
- 3 TOPOGRAPHY FOR THESE PLANS WAS A COMBINATION OF:
* 2010/2011 COASTAL LIDAR (NOAA 2012)
* 2008 CHANNEL CROSS-SECTIONS SURVEYED BY POINTS WEST SURVEYING AS PART OF THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY MAD RIVER BLUFF RESTORATION PROJECT
* 2013 RIVER BATHYMETRY MEASURED BY GRAHAM MATTHEWS & ASSOCIATES AFTER THE MAD RIVER BLUFF RESTORATION PROJECT WAS IMPLEMENTED
* ADDITIONAL TOPOGRAPHY WAS COLLECTED BY NHE WITH A SURVEYING TOTAL STATION UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE PROJECT ENGINEER.
- 4 ALL CONTOURS ILLUSTRATED IN THESE PLANS ARE AT AN INTERVAL OF 1.0 FEET.

PROJECT TOTAL CUT/FILL VOLUMES AND AREAS

LOCATION	GRADING AREA (AC)	CUT (CY)	FILL (CY)
POND TOP SOIL REMOVAL (TO BE SCREENED AND STOCKPILED)	2.87	4,800	4,800
LEVEE REMOVAL, POND (BELOW TOP SOIL), AND WETLANDS	3.92	11,100	2,700
NORTH AND SOUTH ROAD SURFACES	1.74	0	2,400
BACKWATER CHANNELS	1.28	7,700	0
TO BE HAULED OFF-SITE	N/A	0	13,700
PROJECT TOTAL	6.95	23,600	23,600



Northern
Hydrology &
Engineering

DESIGNED:
JRP
DRAFTED:
CEP, CP
TECH. REVIEW:
JRP, JKA
DATE:
2/15/2018

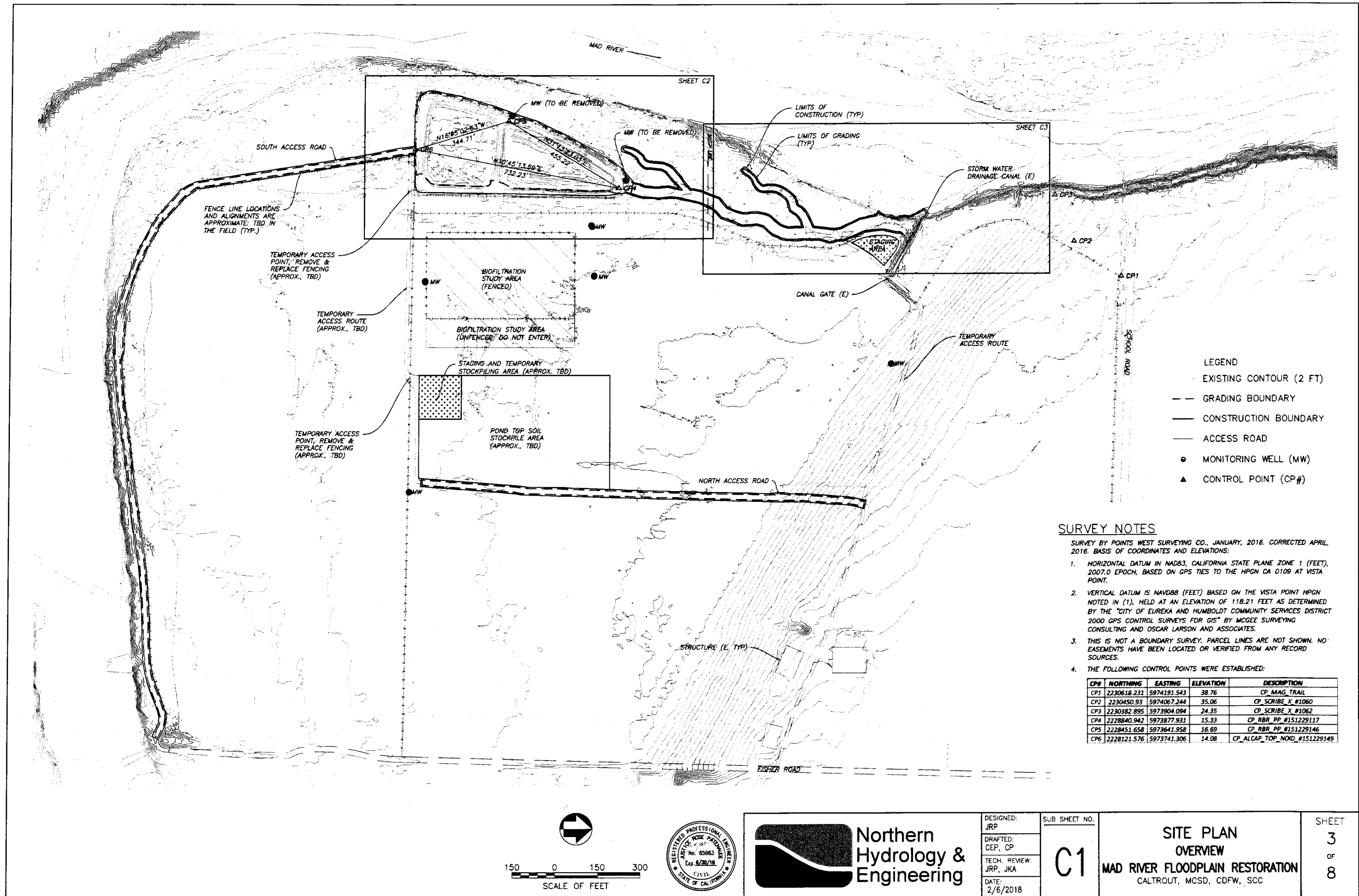
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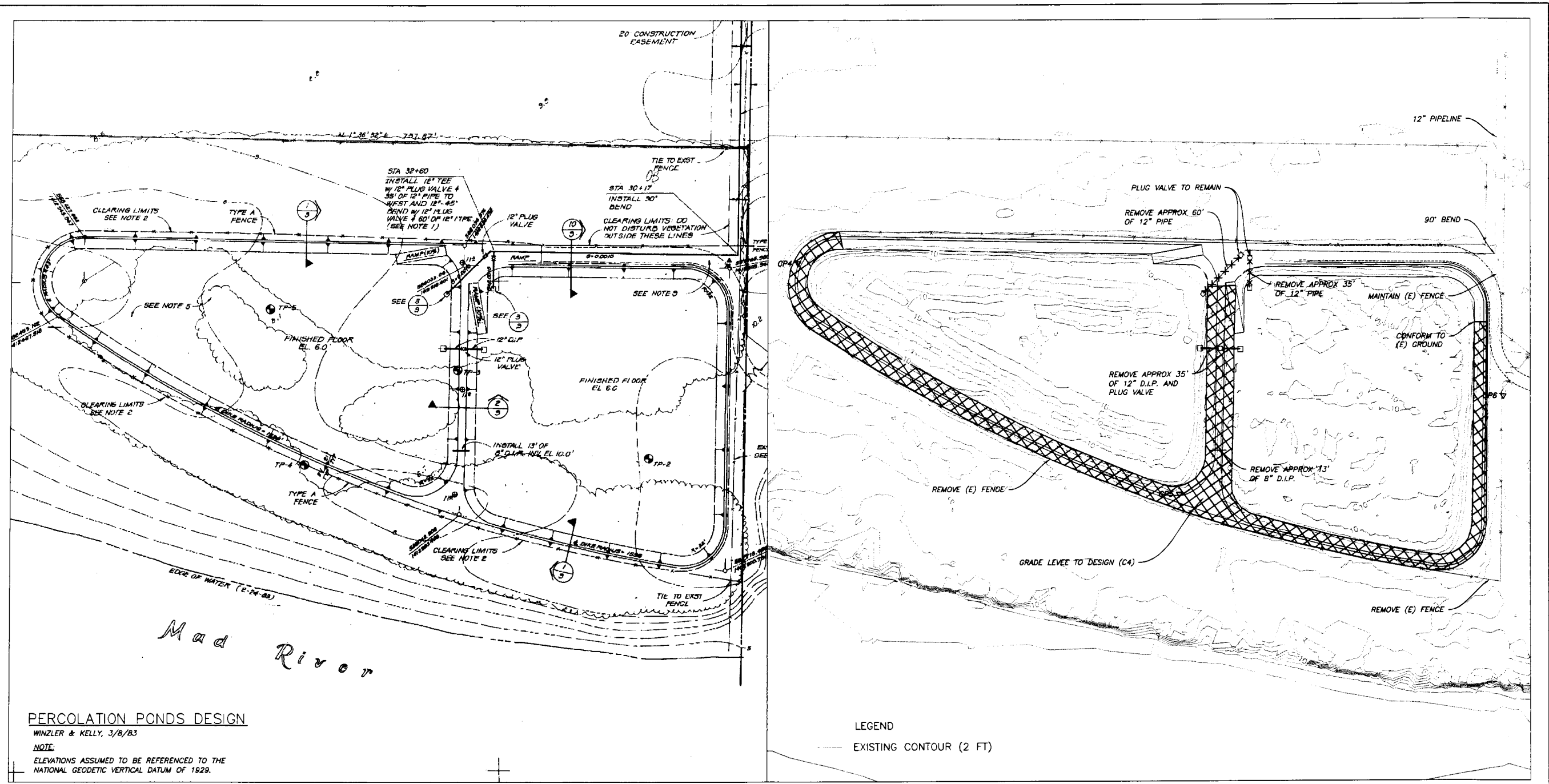
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NOTES

MAD RIVER FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION
CALTROUT, MCSD, CDFW, SCC

SHEET
2
OF
8



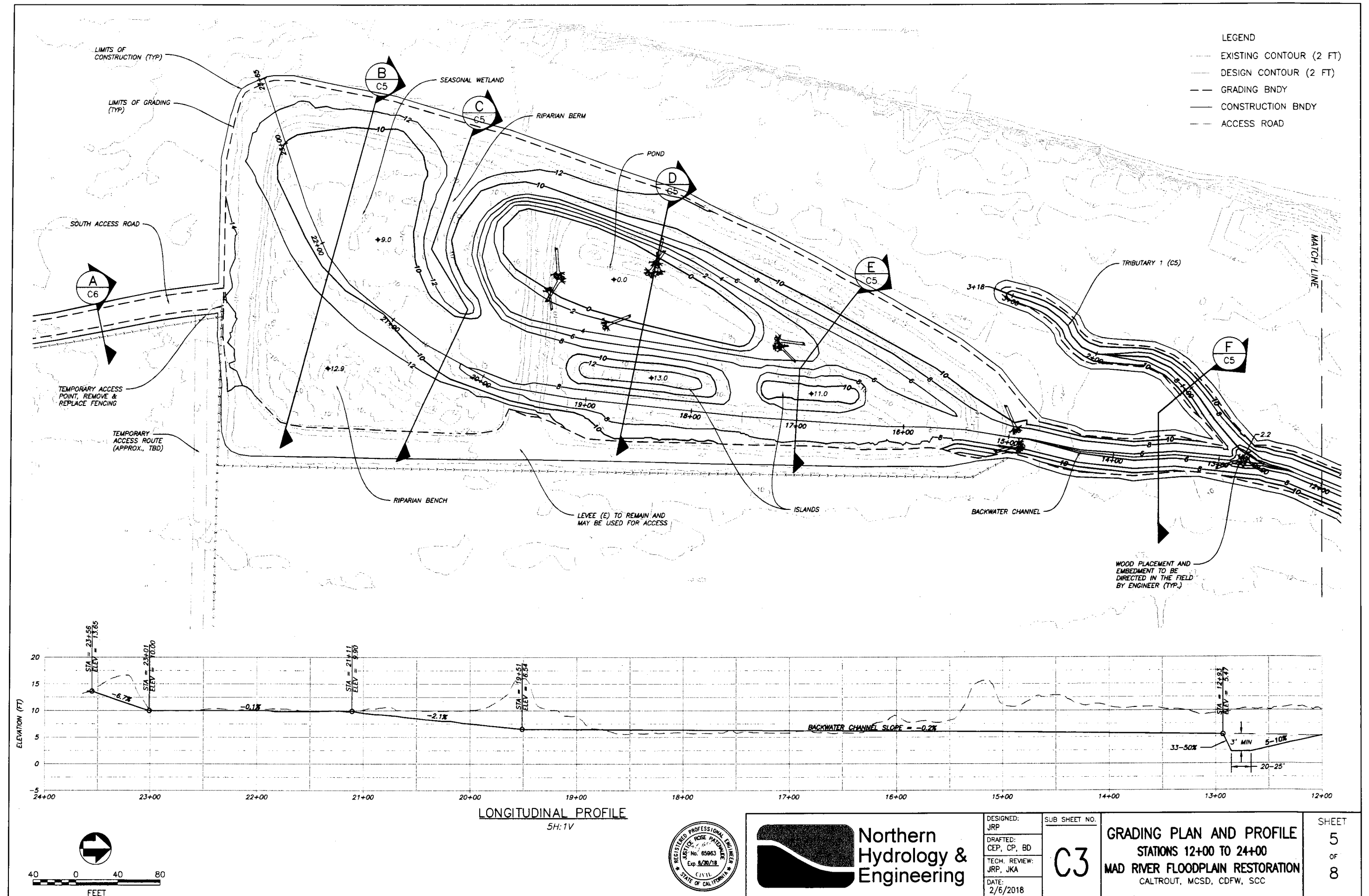


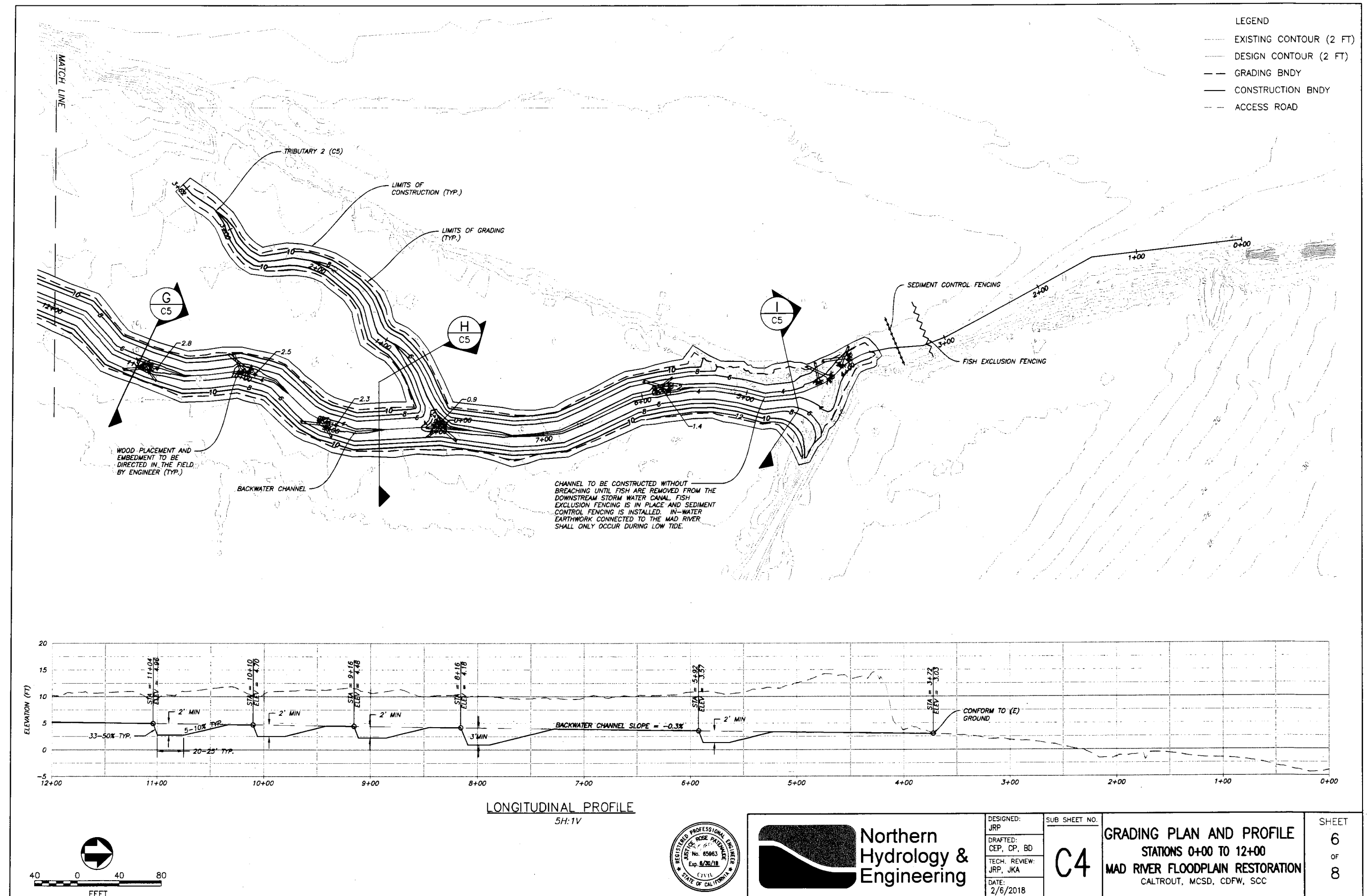
DESIGNED:
JRP
 DRAFTED:
CEP, CP, BD
 TECH. REVIEW:
JRP, JKA
 DATE:
2/15/2018

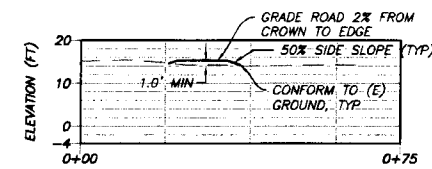
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**DEMOLITION PLAN
OVERVIEW**
MAD RIVER FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION
 CALTROUT, MCSD, CDFW, SCC

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4
 OF
8

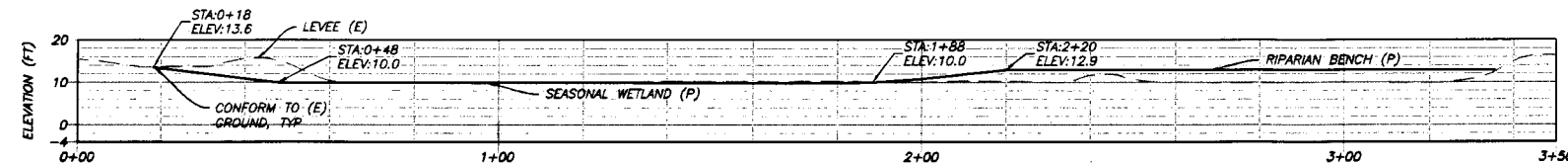




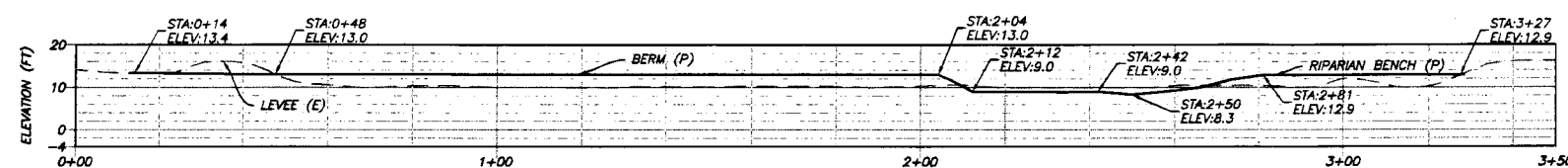


SECTION A
(TYPICAL ROAD CROSS-SECTION)
C3

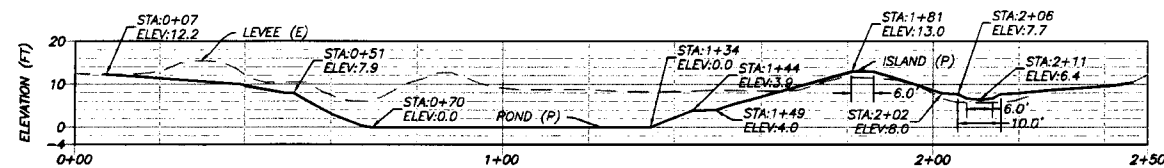
NOTE:
1. ROAD CONSTRUCTION DETAILS AND COMPACTION SPECIFICATIONS TO BE DESIGNED BY OTHERS.



SECTION B
(STATION 21+80)
C3



SECTION C
(STATION 20+40)
C3

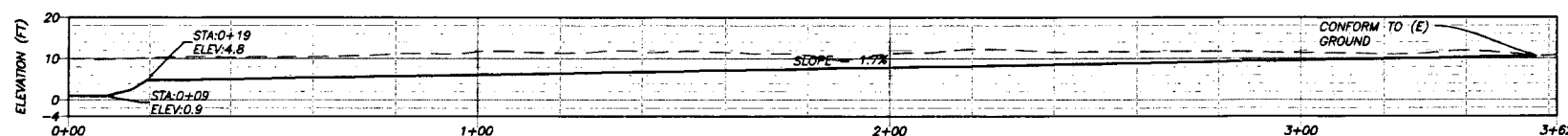


SECTION D
(STATION 18+81)
C3

NOTES:
1. CHANNEL BOTTOM GRADES TOWARDS CHANNEL CENTER AT 10% SLOPES (TYP).
2. CHANNEL BANKS GRADE AT 50% SLOPES.



TRIBUTARY PROFILE 1
(CONFLUENCE AT BACKWATER CHANNEL STATION 12+50)
C3

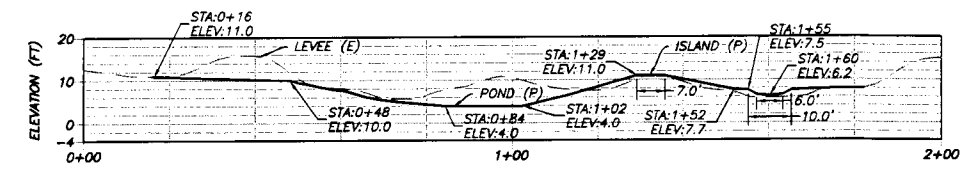


TRIBUTARY PROFILE 2
(CONFLUENCE AT BACKWATER CHANNEL STATION 8+00)
C4

LEGEND
--- EXISTING GROUND
— DESIGN GROUND

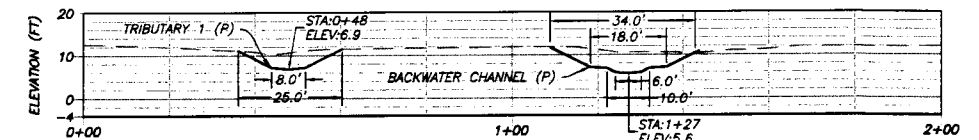


1H:1V



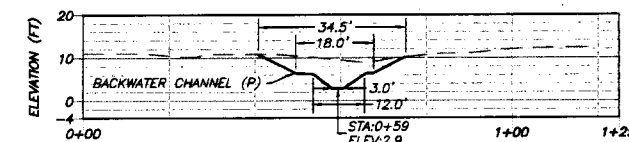
SECTION E
(STATION 17+00)
C3

NOTES:
1. CHANNEL BOTTOMS AND BENCHES GRADE TOWARDS CHANNEL CENTER AT 10% SLOPES (TYP).
2. CHANNEL BANKS GRADE AT 50% SLOPES.



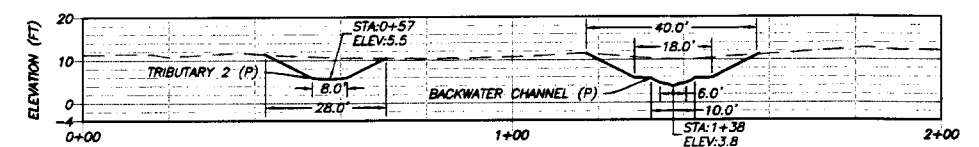
SECTION F
(STATION 13+58)
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NOTES:
1. CHANNEL BOTTOMS AND BENCHES GRADE TOWARDS CHANNEL CENTER AT 10% SLOPES (TYP).
2. CHANNEL BANKS GRADE AT 50% SLOPES.



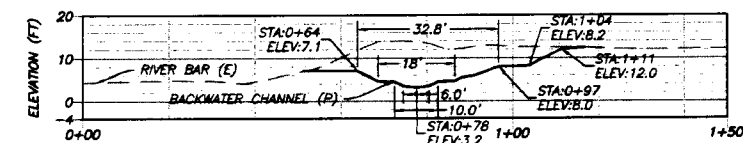
SECTION G
(STATION 11+00)
C4

NOTES:
1. CHANNEL POOL BOTTOMS ARE FLAT ACROSS SECTIONS.
2. CHANNEL BENCHES GRADE TOWARDS CHANNEL CENTER AT 10% SLOPES (TYP).
3. CHANNEL BANKS GRADE AT 50% SLOPES.



SECTION H
(STATION 8+56)
C4

NOTES:
1. CHANNEL BOTTOMS AND BENCHES GRADE TOWARDS CHANNEL CENTER AT 10% SLOPES (TYP).
2. CROSS-SECTION H SHOWS BACKWATER CHANNEL CROSSING POOL TAILOUT.
3. CHANNEL BANKS GRADE AT 50% SLOPES.



SECTION I
(STATION 4+53)
C4

NOTES:
1. CHANNEL BOTTOMS AND BENCHES GRADE TOWARDS CHANNEL CENTER AT 10% SLOPES (TYP).
2. CHANNEL BANKS GRADE AT 50% SLOPES.

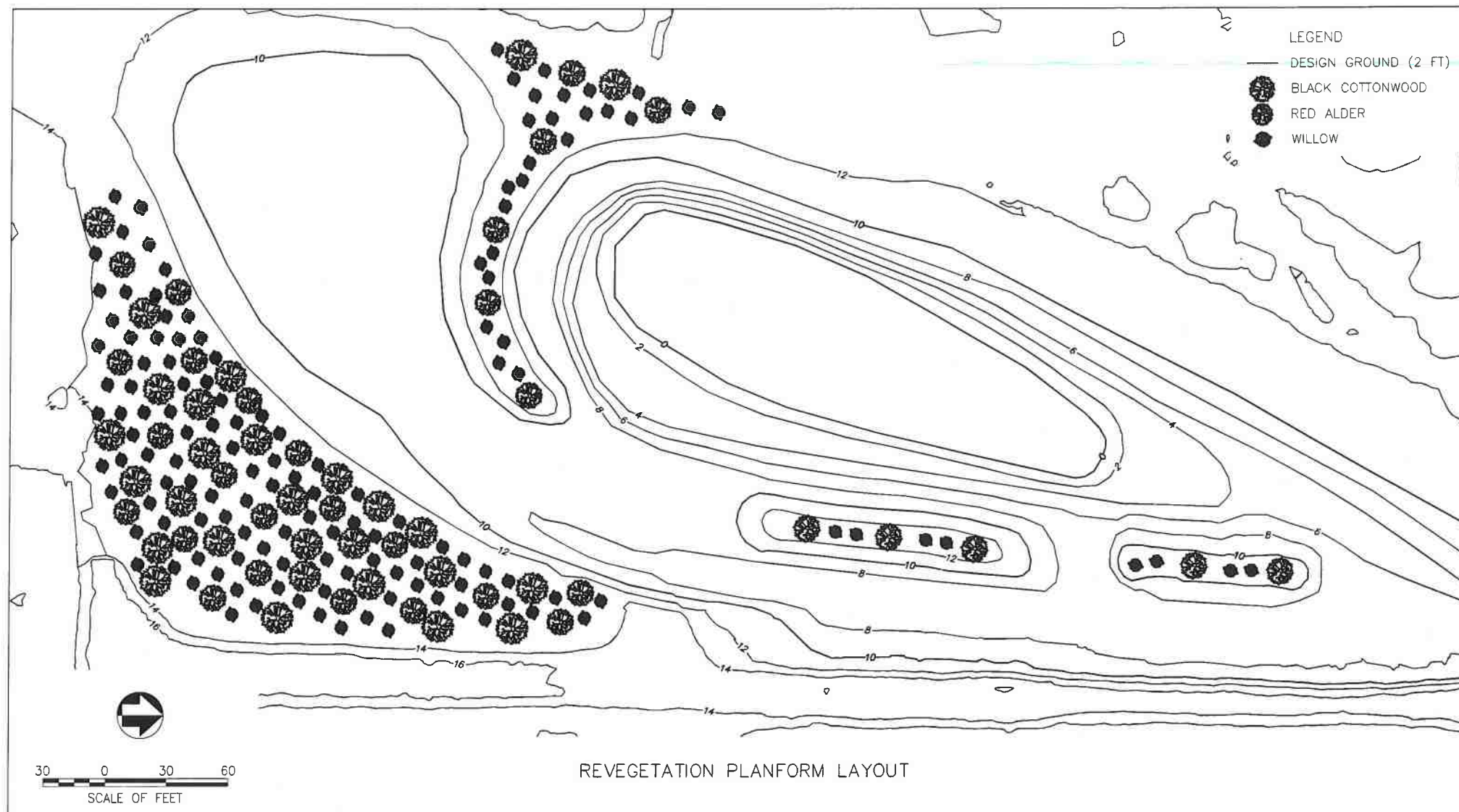


DESIGNED:
JRP
DRAFTED:
CEP, CP
TECH. REVIEW:
JRP, JKA
DATE:
2/15/2018

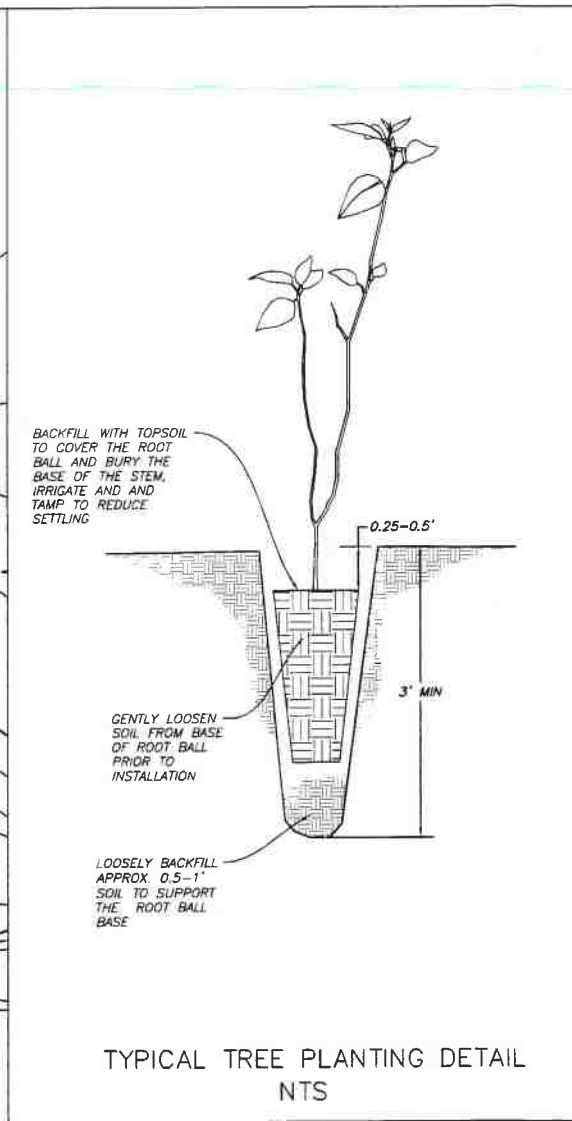
SUB SHEET NO.
C5

PROFILES
CROSS-SECTIONS AND TRIBUTARIES
MAD RIVER FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION
CALTROUT, MCSD, CDFW, SCC

SHEET
7
OF
8



REVEGETATION PLANFORM LAYOUT



TYPICAL TREE PLANTING DETAIL
NTS



DESIGNED:
JRP
DRAFTED:
CEP, CP
TECH. REVIEW:
JRP, JKA
DATE:
6/21/2017

SUB SHEET NO.
C6

DESIGN DETAILS
MAD RIVER FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION
CALTROUT, MCSD, CDFW, SCC

SHEET
8
OF
8

ATTACHMENT 1
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Approval of the Conditional Use Permit is conditioned upon the following terms and requirements which must be fulfilled before the project is initiated.

1. All development shall be in accordance with the approved plot plan and project description. Changes to the approved design may be approved if in conformance with Section 312-11, Minor Deviations.
2. The applicant shall comply with all recommendations from the Department of Public Works, as stated on referral comments received on December 3, 2019, or current public works standards, including but not limited to:
 - a. Applicant must apply for and obtain an encroachment permit from the Department of Public Works to allow staging within School Road (C3H200), a paved county-maintained road [reference: County Code section 411-11 (a)(b)].
 - b. Applicant is responsible for providing all trail connection features within the public road right of way, to current accessibility standards.
3. The applicant shall continue to coordinate with the Wiyot area tribes to develop interpretive signs highlighting Wiyot history and culture to be placed at the project site.
4. The applicant must satisfy all requirements of the Building Department prior to any ground disturbing activity. Development outside of the public right of way may be subject to building permit requirements.
5. The applicant shall secure a Coastal Development Permit from the California Coastal Commission.

Ongoing Requirements/Development Restrictions which Must be Satisfied for the Life of the Project:

1. The project shall be developed, conducted and maintained in accordance with the project description and approved project site plan.
2. The project shall adhere to Best Management Practices for erosion control. Development and construction shall minimize cut-and-fill operations and erosion and sedimentation potential through construction of temporary and permanent sediment basins, seeding or planting bare soil, diversion of runoff away from the grading areas and areas heavily used during construction, and, when feasible, avoidance of grading during the rainy season (November through April).

Informational Notes:

1. If cultural resources are encountered during construction activities, the contractor on site shall cease all work in the immediate area and within a 50-foot buffer of the discovery location. A qualified archaeologist as well as the appropriate Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s) are to be contacted to evaluate the discovery and, in consultation with the applicant and lead agency, develop a treatment plan in any instance where significant impacts cannot be avoided.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) can provide information regarding the appropriate Tribal point(s) of contact for a specific area; the NAHC can be reached at 916-653-4082. Prehistoric materials may include obsidian or chert flakes, tools, locally darkened midden soils, ground stone artifacts, shellfish or faunal remains, and human burials. If human remains are found, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 requires that the County Coroner be contacted immediately at 707-445-7242. If the Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the

NAHC will then be contacted by the Coroner to determine appropriate treatment of the remains pursuant to PRC 5097.98. Violators shall be prosecuted in accordance with PRC Section 5097.99

The applicant is ultimately responsible for ensuring compliance with this condition.

2. The applicant is responsible for receiving all necessary permits and/or approvals from other state and local agencies.
3. During construction, roadways shall be periodically cleaned of mud, soil, rock, and debris.
4. No construction materials or debris shall be placed within the County road right of way during the project, unless permitted thru an encroachment permit.
5. This permit shall expire and become null and void at the expiration of one (1) year after all appeal periods have lapsed (see "Effective Date"); except where construction under a valid building permit or use in reliance on the permit has commenced prior to such anniversary date. The period within which construction or use must be commenced may be extended as provided by Section 312-11.3 of the Humboldt County Code.
6. The applicant is required to pay for permit processing on a time and material basis as set forth in the schedule of fees and charges as adopted by ordinance of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. The Department will provide a bill to the applicant after the decision. Any and all outstanding Planning fees to cover the processing of the application to decision by the Hearing Officer shall be paid to the Humboldt County Planning Division, 3015 "H" Street, Eureka.

ATTACHMENT 2

REQUIRED FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL

The County Zoning Ordinance, Section 312-17.1 of the Humboldt County Code (Required Findings for All Discretionary Permits) specifies the findings that are required to grant a Conditional Use Permit:

1. The proposed development is in conformance with the County General Plan;
2. The proposed development is consistent with the purposes of the existing zone in which the site is located;
3. The proposed development conforms with all applicable standards and requirements of these regulations; and
4. The proposed development and conditions under which it may be operated or maintained will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare; or materially injurious to property or improvements in the vicinity.
5. The proposed development does not reduce the residential density for any parcel below that utilized by the Department of Housing and Community Development in determining compliance with housing element law unless the following written findings are made supported by substantial evidence: 1) the reduction is consistent with the adopted general plan including the housing element; and 2) the remaining sites identified in the housing element are adequate to accommodate the County share of the regional housing need; and 3) the property contains insurmountable physical or environmental limitations and clustering of residential units on the developable portions of the site has been maximized.
6. In addition, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) states that one of the following findings must be made prior to approval of any development which is subject to the regulations of CEQA. The project either:
 - A) Is categorically or statutorily exempt; or
 - B) will not have a significant effect on the environment and a negative declaration has been prepared; or
 - C) has had an environmental impact report (EIR) prepared and all significant environmental effects have been eliminated or substantially lessened, or the required findings in Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines have been made.

1. General Plan Consistency: The following table identifies the evidence which supports finding that the proposed development is in conformance with all applicable policies and standards in the McKinleyville Area Plan (MCKAP) of the Humboldt County Local Coastal Plan.

Plan Section(s)	Summary of Applicable Goal, Policy or Standard	Evidence which Supports Making the General Plan Conformance Finding
Land Use §5.30 (MCKAP)	Agriculture Exclusive/ Prime Lands (AEP): To protect prime agricultural lands for long term productive agricultural use. Natural Resources (NR): To protect and enhance valuable fish and wildlife habitats, and provide for public and private use of their resources, including hunting, fishing and other forms of recreation.	The proposed project is for enhancing valuable fish and wildlife habitat as well as enhancing public access and recreation opportunities while preserving open space. A Notice of Completion of a Mitigated Negative Declaration was released on 3/16/2020 from the State Clearing House. Watershed management, management for fish and wildlife habitat and recreation are all conditionally permitted uses within the AEP designation. The proposed use is consistent with the Natural Resources principal use as described in the McKinleyville Area Plan (MCKAP). A Coastal Development Permit (CDP) is required for development within the Coastal Zone and the California Coastal Commission will process a Consolidated CDP.
Hazards §3.28 (MCKAP)	Minimize risks to life and property in areas of high geologic, flood and fire hazard.	The project site is located in relatively stable geologic area. The project area is within a mapped 100-year Flood Zone and tsunami evacuation zone; however, the proposed developments do not include any habitable structures. The site is within a moderate to low fire hazard severity zone and within the Arcata Fire Protection District. The project does not include the construction of protective devices that would substantially alter natural landforms. The project is conditioned to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) throughout construction to prevent erosion and sediment runoff. All referral agencies have recommended approval or conditional approval of the proposed project.

Archaeological and Paleontological Resources §3.29 (MCKAP)	Where new development would adversely impact archaeological or paleontological resources as identified by State Historic Preservation Officer, reasonable mitigation measures shall be required.	The project was referred to the NWIC, and THPOs of Wiyot, Blue Lake Rancheria, and Bear River. NWIC indicated that Study #S-45329 (Roscoe and Van Kirk 1993), covering approximately 20% of the proposed project area was completed and recommended consulting local Native American Tribe(s). In September of 2019 an addendum to the 2018 Roscoe and Associates archeological report was completed and did not find any archeological artifacts, features or sites. Referral comments received from the THPOs recommended the project be conditioned with the standard inadvertent discovery protocol. This has been added as a condition of approval.
Rural Development §3.31 (MCKAP)	30255. Coastal-dependent developments shall have priority over other developments on or near the shoreline. Exceptions as provided elsewhere in this division, Coastal-dependent developments shall not be sited in a wetland.	The proposed project is for restoring wetland areas, critical fish and wildlife habitats and for enhancing existing public recreation and coastal access.
Agriculture §3.34 (MCKAP)	Compatible Uses: The zoning of all agricultural lands shall not permit any use that would impair the economic viability of agricultural operations on such lands; and a conditional use permit shall be required of any proposed use not directly a part of agricultural production of food or fiber on the parcel.	Management for fish and wildlife habitat and recreational uses are considered compatible with agricultural operations within the MCKAP.
Housing §3.37 (MCKAP)	30252. (2) The location and amount of new development should maintain and enhance public access to coast by providing commercial facilities	The proposed project does not include a residential component and will have no effect on the County's housing stock. The project site is outside of the MCKAP urban limit.

	within or adjoining residential development or in other areas will minimize the use of Coastal access roads.	
Resource Protection Policies and Standards §3.40 (MCKAP)	Protect designated sensitive and critical resource habitats.	The proposed project is restoring wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat within the wetland areas, which is supported within the MCKAP. A plant survey was completed in October 2019 and found that there were no special status plants or natural communities within the project area. The majority of the proposed work is within previously disturbed areas, and the project is conditioned to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) throughout construction to prevent erosion and sediment runoff.
Visual Resource Protection §3.42 (MCKAP)	Protect and conserve scenic and visual qualities of coastal areas.	The subject parcel is located outside of any designated coastal view and coastal scenic area.

2. The proposed development is consistent with the purposes of the existing zone in which the site is located; and 3. The proposed development conforms to all applicable standards and requirements of these regulations. The following table identifies the evidence which supports finding that the proposed development is in conformance with all applicable policies and standards in the Humboldt County Coastal Zoning Regulations.

Zoning Section	Summary of Applicable Requirement	Evidence that Supports the Zoning Finding
§ 313-5.4 Natural Resources (NR)	The principally permitted use is Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management	The proposed development is for enhancing the existing public access and recreation on the site. The proposed use would encourage preservation of open space and wildlife habitat through the continued use as a public park, scenic view area, and coastal access point.
§ 313-7.1 Agriculture Exclusive (AE)	Conditionally permitted uses include fish and wildlife management, resource-related recreation	

Development Standards

Min. Lot Size and Lot Width	NR: Not enumerated AE: Zoning dependent	No subdivision is proposed.
Max. Density	NR, AE: None specified	No dwelling units are proposed.
Max. Lot Depth	NR, AE: None specified	No subdivision is proposed.
Min. Yard Setbacks per Zoning:	NR: Front 20', Rear 10', Side 5' AE: Front 20', Rear 30', Side 20'	There are no proposed developments outside of the public right of way which meets the definition of a structure subject to setbacks.
Max. Ground Coverage	NR/AE: None specified	There are no proposed developments outside of the public right of way which meets the definition of a structure.
Max. Structure Height	NR: 35 feet AE: None specified	The proposed structures do not exceed the maximum height of 35 ft.

Combining Zones

§313-21.1, F: Flood Hazard Areas	Minimize public and private losses due to flood and tsunami conditions in specific areas of the County.	The proposed habitat restoration, public access and public recreation facility (trails), are permitted development in tsunami run-up areas. 312-2.24 The application meets all of the applicable Resource Protection Impact Findings of Chapter 2.
§313-33.1, R: Streams and Riparian Corridors Protection	Provide for the maintenance, enhancement, and, where feasible, restoration of water resources.	The western boundary of the property is the Mad River. The proposed project includes habitat restoration, which is a permitted use, and public access. The majority of the proposed work is within previously disturbed areas, and the project is conditioned to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) throughout construction to prevent erosion and sediment runoff.

4. Public Health, Safety and Welfare, and Environmental Impact: The following table identifies the evidence which supports finding that the proposed development will not be detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare or materially injurious to properties or improvements in the vicinity, and will not adversely impact the environment.

Code Section	Summary of Applicable Requirement	Evidence that Supports the Required Finding
§312-17.1.4	The proposed development will not be detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare or materially injurious to properties or improvements in the vicinity.	All reviewing referral agencies have recommended approval of the proposed project. No detrimental effects to public health, safety and welfare were identified. The project is not expected to be detrimental to property values in the vicinity nor pose any kind of public health hazard.
CEQA Guidelines §15096 Process for a Responsible Agency*	The proposed project is considered a project subject to environmental review pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines. The Responsible Agency shall reach its own conclusions on whether the MND adopted by the Lead Agency has adequately addressed and mitigated environmental effects.	*As Lead Agency, the McKinleyville Community Services District (MCSD) adopted the MND (SCH # 2020039047) and subsequently filed a Notice of Determination with OPR and County of Humboldt. As Responsible Agency, the County makes the finding that the MCSD, as Lead Agency for the project, identified and reduced or eliminated all significant environmental impacts in the MND. No new changes or alterations have been made that require additional environmental review.

ATTACHMENT 3

APPLICANT'S EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE REQUIRED FINDINGS

Attachment 3 includes a listing of all written evidence which has been submitted by the applicant in support of making the required findings. The following materials are on file with the Planning Division:

- Application Form [in file]
- Site Plan [attached]
- Plan of Operations [in file]
- Engineering Designs [in file]
- Biological Assessment [in file]
- Botanical Report [in file]
- Floodplain Report [in file]
- Hydrology Study [in file]
- Avoidance and Minimization Measures [in file]
- Grading Plan [in file]
- Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Mad River Floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project (SCH # 2020039047) [attached]
- CEQA Notice of Completion [in file]
- CDFW LSAA [in file]
- Current Deed [in file]

Mad River Floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project



Prepared for:



McKinleyville Community
Services District
1656 Sutter Road
McKinleyville, CA 95519

Project Applicant/Prepared by:



March 11, 2020

Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part through an agreement with the California State Coastal Conservancy and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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Appendix K	Photo Documentation of Public Access Parking Area Aesthetics
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1 PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title

Mad River Floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project

Lead Agency

McKinleyville Community Services District

Project Applicant

McKinleyville Community Services District
PO Box 2037
1656 Sutter Road
McKinleyville, CA 95519

Land Ownership

MCSD: APN 508-021-006 and 508-021-007

McKinleyville Community Services District
PO Box 2037
1656 Sutter Road
McKinleyville, CA 95519

Pialorsi: APN 506-341-017

Dolores Pialorsi
1156 Moorpark St. Unit 103
Studio City, CA 91602

State Clearinghouse No.

####

Project Location

40.99279, -124.1278 (Parcel center at percolation ponds)

Accessed via School Road west of Highway 101 in McKinleyville, California

General Plan Land Use Designation & Zoning

Community Plan: McKinleyville Community Area Plan

Total Parcel Acres: 159.64 Acres

Active Project Area: 9.3 Acres

	508-021-006	508-021-007	506-341-017
Property Owner	MCSD	MCSD	Pialorsi
Assessed Lot Size (Acres)	6.44	114.63	38.57
Land Use	Agricultural Exclusive (Public); Natural Resources	Agricultural Exclusive (Public); Natural Resources	Agricultural Exclusive (Public)
Zoning with Combining Zones	AE-60/F,R	AE-60/F,R	AE-60/F,R
Coastal Zone?	Yes	Yes	Yes
100-Year Flood Zone?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Agricultural Preserve?	No	No	No
Streamside Management Zone?	Yes	Yes	Yes

2 PROJECT LOCATION

The 9.3-acre project is located on property owned by the McKinleyville Community Services District (MCSD or Project Applicant), which is a public agency who oversees water, wastewater, streetlights, library, recreation, and open space within the community of McKinleyville in Humboldt County (Figure 1). The project area is known as the Fischer Ranch and provides service to the community. The floodplain enhancement portion of the project is a permitted wastewater reuse and discharge location. The public coastal access portion of the project is located in the upland area nearest School Road (Figure 2). The project area is located three miles upstream from the mouth of the Mad River, within the zone of tidal influence. Fischer Ranch encompasses bluff and floodplain topographic features. The project area is located within and adjacent to MCSD's permitted wastewater facility, which includes 4.3 acres of constructed percolation ponds (existing), and 95 acres of pasture for wastewater reuse operations, spray and flood irrigation.

The project site is located on the eastern side or right bank of the Mad River at the inside of a meander bend of the lower Mad River. The southern, upstream end of the project site is within a mature, intact riparian forest on the active floodplain. The project site continues downstream of the Mad River County Park Boat Ramp to the lee side of a riffle. A historical backwater channel remains as a depression in the forest floor and is inundated during high flows. The northern, downstream end of the project site is a bluff that rises above the floodplain and emerges at the edge of the community of McKinleyville (Figure 3).

The habitat restoration project area focal point is a pair of constructed percolation ponds that are leveed from the river's floods and ringed with cyclone fencing to prohibit public access. The ponds with emergent wetland vegetation maintain inundated water levels due to treated wastewater discharge and connectivity with the river. The levees surrounding the ponds range from 15 ft on the northern end to approximately 17 ft on the southern end. Adjacent floodplain areas range from around 10 ft in historic depressions and existing backwater areas to 14 ft elevation. The southern

pond is generally 10 ft elevation with a single linear ridge on the interior that is over 13 ft high. The northern pond ranges from around 5.5 ft elevation in dredged areas to 13 ft on elevated ridges that serve as islands when the pond is in use. Isolated willows provide habitat diversity within the ponds, particularly up on the elevated ridges. When the river banks overtop, water backwaters the low areas of the floodplain and stays ponded for a period as flow waters recede and standing waters infiltrate and evaporate.

The project area includes an existing storm water ditch that drains the large floodplain to the east through a ditch and water control gate that remains open through the winter season and is closed when MCSD is applying treated wastewater to their fields. The public access project features are located to the north of the storm water ditch where the slope rises to the elevated terrace at the edge of a residential neighborhood of McKinleyville. The project is limited to the south by a neighboring property and to the east by the large, floodplain used seasonally for MCSD's treated wastewater reclamation. School Road limits the northern project boundary, and the Mad River limits the western project boundary.

Photographs showing existing conditions of key project features are included in Figure 3 - Figure 5.



Figure 1. Project location map.

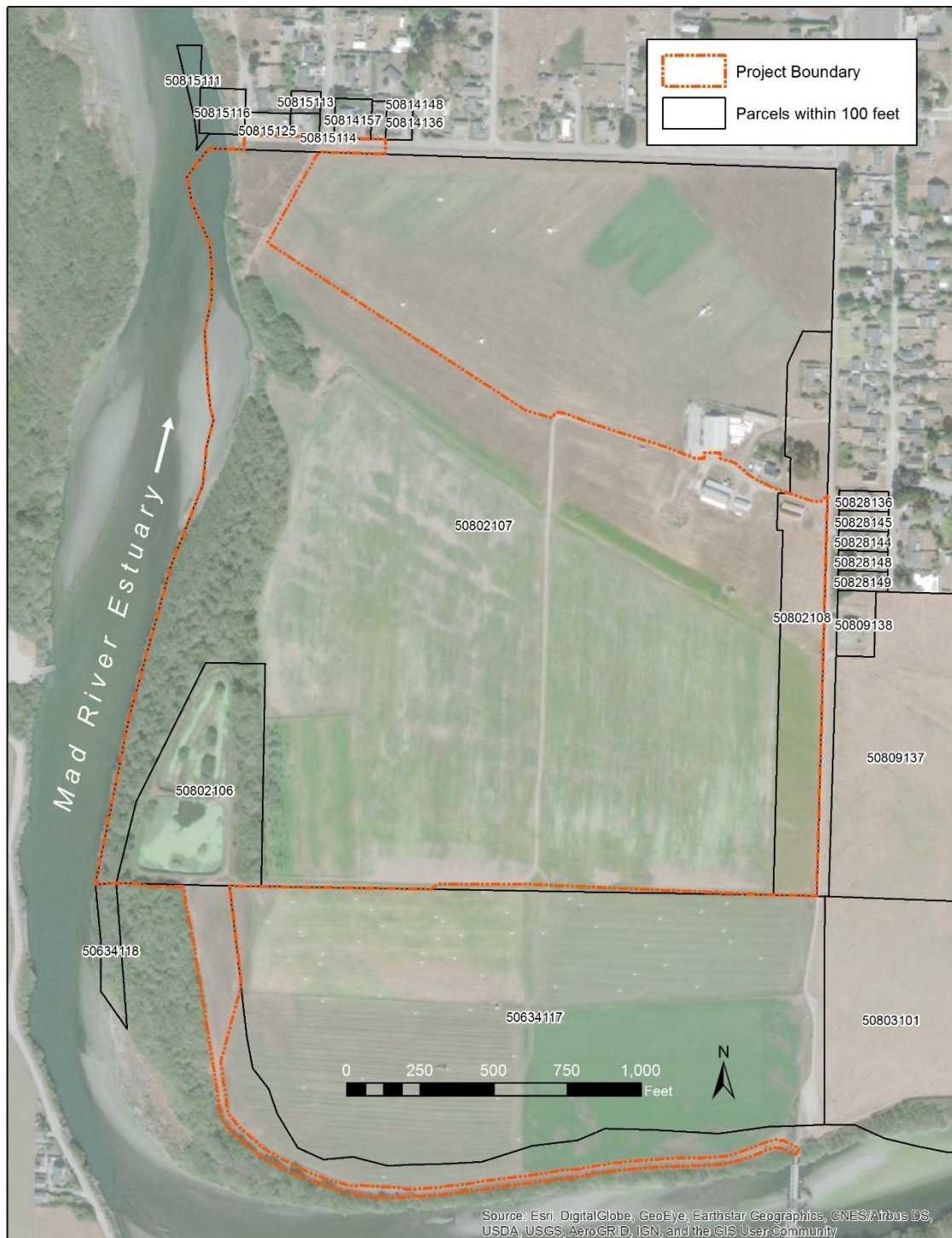


Figure 2. Project site map of existing conditions.



Figure 3. View from near School Road, looking south across the upland area where the ADA trail will be located.



Figure 4. The future alignment of a portion of the backwatered off-channel habitat complex.



Figure 5. Existing percolation ponds shown in use in March 2018. The berm (shown) between the two ponds will be removed through project construction.

3 PROJECT PURPOSE, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES

The Mad River Floodplain Enhancement Project (Project, or proposed Project) includes two primary components – restoration of floodplain habitat to benefit fish and wildlife and public access improvements, including a nature study trail and viewing areas (Figure 6). Project designs are attached as Appendix A.

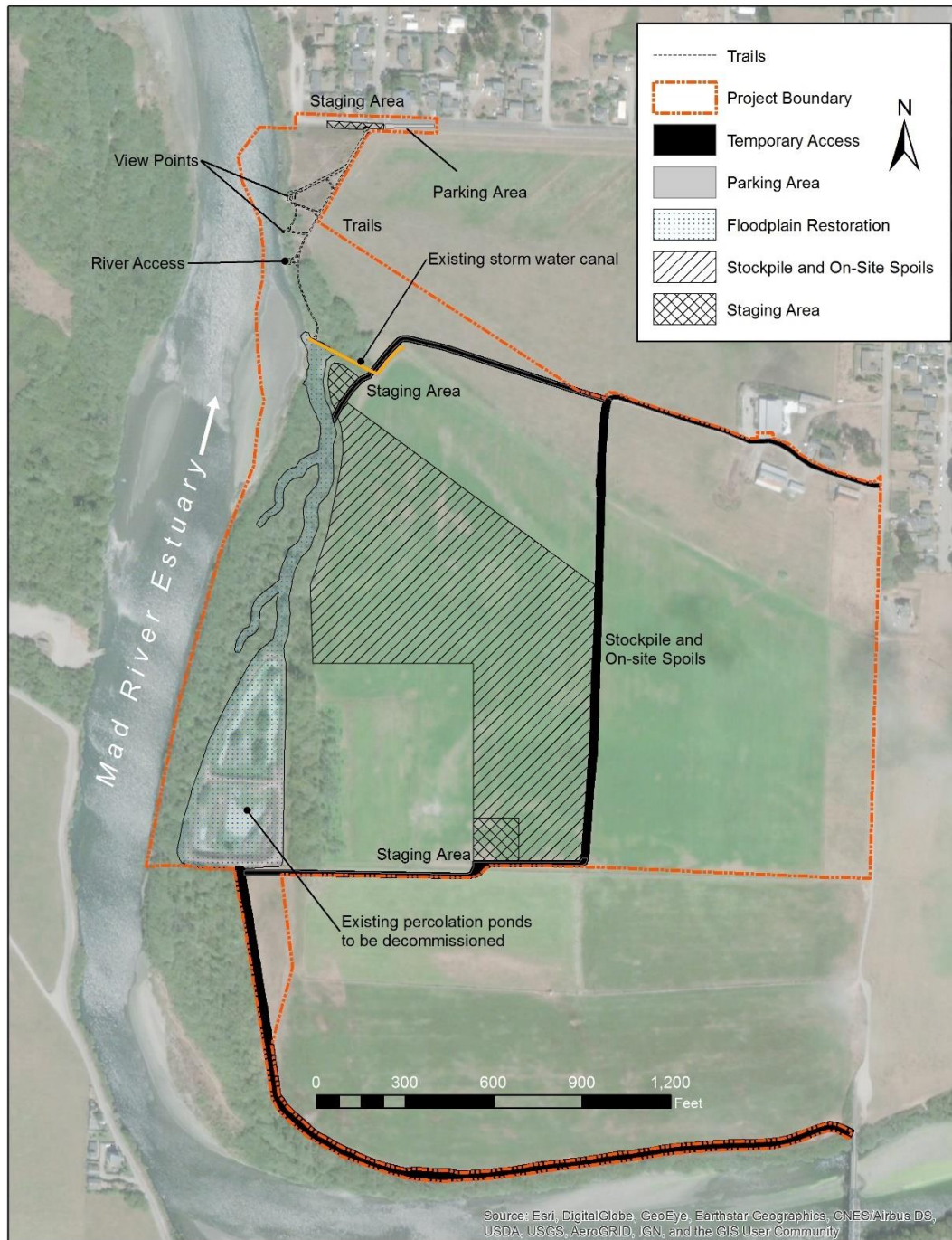


Figure 6. Project design overview. Activity areas total 9.3 acres. The area within the project boundary is 96.1 acres.

3.1 Consistency with Existing Plans

The enhancement project addresses a major limiting factor for recovery of listed salmonids as detailed in Federal Recovery Plans. The project will also provide backwater pool habitat for refugia and winter rearing, all high priority elements described in relevant recovery plans for the Mad River (NOAA 2014, NOAA 2016).

The public access amenity goals are in alignment with local and state plans, including the Humboldt County Trails Master Plan (Planwest 2010), MCSD's Recreation Master Plan (MCSD 2019), and the Humboldt County Coastal Trail Implementation Strategy (RCAA et al. 2011).

3.2 Habitat Enhancement Objectives

A primary objective of this project is to remove infrastructure in the floodplain, restore connection to the river, and provide backwater channels and thereby increase the quantity and quality of available salmonid habitat in the Mad River watershed. Region-wide overwintering habitat for juvenile Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) is considered a limiting factor in species recovery (NOAA 2014). The NOAA Southern Oregon/Northern California Coho Recovery Plan (2014) prioritizes restoration actions that will increase overwintering habitat for Coho Salmon juveniles. This project will increase the amount of off-channel habitat in the estuary that is available for overwintering state and federally threatened Southern Oregon Northern California Coast (SONCC) Coho Salmon, federally threatened California Coastal Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), and federally threatened Northern California Steelhead (*O. mykiss*) with steelhead populations being supplemented by the Mad River Hatchery. Improvements in habitat quality and quantity may also benefit other sensitive aquatic species, including but not limited to Tidewater Goby (*Eucyclogobius newberryi*) and Longfin Smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*). Similar restoration actions are outlined in the Multi-Species Recovery Plan (NOAA 2016).

The Mad River Coho Salmon population is recognized to have a high extinction risk, with key limiting stresses of altered sediment supply, lack of floodplain and channel structure, impaired water quality, and impaired estuary/mainstem function (NMFS 2014, Moyle 2017 [CalTrout's SOSII Report]). The Mad River is listed under Section 303(d) in the Clean Water Act as impaired with sediment, turbidity, and temperature, all of which are stressors to salmonid habitat and productivity. The highest priority Coho Salmon recovery actions include the construction of off-channel and backwater ponds and alcoves. Protected and slow flowing side channels that fill during high flows provide some of the best over-wintering habitat in Coho Salmon streams (CDFW 2004). An increase in juvenile Coho Salmon rearing in the estuary and lower Mad River could result in increased survival and productivity of the Mad River Coho population that spawns and rears in the river's tributaries (NMFS 2014).

The proposed project will:

1. Decommission and revegetate 4.25 acres of infrastructure in the floodplain. MCSD's decision to decommission the percolation ponds resulted in the opportunity to restore the area to native floodplain vegetation function.
 - a. Materials generated during decommissioning will be reused onsite where practicable through actions of resurfacing roads and placing sediment within MCSD's WWTF.
2. The depression that will remain after decommissioning the percolation ponds provides the opportunity to restore riparian, wetland, and open water habitat within the tidally influenced lower reach of the river. The project will create 2.0 new acres of wetlands, 1.4 new acres of open water to be used as off-channel rearing refugia habitat by salmonids, and 0.5 new acres of riparian habitat (Figure 7).

3. In order to increase accessibility for juvenile fish and to avoid stranding in the decommissioned pond footprint, the proposed project provides a channel (1,775 ft total length) that will connect the river to the pond. The channel and pond features are designed to resemble a remnant high flow channel or oxbox, features that provide high quality riparian habitat and are expected to change with time.
4. Off-channel winter refugia will be created by reconnecting of the river to the floodplain through the project area. Juvenile Coho and other salmonids use this shallow depth and low velocity habitat during high flow events. Large wood features will be built from salvaged alder or willow species that are disturbed during construction and will be used to create habitat features in the channel. The project's pools, backwater and high-water channels will be located under a mature riparian canopy that in turn supports the food web and provides better growth conditions for juvenile salmonids in preparation for outmigration. Any riparian areas disturbed in construction will be replanted.

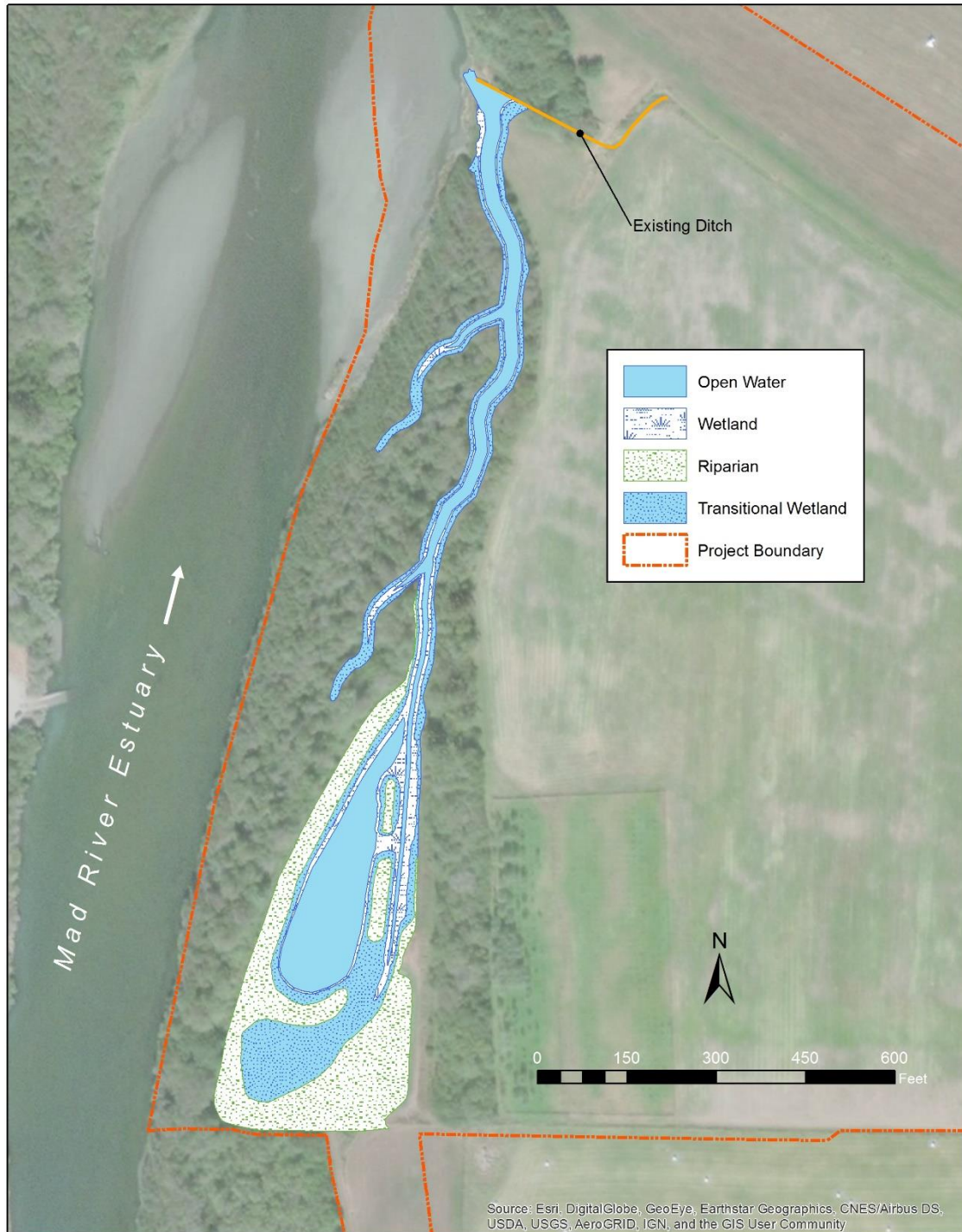


Figure 7. Post-implementation habitat enhancement overview.

3.3 Public Access Objectives

The project's public access amenities will be constructed to comply with Americans with Disability Act (ADA) access from the paved School Road Trail to a new river overlook, multiple interpretive and bench resting sites. A trail will leave the ADA access and drop into the floodplain to allow for river level access and a lightly developed river access feature. The existing informal trails will be upgraded to allow for safe and well-defined access routes that accommodate ADA users, confine use to a limited, controlled corridor to protect wildlife and riparian resources, and provide for access to the floodplain and river.

Increase opportunities for nature study: Public access trails and viewpoint overlooks will improve opportunities for nature study and wildlife viewing.

Create ADA coastal access: The Project will provide an improved trail network and ADA access to river and coastal habitats and views.

Improve river access: A defined point of river access will improve recreational opportunities for fisherman (anglers), boaters, bird watchers, lightweight non-motorized water craft boaters, and other user groups.

Protect habitat: Improved trails and viewpoints will provide a well-defined path for users that will reduce impacts from unplanned access routes that are currently well-used by the public within the project area.

Install instructional and interpretative signage: A welcome kiosk will inform users of the intended uses, a map of the area, and rules and regulations for public access on the property. Interpretive materials will include information about the Wiyot tribal perspective on the landscape.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The enhancement project site is located on the eastern floodplain of the Mad River at the inside of a meander bend. A mature, intact riparian forest has developed on the river's right bank and active floodplain, lee side of a long riffle downstream of the Mad River County Park Boat Ramp. A historical backwater channel remains as a depression in the forest floor that is inundated during high flows and is often used as an undeveloped trail during dry periods. The project is within the tidally influenced lower reach of the Mad River.

The project focuses on a pair of constructed wastewater treatment percolation ponds that are leveed from the river's floods and ringed with cyclone fencing to prohibit access. The ponds with emergent wetland vegetation maintain inundated water levels due to treated wastewater discharge and connectivity with the river. The levees surrounding the ponds range from 15 ft on the northern end to approximately 17 ft on the southern end. Adjacent floodplain areas range from around 10 ft in historic depressions and existing backwater areas to 14 ft elevation. The southern pond is generally 10 ft elevation with a single linear ridge on the interior that is over 13 ft high. The northern pond ranges from around 5.5 ft elevation in dredged areas to 13 ft on elevated ridges that serve as islands when the pond is in use. Isolated willows provide habitat diversity within the ponds, particularly up on the elevated ridges. When the river banks overtop, the low areas of the floodplain are inundated and can stay ponded for a period as flow waters recede and standing waters infiltrate and evaporate.

Informal, unpaved trails and viewpoints are located north of the restoration features atop the bluff adjacent to the terminal end of School Road Trail. The bluff-top vegetation is representative of unmanaged pasture with grasses, shrubs, and smaller trees. The riverbanks are well vegetated with willow and other riparian species. The edge of the bluff and a portion of the riverbank has been stabilized by a bio-engineered vegetated rip rap project installed by Humboldt County in 2009.

4.1 Watershed

The Mad River drains approximately 497 square miles over a length of roughly 100 miles to the Pacific Ocean near the town of McKinleyville, north of Humboldt Bay. Watershed elevations range from 6,000 ft at the Coast Range headwaters in Trinity County to sea level at the mouth, approximately 6 miles north of Humboldt Bay. Matthews Dam impounds Ruth Lake at river mile (RM) 79, and a natural boulder falls barrier to anadromous salmonids is located on the mainstem river near Bug Creek at approximately RM 50. The project is located at approximately RM 2, within the Mad River estuary.

4.2 Existing Land Use and Ownership

The project area is owned by MCSD and a private landowner. The project is zoned Agricultural Exclusive (Public) and Natural Resources. The existing percolation ponds in the restoration area are currently used as part of MCSD's wastewater management facility. Informal, unmanaged unpaved trails currently exist in the riparian area along the river to the upper bluff area accessed via the School Road Trail.

MCSD Wastewater Management Facility

MCSD is an independent, special district formed in 1970. MCSD maintains and operates a Wastewater Management Facility (WWMF) that serves the community of McKinleyville. The WWMF discharges directly to the surface waters of the Mad River at the Hammond Bridge during a permitted discharge period (October 1 through May 14) regulated by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit governed by the California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) that includes Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for effluent treatment, discharge, and reclamation. The river discharge prohibition period is May 15 through September 30, when effluent is discharged to the percolation ponds and/or to land for reclamation. The percolation ponds were constructed on the active floodplain in 1983 and include two separate ponds that are annually alternated in use. At the time of construction, mitigation was implemented in a riparian zone south of the percolation ponds, which remains outside of the project boundary and will not be impacted through restoration activities.

4.3 Geology

The project site is located on the active floodplain and the bluff overlooking the downstream-most meander bend of the Mad River. To the south, the river bottoms, wide alluvium, and soil floodplain transition into Humboldt Bay. From the project site, the river flows two miles north to the Pacific Ocean between a long sand spit and marine terraces. The river mouth is transient along the sand spit; therefore, this distance is relative to when the mouth was located just south of Vista Point on Highway 101.

The Mad River Fault Zone (MRFZ) has been described in detail and mapped in geologic reports. The principal faults of the MRFZ are designated as the Fickle Hill, Mad River, McKinleyville, Blue Lake, and Trinidad faults (Carver 1985). The multi-strand Mad River fault offsets marine terraces along the coastline north of the project (Carver 1992). The remnant terrace that defines the southernmost lower plate of the Mad River fault is buried beneath the greater river floodplain associated with the project site (McCrary 1996, Carver et al. 1986). The public access features are located on the bluff and along the slope to the floodplain elevation. The change in slope from the bluff to the floodplain is the general location of the fault zone.

An R-2 slope stability investigation was completed (required by the Humboldt County Building Department) of the bluff area related to public access design features and found that public access features are feasible from a geotechnical standpoint (SHN 2019, Appendix B). Technical recommendations from the SHN R-2 slope stability report have been incorporated into design parameters for the public access features.

The project site is mapped in the *Geology of the Cape Mendocino, Eureka, Garberville and Southwestern Part of the Hayfork 30 X 60 Minute Quadrangles and Adjacent Offshore Area, Northern California* (McLaughlin et al. 2000). The river and floodplain are mapped as “undeformed marine shoreline and aolian deposits (Holocene and late Pleistocene), consisting of gravel and sand deposited in marine terraces, on benches and on dunes along present shorelines.” SHN Consulting Engineers and Geologists, Inc. prepared a *Final Foundation Report* for the Hammond Trail Pedestrian Bridge Replacement, which included a geologic cross-section interpretation of the river and floodplain subsurface in close proximity to the project site (SHN 2015). Subsurface data were collected from excavated machine borings to a depth of 80 ft on the floodplains and approximately 200 ft in the channel. Lithology was logged and geotechnical tests were performed on representative samples. Underlying the floodplain surface were Holocene alluvial deposits, measured to depths of approximately 75 ft. An approximately 40-foot thick defined silt/clay layer was mapped at a depth of approximately 30 ft below the floodplain surface on the north bank (SHN 2015). Holocene alluvium was underlain with late Pliocene to middle Pleistocene age Falor Formation sediments.

Soil lithology was documented when the groundwater wells were logged upon installation. Soil logs were attached in Appendix C. MW-27 was installed north of the ponds and levee into the ground surface at an elevation of approximately 10.5 ft. Less than a foot of sandy organic soil covered approximately 3 ft of silty sand (down to elevation of 7 ft) that overlays 15.5 ft of well graded sand with gravel (from elevation 7 ft down to -8.5 ft). Lean clay was observed 19 ft below ground surface (at -8.5 ft elevation). MW-28 was installed west of the ponds and levee in the ground surface at an elevation of approximately 13.5 ft. A thin layer of organic soil and sand covers approximately 2 ft of silty sand (down to an elevation of 11.5 ft), layered over approximately 2.5 ft of silty sand with gravel (down to an elevation of 9 ft), and approximately 3 ft of well graded sand with silt (to an elevation of 6 ft). Below these layered deposits is at least 12.5 ft of well graded gravel with sand (observed from an elevation of 6 ft to -6.5 ft). The lithology logs from these two wells provides some information about the floodplain foundation and the potential composition of native soils of in areas of excavation. For example, the backwater channel base near MW 27 was proposed to daylight at an elevation of 6 ft. It can be expected that the material at the base of the channel near the ponds would be composed of well graded sand with gravel.

4.4 Hydrology and Hydraulics

Hydrology

Annual peak flow data from the USGS Mad River near Arcata gaging station (No. 11481000) were analyzed with the USGS software PeakFQ (NHE 2017) to estimate flood recurrence intervals, including the 1.5-, 2-, 5-, 10-, 25-, 50- and 100-year flood events (Table 1).

Table 1. Peak Flow Estimates for Recurrence Intervals at USGS Gaging Station No. 11481000 (NHE 2017).

Recurrence Interval	PeakFQ Bulletin 17B Estimated Peak Discharge (cfs)
1.5-year	20,550
2-year	26,410
5-year	41,560
10-year	51,670

25-year	64,280
50-year	73,460
100-year	82,420

Two flood flow events with approximately 5-year recurrence intervals have occurred in the past 3 years on the lower Mad River. On January 17, 2016, a 43,100 cfs peak discharge was reported and on February 27, 2019, the peak discharge during a flood event was 39,300 cfs (provisional). The 2016 peak flow event occurred in the evening and the water surface elevation was measured as a calibration condition for the hydraulic models. The 2019 event occurred during the day and was observed. The entire off-channel habitat area was fully submerged, and flood flows extended east into the floodplain beyond the riparian corridor. The tops of the dikes surrounding the percolation ponds would not have overtopped, and the bluffs near School Road remained high above the flood water surface elevation.

Monitored river levels were compared to local tidal data at the NOAA Station ID 9418767 (North Spit) and Station ID 9419750 (Crescent City). In general, the Mad River tidal peaks and troughs were in sync with the North Spit tidal gage. Project reach river levels were controlled by the bed elevations at the river mouth, which periodically scours the bed during winter storms to form a sand bar in the ocean. The monitoring data displayed a transition in the river level control before and after the first storm events, when the river formed a sand bar offshore of the mouth (Figure 8).

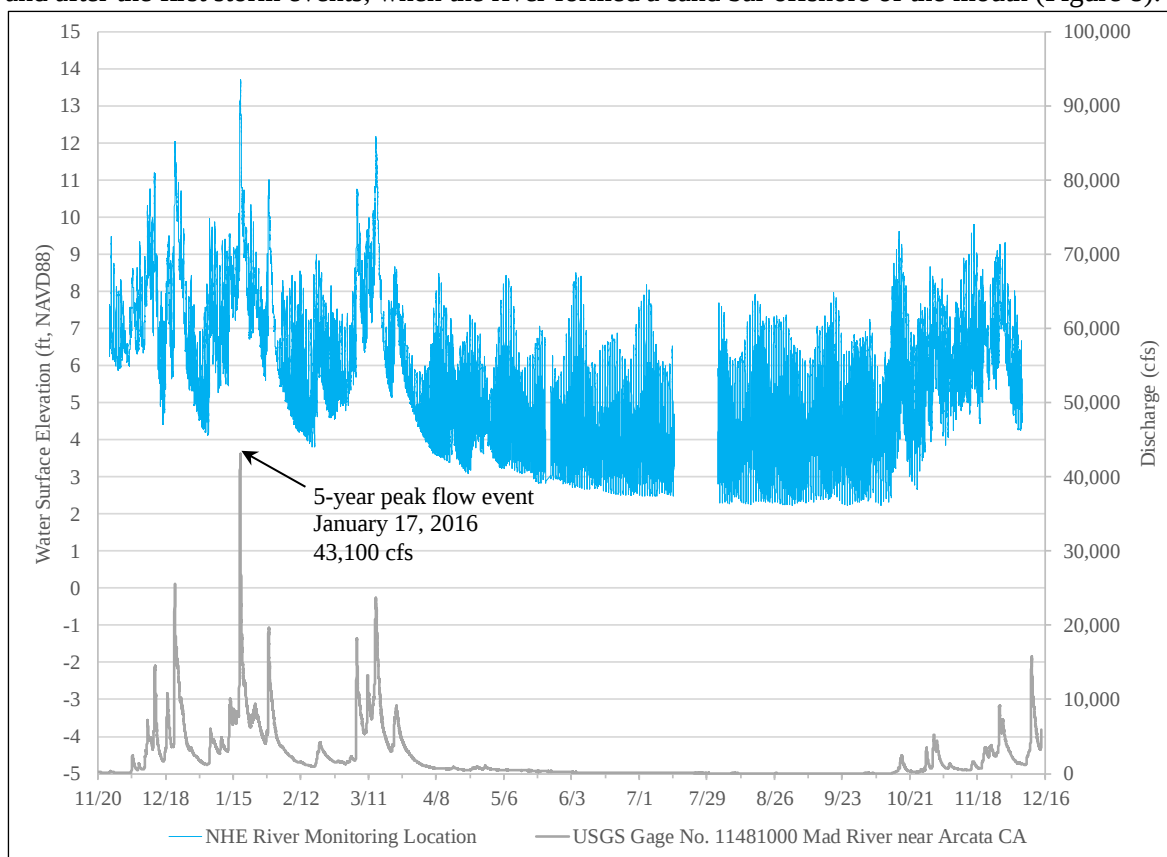


Figure 8. River levels near the project site and stream flow at USGS Gage Station No. 11481000. For reference, the levees range from 15 ft on the northern end to approximately 17 ft on the southern end. Adjacent floodplain areas range from around 10 ft in historic depressions and existing backwater areas to 14 ft elevation.

Ordinary High Water

Bankfull water surface elevation (surrogate for Ordinary High Water) was determined based on the 1.5-year recurrence interval event. Using a tidal elevation at the ocean boundary of the estimated

Mean Higher High Water results in a water surface elevation of approximately 12.5 ft within the project area.

Hydraulic Analyses

Existing conditions were simulated using a steady-state, sub-critical, single-dimension US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Hydrologic Engineering Center River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) version 5.0.1 modeling software (USACE 2016). The HEC-RAS model was used to estimate existing condition water surface elevations in the river adjacent to the project reach where channel bathymetry was well-defined and calibration data were collected. Design conditions were simulated using the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR) Technical Service Center (TSC) two-dimensional hydraulic model SRH-2D (Version 2) with bed shear stress calculated. The SRH-2D model was used to estimate water surface elevations, shear stress and depth-averaged velocity through the project area. Detailed modeling information and results are available in the project's Hydraulic Analysis Report (Appendix D).

4.5 Fisheries

Fish Species in the Mainstem Mad River

The Mad River supports spawning populations of state and federally threatened Southern Oregon Northern California Coast (SONCC) Coho Salmon, federally threatened California Coastal Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), and federally threatened Northern California Steelhead (*O. mykiss*) with steelhead populations being supplemented by the Mad River Hatchery. In addition to the listed salmonid species, the Mad River is home to Coastal Cutthroat Trout (*O. clarki clarki*), three-spined stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*), Sacramento Suckers (*Catostomus occidentalis*), scuplin species (*Cottus sp.*), and lamprey. Green Sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*), adult Pink salmon (*O. gorbuscha*), and federally endangered Tidewater Goby have also been observed in the Mad River but infrequently and in low numbers. It is thought that due to the river's small size, Green Sturgeon are likely limited to the estuary while the Pink Salmon were mostly likely strays. Tidewater Goby are likely limited to the estuary as well since they are exclusive to brackish habitats for their entire life cycle and are adapted to a narrow range of salinity tolerances. Salinity in the lower Mad River may also be affected by Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District flow releases, which may seasonally reduce salinity below expected levels, impacting water quality and habitat conditions for Tidewater Goby.

Designations for federally established Critical Habitat and Essential Fish Habitat are summarized by species in Table 2. There are no juvenile or adult population surveys for Chinook Salmon in the Mad River (NOAA 2016).

NOAA (2014) identifies a lack of floodplain and channel structure as key limiting stresses to Coho Salmon in the Mad River and notes the highest priority recovery actions include several primary components of the proposed project:

- Place large wood habitat features in channel,
- Construct off channel ponds, alcoves, and backwater ponds, and
- Restore natural channel form and function.

Similarly, recovery actions recommended for Chinook Salmon by NOAA (2016) with relevancy to the proposed project include:

- Increase estuary habitat complexity,
- Increase the extent of estuarine habitat,
- Restore tidal channels,
- Rehabilitate and enhance floodplain connectivity,

- Create refugia habitat,
- Increase large wood frequency, and
- Eradicate Reed Canary Grass.

Historically, Mad River saw abundant runs of federally threatened Pacific Eulachon (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) however, there have been no occurrences of Eulachon in the Mad River reported by fishery biologists since at least the mid-1980s. Eulachon are anadromous, with spawning usually occurring in the lower reaches of rivers and are an important component of the cultural legacy of Native American fishing tribes.

Longfin Smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*) are a state-listed anadromous smelt found in Humboldt Bay estuaries, and nearshore coastal environments. Adult Longfin Smelt migrate into low salinity or freshwater reaches of coastal rivers and tributary streams to spawn. Previous fish sampling efforts in the project area did not collect Longfin Smelt and the project area has not been surveyed specifically for Longfin Smelt.

Table 2. Fish species with respect to federally designated Critical Habitat and Essential Fish Habitat.

Species	Critical Habitat	Essential Fish Habitat
Coho Salmon	Yes	Yes
Chinook Salmon	Yes	Yes
Northern California Coast Steelhead	Yes	No
Green Sturgeon	No	No
Eulachon	Yes	No
Pacific Lamprey	No	No
Longfin Smelt	No	No
Tidewater Goby	No	N/A

Fish Species and Habitat Within the Project Area

A small storm water ditch is located at the northern extent of the floodplain restoration within the project area (Figure 6, Figure 9 - 11). Storm water runoff is received into this ditch from a culvert at Fischer Road that flows in a storm water ditch along the northern end of the floodplain pastures. The storm water ditch is controlled by a gate that is open during winter months to allow water to exchange between the river and its floodplain. The flood gate is closed during the period when MCSD applies treated wastewater to the pastures for reclamation. In addition to stormwater, the river backwaters this ditch from seasonal fluvial and at times, tidal inundation. The storm water ditch was visited by Mary Burke of California Trout in late June 2019 after a large tidal swing to determine if the ditch remains wetted when not in use, concurrent with the anticipated project implementation window. Several small, disconnected puddles remained in some locations, but the ditch was observed to be largely unwetted and was hydrologically disconnected from the Mad River.

Existing habitat within this storm water ditch is considerably poor seasonally; however, periodic sampling within the storm water ditch has indicated fish presence is possible in winter months.

- On February 17, 2015, the Humboldt State University (HSU) Biology of Pacific Salmon class, led by professor Darren Ward surveyed fish species abundance in the storm water ditch, downstream of the project site, the storm water ditch for the pastures east of the ditch and the river backwater channel that drains the ditch. Species collected included Coho

Salmon (age 1+), young of the year Chinook Salmon, Tidewater Goby, Western Mosquitofish, *Cottus spp.*, and Three-spined Stickleback. A report of this survey is included in Appendix E.

- On January 8, 2016, Bob Pagliuco (NOAA Restoration Center) surveyed the storm water ditch and upstream storm water ditch and found a 95 mm Coho Salmon in the storm water ditch, as well as Prickly Sculpin and Three-spined Stickleback. A report of this survey is included in Appendix E.
- On February 17, 2016, the HSU class repeated the surveys from the previous year and found Chinook Salmon, *Cottus spp.*, and Three-spined Stickleback. The class surveyed the ditch again on February 14, 2017 and found a juvenile Coho Salmon. No reports from these past two surveys are in circulation.



Figure 9. Wetted portion of the storm water drainage ditch within the project area.



Figure 10. Additional wetted portion of the storm water drainage ditch within the project area.



Figure 11. Mouth of storm water ditch with arrow indicating dry channel.

4.6 Vegetation

Vegetation within the project area was mapped by McBain Associates in June 2018 (McBain Associates 2019, Appendix F). Vegetation mapping documented 21 distinct cover types. To estimate the potential impacts of the proposed floodplain enhancement portion of the project on existing riparian vegetation, it was initially proposed to GPS all mature riparian trees greater than 12 inches dbh within the design footprint. However, due to the extremely high density of riparian hardwood trees meeting this definition, and due to the preliminary stage of project development (the proposed channel alignment could not be flagged due to high density of vegetation), it was determined in the field by California Trout and McBain Associates to provide an acreage estimate of cover types based on MCV alliances within the design footprint, with emphasis on differentiating between mature cover types (see results for description) and younger cover types. Consequently, mapping within the project area was conducted at finer detail (i.e., to the association level) for the red alder alliance to capture differences in stand structure, age-class distribution, and species composition.

Red alder/mixed willow forest was the most abundant cover type in the surveyed portion of the project boundary (4.8 acres), followed by Hooker's willow (2.6 acres), velvet grass meadow (2.3 acres), and California blackberry (2.1 acres). All of the woody riparian vegetation in the project area had a strong Hooker's willow component. Differences in stand structure (i.e., shrub-dominated vs. tree-dominated) and species composition could be seen depending on the underlying geomorphic feature. For instance, the shrub-dominated Hooker's willow and short-tree-dominated red alder/Hooker's willow stands occurred on the steep streambank edges and bluff faces directly adjacent to the Mad River. When present in these stands, red alder tended to be 12–15 inches dbh. Together, these two cover types represented younger riparian vegetation in the project area. By contrast, the large-tree-dominated red alder/mixed willow stands occurred on floodplain surfaces and had a more diverse tree canopy. Many of the red alder trees in this stand type were upwards of 3 ft dbh.

Biohabitats documented in the project area included: brackish marsh, coastal prairie, coastal scrub, freshwater marsh, human disturbance, riparian forest, riparian scrub, and wet meadow. Of the mapped biohabitats, riparian scrub and riparian forest were the largest.

5 **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

Project designs are attached as Appendix A, which include detailed provisions for executing project construction in Part 3 of the design specifications. The proposed project has two main elements:

- Habitat restoration project actions to restore existing percolation ponds to the native floodplain elevation and provide channels and ponds for the provision of aquatic habitat are located south of the existing storm water ditch.
- Project actions associated with public coastal access amenities, including ADA accessible trails with resting areas and interpretive features, are located north of the existing storm water ditch (Figure 6).

Habitat enhancement project elements will remove the existing percolation pond infrastructure except for the eastern alignment of the percolation pond levee system. The north, south and western percolation pond levees and infrastructure will be removed and the function of the percolation ponds as a final point of treated wastewater discharge will be suspended. The percolation pond area will be excavated to remove the settled material that has been derived from use as a wastewater disposal area. This material has been tested for potential contaminants and was determined to be suitable for spoiling within the treated wastewater reclamation fields to the east. MCS D's current waste discharge requirements (WDRs), effective on November 1, 2018, identifies this material with the necessary provisions to land-apply these spoils to their reclamation fields.

The existing perimeter levees that surround the percolation ponds to the north, south, and west will be lowered to allow connectivity with the surrounding floodplain elevation. The percolation pond area will be restored to contain natural pond and channel features to perennially connect to the Mad River and create off-channel winter rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids and other aquatic species. Riparian and wetland vegetation will be planted to restore the area as native floodplain and backwater habitat.

The public access project elements provide public access to approximately 2 acres of undeveloped bluff and hillslope into the Mad River floodplain directly north of the terminus of the School Road Trail. The pastures used for treated wastewater reclamation to the south of School Road and east of the project area are fenced to exclude access for the irrigation, mowing and haying operation that occurs seasonally. The area outside of the fenced wastewater reclamation operations is currently accessible to the public but not maintained or improved beyond the trails that have formed from unmanaged foot and bicycle traffic. Surface-hardened trails will be constructed to guide users to

benches, a coastal overlook viewpoint structure, river access, interpretive signs and a welcome kiosk.

5.1 Summary of Project Impacts by Habitat Type

Project activities encompass 9.3 acres within the 96.1-acre project area boundary. Overall, the project will create 0.5 acres of new riparian habitat and 2.0 acres of new wetland habitat, in addition to 1.4 acres of new open water habitat.

Table 3. Summary of project impacts by habitat type.

Habitat Type/Feature	Existing Area (Acres)	Post-Project Area (Acres)	Change (Acres)	Change is Temporary or Permanent?
Access Roads	3.4	3.4	0.0	Both ¹
Staging Areas	0.0	0.8	N/A	Temporary
Stockpile and Spoiling	0.0	5.4	N/A	Both ²
Trail and View Points	0.0	0.2	0.2	Permanent
River Access	0.0	0.01	0.01	Permanent
Constructed Percolation Ponds ³	4.2	0.3	-3.9	Permanent
Existing Storm Water Ditch	0.04	0.04	0.0	Permanent
Open Water	0.0	1.4	1.4	Permanent
Riparian	1.6	2.1	0.5	Permanent
Wetlands	0.0	2.0	2.0	Permanent
Upland (Non-Riparian)	0.4	0.2	-0.2	Permanent
Total	9.3	9.3	0	

*Computations based on summer baseflow water surface elevations. Total acres exclude staging areas, stockpile areas, and spoiling areas on MCSD property.

¹ The north and south access roads will receive fill for resurfacing. This change will be permanent.

² Stockpiling is temporary. Spoiling is permanent. Both activities share the same footprint.

³ Includes levees

5.2 Summary of Excavation, Fill, and Material Spoiling

To the greatest degree possible, excavated materials will remain on site through incorporation into other project features (23,600 CY). Excavated biosolids will be disposed of within the MCSD wastewater management facility reclamation area located in the stockpile area footprint, under the existing WDRs (4,800 CY). The balance of material will be hauled off-site by the contractor (13,700 CY). A portion of this material will be a mixture of gravel and sand and will be stored at Kernan Construction gravel yard near Blue Lake, California until it can be repurposed into unrelated projects. Project excavation and fill volumes are summarized in Table 4.

Table 4. Summary of project excavation and fill volumes.

Location	Total Excavation (CY)	On-site Material Re-use for Access Roads and Landscaping (CY)	Disposal at MCSD Wastewater Management Facility (CY)	Off-site Hauling of Reusable Gravel/Sand and Other Excavated Material (CY)
Pond Biosolids, Screened for Disposal	4,800	0	4,800	
Pond (including Levees) below Biosolids	11,100	5,100		6,000
Backwater Channels	7,700	0		7,700
Trail and Public Access Features	TBD	TBD		
Off-site Hauling	-	-		13,700
Total	23,600	5,100	4,800	13,700

Table 5. Summary of materials to be imported to the site and large wood to be re-used from on-site.

Material Type	Unit	Purpose
Large wood	72 CY	Fish habitat in off-channel features
Engineered Fill	100 CY	Trails, viewing platforms, river access, footing for signage and benches
Class II Aggregate Base	300 TON	
CalTrans Class II RSP	105 TON	
Hot Mix Asphalt	35 TON	
Minor Concrete	1,000 square feet	
Galvanized Hand Railing	30 linear feet	
Weed Barrier	6,600 square feet	
Redwood split rail fencing	150 linear feet	
Benches	2 benches	Temporary fill used to isolate the opening of the constructed backwater channel
Sandbags	60 CY	

5.3 Utilities

Utility infrastructure within the project area will be protected in place and avoided. An existing manhole cover and associated with Humboldt County's storm drain system near School Road will be avoided. Similarly, Humboldt County's storm drain located on the upper bluff area will also be avoided and protected in place. The ditch gate closure for the MCSD storm water ditch will be avoided. The storm water ditch will be integrated into the off-channel backwater habitat feature near its confluence with the Mad River. There are no power poles located in the project area.

6 **PROJECT ACTIONS**

6.1 **Actions Common to the Entire Project Area**

1. Establish Site Access

Existing access roads will be utilized temporarily to construct project features. No new roads will be constructed. The total length of existing access roads is 1.44 miles (3.4 acres).

2. Establish Staging Areas and Stockpile Area

Three staging areas will be established. Staging area 1 (0.5 acres 150 ft x 150 ft) is located east of the project area, adjacent to the stockpile area. Staging area 2 (0.2 acres, 135 ft x 100 ft) is located near the existing storm water ditch, near the planned outlet of the off-channel complex. Staging area 3 (0.1 acres, dimensions TBD) is located near the westernmost end of School Road and will be used to construct public access features. Materials and equipment will be stored in the designated stockpile area (5.4 acres, 670 ft x 400 ft) located on the eastern edge of the project.

Stockpiled materials may include trees, logs, stumps, debris, other organic matter, and excavated project materials (soils and gravels/sands).

3. Install Erosion Control Protection Measures

Erosion control protection measures will be installed prior to breaching the off-channel habitat complex so that it is hydrologically connected to the storm water ditch and will include implementation of standard Best Management Practices (BMPs) appropriate to prevent erosion control, including silt fencing and weed-free straw wattles. Sediment control fencing shall be installed on the upstream side of the fish exclusion fencing in the existing storm water ditch. Sediment control barriers shall be installed in accordance with the current *California Best Management Practices for Construction* and manufacture's recommendations in the areas of clearing and grubbing within areas that drain to the Mad River or the existing storm water ditch. The sediment control barriers will be maintained until soils are stabilized and construction is complete.

While working within and near the existing storm water ditch, BMPs shall be employed to minimize erosion of sediment into the stormwater ditch. All material eroded into the storm water ditch during construction will be removed prior to the removal of the sediment control and fish exclusion fencing.

4. Install a Fish Barrier at Entrance to the Stormwater Ditch

A fish barrier will be installed at the entrance to the storm water ditch to exclude fish from a small wetted area within the zone of construction, near the entrance of the constructed off-channel habitat complex. The fish barrier will be fully compliant with all CDFW and NMFS requirements and installed under the supervision of a qualified fisheries biologist.

5. Fish Removal in Storm Water Ditch, if Watered

The existing storm water ditch (383 ft, 0.04 acre) will not be in use or actively watered during construction from the storm water ditch to the east; however, the area may be inundated during high tide from the Mad River and provide habitat for fish and other aquatic species. If the area is not tidally connected because of the condition of the adjacent riffle and sandbar, small puddles or localized, non-connective portions of wetted areas may remain and may provide habitat for fish and other aquatic species. Fish removal will occur in any remaining wetted areas prior to construction. Removal of fish and other aquatic organisms will occur in compliance with CDFW and NMFS requirements. (Appendix H), as described in the Biological Assessment (Appendix I) and resulting NMFS Biological Opinion for the project. Any fish or other aquatic species captured will be released into the mainstem Mad River nearest the project site, outside of the construction area.

6. Establish Save Trees

Existing Save Trees and their roots will be flagged and protected with temporary fencing or other necessary protections. Save Trees will be identified by the project engineer or their representative. Additional Save Trees information detailing procedures for incidental damage during construction can be found in the Design Plans and Specifications.

7. Clearing and Grubbing

Clearing and grubbing will occur in the vicinity of the off-channel habitat complex and other project features to support grading. Clearing and grubbing may occur at different times throughout project construction.

8. Dewatering

Excavation of the pond will likely maintain groundwater levels that deepen during high tides that occur in the Mad River. Water collected in the pond may be used by the project contractor, as needed. In addition, the contractor will develop a dewatering plan that complies with regulatory requirements and:

- Diverts groundwater seepage by constructing large temporary earth berms or straw bale barriers within the project area. Any berms or straw bales shall be removed prior to close of construction. Ground shall be graded to final design topography.
- Dewatering may be required to remove groundwater seepage in excavation areas. The project contractor will employ Best Management Practices for dewatering operations as described in the current *Best Management Practices Handbook for Construction*. Water shall be discharged away from areas of standing water onto open ground. Outlet protection may be required to prevent erosion. Water will be allowed to infiltrate back into the ground. Discharged water shall not be allowed to flow into the Mad River, drainage ditches, any water conveyance facilities, or into disturbed areas.

9. On-site Reuse and Off-site Spoiling of Excavated Materials

Excavated materials will be re-used on site to build some project features and hauled off-site for spoiling (Table 4). A grading permit will be obtained from Humboldt County. Soil testing was conducted for the material to be excavated from the percolation ponds. Soil samples were collected from the percolation ponds on May 12, 2016, prior to the start of annual use for treated wastewater discharge to analyze for elevated levels of constituents of concern. Results indicate the material is not contaminated (see Appendix C for testing results and documentation).

10. Resurface Access Roads

The two existing access roads will be resurfaced with 2,400 CY of silt, sand, and gravel excavated from the percolation pond area during rehabilitation activities.

11. Remove Fish Barrier

Once the constructed off-channel habitat complex is opened and connected to the Mad River and construction within the wetted footprint of the project area is complete, the fish barrier will be removed in accordance with guidelines and specifications established by CDFW and NMFS (Appendix H).

12. Revegetate and Reseed Project Area

The project will be replanted with native tree species in accordance with the riparian design specifications established for the project (see Appendix A, Design Sheet C6). Replanting includes 1.7 acres of riparian vegetation. As there is a large patch of wetland species along the banks of the Mad River at the mouth of the stormwater ditch, 2.0 acres of wetland and transitional wetland

vegetation will remain as constructed and ripped surfaces ready to accept seeds from the river via the backwater channel, revegetating through natural recruitment in the backwatered environment.

13. Rip or Disc Temporary Access Roads and Staging Area; Implement Post-construction Erosion Control Measures; Site Closure

Following construction, the staging area will be ripped or disked for decompaction. Access roads will remain, consistent with their pre-project use. Post-construction erosion control measures will be implemented, including the spreading of weed-free straw mulch on bare soils. Erosion control materials no longer in use (e.g. silt fencing) will be removed and legally disposed of off-site, along with other garbage and recyclable materials generated during construction.

6.2 Ecosystem Enhancement Project Actions

Sequencing of enhancement actions has been designed such that the upstream pond elements are constructed first. The off-channel habitat complex will be excavated next and will not be breached into the storm water ditch until the rest of the channel is constructed. This will ensure that the excavation activities maintain independence from the flowing waters of the Mad River and minimize and avoid any potential water quality or habitat impacts related to project implementation. Connecting the new off-channel habitat complex to the Mad River will be the final step.

1. Trees Harvested for Reuse

Trees within the footprint of the new off-channel habitat complex will be harvested for reuse as large habitat elements. Trees will be flagged in the field by the project engineer or their representative.

2. Remove Levees Surrounding Constructed Percolation Ponds

The project will remove existing levee system that is the perimeter of the existing percolation ponds (4.2 acres). With the exception of the eastern levee that will remain in place, the northern, southern, and western levees will be removed and regraded to the native floodplain elevation. Existing pipes and related wastewater treatment infrastructure will be removed from the percolation ponds and recycled off-site by the project contractor.

3. Construct New Backwater Channel

The backwater off-channel habitat complex (1,775 approximate total length including side channels) will be located within the active floodplain, continuing upstream from an existing river backwater channel. The mouth of the backwater channel will empty at the current location of the existing storm water ditch outlet. The downstream elevation of the backwater channel is controlled by the topography of the storm water ditch, which is currently (as of 2016) at approximately 3.5 to 4 ft elevation, and an existing river backwater channel that the storm water ditch drains into which grades down to approximately -4 ft elevation near Humboldt County's existing culvert outlet (as of 2016). The proposed channel grades up from approximately 3 ft elevation to approximately 6.2 ft elevation over a slope of 0.25% for 1,250 ft. The channel flattens to a slope of 0.11% through the north pond reach for 325 feet and then steepens to a 2% slope up to the transitional wetland (south pond).

To minimize potential turbidity impacts, temporary plugs may be installed within the constructed backwater channel to pool groundwater seepage for dewatering. The plugs will be removed as final step of project implementation to ensure construction is not completed in a wetted environment. The plugs will be removed from upstream to downstream with the downstream-most plug removed during a rising tide. Small heavy equipment (mini-excavator) will be used to construct the backwater channel complex to minimize riparian impacts.

4. Construct Off-Channel Pond, Wetland Flats, and Islands

An off-channel pond (0.8 acres) will be constructed 1,200 ft upstream of the backwater channel confluence with the existing storm water ditch. The pond will be excavated to 0 ft elevation with a 20-ft width and 100-ft length. The pond is located off-set from the backwater channel, to reduce sediment loading. Minimum depths of approximately 6 ft are to inhibit emergent vegetation from colonizing in the deeper portions of the pools.

The area between the off-channel pond and the backwater channel will provide wetland flats at an elevation of 7 to 8 ft and elevated topography as isolated islands vegetated with riparian trees at a peak of 11 to 13 ft elevation. The wetlands will likely be emergent freshwater wetlands; however, there is a possibility that salt-tolerant, brackish vegetation could colonize, depending on salinities.

5. Install Wood Habitat Structures

Twelve wood placements (approximately 72 CY) will be installed below finished grade into channel and pond banks. Placed wood shall be 12-inch diameter or greater, as-is available on-site. Large wood will be placed in the field under the supervision of the project engineer and project biologist.

6. Create and Plant a Riparian Areas

A riparian bench, an interior peninsula and islands will support native tree species (2.1 acres) at 13 to 14 ft elevation is proposed for riparian trees along the east side of the large transitional wetland (south pond) to increase habitat complexity and direct overtopping flow-through towards the wetlands and backwater channel.

7. Wetland Areas

Wetland and transitional wetlands will support emergent vegetation in the graded area surrounding the ponds at the terminus of the backwater off-channel habitat area. The northern outlet of the pond will be planted with native emergent wetland plants to reduce the risk of the pond filling with fine sediment, as the plants are intended to serve as a filter between the pond and the backwater channel. Newly created wetlands and transitional wetlands will total 2.0 acres.

8. Invasive Species

Invasive species, include reed canary grass, Himalayan blackberry and periwinkle exist on the project site but are not yet dominant. When encountered within the footprint of construction, these species will be removed with heavy equipment.

6.3 Public Access Project Features

1. Parking Interface with Humboldt County

Humboldt County will be constructing a parking area (0.5 acres) at the west end of School Road, to support parking for trail users. The parking area will include a handicapped space. The improved parking will prohibit cars from blocking pedestrian, ADA, and bicycle access via the existing School Road Trail. The parking area is bound to the east and west by power poles and the length of the spaces approximately align with the two western-most parcels, east of Ocean Ave (on the north side of School Road).

2. ADA Accessible Trail

A paved ADA accessible trail (approximately 315 ft long, 8 ft wide) will upgrade and connect the existing informal trail present within the project area to the well-used Hammond Coastal Trail via the School Road Trail. The proposed trail will reduce ecological impacts to surrounding resources by constraining public use to the trail surface while still interfacing with nature. The temporary grading boundary surrounding of trail construction may extend approximately 5 ft on either side for equipment access.

3. Bluff Overlook

An ADA accessible bluff overlook (approximate dimensions: 44 ft x 52 ft) will support nature study, allowing nature study and viewpoints of the Mad River, the Hammond Bridge, the Arcata Bottoms, and the Pacific Ocean. The bluff overlook will be constructed with a concrete paved base, redwood post footings, 1 ½" galvanized handrails, and cribbed redwood steps. Light willow trimming and branch removal (riparian) will be conducted to broaden the viewshed for users in the vicinity immediately surrounding the bluff overlook.

4. Wildlands Interface Trails

A wildland-interface trail network connects the bluff overlook to the river access location to the south and slightly upstream. The trail will be 4-8 ft wide with a total length of approximately 1,200 ft. The trail will not meet ADA accessibility standard but will be paved to the river access location. Beyond this point, the trail surface will be surfaced with gravel. The trail will emerge through the riparian vegetation at two locations to provide west and south-facing views of the river. The temporary grading boundary surrounding of trail construction may extend approximately five ft on either side for equipment access.

5. River Access

A small river access will be created to support small craft boaters, anglers, and water-contact recreation. Heavy equipment will not disturb the wetted perimeter of the Mad River to construct this feature. Construction will include minor bank regrading and rearrangement of existing large boulders or cutting steps into existing large boulders (previously placed along the east bank of the river) to better support non-motorized pedestrian river access. A boat ramp or dock feature will not be constructed. Approximately 12 linear feet of willows will be removed at the access point and light willow trimming and branch removal (riparian) will be conducted to broaden the viewshed for users in the vicinity immediately surrounding the river access.

6. Resting Locations

Two benches will be installed at key locations throughout the trail network. Benches will be installed on concrete pads in locations elevated on the bluff to reduce risk of flood mobilization.

7. Instructional and Interpretive Signage

Instruction and interpretive signage, including informational kiosks, will be installed throughout the trail network. Interpretive signage will provide information about guidelines for user conduct, the Wiyot cultural history of the project area, and the ecological attributes of the project area and related restoration actions. Interpretive signage will be installed on small concrete pads and will include wood and metal components, along with aluminum or high density polyvinyl with vinyl adhesive mounted to railings.

7 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Construction will occur between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday during the permitted construction window.

8 REQUIRED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

The Project requires the following permits and approvals to proceed:

- Humboldt County – Conditional Use Permit and Grading Permit
- California Coastal Commission – Coastal Development Permit
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife - – Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, Incidental Take or Consistency Determination Process, or Consistency Determination for

Salmonids with NMFS Biological Opinion, or CESA MOU under Fish and Game Code 2081(a)

- Regional Water Quality Control Board (North Coast Region) – 401 Water Quality Certification
- United States Army Corps of Engineers – Clean Water Act Section 404 compliance, including
 - United States Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service – Section 7 Consultation
- State Lands Commission –Determination with a potential requirement for Lease

9 INITIAL STUDY & MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Aesthetics | ☐ Agricultural Resources |
| ☐ Air Quality | ☐ Biological Resources |
| ☐ Cultural Resources | ☐ Energy |
| ☐ Geology/Soils | ☐ Green House Gas Emissions |
| ☐ Hazards | ☐ Hydrology/Water Quality |
| ☐ Land Use/Planning | ☐ Mineral Resources |
| ☐ Noise | ☐ Population/Housing |
| ☐ Public Services | ☐ Recreation |
| ☐ Transportation/Traffic | ☐ Tribal Cultural |
| ☐ Utilities/Service Systems | ☐ Wildfire |
| ☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance | |

DETERMINATION

Based on 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 those 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.

Greg Orsini, General Manager

Date

##/##/2019

ATTACHMENT 4

Referral Agency Comments

Referral Agency	Response	Recommendation
Arcata Fire Department	✓	Approval
County Building Department	✓	Approval
McKinleyville CSD	✓	Approval
County Department of Environmental Health		
County Public Works Land Use	✓	Conditional approval
County Public Works Natural Resources		
California Coastal Commission		
NWIC	✓	Refer to Tribe(s)
Blue Lake Rancheria	✓	Conditional approval
Wiyot Tribe	✓	Conditional approval
NMFS		
USFWS		
USACOE		
Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District		



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
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ENGINEERING 445-7377
FACILITY MANAGEMENT 445-7493

NATURAL RESOURCES 445-7741
NATURAL RESOURCES PLANNING 267-9540
PARKS 445-7651
ROADS 445-7421

CLARK COMPLEX
HARRIS & H ST., EUREKA
FAX 445-7388

LAND USE 445-7205

LAND USE DIVISION INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Tricia Shortridge, Planner, Planning & Building Department

FROM: Ken Freed, Assistant Engineer 

DATE: 12/03/2019

RE: **MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT,
APN 508-021-006, APPS# PLN-2019-15879 CUP/CDP**

This project is to perform habitat restoration and will also establish a public trail access and overlook at the Mad River.

The Mad River floodplain and Public Access Enhancement Project Plan of Operations prepared by California Trout, dated August 15, 2019, contains Figure 6 on Page 3 which shows the project boundary. Within the project boundary is a staging and parking area along School Road (A3L070), a paved County maintained road.

Section 7.1 under the heading of "Local Roads" states that the applicant, California Trout, is presently coordinating with Humboldt County staff to develop a small parking area at the western end of School Road to upgrade existing informal parking along the southern shoulder for long-term site access. In addition, Section 10.3 titled "Public Access Project Features" states, "While not included within the proposed action, Humboldt County will be constructing a parking area at the west end of School Road, to support parking for trail users. The parking area will include a handicapped space."

It is important to clarify that the Department does not have any plans to construct on-street parking (including ADA accessible parking) on School Road at this time or in the future. The Department does not object to the applicant constructing a parking area along the shoulder of School Road. The applicant may wish to modify their application if they intend to construct parking facilities within the public road right of way for School Road. Any work done within the public road right of way for School Road will require the issuance of an encroachment permit by the Department.

Our review of this project is limited to what is shown on the submitted plot plan. If other facilities not shown on the plot plan will be constructed, contact this Department immediately for approval **before** construction. This Department has regulations regarding facilities such as retaining walls, fence site visibility, drainage culverts, and parking lanes within the County right of way. This Department has included general statements for facilities that may not be included on the plot plan.

The following conditions are recommended:

- (1) The applicant must apply for and obtain an encroachment permit to allow staging within School Road (C3H200), a paved county maintained road. [reference: County Code section 411-11 (a)(b)]
- (2) Applicant is responsible for providing all trail connection features within the public road right of way, to current accessibility standards.

Informational Notes:

1. During construction, roadways shall be periodically cleaned of mud, soil, rock, and debris.
2. No construction materials or debris shall be placed within the County road right of way during the project, unless permitted thru an encroachment permit.

// END //