

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
FOR THE  
BUCKS BAR ROAD AT NORTH FORK COSUMNES RIVER - BRIDGE (NO. 25C0003)  
REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**DATE:** June 21, 2018

**TO:** Interested Agencies and Individuals

**FROM:** El Dorado County Department of Transportation

The El Dorado County Department of Transportation (Transportation) is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Bucks Bar Road at North Fork Cosumnes River - Bridge Replacement Project. Transportation is soliciting the view of interested persons and agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included in the EIR. Agencies should comment with regard to information relevant to the agencies' statutory responsibilities, as required by Section 15082 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. Transportation will also accept written comments regarding the scope and content from interested persons and organizations concerned with the Project, in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines Section 15083.

The scoping comment period begins June 25, 2018 and ends July 25, 2018. Please direct all written comments to: El Dorado County Department of Transportation, Attention: Ms. Donna Keeler, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667. **Individuals and organization/agency representatives are invited to provide written and oral comments at a scoping meeting that will be held on Monday evening, July 9, 2018 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Pioneer Park Community Center, 7640 Fairplay Road, Somerset, CA.** Persons with disabilities that may require special accommodations at the scoping meeting should contact Donna Keeler at the above address, or by phone at 530/ 621-3829. This notice can also be found on the El Dorado County Transportation website at [https://www.edcgov.us/Government/dot/Pages/bridge\\_projects.aspx](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/dot/Pages/bridge_projects.aspx).

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The Bucks Bar Road Bridge Replacement Project is located along Bucks Bar Road approximately one mile northwest of the community of Somerset in southern El Dorado County (Figure 1). Bucks Bar Road is an east-west, two-lane, off-system rural major collector connecting Pleasant Valley Road with Mount Aukum Road.

**BACKGROUND:** The existing bridge was constructed in 1940-1941 and is a one lane bridge on a two lane road. The current width only accommodates a single lane which forces southbound vehicles to yield to northbound travelers until the bridge is clear. The Caltrans Local Agency Bridge List classifies the bridge as functionally obsolete with a sufficiency rating of 71.4. The bridge railings, transitions, approach rails, and approach guardrails do not meet current standards. The June 2013 bridge inspection indicates that the deck geometry is 'basically intolerable requiring high priority of replacement'. The existing bridge does not pass the 100-yr flows and was observed being overtopped during a major storm in 1997.

A CEQA Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was prepared and publically circulated from 22 July to 21 August 2015. The IS/MND evaluated the County's preferred 40 mph design speed, replacement alternative consisting of a cast-in-place (CIP) prestressed (PS) single span concrete box girder bridge. Eight (8) comment letters were received from members of the public and regulatory agencies during the public review period. The most significant of the comment letters were associated with cultural resources/ Section 106 resources. In November 2015 the County decided not to adopt the CEQA IS/ MND based on new cultural resource information. Based on the new information the County decided to prepare a CEQA EIR.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Project proposes to replace the existing Bucks Bar Road Bridge over the North Fork Cosumnes River. Transportation will use Highway Bridge Program (HBP) funds to replace the existing structure to improve roadway safety and comply with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) design guidelines and El Dorado County standards.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS AND PUBLIC INPUT:** Following receipt of input during the comment period, the County will prepare a Draft EIR that will describe the Project and alternatives (including a no project alternative as required by CEQA) and will identify the potential environmental effects and mitigation measures that may be necessary to minimize or avoid such effects. The Draft EIR will be made available for public review and input for a 45-day review period. The County will consider all comments received and will prepare a Final EIR which identifies any necessary changes to the Draft and provides responses to all comments on the Draft. The County Board of Supervisors will consider certification of the Final EIR prior to approval of actions required for undertaking the Project.