

2.0 INTRODUCTION

This section summarizes the purpose of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR); describes the environmental procedures that are to be followed according to state law; the intended uses of the EIR; the EIR's scope and organization; contact person; impact terminology; and definitions of commonly used terms.

2.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

This Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) has been prepared in conformance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to evaluate the environmental effects of implementing the proposed amendment and update to the County of Tehama's General Plan. The project is described in detail in Section 3.0, Project Description.

2.2 LEGAL BASIS

The County of Tehama, acting as the lead agency, has prepared this DEIR to provide the public, responsible and trustee agencies with information about the potential environmental effects of the Project. As described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15121(a), an EIR is a public information document that assesses potential environmental effects of the proposed Project, and identifies mitigation measures and alternatives to the proposed Project that could reduce or avoid adverse environmental impacts. Public agencies are charged with the duty to consider and minimize environmental impacts of proposed development where feasible, and have an obligation to balance a variety of public objectives, including economic, environmental, and social factors when considering a project.

CEQA requires the preparation of an environmental impact report prior to approving any "project" which may have a significant effect on the environment. For the purposes of Section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines, a "project" is defined as follows:

- a) "Project" means the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in physical change in the environment, directly or ultimately, and that is any of the following:
 - (1) An activity directly undertaken by any public agency including but not limited to public works construction and related activities, clearing or grading of land, improvements to existing public structures, *enactment and amendment of zoning ordinances, and the adoption and amendment of local General Plans or elements thereof pursuant to Government Code Sections 65100-65700.* (Emphasis added)
 - (2) An activity undertaken by a person which is supported in whole or in part through public agency contracts, grants, subsidies, loans, or other forms of assistance from one or more public agencies.
 - (3) An activity involving the issuance to a person of a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement for use by one or more public agencies.

The updating and implementation of the updated General Plan and Zoning Ordinance is a "project" within the definition of CEQA, which has the potential for resulting in significant environmental effects.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.3 KNOWN RESPONSIBLE AND TRUSTEE AGENCIES

For the purposes of CEQA, a "Trustee" agency has jurisdiction by law over natural resources that are held in trust for the people of the State of California. (CEQA Guidelines Section 15386) For example, the California Department of Fish and Game is a trustee agency with regard to the fish and wildlife of the state and designated rare or endangered native plants. The term "Responsible Agency" includes all public agencies other than the Lead Agency that have discretionary approval power over the project or an aspect of the project. (CEQA Guidelines Section 15381) However, there are no formal "responsible agencies" in the context of a General Plan Update because no other agency other than Tehama County has discretionary authority over any aspect of approving the General Plan revision.

A number of federal, state and local agencies have been addressed and/or contacted in the general plan process. These agencies include

- Tehama County Local Agency Formation Commission
- Tri -County Area Planning Council
- Tehama County Air Pollution Control District
- Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill Management Agency
- Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- Tehama County Resource Conservation District
- Tehama County Airport Land Use Commission
- Tehama County Sanitary Landfill Association
- Tehama County Parks and Recreation Department
- Cal-Fire (formerly the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection)
- Antelope School District
- Bend School District
- Corning Union Elementary School District
- Corning Union High School District
- Elkins School District
- Evergreen Union Elementary School District
- Manton Joint Unified School District
- Mineral Elementary School District
- Plum Valley Elementary District
- Reeds Creek Elementary School District
- Red Bluff Joint Unified High School District
- Red Bluff Union School District
- Richfield Elementary School District
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- California Department of Conservation
- California Department of Fish and Game
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control
- Caltrans District 2
- Caltrans Division of Aeronautics
- State Water Resources Control Board
- Native American Heritage Commission
- Federal Aviation Administration

- Flornoy Union School District
- Lassen View Union Elementary School District
- Los Molinos Unified School District
- Kirkwood School District
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

2.4 TYPE OF DOCUMENT

The EIR for the Tehama County 2008-2028 General Plan project has been prepared as a program EIR. A program EIR evaluates the potential impacts of general goals and policies at a broad program level, as opposed to evaluation of project-level development proposals that would have site-specific issues and impacts. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15146, the degree of specificity of this EIR corresponds with the degree of specificity involved in the underlying activity; i.e., adoption of revisions to the Tehama County 2008-2028 General Plan and related implementation. Since the 2008-2028 General Plan revision is "general" in nature and proposes few policies and actions that would have substantial physical changes in land use and related impacts greater than policies that are already in effect, this EIR is necessarily less detailed than an EIR would be for a site-specific construction project or similar activity. Therefore, this EIR is intentionally direct and concise, as opposed to speculative and exhaustive.

2.5 INTENDED USES OF THE EIR

This EIR has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, consistent with the most current update to the CEQA Guidelines. The EIR is intended to evaluate the environmental consequences of implementing the 2008-2028 General Plan update. This EIR, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15126, should be used as the primary environmental document to evaluate subsequent planning and permitting actions associated with implementation of the Project, including, but not limited to the following:

- Future updating of the Zoning Ordinance
- Development of Public Facility Master Plans
- Evaluating Capital Improvement Plans
- Street and highway improvement plans
- School and park development
- Historic preservation plans

Additional project-specific and site-specific analysis will be needed when future projects and actions exceed the scope of impact analysis contained in this EIR.

2.6 ORGANIZATION AND SCOPE

Sections 15122 through 15132 of the CEQA Guidelines identify the content requirements for Draft and Final EIRs. An EIR must include a description of the environmental setting, an environmental impact analysis, mitigation measures (where warranted), alternatives, unavoidable environmental effects, significant irreversible environmental changes, growth inducing impacts, and cumulative impacts. The environmental issues addressed in the DEIR were established through review of environmental documentation developed for the project, environmental

2.0 INTRODUCTION

documentation for nearby projects, public agency responses to the Notice of Preparation and comments received throughout the history of the project.

The County of Tehama determined that the preparation of an EIR was appropriate due to potentially significant environmental impacts that could result from implementing the proposed 2008-2028 General Plan. This DEIR evaluates the existing environmental resources within the County, analyzes potential impacts on those resources due to the proposed project, and identifies mitigation measures that could avoid or reduce the magnitude of those impacts. This EIR provides a general review of the environmental effects of development of the County, based on proposed land use designations and estimated public service demands resulting therefrom. This EIR may be used to evaluate the direct and indirect environmental effects of subsequent development under the 2008-2028 General Plan. However, as noted above, additional CEQA analysis will be needed when subsequent projects exceed the scope of environmental impact analysis provided in this EIR.

This Draft EIR is organized in the following manner:

SECTION 1.0 – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This section summarizes the characteristics of the 2008-2028 General Plan, alternatives to the project, and public scoping comments.

SECTION 2.0 - INTRODUCTION

Section 2.0 provides an introduction and overview describing the intended use of the program EIR and the review and certification process.

SECTION 3.0 - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section provides a detailed description of the proposed project, including intended objectives, background information, and physical and technical characteristics of the proposal.

SECTION 4.0 - ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Section 4.0 contains an analysis of environmental topic areas as identified below. Each subsection contains a description of the existing setting of the Project Area, identifies project-related impacts, identifies feasible mitigation measures where warranted.

The following major environmental topics shall be addressed in this Section:

- **Aesthetics:** This section assesses the potential impacts that the project may have on scenic qualities and vistas within the county, and the potential impacts the project may have on those scenic vistas that provide a backdrop around the county.
- **Agricultural Resources:** Reviews the extent of the project's potential impacts on agricultural land and uses.
- **Air Quality:** Discusses the local and regional air quality impacts associated with project implementation.
- **Biological and Natural Resources:** Addresses the project's potential impacts on habitat, vegetation, and wildlife, while emphasizing the potential degradation or elimination of important habitat and impacts upon listed, proposed, and candidate threatened and endangered species.

- **Historic and Cultural Resources:** Addresses the potential impacts on historic and archaeological resources within the General Plan Planning Area.
- **Geology and Soils:** Addresses the potential impacts the project may have regarding geotechnical concerns including soils, soil suitability for development and seismic hazards.
- **Hazards and Hazardous Materials:** Discusses the transport of hazardous materials within the Planning Area and the treatment of hazardous materials, when existing, in known locations, or when a project uses hazardous materials.
- **Hydrology and Water Quality:** Examines the impacts of the project on local hydrological conditions such as drainage areas, impacts of erosion and flood hazards.
- **Land Use:** Addresses the potential land use impacts associated with implementation of the project including compatibility with existing land uses, development trends, and conflict with other agency plans.
- **Mineral Resources:** An assessment of the available mineral resources in the County and the current status of inventories by the State.
- **Noise:** Examines ambient noise levels in various areas of the County, major noise sources, and impacts that may be caused by increases in development.
- **Population and Housing:** Reviews population projections and related housing that would be needed to satisfy the projections, including land needs and potential housing displacement that could occur.
- **Public Services:** Discusses the impacts the General Plan update will have on law enforcement, fire protection, water supply and distribution, and other utilities.
- **Recreation:** Reviews the extent of existing recreation facilities and the need for future facilities as growth occurs.
- **Transportation and Circulation:** Addresses the impacts on the local and regional road system, specifically on those roadways that may be impacted as a result of growth and related traffic increases.
- **Utilities and Service Systems:** A discussion of the status and capacities of existing wastewater, water and solid waste systems and their needs as population increases.

SECTION 5.0 – ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROJECT

CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6 requires that an EIR describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, which could feasibly attain the basic objectives of the project and avoid and/or lessen the environmental effects of the project. This alternatives analysis provides a comparative analysis between the Project and the selected alternatives, which include:

- **No Project Alternative:** CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(e) requires that a “no-project” alternative be evaluated in an EIR. This alternative considers the environmental effects of not approving the proposed Project. The No Project alternative assumes that the existing General Plan and zoning ordinances would continue to be used by the County to manage future development and land use decisions.
- **Land Use Plan Option A Alternative:** This Alternative is based on the Land Use Plan Option A of the 2008-2028 General Plan.
- **Two Urban Growth Areas Alternative:** This alternative would primarily confine the future areas of growth in the County into areas surrounding the cities of Red Bluff and Corning.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

SECTION 6.0 – CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

This section summarizes the cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project using the same general environmental issue areas as Section 4.0. Cumulative impacts are the result of combining the potential effects of the project (i.e. the 2008-2028 General Plan update) with other planned and foreseeable development projects.

SECTION 7.0 – OTHER EVALUATIONS REQUIRED BY CEQA

This section contains required discussions and analysis of various topical issues mandated by CEQA, including: cumulative effects; environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the project is implemented; growth inducing impacts; climate change; and irreversible environmental changes and irretrievable commitment of resources.

SECTION 8.0 – REPORT PREPARERS AND PERSONS CONSULTED

This section provides a list of all authors and agencies that assisted in the preparation of the report by name, title, and company or agency affiliation.

APPENDICES

This section includes all notices and other procedural documents pertinent to the EIR, as well as all technical reports prepared to support the analysis.

2.7 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

The review and certification process for the EIR will involve the following procedural steps:

NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND INITIAL STUDY

The County of Tehama was identified as the Lead Agency for the proposed project. In accordance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, the County of Tehama prepared a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for an EIR on July 16, 2007. This Notice of Preparation was sent to twenty-four public agencies. The Office of Planning and Research assigned this NOP a State Clearinghouse number, #2007072062. The public comment period commenced on July 16, 2007 and ended on August 14, 2007. A notice was circulated to the public, local, state, and federal agencies, and other interested parties to solicit comments on the proposed project. Eight public agencies provided comments. (See **Appendix 2.1-1**) A public scoping meeting on the Notice of Preparation and Draft General Plan update was conducted on August 1, 2007 in the City of Red Bluff. A Notice of Availability and Public Hearing was published for this meeting on July 16, 2007 in the Red Bluff Daily News (see **Appendix 2.1-1**).

DRAFT EIR

This document constitutes the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). The DEIR contains a description of the project, description of the environmental setting, identification of project impacts, and mitigation measures when warranted for impacts found to be significant, as well as an analysis of project alternatives. Upon completion of the DEIR, the County will file the Notice of Completion (NOC) with the State Office of Planning and Research to begin the public review period (Public Resources Code, Section 21161).

PUBLIC NOTICE/PUBLIC REVIEW

Concurrent with the Notice of Completion (NOC), the County will provide public notice of the availability of the DEIR for public review, and will invite comment from the general public, agencies, organizations, and other interested parties. The public review and comment period will be forty-five (45) days. Public comment on the DEIR will be accepted both in written form and orally at public hearings. Although no public hearings on the EIR are required by CEQA, the County expects to sponsor a public review meeting during the 45-day review period. Notice of the time and location of the hearing will be published in the Notice of Availability. All comments or questions regarding the DEIR should be addressed to:

George Robson, Planning Director
County of Tehama
444 Oak Street – Room 1
Red Bluff, CA 96080
Phone: (530) 527-2200

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS/FINAL EIR

Following the public review period, a Final EIR (FEIR) will be prepared. The FEIR will respond to written comments received during the public review period and to oral comments made at any public hearing. The Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors will review and consider the FEIR prior to their decision to approve or conditionally approve the project.

CERTIFICATION OF THE EIR

When the County finds that the FEIR is "adequate and complete", the County may certify the FEIR. The rule of adequacy generally holds that the EIR can be certified if: 1) it shows a good faith effort at full disclosure of environmental information, and 2) provides sufficient analysis to allow decisions to be made regarding the project in contemplation of environmental considerations.

PROJECT CONSIDERATION

Upon review and consideration of the FEIR, the County may consider action on the project. A decision to adopt the 2008-2028 General Plan update would be accompanied by written Findings in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15091 and, if applicable, Section 15093.

MITIGATION MONITORING

CEQA Section 21081.6(a) requires lead agencies to adopt a mitigation monitoring and reporting program to describe measures that have been adopted or made a condition of project approval in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment. Any mitigation measures adopted by the County as conditions for approval for a specific project will be included in a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program to verify compliance.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.8 COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION

The County received several comment letters on the Notice of Preparation for the Tehama County 2008-2028 General Plan DEIR. A copy of each letter is provided in **Appendix 2.1-2** of this DEIR. The County received letters from the following federal, state, and local agencies, and other interested parties.

- State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), District 2
- State of California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal-Fire)
- State of California Department of Conservation
- State of California Department of Water Resources, Northern District
- State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
- State of California Public Utilities Commission
- Tehama County Air Pollution Control District
- City of Red Bluff
- Tehama County Resource Conservation District
- State of California Department of Fish and Game

The following summarizes the concerns in these letters.

- The DEIR should address impacts and mitigation measures to the potentially impacted Interstate 5 (I-5) corridor between the City of Red Bluff and Shasta County Line.
- The DEIR should discuss how the needed infrastructure to support the proposed densities will be funded to meet existing and future needs.
- Increased densities in the northern part of the unincorporated area may further spread the population, thereby increasing the difficulty in providing public transit.
- The DEIR should address circulation and transportation growth impacts and mitigation measures for Bowman Road, Lake California, Baker Road/State Route (SR 36, Jelly's Ferry Road, Adobe Road, South Avenue, SR 99/Aramayo, Hooker Creek Road, and Solano Street areas.
- The DEIR should address the needed improvements to I-5, and State Highways 99 and 36 due to the proposed increased residential densities.
- The DEIR should provide information necessary to determine whether the County will need to formally adopt plan lines for these future routes so that right of way preservation can occur.
- In regard to Implementation Measure CIR 1.1c, the reference to the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) standards should be changed to the Transportation Research Board's Highway Capacity Manual as it is the more appropriate reference.
- Caltrans supports Policy CIR 1.2 and related implementation measures in addressing non-capacity roadway concerns for safety.
- The DEIR should discuss how the transportation links between each new master planned community, which the 2008-2028 General Plan promotes, and existing communities will occur.

- The DEIR should address the Land Use Option A alternative as well as an EIR alternative that considers the 20-year residential land supply needs based on historic growth trends.
- Caltrans supports the adoption of implementation measures and mitigation measures that identify the amount of funding necessary for the needed circulation system in the EIR, as well as the feasibility of achieving the funding sources for the transportation related improvements needed.
- The DEIR should assess the link between the proposed increased residential densities and air quality, housing, and other infrastructure needs such as water supply.
- Anywhere within the document where "The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection" is listed, the new moniker, "Cal-Fire" should appear in parenthesis immediately following. "Cal-Fire" should replace "CDF".
- Cal-Fire encourages the addition of the definition for "timberland" as provided in Public Resources Code 4526.
- In regard to Implementation Measure AG-1.1d, the addition of "or communication" after the word "cellular" should be implemented if it is deemed appropriate to distinguish the difference in types of towers.
- The DEIR should describe the project setting in terms of the actual and potential agricultural productivity of the land. The Important Farmland Map for Tehama County should be utilized to identify agricultural land within the project area and surrounding area that may be impacted.
- The Williamson Act maps should be utilized to identify potentially impacted farmland. A map detailing the location of agricultural preserves and contracted land within each preserve should be provided in the DEIR. The DEIR should also tabulate the number of Williamson Act acres that could be impacted directly or indirectly by the project.
- Current and past agricultural uses of the project area should be identified.
- Use economic multipliers to assess the total contribution of the agricultural production for the project area.
- Type, amount, and location of farmland conversion resulting directly and indirectly from the project should be identified.
- Impacts on current and future agricultural operations should be identified.
- Incremental project impacts leading to cumulatively considerable impacts on agricultural land should be identified.
- The DEIR should discuss the impacts that termination of Williamson Act contracts would have on nearby properties also under contract.
- Feasible alternatives to the project that would lessen or avoid farmland conversion impacts should be considered and mitigation measures to the impacts of direct conversion should be considered, even if these impacts are considered significant and unavoidable.
- The purchase of agricultural conservation easements on land of at least equal quality and size as partial compensation for the direct loss of agricultural land, as well as for the mitigation of growth inducing and cumulative impacts is recommended.
- Mitigation using conservation easements can be implemented by at least two alternatives: the outright purchase of conservation easements or via the donation of mitigation fees.
- The following mitigation measures should also be considered to address agricultural impacts resulting from the policies of the 2008-2028 General Plan: increasing home density or

2.0 INTRODUCTION

clustering residential units to allow a greater portion of the development site to remain in agricultural production, the use of 20-year or 10-year Farmland Security Zone contracts, establishing buffers to separate farmland from incompatible urban uses, and the use of mitigation banks.

- The DEIR must address specific resource impacts and cumulative effects to the water resources of the County as a result of implementation of the 2008-2028 General Plan.
- The DEIR must address the impacts and cumulative watershed effects on water quantity of surface water and ground water, water quality of surface water and ground water, depth, duration, inundation, and magnitude of run-off to the Sacramento River, and the 100-year floodplain.
- The DEIR should address the effects of the losses in permeable surfaces and vegetative resources resulting from the increase in growth allowed for in the 2008-2028 General Plan.
- The Department of Water Resources recommends the 2008-2028 General Plan contain a water element that addresses regional water balance.
- The DEIR should address impact to specific waterways and aquifers.
- The DEIR should contain mitigation that either prohibits the creation of lots less than one acre that can utilize onsite wastewater treatment and disposal systems, require a study to demonstrate that such lots will not cause unacceptable degradation of groundwater, or require some form of nitrogen removal technique with County oversight.
- There is concern about of the 2008-2028 General Plan's allowance of lots of less than one acre utilizing onsite wastewater treatment and disposal systems, which at such densities have the potential to create unacceptable degradation of the underlying aquifer by nitrates.
- The DEIR should address safety measures for development projects planned adjacent to or near the railway corridor.
- Some railway safety factors that should be provided in the DEIR include the planning for grade separations for major thoroughfares, improvements to existing at-grade highway-rail crossings, and appropriate fencing.
- In assessing the impacts of growth on air quality, a growth rate higher than the historical growth rate should be used in the DEIR in order to show the "Potential to Emit", which is the County Air Pollution Control District's definition for the maximum emissions from a proposed project.
- The DEIR should include a discussion about the impacts of the 2008-2028 General Plan on attainment status of the County, including impacts related to indirect sources.
- The DEIR should include discussions about potential sources, amounts, and impacts of greenhouse gases.
- The DEIR should note as an impact cumulative emissions from motor traffic in the southern portion of the Sacramento Valley combined with local emissions from Tehama County.
- A historical population growth projection model and methodology of around one to two percent should be included and analyzed in the DEIR.
- Future development around Red Bluff should be directed to new and separate wastewater facilities.
- All possible development within the City of Red Bluff's Sphere of Influence should be no greater than 10 acre minimum.

- The 2008-2028 General Plan should include policies for the adoption of a memorandum of understanding/cooperation with the City of Red Bluff in all development within the City's Sphere of Influence.
- The DEIR should mitigate transportation impacts of projects within the City of Red Bluff's Sphere of Influence by requiring a payment of capital improvement fees to the City.
- The 2008-2028 General Plan Circulation Element should incorporate a regional beltway or thoroughfare around the western edge of the City of Red Bluff.
- Provide for City/County cooperation in the establishment of need assessment districts and redevelopment agencies to plan and finance necessary infrastructure and potential costs.
- There is concern regarding the proposed levels of residential development proposed in the Draft 2008-2028 General Plan and the affect that will occur on public services.
- The DEIR should address the likeliness of new development paying for additional public services that they require.
- The Tehama County Resource Conservation District requests a fiscal impact analysis of the preferred version of the updated 2008-2028 General Plan in order to develop a complete, unbiased understanding of the financial and service level impacts the proposed development pattern will have on both current and future residents of the County.
- The DEIR should address Special Status Fish, Wildlife, and Plants in Tehama County, which have been provided by the California Department of Fish and Game in addition to the species listed in the Background Report.
- The DEIR should note that the Bald Eagle has been de-listed by the Fish and Wildlife Service, but remains protected by the Federal Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act and listed as State Endangered.
- Include in the DEIR a full discussion of the determination and timing of species-specific mitigation to avoid impacts to sensitive plant species present within the project area for development projects.
- The DEIR should analyze the potential for significant impacts which will result from urbanization within and adjacent to unique vernal pool resources and sensitive riparian communities along the Sacramento River.
- The Alternatives of the proposed project should also include options for additional policy level measures which might serve to minimize direct, indirect and cumulative impacts to sensitive aquatic and riparian habitat areas.
- In order to prevent a deferral of mitigation, DFG recommends that the DEIR include in the programmatic analysis, potentially significant impacts and required mitigation for development in areas where known wetland, vernal pool and riparian resources exist.
- It is strongly recommended by DFG that the DEIR evaluate non-disturbance buffer zone guidelines and alternatives analysis to minimize impacts to aquatic resources.
- The DEIR should evaluate and analyze the potential direct, indirect and cumulative impacts to deer where residential development is proposed within critical deer winter range habitats.
- The DEIR should include a discussion of oak woodland habitats and their distribution in the County and analyze the potential for direct, indirect and cumulative impact on wildlife and oak woodland habitat.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- DFG recommends that the DEIR discuss the potential need for state or federal incidental take permits, and the potential for development of an NCCP/HCP for selected regions of the County.
- The DEIR should examine the proposed Eastside Bypass Road, including direct and indirect impacts to biological resources, as well as the potential for cumulative and growth inducing impacts.
- DFG recommends that the DEIR assess the impacts of development on forest openings and mountain meadows, impact avoidance should be considered as the primary strategy and, at a minimum, a non-disturbance buffer mitigation should be considered.
- The DEIR is subject to CEQA Guidelines Section 15065(c), which provides that if a project will substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a threatened, rare, or endangered species, the EIR should focus on those impacts, make detailed findings on the feasibility of alternatives or mitigation measures to reduce such impacts, or make changes in the project to lessen or avoid such changes.

2.9 COMMONLY USED TERMS

DEFINITIONS

This EIR uses the following terminology in its analysis of environmental effects of the proposed project:

Project: Refers to the Tehama County 2008-2028 General Plan update.

2.10 ACRONYMS

The EIR uses the following definitions and acronyms in the various sections:

Acre feet	AF
Ambient Air Quality Standards	AAQS
Average Annual Daily Traffic	AADT
Average daily trips	ADT
Airborne Toxics Control Measure	ATCM
Best Management Practices	BMP
Bicycle Transportation Plan	BTP
Broader Sacramento Area	BSA
Bureau of Land Management	BLM
California Air Resources Board	ARB
California Building Code	CBC
California Clean Air Act	CCAA
California Climate Action Registry	CCAR
California Department of Conservation	DOC
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	Cal-Fire
California Emission Forecasting System	CEFS
California Environmental Quality Act	CEQA
California Environmental Protection Agency	Cal EPA
California Geologic Society	CGS
California Highway Patrol	CHP
California Invasive Plant Council	CalIPC

California Natural Diversity Database	CNDDDB
California Register of Historical Resources	CHR
Capital Improvement Plans	CIP
Central Valley Project	CVP
Certified Unified Program Agency	CUPA
Comprehensive Airport Land Use Plan	ALUP
Computer Aided Dispatch	CAD
Corning Police Department	CPD
Corning Water District	CWD
Draft Environmental Impact Report	DEIR
Essential Fish Habitat	EFH
Evolutionarily significant units	ESU
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program	FMMP
Farmland Protection Policy Act	FPPA
Federal Aviation Administration	FAA
Federal Clean Air Act	CAA
Federal Endangered Species Act	FESA
Federal Emergency Management Agency	FEMA
Fisheries Management Plan	FMP
Floor Area Ratio	FAR
Flood Hazard Zone	FHZ
Gerber-Las Flores Community Services District	GLACSD
Governor's Office of Emergency Services	OES
Greenhouse gas	GHG
Habitat conservation plan	HCP
Hazardous Air Pollutant	HAP
Hotspots Analysis and Reporting Program	HARP
Inhalable Particulate Matter	PM10
Instrument flight rules	IFR
Intermediate Regional Flow	IRF
Land Evaluation and Site Assessment	LESA
Land Inventory and Monitoring	LIM
Level of service	LOS
Light-emitting diode	LED
Local Agency Formation Commission	LAFCo
Local Responsibility Areas	LRA
Los Molinos Community Services District	LMCSD
Los Molinos Mutual Water Company	LMMWC
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act	MSA
Maximum Achievable Control Technology	MACT
Medical Transportation Program	METS
Methyl tertiary butyl ether	(MTBE)
Migratory Bird Treaty Act	MBTA
Modified Mercalli	MM
National emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants	NESHAP
Natural community conservation plan	NCCP
National Flood Insurance Program	NFIP
National Historic Preservation Act	NHPA
National Oceanic	NOAA
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	NPDES

2.0 INTRODUCTION

National Register of Historic Places	NRHP
Native American Heritage Commission	NAHC
Natural Resources Conservation Service	NRCS
Nitrogen oxides	NOX
Northern Sacramento Valley Air Basin	NSVAB
Notice of Preparation	NOP
On-site wastewater treatment systems	OWTS
Overall Work Program	OWP
Pacific Gas and Electric	PG&E
Particulate matter	PM
Paskenta Community Services District	PCSD
Perchloroethyl	PCE
Reactive organic gases	ROG
Regional Transportation Plan	RTP
Regional Water Resources Control Board	RWQCB
Rio Alto Water District	RAWD
River mile	RM
Runway protection zone	RPZ
Sacramento Valley Air Basin	SVAB
State Responsibility Areas	SRA
State Transportation Improvement Plan	STIP
State Water Resources Control Board	SWRCB
Surface Mining and Reclamation Act	SMARA
Tehama County Air Pollution Control District	TCAPCD
Tehama County Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan	TCACLUP
Tehama County Emergency Command Center	ECC
Tehama County Sheriff's Department Office of Emergency Services	TESA
Tehama County Transportation Commission	TCTC
Tehama County Parks and Recreation Department	TCPRD
Tehama Rural Area Express	TRAX
Tons per year	TPY
Toxic air contaminant	TAC
Traffic Impact Analysis Report	TIAR
Transportation Analysis Zone	TAZ
Transportation Concept Report	TCR
Transit American with Disabilities Plan	ADA
Transit Development Plan	TDP
Upper Sacramento Valley	USV
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Corps
U.S. Geological Survey	USGS
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service	USDA-SCS
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	EPA
Visual flight rules	VFR
Volatile organic compound	VOC