

# Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: Center Trail Bridge Project

Lead Agency: Town of Woodside

Contact Name: Jackie C. Young, AICP CEP, Principal Planner

Email: jyoung@woodsidetown.org

Phone Number: (650) 851-6790

Project Location: Town of Woodside  
City

San Mateo County  
County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Installation of an equestrian bridge spanning Bear Gulch Creek, extending from the rear of 60 Why Worry Lane to the rear of 3411 Woodside Road. The bridge and new trail segments would be located downstream of a washout area on the steep eastern slope above Bear Gulch Creek that resulted in closure of the trail in 2017. The clear span bridge and new trail segments would connect to the existing Center Trail, which has been used by equestrians for more than 100 years. The project would utilize an existing Town Conservation and Equestrian Easement on the southwest side of Bear Gulch Creek, and a trail alignment that is subject to an Equestrian Use Agreement on the northeast side. The project would allow for the reopening of the Center Trail.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

See Attachment 1: The proposed mitigation measures reduce any potentially significant impacts to less-than-significant levels.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

None.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Responsible or Trustee Agencies:

1. California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

## **ATTACHMENT 1: Mitigation measures proposed to reduce any potentially significant impacts to less-than-significant levels.**

### **Project Description:**

Installation of a prefabricated equestrian bridge across Bear Gulch Creek, and construction of new trail segments to connect the bridge to the existing Center Trail to allow for the reopening of the trail. All work for the project would be conducted outside of the top-of-bank of Bear Gulch Creek.

### **Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation:**

A summary of the potential impacts, and the mitigation measures identified to reduce potential impacts to less-than-significant levels, are included below. For the full discussion of impacts and the associated mitigation measures, please refer to the attached disk which includes a digital copy of the complete Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and attachments.

#### ▪ **AIR QUALITY:**

The project involves excavation on both sides of the creek for the placement of foundations for the clear span bridge. Minor grading would also occur to construct the new trail segments (225 linear feet: 170 feet on the southwest side of Bear Gulch Creek and 55 feet on the northeast side) that would connect the bridge to the existing Center Trail. Best management practices are required to control dust during the construction period to ensure potential impacts related to air quality are reduced to a less-than-significant level.

#### **Mitigation Measure AIR-1 (Construction Impacts):**

- Cover any stockpiles of materials that can be blown by the wind.
- Use dust-proof chutes for loading construction debris onto trucks.
- Sweep streets daily if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent public streets, parking areas, and staging areas, as directed by the Town Engineer.
- Install erosion control measures to prevent runoff from the project site from entering the creek.
- Vehicle idling times shall be minimized, either by shutting equipment off when not in use, or reducing the maximum idling time to 5 minutes.
- All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned, in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

#### ▪ **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:**

No-special status plants were observed on the study area during the June 27, 2019, field visit. One special-status wildlife species, Oak Titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus*), was observed during the field visit on July 9, 2019. In addition, Steelhead are known from Bear Gulch Creek (Leidy et al. 2005), which is federally-designated Critical Habitat; therefore the species is considered to be present at the study area. Eight other special-status wildlife species have a moderate potential to occur, including California red legged frog; Santa Cruz Black Salamander and California Giant Salamander; Nuttall's Woodpecker, Allen's hummingbird and other native nesting bird species; and, the San Francisco Dusky-footed Woodrat, Western pond turtle and pallid bat. Mitigation is included to address potential impacts to species, as is applicable to the study area, to ensure impacts are less-than-significant. In addition, trees, shrubs, and herbaceous vegetation at the study area could provide nesting habitat for non-listed bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and State Fish and Game Code. Mitigation also includes

notification to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding the possible need for a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-1 (Steelhead and California Red-legged Frog):**

- (a): Prior to project construction, the boundaries of the work area shall be clearly delineated using orange-colored plastic construction fencing combined with existing fencing, to prevent workers or equipment from inadvertently straying from the work area. All construction personnel, equipment, and vehicle movement shall be confined to designated construction and staging areas. Staging areas are restricted to those delineated on the project plans and encompassed by the fencing. All orange-colored construction fencing shall be removed when surface-disturbing actions are completed.
- (b): Prior to the start of construction, a worker education program shall be presented at the project site by a qualified biologist. Associated written material shall be distributed. It shall be the onsite foreman's responsibility to ensure that all construction personnel and subcontractors receive a copy of the education program. The education program shall include a description of steelhead (along with CRLF as described below) and their habitat, the general provisions of the Endangered Species Act, the necessity of adhering to the Act to avoid penalty, and measures implemented to avoid affecting steelhead and CRLF specific to the project associated work boundaries. The qualified biologist will designate an individual that will be onsite daily during project construction to inspect the work area for special-status species before work begins. If special-status species are observed at any time prior to or during construction, a qualified biologist and the Town of Woodside will be contacted for guidance.
- (c): Best Management Practices shall be implemented during all phases of project ground disturbance to reduce impacts to Bear Gulch Creek and steelhead habitat. All permit requirements by the regulatory agencies shall be followed. These measures shall include, but are not limited, to the following:
1. To the maximum extent practicable, ground disturbing work shall be conducted during the dry season (typically May 1 to October 15). If work must be conducted during the rainy season, excavation and grading shall be avoided during wet weather and immediately preceding expected wet weather.
  2. Erosion control measures, such as silt-fencing and straw wattles, shall be installed above the creek top-of-bank as necessary prior to ground disturbance and maintained throughout the duration of construction to prevent erosion and subsequent sedimentation into Bear Gulch Creek. Exposed soils shall be covered. No debris, soil, silt, sand, bark, slash, sawdust, cement, concrete, washings, petroleum products or other organic or earthen material shall be allowed to enter into or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into water of the U.S./State or aquatic habitat.
  3. Machinery shall be refueled at least 60 feet from any aquatic habitat. All vehicles shall be inspected for leaks daily. If any leakage of material occurs into the creek bed, work shall cease immediately and cleanup initiated.
  4. After work is complete, all disturbed areas shall be restored to their previous condition. Prior to the onset of the rainy season, all bare soil areas shall be seeded

with a native seed mix consisting of plant species native to Woodside and adapted to California Bay Forest and/or Redwood Forest habitats.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-2 (California Red-legged Frog):**

(a): Within seven days prior to ground disturbance, a qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey instream for CRLF. Either a day or night survey may be conducted, depending on the judgment of the biologist. If a CRLF is observed during the preconstruction survey or at any time during project construction, work shall cease within 50-feet and a qualified biologist contacted. If the CRLF can't be avoided, the USFWS and CDFW shall be contacted for guidance.

(b): A qualified biologist shall monitor initial grading and vegetation removal. Depending on the results of the preconstruction survey and initial monitoring and agency permit requirements, additional biological monitoring may be required (such as limited to inspecting all suitable areas for CRLF prior to work each day). Permit conditions related to CRLF in the work area for the project (from CDFW as part of a Streambed Alteration Agreement, if necessary), shall be followed.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-3 (Santa Cruz Black Salamander; California Giant Salamander):**

Within seven days prior to ground disturbance, a qualified biologist shall conduct a daytime preconstruction survey for Santa Cruz black salamanders and California giant salamanders. Methods shall include carefully searching under woody debris, moveable rocks, and rock piles. Assuming the biologist is appropriately permitted, dip netting may be used to sample for California giant salamander larva. Permit conditions related to Santa Cruz black salamanders and California giant salamanders in the work area (if required by CDFW as part of a Streambed Alteration Agreement) shall be followed. This may include relocating Santa Cruz black salamanders and/or California giant salamander larva to the nearest appropriate habitat either up or downstream, based on the judgment of the qualified biologist.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-4 (Oak Titmouse, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Allen's hummingbird, and other native nesting bird species):**

If feasible, tree removal and ground disturbance shall take place outside of the February 1 to August 31 breeding bird season. If the project is conducted during the breeding bird season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction breeding bird survey throughout areas of suitable habitat up to 300 feet from the project site within 15 days prior to the onset of any construction activity. If bird nests are observed, buffer zones shall be established around all active nests to protect nesting adults and their young from construction disturbance. Buffer zone distances, which depend to some degree on the species and shall be established in consultation with CDFW, are typically 25 to 50-feet around native passerines, 100-feet around special-status passerines, and 300 to 1,000-feet or more around raptors, depending on the species. Work within the buffer zone shall be postponed until all the young are fledged, as determined by a qualified biologist.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-5 (San Francisco Dusky-footed Woodrat):**

Within 30 days prior to project construction, a qualified biologist shall inspect the project disturbance envelope and adjacent areas within 50-feet for SFDW houses. An exclusion zone shall be erected around SFDW houses occurring within 25-feet of the project disturbance envelope, using flagging or a temporary fence that does not inhibit the natural movements of wildlife (such as steel T-posts and a single strand of yellow rope or similar materials). Efforts will be made to avoid impacting SFDW houses, even if avoidance is by only a few feet. If SFDW houses can't be avoided, CDFW

shall be contacted for approval to relocate individuals by live-trapping and building a nearby artificial structure as a release site. Approval to relocate must be acquired from CDFW.

**Mitigation Measure BIO-6 (Resource Agency Jurisdiction):** The CDFW shall be Notified to determine if a Streambed Alteration Agreement is required for the project. If CDFW requires a Streambed Alteration Agreement, all conditions of the Agreement shall be followed. Approval shall be obtained from the Town of Woodside for work within the stream corridor.

■ **CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

The project would not have an impact on any known archaeological or paleontological resources or features; however, the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) indicated that some burned rock was identified in close proximity to the project. Mitigation measures have therefore been included to ensure that any potential impacts to archaeological or paleontological resources or features encountered during construction would be reduced to a less-than-significant level. In addition, no human remains are known to exist on the project site. Mitigation is also included to address any human remains encountered during construction to ensure potential impacts are reduced to a less-than-significant level.

**Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1 (Archaeological Monitor During Ground Disturbance):** A certified archaeologist shall monitor all ground-disturbing activities.

**Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-2 (Archaeological Resources):**

- a. The following practices shall be followed during all phases of site preparation and construction activities: If archaeological resources are encountered during construction, construction personnel should be instructed to immediately suspend all activity in the immediate vicinity of the suspected resources, and the Town and a licensed archaeologist should be contacted to evaluate the situation. Project personnel should not collect cultural resources. A licensed archaeologist should be retained to inspect the discovery and make any necessary recommendations to evaluate the find under current CEQA guidelines, prior to the submittal of a resource mitigation plan and monitoring program to the Town for review and approval; and prior to the continuation of any on-site construction activity. Native American resources include but are not limited to: chert or obsidian flakes, projectile points, mortars, and pestles; and dark friable soil containing shell and bone dietary debris, heat-affected rock, or human burials. Historic-period resources include stone or adobe foundations or walls; remains and structures with square nails; and refuse deposits or bottle dumps, often located in old wells or privies.
- b. Any identified cultural resources shall be recorded on DPR 523 historic resource recordation forms available from the Office of Historic Preservation.

**Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-3 (Construction Impacts - Cultural Resources):** In the event a human burial or skeletal element is identified during excavation or construction, work in that location should stop immediately until the find can be properly treated. The Town of Woodside and the San Mateo County Coroner's office should be notified. If deemed prehistoric, the Coroner's office would notify the Native American Heritage Commission who would identify a "Most Likely Descendant (MLD)." The archeological consultant and MLD, in conjunction with the project sponsor, should formulate an appropriate treatment plan for the find, which might include, but not be limited to, respectful scientific recording and removal, being left in place, or removal and reburial on site, or elsewhere. Associated grave goods are to be treated in the same

manner (See also, *Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1*). If a human burial or skeletal element is identified, procedures in *Mitigation Measure TRIBAL CULTURAL-4* shall be followed.

■ **GEOLOGY AND SOILS:**

The project would be subject to ground-shaking and erosion during the life of the project. Measures are identified to reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels. Mitigation is also identified in the event that paleontological resources are encountered during construction.

**Mitigation Measure GEO-1 (Geotechnical Conditions):** The project would be constructed in accordance with the recommendations from the Geotechnical Investigation prepared for the project.

**Mitigation Measure GEO-2 (Erosion Control):** Erosion control measures including erosion control fabric, wattles, fiber rolls, silt fences, berms, and other measures would be installed to ensure that sediment and other debris do not enter the stream channel during or following the construction period.

**Mitigation Measure GEO-3 (Paleontological Resources):** The following practices shall be followed during all phases of site preparation and construction activities: If paleontological resources are encountered during construction, construction personnel should be instructed to immediately suspend all activity in the immediate vicinity of the suspected resources, and the Town and a licensed paleontologist should be contacted to evaluate the situation. Project personnel should not collect paleontological resources. A licensed paleontologist should be retained to inspect the discovery and make any necessary recommendations to evaluate the find under current CEQA guidelines, prior to the submittal of a resource mitigation plan and monitoring program to the Town for review and approval, prior to the continuation of any on-site construction activity.

■ **HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:**

The project is required to be constructed in accordance with State and federal hazardous materials regulations and current best management practices for construction activities. There is always some potential for construction materials entering the stream. Mitigation has been included to ensure that any potential impacts are reduced to a less-than-significant level.

**Mitigation Measure HAZ-1 (Creek Protection from Hazardous Materials):** Construction materials would be handled and stored in accordance with applicable local and State laws to prevent them from entering Bear Gulch Creek. See also *Mitigation Measures AIR-1, BIO-1(c), and GEO-1*.

■ **HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY:**

No violations of any water quality standards are anticipated with the proposed project. Mitigation measures included to address air quality, biological resources, and geological resources, and the safe use of hazardous materials, would ensure that potential impacts to hydrology and water quality would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

**Mitigation Measure HYDRO-1 (Water Quality):** Implementation of *Mitigation Measures AIR-1, BIO-1(c), GEO-1, and HAZ-1* would reduce potentially significant impacts to water quality to a less-than-significant level.

■ **NOISE:**

Project construction would result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity for the duration of the project. During construction, some noise would occur, but construction hours would be limited by the current Woodside regulations. The required mitigation measure would ensure noise impacts are reduced to a less-than-significant level.

**Mitigation Measure NOISE- 1 (Construction Noise):**

- Construction activities shall be limited to weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., and Saturdays between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. No construction should take place on Sundays or holidays. At all times, broadcast, recorded, or amplified music is not allowed to be audible beyond the property lines of any construction site.
- All construction equipment with internal combustion engines used on the project site shall be properly muffled and maintained in good working condition.
- Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines shall be strictly prohibited.
- All stationary noise-generating construction equipment, such as air compressors and portable power generators, shall be located as far as possible from noise-sensitive receptors such as existing residences.
- Prior to the issuance of a Building Permit, the project site shall be posted with the name and contact number of the lead contractor in a location visible from the public street so that the contractor can be made aware of noise complaints.
- A Construction Staging Plan shall be submitted with a schedule that includes materials storage locations and parking.

■ **TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

There are no known Tribal Cultural Resources on the site. Mitigation measures are identified in the event that resources are encountered during the construction period.

**Mitigation Measure TRIBAL CULTURAL-1 (Culturally Affiliated Native American Monitor During Ground Disturbance):** A culturally affiliated Native American with knowledge of cultural resources shall monitor all ground-disturbing activities.

**Mitigation Measure TRIBAL CULTURAL-2 (Ground Disturbance):** Planning for construction shall include avoidance of any encountered resources and protection of the cultural and natural context. Native American resources include, but are not limited to: chert or obsidian flakes, projectile points, mortars, and pestles; and dark friable soil containing shell and bone dietary debris, heat-affected rock, or human remains.

**Mitigation Measure TRIBAL CULTURAL-3 (Disposition of Recovered Cultural Items):** Any resource encountered shall require stopping of construction to consult with any Native American tribe culturally affiliated with the area for recommendations to appropriately care for the discovered resources. Any resource encountered shall be treated with culturally appropriate dignity, taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including, but not limited to:

- Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource;
- Protecting the traditional use of the resource; and,
- Protecting the confidentiality of the resource.

**Mitigation Measure TRIBAL CULTURAL-4 (Inadvertently Discovered Native American Human Remains):** Any Native American human remains and associated grave artifacts shall be repatriated in consultation with any Native American tribe culturally affiliated with the area. The process outlined below shall be followed to be consistent California Health and Safety Code §7050.5 and Public Resources Code §5097.98:

Specifically, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county in which the human remains are discovered has been determined and that the remains are not subject to the provisions of Section 27491 of the Government Code or another related provision of law concerning investigation of the circumstances, manner or cause of any death, and the recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation or to his or her authorized representative (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5).

The coroner shall make his or her determination within two working days from the time the person responsible for the excavation, or his or her authorized representative, notifies the coroner of the discovery or recognition of the human remains.

If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and if the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American, or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

(a) Whenever the NAHC receives notification of a discovery of Native American human remains from a county coroner, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c), it shall immediately notify those persons it believes to be most likely descended from the deceased Native American (Most Likely Descendant (MLD)). The descendants may, with the permission of the owner of the land, or his or her authorized representative, inspect the site of the discovery of the Native American human remains and may recommend to the owner, or the person responsible for the excavation work, means for treatment or disposition, with appropriate dignity of the human remains and any associated grave goods. The descendants shall complete their inspection and make recommendations or preferences for treatment within 48 hours of being granted access to the site (Public Resources Code Section 5097.98).

(b) Upon the discovery of Native American remains, the landowner shall ensure that the immediate vicinity, according to generally accepted cultural or archaeological standards or practices, where the Native American human remains are located, is not damaged or disturbed by further development activity until the landowner has discussed and conferred, as prescribed in this section, with the most likely descendants regarding their recommendations, if applicable, taking into account the possibility of multiple human remains. The landowner shall discuss and confer with the descendants all reasonable options regarding the descendants' preferences for treatment.

1. The descendants' preferences for treatment may include the following:
  - A. The nondestructive removal and analysis of human remains, and items associated with Native American human remains.
  - B. Preservation of Native American human remains and associated items in place.
  - C. Relinquishment of Native American human remains and associated items to the descendants for treatment.

- D. Other culturally appropriate treatment.
2. The parties may also mutually agree to extend discussions, taking into account the possibility that additional or multiple Native American human remains, as defined in this section, are located in the project area, providing a basis for additional treatment measures.
- (c) For purposes of this section, "conferral" or "discuss and confer" means the meaningful and timely discussion and careful consideration of the views of each party, in a manner that is cognizant of all parties' cultural values, and where feasible, seeking agreement. Each party shall recognize the other's needs and concerns for confidentiality of information provided to the other.
- (d) Human remains of a Native American may be an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Any items associated with human remains that are placed or buried with the Native American human remains are to be treated in the same manner as the remains, but do not by themselves constitute human remains.
- (e) Whenever the NAHC is unable to identify a descendent, or the descendants identified fail to make a recommendation, or the landowner or his or her authorized representative rejects the recommendations of the descendants and the mediation provided for (in subdivision (k) of Section 5097.94) fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner, the landowner or his or her authorized representative shall reinter the human remains and items associated with the Native American human remains with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further and future subsurface disturbance. To protect these sites, the landowner should do one or more of the following:
1. Record the site with the NAHC or the appropriate information Center.
  2. Utilize an open-space or conservation zoning designation or easement.
  3. Record a document with the County in which the property is located. The document shall be titled "Notice of Reinternment of Native American Remains" and shall include a legal description of the property, the name of the owner of the property, and the owner's acknowledged signature, in addition to any other information required by this section. The document shall be indexed as a notice under the name of the owner.
- (f) Upon the discovery of multiple Native American human remains during a ground disturbing land development activity, the landowner may agree that additional conferral with the descendants is necessary to consider culturally appropriate treatment of multiple Native American human remains. Culturally appropriate treatment of the discovery may be ascertained from a review of the site utilizing cultural and archeological standards. Where the parties are unable to agree on the appropriate treatment measures, the human remains and items associated and buried with Native American human remains shall be reinterred with appropriate dignity, pursuant to subdivision (e).
- (g) Measures taken to address human remains found would be exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).