

BIDWELL PARK



VOLUME 1 — DRAFT MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



APRIL 2007

EDAW

BIDWELL PARK



VOLUME 1 – DRAFT MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
Acronyms and Abbreviations	vii
Glossary of Terms.....	ix
Spirit of Bidwell Park	1-1
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1-2
1.1 Introduction to the Park.....	1-2
1.1.1 Location and Setting of the Park.....	1-2
1.1.2 Historic and Current Context of the Park.....	1-2
1.1.3 Regional Context.....	1-5
1.2 Master Management Plan Update	1-6
1.2.1 Purpose of the Master Management Plan Update	1-6
1.2.2 Subsequent Planning Activities.....	1-6
1.2.3 Public Involvement and Agency Review	1-6
1.3 Contents of the Master Management Plan Update.....	1-7
1.3.1 Introduction.....	1-7
1.3.2 Existing Conditions.....	1-7
1.3.3 Management Goals and Objectives and Implementing Strategies and Guidelines	1-8
1.3.4 Environmental Impact Report	1-8
1.3.5 Plan Preparers	1-8
1.3.6 References	1-8
1.3.7 Other Sections	1-8
2 EXISTING CONDITIONS	2-1
2.1 Park Zones.....	2-1
2.1.1 Lower Park.....	2-1
2.1.1.1 Cedar Grove.....	2-1
2.1.1.2 One Mile Recreation Area	2-1
2.1.1.3 Lost Park.....	2-1
2.1.1.4 Annie’s Glen/Camellia Way	2-2
2.1.2 Middle Park.....	2-2
2.1.2.1 Horseshoe Lake.....	2-2
2.1.3 Upper Park	2-2
2.1.3.1 Proposed Disc Golf Facility/Trailhead at the SR 32 Site	2-7
2.1.4 Trails Plan	2-7
2.2 Land Uses.....	2-7
2.2.1 City of Chico General Plan & Zoning.....	2-7
2.2.1.1 Park and Recreation Plan, CARD (1988)	2-8
2.2.1.2 Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (1990).....	2-8
2.2.2 Surrounding Land Uses.....	2-9
2.2.2.1 Butte County General Plan	2-9
2.2.3 Park-wide Land Use.....	2-9
2.2.4 Regional Context.....	2-10
2.2.5 Park Orientation	2-11
2.3 Park Resources.....	2-12
2.3.1 Physical Resources.....	2-12
2.3.1.1 Topography.....	2-12

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
2.3.1.2	Geology/Soils 2-12
2.3.1.3	Hydrology/Water Quality 2-15
2.3.1.4	Air Quality 2-23
2.3.2	Biological Resources..... 2-23
2.3.2.1	Regulatory Background 2-23
2.3.2.2	Botanical Resources..... 2-23
2.3.2.3	Terrestrial Wildlife 2-48
2.3.2.4	Aquatic Resources 2-65
2.3.3	Cultural Resources 2-80
2.3.3.1	Cultural Setting 2-80
2.3.3.2	Prehistoric Context 2-87
2.3.3.3	Ethnographic Context 2-87
2.3.3.4	Historic Context..... 2-90
2.3.3.5	Bidwell Park History 2-91
2.3.3.6	Background Research 2-92
2.3.4	Interpretative and Educational Resources 2-93
2.3.4.1	Facilities and Other Resources..... 2-93
2.3.4.2	Themes..... 2-94
2.3.4.3	Programs and Special Events..... 2-94
2.3.4.4	Rules and Regulations 2-94
2.3.5	Aesthetic Resources 2-94
2.3.5.1	Visual Resources and Scenic Characteristics..... 2-94
2.3.5.2	Viewsheds..... 2-95
2.3.5.3	Night Sky 2-95
2.3.6	Recreational Resources 2-95
2.3.6.1	Recreational Activities..... 2-95
2.3.6.2	Trails 2-95
2.3.6.3	Patterns and Levels of Recreational Use 2-96
2.4	Facilities 2-96
2.4.1	Buildings 2-96
2.4.1.1	Chico Creek Nature Center..... 2-96
2.4.1.2	Rod and Gun Club 2-97
2.4.1.3	Kiwanis Community Observatory 2-97
2.4.1.4	Restrooms 2-97
2.4.2	Recreational Facilities 2-97
2.4.2.1	Playgrounds 2-97
2.4.2.2	Golf Course..... 2-97
2.4.2.3	Chico Equestrian Association Arena 2-97
2.4.2.4	Swimming Areas..... 2-98
2.4.2.5	Horseshoe Lake Fishing Pier 2-98
2.4.2.6	Disc Golf (Unofficial)..... 2-98
2.4.2.7	Picnic Tables..... 2-98
2.4.2.8	Benches..... 2-98
2.4.2.9	ADA Accessibility 2-99
2.4.3	Circulation and Access..... 2-99
2.4.4	Park Access 2-99

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
2.4.4.1	Access to Lower Park 2-99
2.4.4.2	Access to Middle Park 2-100
2.4.4.3	Access to Upper Park..... 2-107
2.4.4.4	Access Off SR 32..... 2-109
2.4.5	Utilities and Services..... 2-109
2.4.5.1	Lighting..... 2-109
2.4.5.2	High Voltage Power Lines..... 2-109
2.4.5.3	Other Utilities 2-109
2.4.6	Public Safety and Emergency Services..... 2-111
2.4.6.1	Fire Protection 2-111
2.5	Maintenance and Operations Staff 2-112
2.5.1	Funding 2-112
2.5.1.1	Funding Strategies 2-112
2.5.1.2	Bidwell Park Endowment Fund 2-113
2.5.2	Maintenance Staff 2-114
2.5.3	Rangers..... 2-114
2.6	Volunteers 2-114
2.6.1	Park Watch 2-114
2.6.2	Maintenance Activities..... 2-115
2.6.2.1	Trail Maintenance 2-115
2.6.2.2	Litter Control 2-115
2.6.2.3	Vegetation Management 2-115
2.6.2.4	Painting 2-115
2.6.3	Chico Creek Nature Center 2-115
2.7	Planning Influences..... 2-115
2.7.1	Demographic Profile 2-115
2.7.1.1	Local and Regional Residents..... 2-115
2.7.1.2	Existing and Potential Future Park Visitors..... 2-119
2.8	Key Planning Issues and Opportunities 2-119
2.8.1	Land Uses..... 2-120
2.8.2	Physical and Biological Resources 2-120
2.8.3	Cultural Resources 2-120
2.8.4	Aesthetic Resources 2-120
2.8.5	Interpretive and Educational Resources 2-120
2.8.6	Recreation 2-121
2.8.7	Upper Park Road 2-121
2.8.8	Site Specific Planning 2-121
3	PARK VISION, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES AND GUIDELINES 3-1
Bidwell Park Vision.....	3-1
3.1	Introduction..... 3-3
3.2	Purpose..... 3-4
3.3	Interpretation of the Plan..... 3-4
3.3.1	Procedures for Interpretation of BPMMP 3-4

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
3.3.2	Consideration of Previously Unidentified Uses 3-4
3.3.2.1	Similar Uses Allowed 3-4
3.3.2.2	Applicable Standards and Review 3-5
3.4	Implementation of the Plan 3-5
3.4.1	Procedures for Implementation 3-5
3.4.2	Roles and Responsibilities 3-6
3.4.3	Adaptive Management 3-6
3.4.4	Funding 3-6
3.5	Park-wide Goals 3-6
3.5.1	Decision-Making and Management 3-7
3.5.2	Land Uses 3-8
3.5.2.1	Management and Classification 3-8
3.5.2.2	Surrounding Land Uses 3-9
3.5.2.3	Regional Context 3-11
3.5.2.4	Visitor Uses 3-12
3.5.2.5	Acquisitions 3-12
3.5.3	Park Resources 3-13
3.5.3.1	Physical Resources 3-14
3.5.3.2	Biological Resources 3-16
3.5.3.3	Cultural Resources 3-21
3.5.3.4	Interpretive and Educational Resources 3-23
3.5.3.5	Aesthetic Resources 3-25
3.5.3.6	Recreational Resources 3-27
3.5.4	Facilities 3-31
3.5.4.1	Accessibility 3-32
3.5.4.2	Community Facilities 3-32
3.5.4.3	Restrooms (Permanent, Porta Potties) 3-33
3.5.4.4	Recreational Facilities 3-33
3.5.4.5	Circulation and Access 3-36
3.5.4.6	Utilities and Services 3-38
3.5.4.7	Public Safety and Emergency Services (including Fire Protection, Park Security and Medical Aid) 3-40
3.5.5	Maintenance and Operations 3-41
3.5.5.1	Maintenance Staff 3-41
3.5.5.2	Rangers 3-42
3.5.6	Volunteers 3-42
3.5.7	Design Standards 3-43
3.5.8	Funding and Implementation Resources 3-44
3.6	Zone-Specific Goals, Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines 3-45
3.6.1	Lower Park 3-45
3.6.1.1	Permissible Uses in Lower Park 3-45
3.6.1.2	Lower Park Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines 3-45
3.6.1.3	Cedar Grove Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines 3-46
3.6.1.4	One-Mile Recreation Area Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines 3-47
3.6.1.5	Lost Park 3-48

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
3.6.1.6 Annie’s Glen/Camellia Way	3-49
3.6.2 Middle Park	3-49
3.6.2.1 Permissible Uses in Middle Park	3-49
3.6.2.2 Middle Park Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines.....	3-49
3.6.2.3 Horseshoe Lake Area Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines.....	3-50
3.6.3 Upper Park	3-51
3.6.3.1 Permissible Uses in Upper Park.....	3-51
3.6.3.2 Upper Park Goal, Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines	3-51
3.6.3.3 Disc Golf Course Area/Trailhead Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines	3-54
 4 MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE AND ASSOCIATED PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS – DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT	 <i>See Volume 2</i>
 5 PLAN PREPARERS.....	 5-1
5.1 City of Chico Staff	5-1
5.2 Consultants.....	5-1
5.3 Citizen Advisory Committee.....	5-2
5.4 Bidwell Park and Playground Commission	5-3
 6 REFERENCES.....	 6-1
 TABLES	
2.2.3-1 City of Chico Park Acreage, 1989–2003	2-10
2.2.3-2 Responsibilities of the City of Chico Park Division.....	2-11
2.3.2-1 Overview of the Acreage Occupied by Each Plant Community.....	2-29
2.3.2-2 Special-Status Plant Species Known to Occur or with Potential to Occur in Bidwell Park	2-37
2.3.2-3 Special-Status Terrestrial Wildlife Species Known from or with Potential to Occur Bidwell Park	2-51
2.3.2.4-1 Fish Species Occurring in Big Chico Creek	2-66
2.3.2.4-2 Special-Status Fish Known from or with Potential to Occur in Big Chico Creek.....	2-67
2.3.2.4-3 Aquatic Invertebrates Observed in Big Chico Creek.....	2-76
2.3.3-1 Documented Cultural Resource Studies Previously Conducted in Bidwell Park	2-84
2.3.6-1 Percentage of Areas Visited.....	2-96
2.4.4.1-1 Lower Park Parking Capacity	2-104
2.4.4.2-1 Middle Park Parking Capacity	2-107
2.4.4.3-1 Upper Park Parking Capacity	2-108
2.4.5.3-1 Trash Receptacles Location in Bidwell Park	2-110
2.7.1-1 Historic Population Growth Trends.....	2-116
2.7.1-2 Population Projections by Jurisdiction 2005–2025	2-116
2.7.1-3 Ethnic Characteristics	2-117
2.7.1-4 Acres per Capita of Large Municipal Parks.....	2-118

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
---------	------

EXHIBITS

1.1.1-1	Regional Location of Bidwell Park.....	1-3
1.1.1-2	Project Location/Park Zone	1-4
2.1.1.1	Lower Park Facilities	2-3
2.1.2.1	Middle and Upper Park Facilities	2-5
2.3.1-1	Soils of Middle and Upper Bidwell Park	2-13
2.3.1-2	Surface Hydrology of Upper and Middle Bidwell Park	2-16
2.3.2-1a	Plant Communities – Lower Park	2-25
2.3.2-1b	Plant Communities – Middle and Upper Parks.....	2-27
2.3.2-2a	Known Special-status Species Occurrences – Middle Park.....	2-34
2.3.2-2b	Known Special-status Species Occurrences – Upper Park	2-35
2.3.3-1a	Previous Survey Coverage – Lower Park	2-81
2.3.3-1b	Previous Survey Coverage – Middle Park	2-83
2.3.3-1c	Previous Survey Coverage – Upper Park.....	2-85
2.4.3-1a	Circulation – Lower Park.....	2-101
2.4.3-1b	Circulation – Middle Park.....	2-103
2.4.3-1c	Circulation – Upper Park	2-105

APPENDICES

A	Annie Bidwell Deed
B	Visitor and Community Survey Summary
C	Natural Resources Management Plan
D	Cultural Resources Management Plan (Outline Only)
E	Trails Plan
F	Horseshoe Lake Area Concept Plan
G	Cedar Grove Area Concept Plan
H	Disc Golf/Trailhead Area Concept Plan
I	Regulatory Framework
J	City of Chico General Plan Goals and Policies and Municipal Codes
K	Cultural Resources Information –Confidential– Not for Public Circulation
L	Design Standards
M	City of Chico Bench Policy
N	Depository for Future BPPC Guidance on BPMMP Interpretation

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADA	American with Disabilities Act
ARB	California Air Resources Board
BCAQMD	Butte County Air Quality Management District
BCCER	Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BPMMP	Bidwell Park Master Management Plan
BPPC	Bidwell Parks and Playground Commission
CAAQS	Californian Ambient Air Quality Standards
CAC	Citizen’s Advisory Committee
CalIPC	California Invasive Plant Council
CARD	Chico Area Recreation and Park District
CDF	California Department of Forestry
CDFA	California Department of Food and Agriculture
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
City	City of Chico
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CSUC	California State University, Chico
DFG	Department of Fish and Game
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
ESU	ecologically significant unit
FOBP	Friends of Bidwell Park
GLO	General Land Office
IWMP	Integrated Waste Management Plans
mgd	million gallons per day
ml	milliliter
mph	miles per hour
MPN	most probable number
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NOAA Fisheries	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service

NRMP	Natural Resources Management Plan
NRMP	Natural Resources Management Plan
PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons
Park	Bidwell Park
PCE	perchloroethylene
PFMC	Pacific Fisheries Management Council
PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric
PM10	respirable particulate matter
RHJV	Riparian Habitat Joint Venture
RCA	Resource Conservation Area
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SMASCH	Specimen Management System for California Herbaria
SR	State Route
SRA	shaded riverine aquatic
TCE	trichloroethylene
U.S. EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WPA	Work Progress Administration
WPCP	Water Pollution Control Plant

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Aesthetics: refers to the visual, audible, and other sensory factors within the park setting and its surrounding landscapes that, taken together, establish character or sense of place.

Adaptive Management: an approach and process that incorporates monitoring, research, and evaluation to allow projects and activities to proceed in the face of some uncertainty regarding consequences.

Alluvium: a general term for all detrital deposits resulting from the operations of rivers, thus including the sediments laid down in riverbeds, flood plains, lakes, fans at foot of mountain slopes and estuaries.

Alternatives: As defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (§15126), an alternative to a proposed project is a modification to the project or its location which is capable of avoiding or substantially lessening any significant effect of the project, even if the alternative would impede to some degree the attainment of the project objectives, or would be more costly. A reasonable range of alternatives is to be evaluated under CEQA and shall include alternatives that could feasibly accomplish most of the basic purposes of the project and could avoid or substantially lessen one or more of the significant effects.

Ambient Air Quality: the atmospheric concentration (amount in specified volume of air) of a specific compound as actually experienced at a particular geographic location that may be some distance from the source of the relevant pollutant emissions.

Ambient Noise Level: the composite of noise from all sources near and far.

Anadromous: those fish which spend the greater part of their lives in salt water, but migrate to freshwater rivers and streams for reproduction (e.g., salmon, shad, bass, and steelhead trout).

Archaeological: pertaining to the material remains of past human life, culture, or activities.

Aquifer: the underground layer of water-bearing rock, sand, or gravel through which water can seep or be held in natural storage. Such water holding rock layers hold sufficient water to be used as a water supply.

Bedrock: the solid rock underlying unconsolidated surface materials.

Best Management Practices (BMPs): the most current methods, treatments, or actions in regards to environmental mitigation responses.

Biodiversity: biological diversity in an environment as indicated by numbers of different species of plants and animals, as well as the relative abundance of all the species within a given area.

Biota: Animal and plant life, in general.

Buffer: land that protects natural and/or cultural values of a resource or park from adverse effects arising outside the buffer.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): a state law (PRC §21000 et al.) requiring state and local agencies to take actions on projects with consideration for environmental protection. If a proposed activity may result in a significant adverse effect on the environment, an EIR must be prepared.

Clean Water Act (CWA): enacted in 1972 to create a basic framework for current programs to control water pollution; provide statutory authority for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

Conservation Easement: acquisition of rights and interests to a property to protect identified conservation or resource values using a reserved interest deed. Easements may apply to entire parcels of land or to specific parts of the property. Most are permanent, although term easements pose restrictions for a limited number of years. Land protected by a conservation easement remains on the tax rolls and is privately owned and managed; landowners who donate conservation easements are generally entitled to tax benefits.

Cultural Landscape: a geographic area (including both the cultural and natural resources) associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting cultural or aesthetic values. This type is a landscape that evolved through use by people whose activities or occupancy shaped it.

Cultural Resource: a resource that exists because of human activities. Cultural resources can be prehistoric (dating from before European settlement) or historic (post-European contact).

Cumulative Impact: as defined by the state CEQA Guidelines (§15355) two or more individual effects which, when considered together are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts.

Degradation: the reduction of environmental quality in an area through a lessening of diversity, the creation of growth anomalies, or the supplanting of native species by nonnative plant and animal species.

Demographic: having to do with a particular characteristic of a segment of the public at large; may be connected to the group's age, the region where the group resides, a particular recreational interest, economic status, etc.

Ecology: the study of the interrelationship of living things to one another and their environment.

Ecosystem: a community consisting of all biological organisms (plant, animals, insects, etc.) in a given area interacting with the physical environment (soil, water, air) to function together as a unit of nature.

Ecotone: a transition area between two adjacent ecological communities, usually exhibiting competition between organisms common to both; often a rich biological area.

Effect/Impact: an environmental change; as defined by State CEQA Guidelines §15358: (1) Direct or primary effects are caused by the project and occur at the same time and place (2) Indirect or secondary effects that are caused by the project and are late in time or farther removed in distance, but still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect or secondary effects may include growth-inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density, or growth rate, and related effects on air and water quality and other natural systems including ecosystems.

Endangered Species: a species of animal or plant is considered to be endangered when its prospects for survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy from one or more causes. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the California Department of Fish and Game make this designation.

Endemic: indigenous to, and restricted to, a particular area.

Environment: as defined in State CEQA Guidelines §15360, "the physical conditions which exist within the area which will be affected by a proposed project, including land, air, water, mineral, flora, fauna, noise, and objects of historical and aesthetic significance."

Environmental Impact Report (EIR): a report required by CEQA that assesses all the environmental characteristics of an area and determines what effects of impacts will result if the area is altered or disturbed by a proposed action. If a proposed activity may result in a significant adverse effect on the environment, an EIR must be prepared. General plans require the preparation of a "program" EIR appropriate to its level of specificity.

Environmentally Sensitive: an area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their role in an ecosystem. Such areas can be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments, and typically receive protection under federal, state or local laws and regulations.

Ethnographic: a multi-format group of materials gathered and organized by an anthropologist, folklorist, or other cultural researcher to document human life and traditions.

Floodplain: a lowland or relatively flat area adjoining inland or coastal waters that is subject to a one or greater chance of flooding in any given year (i.e., 100-year flood).

Floodway: the channel of a natural stream or river and portions of the flood plain adjoining the channel, which are reasonable required to carry and discharge the floodwater or flood flow of any natural stream or river.

Geology: the scientific study of the origin, history, and structure of the earth.

Habitat: the physical location or type of environment, in which an organism or biological population lives or occurs. It involves an environment of a particular kind, defined by characteristics such as climate, terrain, elevation, soil type, and vegetation. Habitat typically includes shelter and/or sustenance.

Hazardous Material: any substance that, because of its quantity, concentration, physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant presence or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment.

Hydrology: pertaining to the study of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying geology, and in the air.

Intensive Uses: uses that typically occur at developed facilities or uses in undeveloped areas that result in substantial disturbance or removal of natural (e.g., plants, wildlife, soils, hydrology), cultural, visual, aesthetic or other resources. Substantial disturbance results when the intensity, frequency, and/or extent of the use exceeds the capacity of the resource to recover or significantly damages the resource for an extended period. Thus, intensive uses are defined both by the type of use as well as the sensitivity of the resource where the use occurs. Examples of intensive uses that result in degradation of resources and include cumulative off-trail foot traffic on erosion prone creek banks or other sensitive sites and large group field trips to sensitive areas (e.g., wet meadows and wildflower fields).

Infrastructure: public services and facilities, such as sewage-disposal systems, water supply systems, other utility systems, road and site access systems.

Interpretation: In this planning document, it refers to a communication process, designed to reveal meanings and relationships of our cultural and natural heritage, through involvement with objects, artifacts, landscapes, sties, and oral histories.

Invasive Species: a species occurring in an area outside of its historically known natural range that has been intentionally introduced to or have inadvertently infiltrated into the system. Also known as non-native, ornamental, or introduced species. Invasive animals prey upon native species and compete with them for food and habitat. Invasive plant species can convert native ecosystems into a non-native dominated system that provides little benefit to other species in the ecosystem.

Mitigation Measure: A measure proposed that would eliminate, avoid, rectify, compensate for, or reduce a significant environmental effect (see State CEQA Guidelines §15370).

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): The official federal list of buildings, structures, objects, sites and districts worthy of historic preservation. The register recognizes resources of local, state, and national

significance. The register lists only those properties that have retained enough physical integrity to accurately convey their appearance during their period of significance.

Native species: A plant or animal that is historically indigenous to a specific site area.

Natural habitat: the habitat a species would occur in under non-disturbed circumstances.

Non-intensive uses: uses that generally do not result in substantial disturbance or removal of natural (e.g., plants, wildlife, soils, hydrology), cultural, visual, aesthetic or other resources individually or cumulatively. Examples of non-intensive uses include trails in most areas, well-designed trails in sensitive areas, swimming in natural creek settings, nature observation, and limited amounts of off-trail foot traffic in non-sensitive areas.

Non sensitive resources: All resources that do not meet the definition of sensitive resources provided below.

Office of Historic Preservation (OHP): The governmental agency primarily responsible for the statewide administration of the historic preservation program in California. Its responsibilities include identifying, evaluating, and registering historic properties and ensuring compliance with federal and state regulatory obligations.

Open Space: An area with few or no paved surfaces or buildings, which may be primarily in its natural state or improved for use as a park.

Project: As defined by the State CEQA Guidelines §15378, a project can be one of the following a) activities undertaken by any public agency; b) activities undertaken by a person which are supported in whole or in part through contracts, grants, subsidies, loans or other forms of assistance from one or more public agencies; c) activities involving the issuance to a person of a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement for use by one or more public agencies.

Reach: A section of a stream or river between two specific points or possessing some common characteristic(s).

Redd: Fish spawning nest, or group of nests, dug in a gravel bed.

Riparian: Pertaining to the environment of river and stream banks and flood plains. Sometimes the term is used more broadly for wet, mostly terrestrial, environment around any fresh water body, including seeps or springs. Riparian habitat represents the vegetative and wildlife areas adjacent to perennial and intermittent streams and is delineated by the existence of plant species normally found near fresh water.

Riverine: Riparian ecosystem encompassing both instream and adjacent riparian zones, especially their biological components.

Runoff: That portion of rainfall or surplus water that does not percolate into the ground and flows overland and is discharged into surface drainages or bodies of water.

Sensitive Resources: Sensitive resources include environmental resources that are sensitive due to their rarity and/or historic value and vulnerability to disturbance or degradation by human activities and developments. They may be biological, physical, cultural, or other resources. Sensitive habitats include those that are of special concern to resource agencies or that are afforded specific consideration through CEQA, Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code, or Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA). Sensitive biological resources include those that are afforded special protection through CEQA, CESA, California Fish and Game Code, Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the federal CWA as well as areas in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their role in an ecosystem.

Significant Effect on the Environment: As defined by State CEQA Guidelines §15382, substantial or potentially substantial, adverse change on any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance. An economic or social change by itself shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment. A social or economic change related to physical change may be considered in determining whether the physical change is significant.

Special-Status Species: Plant or animal species that are typically listed (State and Federal) as endangered, rare and threatened, plus those species considered by the scientific community to be deserving of such listing. Special-status species include plants and animals that are legally protected or are otherwise considered sensitive by federal, state, or local resource conservation agencies and organizations.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO): The chief administrative officer for the OHP and is also the executive secretary of the State Historic Resources Commission.

Threatened Species: An animal or plant species that is considered likely to become endangered throughout a significant portion of its range within the foreseeable future because its prospects for survival and reproduction are in jeopardy from one or more causes. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the California Department of Fish and Game make this designation.

Topography: Graphic representation of the surface features of a place or region on a map, indicating their relative positions and elevations.

Viewshed: The area that can be seen from a specified location.

Watershed: The total area above a given point on a watercourse that contributes water to the flow of the watercourse; entire region drained by a watercourse; synonymous with drainage basin or catchment.

Wetland: Includes the environment of subtidal, mudflats, tidal salt marsh, periodically inundated or brackish marsh, diked marshland, associated upland, and freshwater marsh.