

Public Review Draft
Environmental Assessment
Karuk Tribe
Fee-to-Trust/New Medical and Dental Clinic
Project

Prepared for:

Lead Agency:
U.S. Department of Interior,
Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Pacific Region

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July 22, 2020

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SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared for the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to support an application from the Karuk Tribe (Tribe) for land to be placed into federal trust and for the construction of a new clinic on a portion of the project area (Proposed Action). The BIA is the federal agency charged with reviewing and approving tribal applications to take land into federal trust status. The project area consists of approximately 5.6 acres in Happy Camp, Siskiyou County, California. The fee-to-trust acquisition and subsequent development of a portion of this land is intended to be used for a new medical and dental clinic, and includes the transfer of additional parcels with no land development changes proposed at this time. The BIA will use this EA to determine if the Proposed Action would result in an adverse effect to the environment.

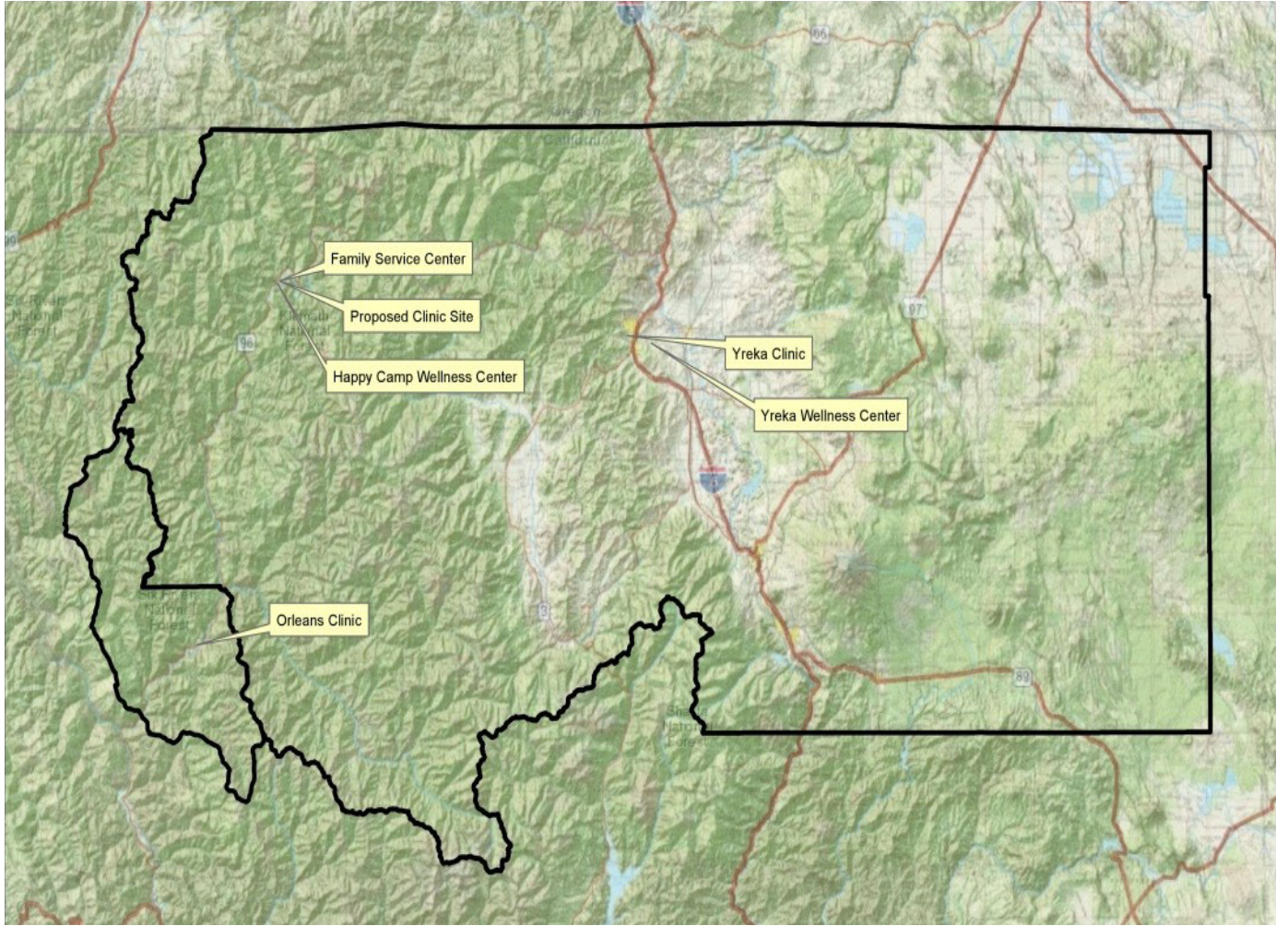
This document has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. §4321 et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Guidelines for Implementing NEPA; and the BIA NEPA handbook (59 IAM 3-H). Because the Karuk Tribe intends to request additional financing assistance from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for the new medical and dental clinic, this EA was also prepared in accordance with the HHS General Administration Manual (Part 30 – Environmental Protection).

This document provides a detailed description of the Proposed Action and analyses of the potential environmental consequences associated with development of this project. This document also includes a discussion of alternatives and mitigation measures. In accordance with the requirements of NEPA, the BIA will review and analyze the environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action, and either determine that a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate, request additional analyses, or request that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared.

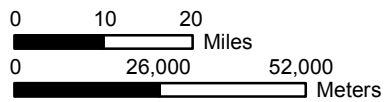
1.2 Location and Setting

The proposed trust parcels addressed in this EA are located in Happy Camp, California, a census-designated place in Siskiyou County, located approximately 15 miles south of the Oregon border (See Figure 1.2-1: Regional Project Location). The Proposed Project would be constructed at 64109 Hillside Road, Happy Camp, within a portion of Section 11, Township 16 North, Range 7 East, Humboldt Meridian (see Figure 1.2-2, Project Area). The project site is located within the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Happy Camp 7.5-minute quadrangle. Figure 1.2-3 presents an aerial photograph of the entire project site, which consists of five separate legal parcels (Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 016-412-200, 016-412-090, 016-412-120, 016-412-230 and 016-412-300) totaling approximately 5.6 acres, all currently owned in fee by the Karuk Tribe.

Regional access is provided by California State Route (SR) 96 (SR-96), a state highway that follows the Trinity and Klamath rivers between California SR-299 in Willow Creek and Interstate 5 near Yreka. SR-96, which travels in a general north-south direction through Happy Camp, is located approximately 200 feet east of the project site. Local access to the project site is provided by Hillside Road, located immediately off of SR-96, a two-lane paved road that runs in a general north-south direction that is used to access residential housing and the Tribe's Happy Camp Family Services Center. In anticipation of this future service delivery, Hillside Road has been widened and repaved in order to better accommodate the increase in traffic flow.



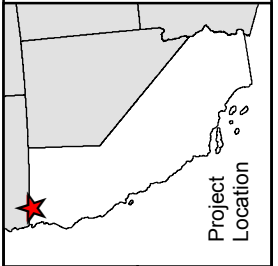
Source: Karuk Tribe Department of Land Management



**Figure 1.2-1
Regional Project Location**

Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental Clinic
Siskiyou County, California





Source: Karuk Tribe Department of Land Management
 ★ Proposed New Medical and Dental Clinic

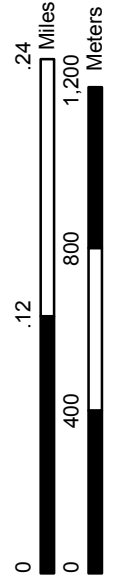
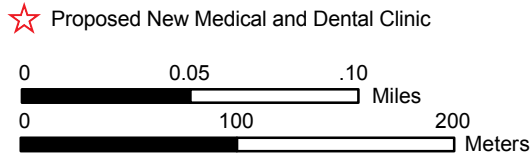


Figure 1.2-2
Project Area

Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental Clinic
 Siskiyou County, California





**Figure 1.2-3
Aerial Map**

Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental Clinic
Siskiyou County, California



The proposed new medical and dental clinic will be constructed on a 1.7-acre parcel of tribally owned land (to be transferred into federal trust) adjacent to the Karuk Happy Camp Family Services Center, a recently constructed center which provides direct care services for behavior health, substance use disorder, domestic violence, and victim assistance services, and houses the Karuk Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) services. The building site has been cleared, and community water and wastewater system connections have been extended under the parking area of the Family Services Center project in order to “build smart” and ensure that infrastructure was in place for the next phase of the site plan, the proposed new medical and dental clinic.

The parcel is undeveloped and includes a flat building site. The surrounding land uses in Happy Camp central district to the west, the Klamath River to the south, a mixture of residential and commercial buildings to the north, and an empty lot to the east.

The Proposed Action area ranges from approximately 1,095 feet to 1,160 feet in elevation. Topographically, the project site is situated on a flat river terrace surrounded by steep slopes.

The Proposed Action area is located within the Klamath River watershed, within the Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 18010209, which is approximately 7,070 square miles and part of the larger North Coastal Basin.

1.3 Purpose and Need for Proposed Action

The Karuk Tribe proposes to take the 5.6 acres of land into trust and construct a new clinic to ensure the continued social and economic independence and wellbeing of its members. The proposed trust acquisition would allow the Karuk Tribe to meet the following goals:

- Relocate the existing tribal clinic and dental facility at 64236 Second Avenue in Happy Camp, CA out of the flood zone. Risks associated with flood events at the existing site were classified as a high probability and the risk was prioritized in the tribes 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan (Karuk Tribe 2015), which also shows a potential estimated \$1,744,056 monetary loss should the existing Happy Camp Health/Dental clinic become flooded.
- Improve the socioeconomic status of the Tribe by expanding health services to provide an augmented revenue source that could be used to strengthen the tribal government, enhance self-sufficiency, and fund a variety of social, governmental, administrative, educational, health, and welfare services to improve the quality of life of tribal members.
- Allow the tribal government to exercise sovereign authority over land that it owns, and protect and enhance the wellbeing of tribal members and natural resources on those lands.
- Provide comprehensive, well-coordinated “continuum of care” medical and dental services delivery systems that is out of the flood plain;
- Provide a permanent location that allows other tribal program and supportive services to move back into their offices and remove staff from physical inadequacies and deficiencies of current facilities;
- Provide a facility that will meet the current and future space requirement for the health care needs for the community. Happy Camp is a very small community with limited community

facilities or commercial building. As there are no available properties to purchase and renovate, new construction is the only option available for facility development.

The Karuk Tribe consists of 3,749 enrolled members and 4,836 registered descendants, with 254 members and 157 descendants residing in the Happy Camp area. Taking these parcels into federal trust would provide the Karuk Tribe with opportunities to increase tribal revenues and employment, as well as provide an opportunity for continued and enhanced economic self-sufficiency.

1.4 Overview of the Environmental Process

This EA has been prepared to analyze and document the environmental consequences associated with: 1) the proposed transfer of 5.6 acres of land into federal trust status for the Karuk Tribe, and 2) the anticipated development of a portion of the project site into a new medical and dental clinic.

Following receipt of public comments on this EA, the BIA will consider the comments and take actions regarding the environmental document and the Proposed Action. Before making a decision on the Proposed Action, the federal agency will decide whether to issue a FONSI or require preparation of an EIS under NEPA. After the NEPA process is complete, the BIA may issue a determination on the Karuk Tribe's fee-to-trust application.

1.5 Environmental Issues Addressed

In accordance with NEPA, and based on review of the 5.6-acre project site, the following issue areas are evaluated in this EA:

- Air Quality
- Visual Resources
- Biological Resources (including vegetation, wildlife and jurisdictional waters)
- Cultural Resources
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Land Resources (including Geology, Topography, Seismic Conditions, Soils, and Mineral Resources)
- Noise
- Public Services
- Socioeconomic and Community Resources (including Recreation and Environmental Justice)
- Transportation and Circulation
- Water Resources (including Surface Water, Drainage, Flooding, Groundwater and Water Quality)
- Human Health and Safety

1.6 Regulatory Requirements and Approvals

The following regulatory requirements and approvals were considered for the Proposed Action:

- Transfer of the 5.6 acres into federal trust status from the Karuk Tribe by the Secretary of the Interior

- Compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity;
- Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries, including an incidental take permit (ITP) under Section 7 of the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), if federally listed (endangered or threatened) species may be affected by the Proposed Action; and
- Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) under Section 106 of NHPA, if historic properties may be impacted by the Proposed Action.

SECTION 2 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

This section describes the alternatives analyzed, which include:

Alternative A: Proposed Action. Alternative A includes the transfer of five parcels comprised of approximately 5.6 acres of tribally owned land in Siskiyou County, California (project site), into federal trust status for the Tribe for future development purposes (Proposed Action). The Tribe subsequently proposes to develop one of the five trust parcels (APN 016-412-200) with an approximately 11,526-square-foot medical and dental clinic and support office (Proposed Project).

Alternative B: No Action. Alternative B would be no action. There would be no transfer of the 5.6 acres and the health clinic would remain in its current location in the Tribal Administrative Office.

2.1 ALTERNATIVE A: PROPOSED ACTION

Alternative A would involve two components, which include:

- Placing five parcels of land totaling approximately 5.6 acres into federal trust (APN 016-412-090, 016-412-120, 016-412-200, 016-412-230 and 016-412-300); and
- The development of an approximately 11,526-square-foot new medical and dental clinic and additional support office on one of the parcels proposed for transfer into federal trust (APN 016-412-200).

2.1.1 Land Trust Action

Alternative A includes the transfer of five parcels comprised of approximately 5.6 acres of tribally owned land in Siskiyou County, California, into federal trust status for the Tribe (Proposed Action). The Karuk Tribe has purchased a majority of these parcels of land that adjoin the Proposed Project site in 2011. At this time, there are no definitive development plans for APN 016-412-090, 016-412-120, 016-412-230 and 016-412-300.

2.1.2 New Medical and Dental Clinic

Alternative A would also include development on one of the five trust parcels (APN 016-412-200) for the construction and operation of an approximately 11,526-square-foot new medical and dental clinic and support office (Proposed Project).

The Proposed Project would include the construction of a comprehensive medical and dental clinic, which will provide preventative, ambulatory, pediatric, geriatric, and emergent care to the community of Happy Camp and the surrounding areas. The Proposed Project will be constructed on the southern end of APN 016-412-200 located at 64105 Hillside Road in Happy Camp, adjacent to the south of the new Family Services Center, a recently constructed center which provides direct care services for behavior health, substance use disorder, domestic violence, and victim assistance services and houses the Karuk Tribal TANF services. The Proposed Project's building site has been cleared, and community water and wastewater system connections have been extended under the parking area of the Family Services Center project in order to "build smart" and ensure that infrastructure was in place for the next phase of the site plan, which includes the Proposed Project. The

buildings and site would provide for the current needs of the health and dental care program, with the ability to expand over time as additional programs are implemented or expansions to existing programs are required.

The Proposed Project involves the construction of two separate buildings totaling approximately 11,526 square feet of development (Figure 2.1.2-1a, Site Plan 1, Figure 2.1.2-1b, Site Plan 2, and Figure 2.1.2-2, Elevations), which would include a centralized reception/waiting area, a confidential records storage and retrieval area, and secure program offices accessed from internal hallways around the perimeter of the building, in both the medical and dental areas. The medical and dental clinic will be housed in one building but will each have a separate entrance and waiting area as to avoid unnecessary spreading of illness. Additionally, there will be a multipurpose room which will be utilized as a conference room, a staff education center, and a diabetes education kitchen, as well as client and staff restrooms, also accessible from the interior hallways and program offices (Figure 2.1.2-3a, Medical and Dental Clinic Floor Plan and Figure 2.1.2-3b, Billing Office Floor Plan).

There will be a secondary office facility (included in the 11,526 square feet of total development), which will house the billing office and PRC office, which while not directly providing patient interfacing, does need to be in close proximity to the clinic in order to offer improved work flow as well as relocating their records and services out of the flood plain.

The Proposed Project will incorporate many “green building” features, including roof solar panels, use of green-certified wood products, high-quality recycled materials, energy-efficient heating/ventilation/air conditioning (HVAC) systems, water-conserving plumbing fixtures (e.g., toilets, urinals, and water faucets), and electric or propane-fueled appliances. Other building features include dimmable lights, a security alarm system, sound proofing throughout the building, telecommunications systems to support medical and radiology telemedicine services, and a backup generator to protect electronic records. The backup generator will be housed in a separately constructed approximately 400 square foot building.

During operation, the Proposed Project would employ approximately 50 full-time equivalent employees. The clinic would operate Monday through Friday from 8am until 5pm.

2.1.3 Water Supply

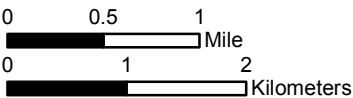
Water will be supplied to the Proposed Project by the Happy Camp Community Service District, with the extension of water lines from service on site. The existing water supply facilities are discussed in more detail in Section 3.8.

2.1.4 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal

Sewer wastewater would be accommodated by the Happy Camp Sanitary District, which has existing collection systems on the Proposed Project site.



Source: Travois Architecture

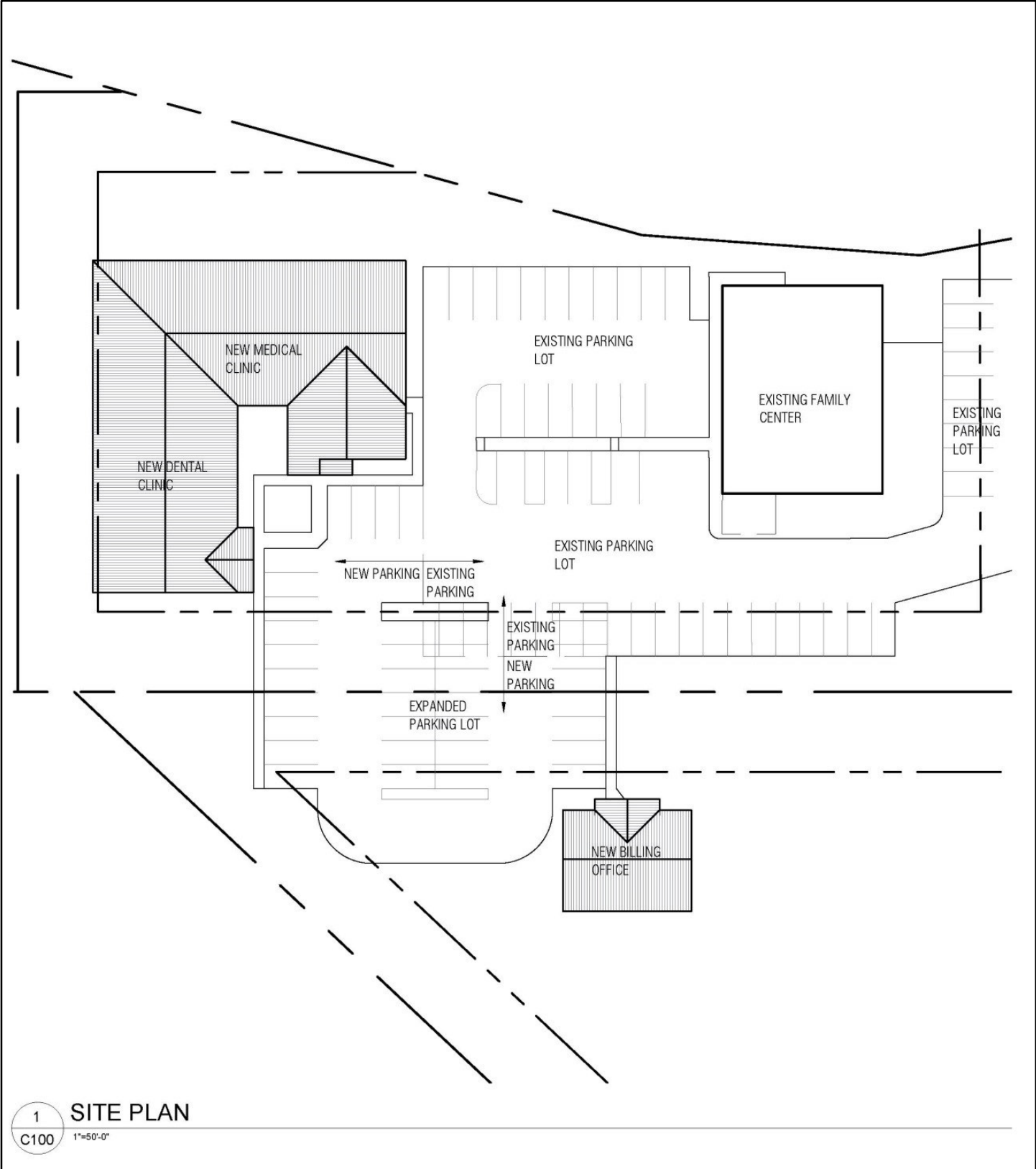


Scale 1:63,360

Figure 2.1.2-1a
Site Plan 1

Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental Clinic
Siskiyou County, California





Source: Black Wolf Construction

Figure 2.1.2-1b
Site Plan 2
Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental Clinic
Siskiyou County, California





3 BILLING OFFICE ELEVATION
A200 1"=20'-0"



2 HEALTH CLINIC ELEVATION
A200 1"=20'-0"



1 HEALTH CLINIC ELEVATION
A200 1"=20'-0"

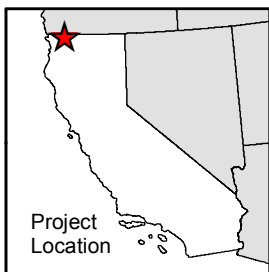
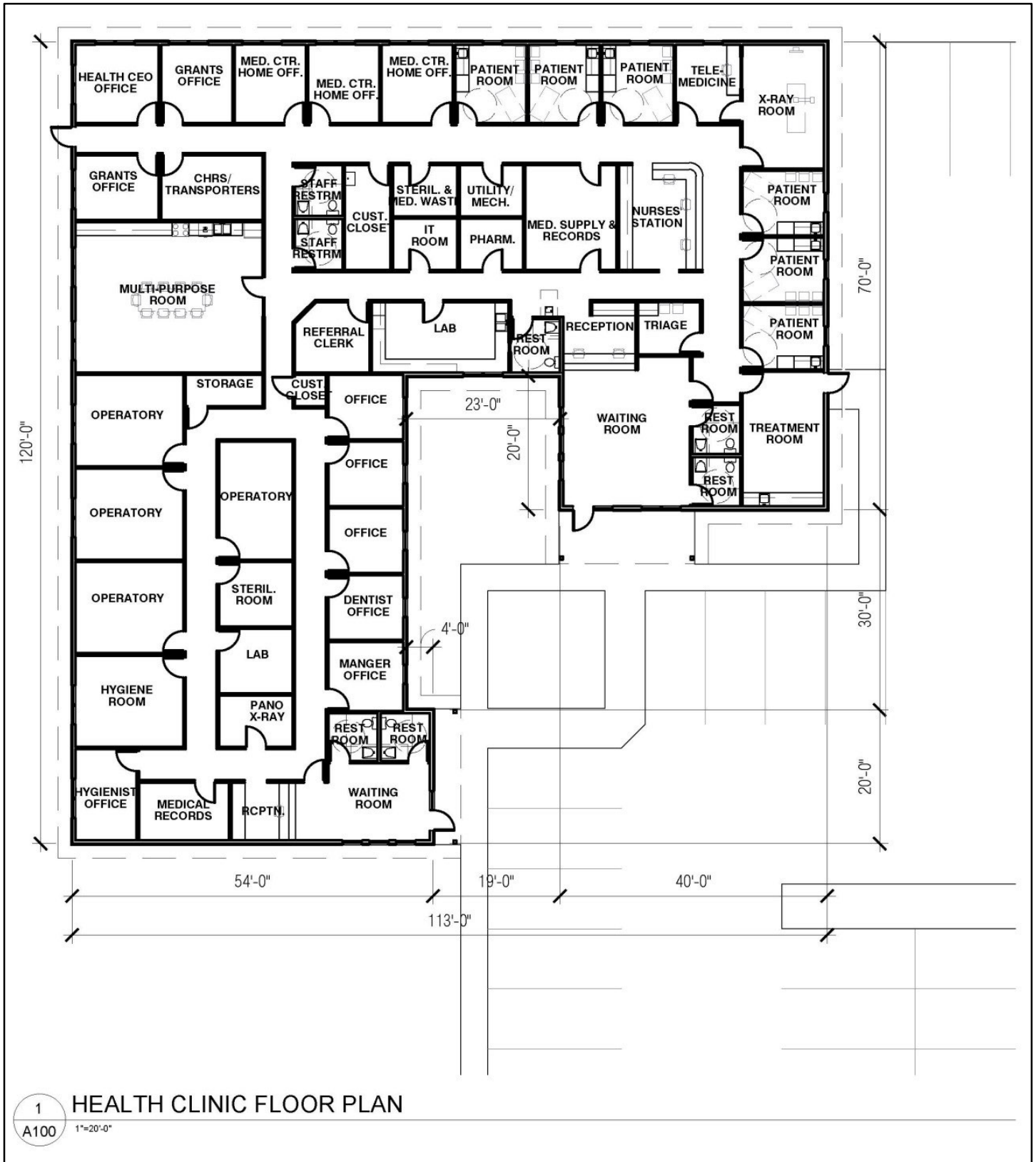


Source: Black Wolf Construction

Figure 2.1.2-2
Elevations

Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental Clinic
Siskiyou County, California

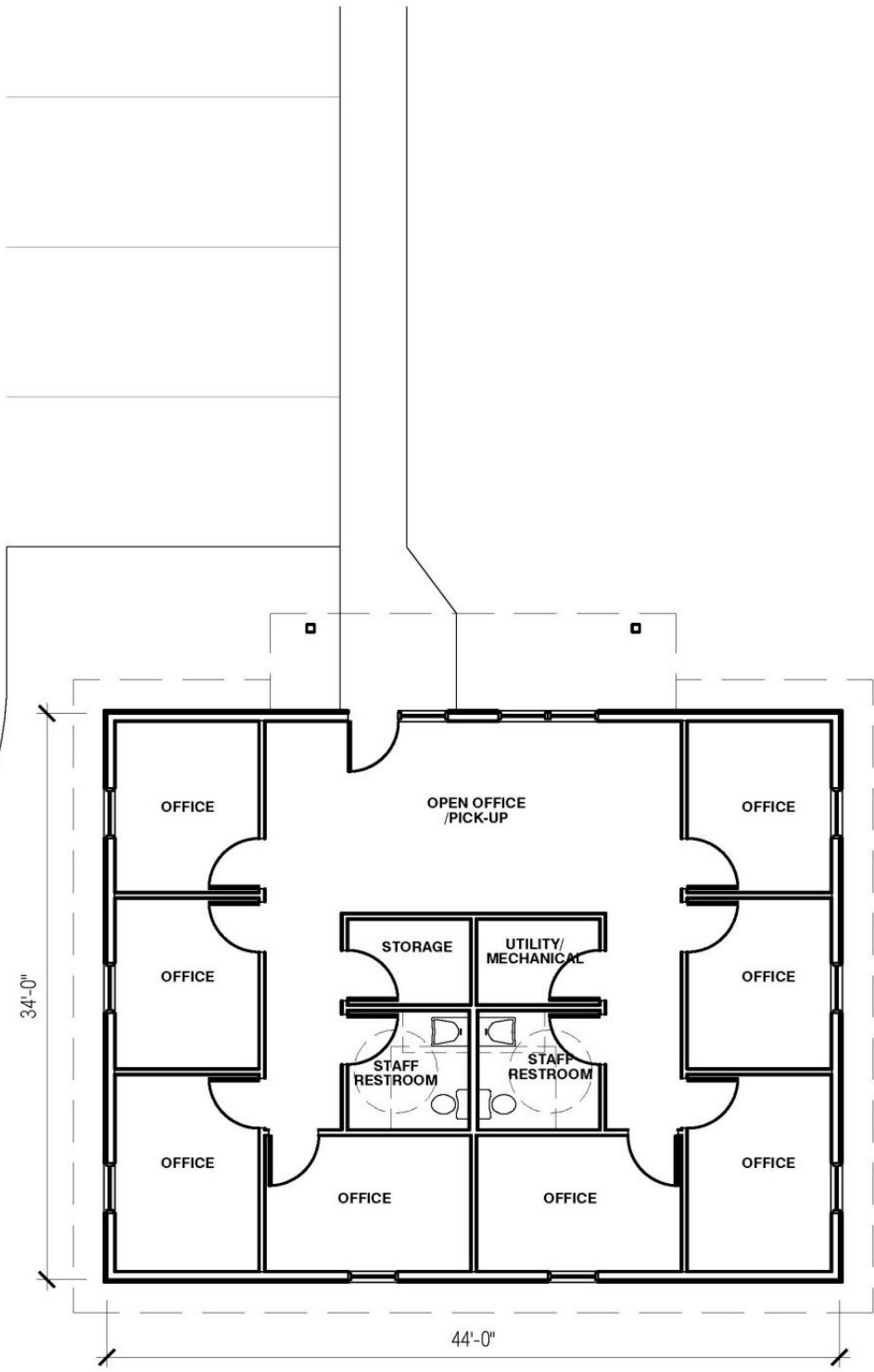




Source: Black Wolf Construction

Figure 2.1.2-3a
Medical and Dental Clinic
Floor Plan
 Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental
 Clinic Siskiyou County, California





1 BILLING OFFICE FLOOR PLAN
 A101 1"=10'-0"



Source: Black Wolf Construction

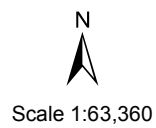
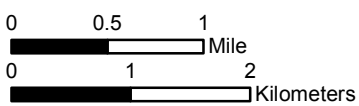


Figure 2.1.2-3b
Billing Office Floor Plan

Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental
 Clinic Siskiyou County, California



2.1.5 Project Construction

Construction of the Proposed Project would begin after the 5.6 acres have been placed into federal trust. Construction would involve site preparation and utilities connections, as well as the placement of concrete foundations, steel and wood structural framing, masonry, electrical and mechanical work, and building finishing, among other construction trades. Construction of the Proposed Project would adhere to the standards equivalent to the International Building Code (IBC), 2009 Edition.

If grant funding is received, development is anticipated to begin in late 2020, with an anticipated 16-month construction schedule. A worksite safety plan would be prepared for construction.

2.1.6 Roadway Improvements

Local access to the project site is provided by Hillside Road, located immediately off of SR-96. Hillside Road is a two-lane paved road that runs in a general north-south direction that is used to access residential housing and the existing Karuk Happy Camp Family Services Center. In anticipation of this future service delivery, Hillside Road has been widened and repaved in order to better accommodate the increase in traffic flow.

2.2 ALTERNATIVE B: NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under Alternative B, the existing medical and dental clinic would continue operations and maintenance at the existing location and would not build the proposed project.

Currently, the entire existing medical and dental clinic is located in a small section of the Tribal Administration Office that has been temporarily remodeled to house the clinic until funding would become available to construct a health center. The existing space has proved to be too small and has inhibited the growth of services to the community. Additionally, the present location is within the flood Zone AE and hampers the ability to provide life-saving services in the event of a flood. Areas within Zone AE are inundated with a 1% annual chance of flooding.

SECTION 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This section provides a description of the existing natural and human resources present in the vicinity of the Proposed Project. In accordance with the NEPA guidelines, the existing conditions described herein provide the baseline for determining environmental effects identified in Section 4.0. Descriptions include the following resource and issue areas:

- Air Quality
- Visual Resources
- Biological Resources (including vegetation, wildlife and jurisdictional waters)
- Cultural Resources
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Land Resources (including Geology, Topography, Seismic Conditions, Soils, and Mineral Resources)
- Noise
- Public Services
- Socioeconomic and Community Resources (including Recreation and Environmental Justice)
- Transportation and Circulation
- Water Resources (including Surface Water, Drainage, Flooding, Groundwater and Water Quality)
- Human Health and Safety

Studies have been conducted to determine the resources within the Proposed Project area. These include an Archaeological and Cultural Resources Report (Appendix A) and California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) records search and United States Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consulting (IPAC) search (Appendix C).

3.1 Air Quality

Air quality is affected by the rate, amount, and location of pollutant emissions and the associated meteorological conditions that influence pollutant movement and dispersal. Atmospheric conditions, including wind speed, wind direction, and air temperature, in combination with local surface topography (i.e., geographic features such as mountains and valleys), determine the effect of air pollutant emissions on local air quality.

The Proposed Project area is under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District (SCAPCD), which is part of the Northeast Plateau Air Basin. SCAPCD is responsible for monitoring and enforcing local and state air quality standards. Air quality standards are set for emissions that may include, but are not limited to: visible emissions, particulate matter, and fugitive dust.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) General Conformity

Ambient air quality refers to the relative concentration of criteria air pollutants (CAPs) typically found in an outdoor area. The EPA has set standards for each of the CAPs: ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), lead (Pb), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and particulate matter (PM) 10 and 2.5 micrometers or less (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}).

PM2.5, respectively). Each CAP can have standards that are protective of human health and of public welfare. The EPA has identified nonattainment and attainment areas for each CAP. Under amendments to the Clean Air Act (CAA), the EPA has classified air basins or portions thereof, as “unclassifiable/attainment” or “nonattainment,” based on whether or not the national standards have been achieved or whether a determination is possible with available data. The EPA has also classified the nonattainment areas according to the severity of pollution in each, with each level requiring a different projected attainment date. There are five classes of nonattainment areas, ranging from marginal (relatively easy to clean up quickly) to extreme (will take a lot of work and a long time to clean up). The CAA uses the classification system to define cleanup requirements appropriate for the severity of the pollution and set realistic deadlines for reaching cleanup goals. Unclassified areas are those for which air monitoring has not been conducted but which are assumed to be in attainment for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

Both the EPA and California Air Resources Board (CARB) have set ambient air quality standards, i.e., NAAQS, and California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS). The CAAQS for the seven criteria pollutants are generally more stringent than the NAAQS. The state also has additional standards for visibility reducing particles (of any size), sulfates, and hydrogen sulfide (H₂S). These standards are based on observable short-term (acute) health effects. Once the EPA and CARB sets a standard, the various air districts (and air basins) of California are monitored to determine if they meet (attain) or do not meet (exceed) the standards. After auditing and reviewing the monitoring data, the EPA and CARB then determine the attainment status of the air district. The Northeast Plateau Air Basin is currently in attainment (or is unclassified) for all state and federal ambient air quality standards, with the exception of the state standard for particulate matter less than ten micrometers in diameter (PM₁₀).

Nearly all areas of the state are classified as non-attainment for PM₁₀. Despite the non-attainment designation for PM₁₀, air quality in the Northeast Plateau Air Basin is generally regarded as good. PM₁₀ air emissions include chemical emissions and other inhalable particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 10 micrometers. PM₁₀ emissions include smoke from wood stoves and airborne salts and other particulate matter naturally generated by ocean surf. The greatest sources of PM₁₀ are human-caused area-wide sources, such as unpaved-road dust, residential fuel combustion, waste burning and disposal, and paved road dust. Construction and demolition contributes only a small fraction of PM₁₀ emissions. In part because of the large number of wood stoves in Siskiyou County and because of the high winds common to this area, Siskiyou County has exceeded the state standard for PM₁₀ air emissions. Therefore, any use or activity that generates unnecessary airborne particulate matter may be of concern to the SCAPCD.

Air Quality Monitoring

CARB and local air districts operate a regional monitoring network that measures the ambient concentrations of the six CAPs. Existing and probable future levels of air quality in the Proposed Action area can generally be inferred from ambient air quality measurements conducted by the SCAPCD and CARB at their monitoring stations. The SCAPCD monitors the following criteria air pollutants at the Yreka site as part of the State and Local Ambient Air Monitoring Network:

1. Ozone: The Yreka ozone monitor continuously analyzes and records ambient ground-level ozone concentrations. Data is checked for errors, processed, and reported to the California

Air Resources Board (CARB) quarterly. Precision checks are made and recorded regularly to insure data integrity.

2. Particulates: Like ozone, ambient concentrations of particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5) are also continuously monitored in Yreka. Data is quality assured and reported to CARB.

Efforts to reduce air emissions are required by the federal CAA and the California CAA. The federal government, primarily through the EPA, sets federal health standards for air emissions. EPA also oversees state and local actions and implements programs for toxic air pollutants, heavy-duty trucks, locomotives, ships, aircraft, off-road diesel equipment, and other types of industrial equipment. In California, CARB sets state air quality standards and implements programs to improve air quality. The state air quality standards are equal to, or more stringent than, federal air quality standards. Table 3.1.1 (below) is a comparative analysis of the national and California air quality standards.

Table 3.1-1. State and National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Pollutant	Averaging Time	National	State of California
Ozone	1 hour	0.12 ppm (235 ug/m ³)	0.09 ppm (180 ug/m ³)
	8 hour	0.08 ppm (160 ug/m ³)	NA
Carbon monoxide	1 hour	35 ppm (40,000 ug/m ³)	20 ppm (23,000 ug/m ³)
	8 hour	9 ppm (10,000 ug/m ³)	9.0 ppm (10,000 ug/m ³)
Nitrogen dioxide	1 hour	NA	0.25 ppm (470 ug/m ³)
	Annual	0.053 ppm (100 ug/m ³)	NA
Sulfur dioxide	1 hour	NA	0.25 ppm (655 ug/m ³)
	3 hour	0.5 ppm (1,300 ug/m ³)	NA
	24 hour	0.14 ppm (365 ug/m ³)	0.04 ppm (105 ug/m ³)
	Annual	0.03 ppm (80 ug/m ³)	NA
Particulate matter	24 hour	150 ug/m ³	50 ug/m ³
	Annual	50 ug/m ³	30 ug/m ³
Sulfates	24 hour	NA	25 ug/m ³
Lead	30 day	NA	1.5 ug/m ³
	Calendar	1.5 ug/m ³	NA
Hydrogen sulfide	1 hour	NA	0.03 ppm (42 ug/m ³)
Vinyl chloride	24 hour	NA	0.010 ppm (26 ug/m ³)

Pollutant	Averaging Time	National	State of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California standards for ozone, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter (PM-10) are values that are not to be exceeded. All other California standards shown are values not to be equaled or exceeded. • National standards, other than for ozone and particulate matter and those based on annual averages, are not to be exceeded more than once per year. For the one-hour ozone standard, the ozone standard is attained when the expected number of days per calendar year with maximum hourly average concentrations above the standard is equal to or less than one. The eight-hour ozone standard is met at a monitoring site when the three-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum eight-hour average ozone concentration is less than or equal to 0.08 ppm. • ppm = parts per million by volume; $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ = micrograms per cubic meter. • New standards effective September 16, 1997 (40 CFR 50.7 and 40 CFR 50.10). • NA: Not Applicable. 			

On the other Karuk Reservation trust lands, neither the EPA nor the Tribe has performed air quality conformity determinations. It should be noted that pursuant to the CAA as amended, responsibility for air quality conformance falls with the Tribe if the EPA delegates programmatic jurisdiction to them. Therefore, EPA maintains air quality jurisdiction for the reservation, and not the state, and accordingly, NAAQS apply instead of state standards. This arrangement is not unique to the Karuk Tribe, as air quality jurisdiction has not been delegated to most of the 114 tribal reservations or rancherias located throughout California. However, if construction or operational emissions from the Proposed Project were to drift off site, the SCAPCD could assert jurisdiction or at the very least petition the EPA for violations of the CAA.

Sensitive Receptors

Some receptors are considered more sensitive than others to air pollutants. Reasons for greater sensitivity include preexisting health problems, proximity to emissions sources, or duration of exposure to air pollutants. Schools, hospitals, and convalescent homes are considered to be relatively sensitive to poor air quality because children, elderly people, and the infirm are more susceptible to respiratory infections and other air quality-related health problems than the general public. Residential areas are also sensitive to poor air quality because people usually stay home for extended periods of time. Typical of rural areas, the vicinity of the Proposed Project area is characterized by low-density residential uses. The residences are located within the project area, and the nearest school is the Happy Camp Elementary School, located approximately 1,000 feet northeast. The nearest medical center is the existing medical facility located within the tribal administrative offices, located approximately 1,000 feet southeast.

3.2 Visual Resources

The Proposed Project area is located in an area that is undeveloped and largely rural in character. Elevations within the Proposed Action area range from approximately 1,095 feet to 1,160 feet. Topographically, the project site is situated on a flat river terrace surrounded by steep slopes.

The primary land uses in the Proposed Project area are partially developed for public uses such as a school, park, ball fields and the recently developed Karuk Happy Camp Family Services Center) and other private commercial developments. SR-96 is located approximately 150 feet west of the project site. The property site is not located in the vicinity of a state or county designated scenic highway (Figure 3.2-1, Visual Characteristics).



View to the South From Project Area



View to the Southwest From Project Area



View to the Northeast From Project Area



**Figure 3.2-1
Visual Characteristics**

Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental
Clinic Siskiyou County, California



3.3 Biological Resources

LACO Associates conducted a biological evaluation for the adjacent Family Services Center in March 2017, which included a site visit of the entire parcel as well as a literature review and search of the USFWS database to develop an endangered species list and review for habitat potential in the Proposed Project area. The CNDDDB and USFWS IPAC search was redone on February 28, 2020 (Appendix C) to determine additional special-status species that may occur in the Proposed Project area as well as USFWS Critical Habitat. Known populations of these species within 3 miles of the Proposed Project area are noted in Appendix C.

LACO Associates conducted a field survey of the Proposed Project area on March 2, 2017. Habitat potential for special-status wildlife species, including federally listed species, was assessed. A botanical investigation was also performed. All plants that were observed in the project area on March 2, 2017 were identified to the level necessary to determine status. While this is a suitable time of year to identify many special-status species with potential to occur in the project area, not all plant species present on a single date may have been in a condition suitable for identification.

Results

Vegetation

LACO Associates conducted a botanical investigation of the project area on March 2, 2017. They found natural habitats to include mixed evergreen forest and grassland. The Hillside Road frontage and Proposed Project is within a clearing that has widespread areas of recent soil disturbance are primarily comprised of nonnative grasses and forbs, with scattered numbers of remnant mature forest trees of Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and incense cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*). The dominant vegetation on steep slopes surrounding the Hillside Road clearing are mixed coniferous forests of Douglas-fir, and scattered ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*), and California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) with associated native small tree and shrub cover of deer brush (*Ceanothus integerrimus*), poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), Pacific madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), California white oak (*Quercus garryana*), California hazel (*Corylus cornuta*), Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), and canyon gooseberry (*Ribes menziesii*). Canopy coverage on the densely vegetated side slopes range from 70 to 100 percent. Ground coverage ranges from 5 to 100 percent of primarily licorice fern (*Polypodium glycyrrhiza*), English ivy (*Hedera helix*), wild honeysuckle (*Lonicera hispidula*), creeping snowberry (*Symphoricarpos mollis*), Oregon grape (*Berberis nervosa*), Himalaya blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), and scores of other native and nonnative species.

Clearing vegetation is comprised of perennial ryegrass (*Festuca perennis*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), and a variety of other nonnative herbs and grasses (CNPS 2017).

Wildlife

The Proposed Project area supports a diverse wildlife population, particularly the avian species. Habitat is provided for nesting and rearing sites and food sources, as well as cover and concealment from predators and the elements. A comprehensive listing of potential threatened, endangered, and migratory bird species was obtained from the USFWS (USFWS 2017).

Listed and Sensitive Species and Habitat

A general survey of the Proposed Project area for listed species was conducted on March 2, 2017 by LACO Associates. The survey results did not indicate the need for a more in-depth analysis of critical habitat or occurrence of special-status species due to the lack of habitat for listed species (LACO Associates 2017). Table 3.3-1, taken from the 2017 Biological Evaluation, compiles the special-status species occurring within the Proposed Project area (LACO Associates 2017).

Table 3.3-1. Special-status Species Occurring within the Proposed Project Area

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence in the Proposed Project Area
Plants			
Applegate's milk-vetch (<i>Astragalus applegatei</i>)	FE	Alkali seasonal wetland habitats (~1,250m)	Absent. The wetlands adjacent to the study area are not suitable habitat for this species, nor was it observed in the field. There are no known occurrences in the study area.
Gentner's fritillary (<i>Fritillaria gentneri</i>)	FE	Mixed hardwood forest, chaparral (300-1,500m)	Possible. Not observed in the field, but marginal suitable habitat does occur in the project area.
Hoover's spurge (<i>Chamaesyce hooveri</i>)	FT	Valley vernal pools (<250 m)	Unlikely. No vernal pool observed in the field, therefore unsuitable habitat occurs in the project area.
Slender Orcutt grass (<i>Orcuttia tenuis</i>)	FT	Valley vernal pools (<250)	Unlikely. No vernal pool observed in the field, therefore unsuitable habitat occurs in the project area.
Invertebrates			
Conservancy fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta conservatio</i>)	FE	Vernal pools	Absent. Suitable habitat for this species does not occur in the study area.
Vernal pool fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>)	FT	Vernal pools	Absent. Suitable habitat for this species does not occur in the study area.
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp (<i>Lepidurus packardi</i>)	FE	Vernal pools	Absent. Suitable habitat for this species does not occur in the study area.
Fish			
Lost River sucker (<i>Deltistes luxatus</i>)	FE	Freshwater lakes & streams	Absent. Suitable habitat for this species does not occur in the study area.
Shortnose sucker (<i>Chasmistes brevirostris</i>)	FE	Freshwater lakes & their tributaries	Absent. Suitable habitat does not exist.
Reptiles/Amphibians			
Oregon spotted frog (<i>Rana pretiosa</i>)	FT	Quiet pools, streams, marshes. Only five known locations in CA.	Absent. Suitable habitat for this species does not occur in the study area.
Birds			
Marbled murrelet (<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>)	FT	North coast coniferous forest (nesting only), dependent on mature stands.	Unlikely. Suitable nesting habitat does not exist in the study area.
Northern spotted owl (<i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i>)	FT	Multi-layered coniferous forests	Unlikely. Suitable nesting habitat does not exist in the study area. (Closest known territories: SIS0009, 1.5 miles NW, SIS0567, 1.8 miles SE, SIS0219, 2.2 miles SW [CNDDDB 2017]).
Western yellow-billed cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>)	FT	Multi-layered riparian forests	Unlikely. Suitable nesting habitat does not exist in the study area.
Mammals			
Gray wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>)	FE	Widespread, NE California forest, grassland and sagebrush habitats.	Unlikely. Predominance of residential/commercial development within the study area.
Migratory Birds			
Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	BCC		Possible. Klamath River could provide foraging habitat for this species. No large snags for nesting/roosting are present. May find suitable river habitat and therefore

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence in the Proposed Project Area
		Nests near open water in area w/some old growth components.	may pass over the site on occasion, but would not be expected to regularly use the site.
Black swift (<i>Cypseloides niger</i>)	BCC	Aerial; forages over forests and in open areas. Nests behind or next to waterfalls and wet cliffs.	Possible. May occur as an infrequent forager in aerial habitat.
Calliope hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus calliope</i>)	BCC	Openings in coniferous oak woodlands	Unlikely. Scarce foraging and nesting habitat exists in the study area.
Flammulated owl (<i>Otus flammeolus</i>)	BCC	Coniferous/oak woodlands	Unlikely. Scarce foraging and nesting habitat exists in the study area.
Fox sparrow (<i>Passerella iliaca</i>)	BCC	Nests in mountain chaparral.	Wintering birds seen on-site. Suitable nesting habitat for this species does not occur in the study area.
Lewis's woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>)	BCC	Primarily, oak woodlands.	Absent. Suitable habitat for this species does not occur in the study area.
Loggerhead shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>)	BCC	Requires large open grasslands, shrub, or desert scrublands.	Absent. Suitable habitat for this species does not occur in the study area.
Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	BCC	Woodland, forest, and coastal habitats. Forage in open country. Nesting on protected ledges of high cliffs, buildings, bridges.	Possible. No nesting habitat occurs in the study area, but may occur infrequently as a transient forager.
Purple finch (<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>)	BCC	Woodlands, coniferous forest, mixed habitats	Possible. May occur as an infrequent forager in aerial habitat.
Rufous hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>)	BCC	Nest in coniferous forest and forage in openings with abundant nectar flowers. Chiefly secondary succession communities and forest openings.	Possible. Limited foraging and nesting habitat occurs in the study area.
Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>)	BCC	Nests in and forages in expansive grasslands.	Absent. Study area does not contain suitable habitat for this species.
Swainson's hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>)	BCC	Open grasslands with scattered large trees for nesting.	Absent. Study area does not contain suitable habitat for this species.
Western grebe (<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>)	BCC	Open lakes and estuaries.	Absent. Suitable breeding habitat is absent from the study area.
White-headed woodpecker (<i>Picoides albolarvatus</i>)	BCC	Open coniferous forest, especially pine dominated.	Absent. Study area does not contain suitable habitat for this species.
Williamson's sapsucker (<i>Sphyrapicus thyroides</i>)	BCC	Coniferous forest.	Absent. Suitable habitat does not occur in the study area.
Willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax trailii</i>)	BCC	Nests in and forages near willow thickets, usually near meadows and bodies of water.	Unlikely. Suitable breeding and foraging habitat in the form of willow thickets are rare to absent. However, migrating individuals may pass through on rare occasions.
Oak titmouse (<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>)	BCC	Oak and pine-oak woodland, arborescent chaparral, oak-riparian associations.	Absent. Study area is within the historic breeding range of the species, but was not observed in the study area.
Olive-sided flycatcher (<i>Contopus cooperi</i>)	BCC	Coniferous woodlands, forest clearings.	Possible. Nesting habitat for this species occurs in the study area.

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence in the Proposed Project Area
<p>Source: LACO Associates 2017</p> <p>OCCURRENCE DESIGNATIONS:</p> <p>Present: Species observed on the study area at time of field surveys or during recent past.</p> <p>Likely: Species not observed on the study area, but it may be reasonably be expected to occur there on a regular basis.</p> <p>Possible: Species not observed in the study area, but it could occur there from time to time.</p> <p>Unlikely: Species not observed in the study area, and would not be expected to occur there except, perhaps, as a transient.</p> <p>Absent: Species not observed in the study area, and precluded from occurring there because habitat requirements not met.</p> <p>*STATUS CODES:</p> <p>FE Federally Endangered</p> <p>FT Federally Threatened</p> <p>FPE Federally Endangered (Proposed)</p> <p>FC Federal Candidate</p> <p>BCC Bird of Conservation Concern</p>			

3.4 Cultural Resources

This section is a brief summary of the Cultural Resources Assessment, prepared in 2017 for the Karuk Happy Camp Family Services Center parcel, which is the same parcel as the one that will contain the Proposed Project (Appendix A; Karuk Tribe 2017). As a federal action, the proposed undertaking must comply with NEPA Section 106 (Codified as 36 CFR Part 800) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and must consider effects to historic properties. The area of analysis for cultural and historic resources includes the area of potential effects (APE) for the Proposed Project. The NHPA is the primary federal legislation governing preservation of cultural and historical resources in the United States. The NHPA established a national historic preservation program, which encourages the identification and protection of cultural resources. Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings (16 USC Section 470f). The ACHP promulgated the Section 106 implementing regulations, found at 36 CFR Part 800, which sets forth the Section 106 process, including consultation requirements.

The Karuk Tribe has been delegated responsibly for Section 106 consultations and has their own Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) over Tribal lands. The THPO was consulted on March 13, 2017 and issued this statement: “The recommended finding for this project is No Historic Properties Affected by this Undertaking”. The following was prepared by the THPO to provide a history and the field investigation that supports the THPO’s findings. It is a condensed version of the information presented in the Cultural Resources Assessment contained in Appendix A.

Cultural History

The Karuk people occupy the middle course of the Klamath River channel in northern California, from a few miles above Seiad Valley in Siskiyou County to a few miles above Weitchpec in Humboldt County. The territory extends over 1.06 million acres, or just over 1,600 square miles. The Karuk people are aboriginal, and have lived in the same place since the beginning of time. They are well known in particular for their basketry work, for traditional dipnet fishing practices, and for their ceremonial practices, which have been passed down intact through countless generations, and are practiced in the same places. In recent years the Tribe has made great efforts to restore ancestral land management practices, including in particular the reintroduction of fire as a land management tool.

A review of traditional anthropological and archaeological sources leads towards an orthodox view of settlement patterns in the area. While there have not been extensive surveys within the Karuk Aboriginal Territory, data from nearby areas can help establish likely settlement patterns across northwestern California. A broad view would yield the following periods:

- Paleoindian – prior to 8500 Before Present (BP)
- Early period (Borax Lake Pattern – 7000 to 3500 BP)
- Middle period (Mendocino Pattern) – 3500 to 1500 BP
- Late period (Tulawat Pattern) – 1500 to 165 BP
- Post-Contact – 165 BP to the present day

The Paleoindian period is informed by surveys conducted in Lake County (Kaufman 1980). The extensive settlement in the early period was studied at Pilot Ridge by Hildebrandt and Hayes (1983). The Early, Middle, and Late periods are distinguished by projectile points found in the area. Characteristics of the Paleoindian period include large, lanceolate, concave-based fluted projectile points, which has been presumed to be consistent with a mobile hunting and plant gathering subsistence lifestyle, organized in family groups. The Borax Lake pattern, identified on upland sites including Pilot Ridge and on Bald Hills, include larger, wide-stem projectile points, ovoid scrapers, and grinding stones. The evidence for the development of food milling technology is notable in this phase. The Mendocino pattern projectile points are smaller and finer, and have been identified in river valleys, especially where salmon is a notable presence. It is often associated with midden soils and fish processing sites, and includes developed mortars and pestles. The evidence suggests fish and acorns compose a greater part of the diet. It also suggests a more settled existence than before. The Tulawat (Gunther) pattern is characterized by a much greater assemblage of tools that include finer, barbed projectile points, chert bifaces, larger steatite bowls, adze handles, antler spoons, pipes, and dentalium-shell beads. This period demonstrates the ability to make dugout canoes, split-plank houses, and fishing platforms and weirs.

Tribal accounts challenge at various points the somewhat orthodox summary given above. The Karuk are an aboriginal people, and tribal cultural ways have been learned from generation to generation. They have been learned from the environment and bespeak a duty to manage that environment. Traditional ecological knowledge encapsulates the current cultural practices of the Tribe, and those that have been passed down through the knowledge of elders. Since the 1960s, there was a very influential idea in scholarly circles that the Americas were settled via a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska, but the theory has latterly been questioned. The Paisley Caves near Summer Lake, Oregon provided the earliest pre-Clovis dates in North America, and provide the earliest widely accepted dates for human occupation in the western states, to about 16,000 BP according to calibrated radiocarbon dates, and verified with a cross section of other indicators (Jenkins et al. 2014). Furthermore, the valleys have not seen glaciers in the last ice age. The stages identified by western archaeology are constrained by the evidence available. Two key limitations of the standard model are the presumptions that the evidence suggests a culture that has died out, when it is in fact very much alive, and that the people of the area used to be hunter-gatherers, when the traditional management methods outlined by tribal members and discussed by Anderson (2005) demonstrate a finely tuned ability to manage the land to make it productive for people and animals alike.

The evidence shows that the Karuk people have led a settled and comfortable subsistence lifestyle for thousands of years at least, with all of the resources for survival within easy reach. These include deer, elk, salmon, lamprey eels, acorns, berries, as well as basket weaving and regalia materials. Members of the Tribe still practice cultural activities that have been passed down through the generations since the beginning of time: gathering and basket weaving, dip-net fishing in the river, land management by traditional methods, and participation in spiritual ceremonies. The high level of artistry seen in the historic baskets, spoons, and flanged pestles, demonstrate a certain level of leisure, time, and comfort. Tribal members in pre-contact times evidently did not live a hand-to-mouth existence. Stories were told during the winter months while repairs were made to nets and hunting equipment, and people lived on the stored foods that had been gathered and processed in accordance with established and trusted routines.

There was an extensive network of villages and a ceremonial center downstream at Inam, by Clear Creek. There were also a number of villages in the Happy Camp area; the two most prominent are Athithufvuunupma (“Hazel-Withe Creek flowing down”) at Indian Creek, and Sivattim, at the confluence of Elk Creek. Additional sites have been identified on the flats around Happy Camp and up the main tributaries as well. It is certain that the network of habitation in the area is far more extensive than the testimony recorded by Bright in the 1950s.

Post-contact Period

While a very few white people made their way through the area from the 1820s in order to trap fur, the great influx started in 1851, where a camp was established by a group of about 30 mining prospectors, including Captain Charles McDermit (*Karuk Tribe, 2017*). Two parties, one from downstream, and one from upstream, had gone on prospecting expeditions in 1850 and encountered widespread resistance from the inhabitants of the area. After a confrontation at Wingate Bar, the settlers established their camp where Indian Creek joins the Klamath. Large-scale massacres followed. About 90 Karuk were recorded as killed between 1851 and 1855, although the number is surely much higher. The military outpost of Fort Jones was established upstream in the Scott Valley in 1853; after it was abandoned, Fort Gaston at Hoopa was established in 1858.

They named the place “Happy Camp”, and within a short time a town grew from the former campsite. The place included a bakery, store, butcher’s shop, saloon, hotel, bowling alley, and mule outfitters. The miners used mules for transport and spread up and down the river. Originally, the town was provisioned from Trinidad via a ferry over the Klamath and a long, arduous trail. An alternative trail was established between Crescent City and the Happy Camp area, known as the Kelsey Trail, and undoubtedly using previously known routes. Other settlers came over the trail from Waldo, Oregon. The settlement of Indian Town was established a short distance up Indian Creek, which for a time was a larger settlement. A ferry, post office, and depot was established downriver at Ferry Point in the mid-1850s, to serve the Bunker Hill mine, which was one of the larger placer mines in the area.

By about 1862, the easily accessible gold dwindled, and a number of miners moved on. A community of Chinese miners settled in the area. Others started working on higher land by ground sluicing, and hydraulic mining, using large nozzles and water under gravity pressure to wash away large swathes of the soil. The developments in town required lumber, and in this decade two sawmills and brickworks were established, The American House/Old Cuddihy Hotel and the Evans Mercantile building still stand and testify to this period in the town’s development. They were owned by Henry Doolittle, who had extensive holdings around town, including claims to water rights on Indian Creek, Elk Creek, Grider Creek, and large networks of ditches. A steel and wood bridge was built over Indian Creek in 1883, with all the materials packed in. The first school was built in 1878, and served the community for many years with additions. The later elementary school was built in 1941, and is currently occupied by Karuk Tribe office buildings.

The holdings of the Happy Camp Hydraulic Mining Company were bought by Horace Gasquet, who received a patent in 1880. These holdings included the area known as “Schoolhouse Flat”, which is located east and north of the Indian Creek confluence. He retained the strip of land on the east bank of Indian Creek, and sold his interest to a New York firm, which operated the hydraulic mines until the mid-1890s. It suffered from the flood in 1890, and was later acquired by Reeves Davis. Drift mining and dredging was employed in the area in

later years, notably at the Allen Ranch upstream of Happy Camp, adjacent to the Chambers property, which is now in state ownership. There was a significant Chinese population in the town: the census of 1880 includes 97 Indians and 250 Chinese people. They first worked as laborers on the larger mines, building ditches, and also running their own mine operations. It is said that there were four Chinese stores at one time, as well as an extensive Chinatown. An extensive fire burned the Chinatown buildings in 1910, and by 1920 there were only two Chinese inhabitants. (*Siskiyou Pioneer* 1966).

Tracts of land were homesteaded between the 1890s and 1930, including those by Benoni Swearingen, William Williamson, and Reeves Davis. Some settlers brought their families from elsewhere, and others married Indian women. Placer mining gave way to lode mining, and there was an extensive set of mills in town. The first wagon trail had been built from Thompson Creek in 1887, which displaced the pack trains on that route. Happy Camp was finally connected by road to Orleans in 1923, after the construction of the Blue Nose Bridge. The first Forest Reserve was acquired in 1906, about 5 miles up Indian Creek; this was one of the first pieces of the Klamath National Forest. A ranger station was built in town, and in 1933, the community pooled resources to construct a high school from logs, which was unique in the country.

The lumber industry became the dominant industry in town from the 1940s until the 1990s. There were four mills in the area, of which two were in town and two were located up Indian Creek.

There were heavy floods in 1890, 1927, 1955, and in 1964. The 1964 flood is still remembered by many: it took out many bridges including the old steel one over Indian Creek, sparing the newly constructed 1962 highway bridge and the steel bridge over the Klamath, which had replaced the one taken out in the 1955 flood. There are many photographs extant of Second Street underwater during the flood. It was after the flood of 1964 that the systematic development of the upper terrace in Happy Camp started, outside of the flood zone, including the Forest Service office and newer houses (*Karuk Tribe* 2017).

Results of Cultural Resources Assessment

Records and Literature Search

Karuk THPO-Archaeologist Alex Watts-Tobin made visits to the Northeast Information Center on January 29, 2016 and April 11, 2017. This search included the following categories: National Register Listed and Eligible properties; California Register of Historical Resources; California Points of Historical Interest; California Inventory of Historical Resources; and California Historical Landmarks.

Records were also searched at the Klamath National Forest (SRNF) on April 10th, 2017, and Happy Camp District Archaeologist Zach Rodriguez was briefed about this project. The project area lies in the Happy Camp District of the Klamath National Forest. Mapping data consulted for this project includes Light Detection and Ranging (LiDar) surface data, 1944 aerial pictures, and historical maps. Additional inquiries within the Tribe have yielded some oral history about the project area and its wider setting.

No archaeological sites were found within the APE of the Proposed Project.

Field Investigation

A survey was conducted on April 10, 2017 by Alex Watts-Tobin, THPO of the Karuk Tribe. The survey involved walking parallel transects at 10 meters apart, while scanning the mineral sediment for resources. The whole parcel was investigated, with a small buffer on each side. The parcel extends over the top of the spur of high ground, and is bounded on the northwest side by the slope leading down to SR-96; on the northeast by Hillside Road and some houses, on the southwest by a ridge with greater shrub and tree cover and on the southeast by a parcel covered with scotch broom, and which slopes away towards a junkyard and the Klamath River. One remaining structure appears to have been a set of separate rooms for the inn structure. Lately, these rooms have been used by squatters, and the building is scheduled for demolition. The parcel to the southeast was also investigated. A total of 2.2 acres was surveyed for this project, including the project site where all ground disturbance activities will be contained.

The mineral soil access was excellent, as the vegetation had been recently cleared with the use of heavy equipment. It was immediately apparent that the project area had been heavily disturbed. In contrast to the alluvial deposits found in the floodplain in adjacent areas, the predominant soil type was red clay, as is found from viewing various locations in cut banks around the property. This natural matrix of soil is heavily mixed with gray sandy shale soil, with many smaller pebbles. This soil is evidently imported material, and had been used in construction of the building and associated development. The property is bordered with pine and madrone, and some mockorange plants.

Local testimony states that from the 1930s there was a boarding house on this property, and during the 1950s and 1960s it was the site of the Rustic Inn. Considerable ground disturbance likely took place during the construction of that property. Utilities including wastewater and electricity are located at UTM 468765, 4626862 (Zone 10, NAD83). When the property was first viewed on November 14, 2016, next to this location there was evidence of a well, a pair of larger Douglas-fir trees, and a very large trash pile. By April 2017, these objects had all been removed and the property graded.

Soil visibility conditions were excellent, and the level of soil disturbance made the presence of subsurface deposits unlikely. No additional subsurface sampling was deemed necessary. In survey, no historic artifacts were in fact found. Scattered pieces of trash were found, none of historic dating. Examples included pieces of newer scrap metal, and a piece of green glass bottle with some markings indicative of a 1970s soda bottle. No cultural resources, features, or sites were found on the property. There is always the possibility that that historic or prehistoric features are buried well underground; but no evidence exists of any potential subsurface features that might be disturbed by the current project. The trees around the property are of a type that would have provided sustenance and resources to humans and animals, and they are not very old, and there is no evidence of management for resources on the property.

3.5 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

LACO Associates conducted a site visit on March 2, 2017, which confirmed that the Proposed Project will not be located near hazardous operations handling conventional fuels or chemicals of an explosive or flammable nature (LACO Associates 2017).

The nearest cleanup site is the U.S. Department of Agriculture Buzzard Hill Mine, located approximately 600 feet northwest of the Proposed Project study area, however, this cleanup site is not active (State Water Resources Control Board 2020). The nearest closed cleanup site is Johns Repair, located approximately 400 feet northwest of the Proposed Project study area. The site was cleared of known hazardous waste (gasoline) and the case was closed in 1999 (State Water Resources Control Board 2020).

Wildland Areas

The area is designated as a federal responsibility area with very high fire hazards on the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) Fire Hazard Severity Maps for Siskiyou County (CALFIRE 2007).

3.6 Land Resources

Geologic Setting

The Proposed Project is located in the Klamath Mountains Province, generally paralleling the Klamath River along SR-96. The Klamath Mountains Province consists of several mountain ranges, including the Siskiyou Mountains, Salmon Mountains, Scott Mountains, and Trinity Alps. The mountains in the Klamath Mountains Province generally range in elevation from about 5,000 to 7,000 feet, with the Trinity Alps reaching about 8,900 feet, and are dissected by steep valleys and gorges cut by the numerous rivers traversing the range (Norris and Webb 1976). The Proposed Project is located along the Klamath River, which generally serves as the dividing line between the Siskiyou Mountains on the west and the Salmon Mountains on the east. The Klamath Mountains Province consists primarily of accreted volcanic arc and oceanic terranes (remnants of oceanic plates sutured onto the continental plate during the Nevadan Orogeny) ranging in age from Jurassic (approximately 150 million years old) to Cambrian (greater than 500 million years old), youngest to oldest from west to east (Harden 2004). The Proposed Project is located in the Western Klamath terrane, which is comprised of Jurassic metasedimentary rocks unconformably overlying Jurassic to Permian ophiolite sequences consisting of metasedimentary, metavolcanic, metamorphic, and marine sedimentary rocks. These units were complexly folded and faulted during the Nevadan Orogeny. Mesozoic granitic to ultramafic plutons have intruded these units throughout the Klamath Mountains Province. Surficial deposits of Quaternary sediments are located throughout the many valleys in the Klamath Mountains.

Topography

The Proposed Project area includes topography that ranges from approximately 1,100 feet to approximately 1,200 feet with elevations averaging approximately 1,150 feet. The Proposed Project area is situated on a flat river terrace surrounded by steep slopes.

Seismic Conditions

Areas with identified seismic hazards are included in the Siskiyou County General Plan, Seismic and Safety Element (1975). The region around Siskiyou County is a low to moderate risk area (Siskiyou County Draft Hazard Mitigation Plan 2018). Damage that could occur in a low to moderate risk area could have low to moderate probable damage in the event of an earthquake.

According to the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, active faults are those fault traces that have shown movement in the past 11,000 years. The California Geologic Survey Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault

Zones mapping system does not show the presence of earthquake faults in the western portion of Siskiyou County, in the Proposed Project area. The Proposed Project area and Proposed Action areas are not located in a known earthquake fault zone.

Soils

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) National Cooperative Soil Survey identifies soils within the Proposed Project area, including the areas of the other four parcels, as “139—Holland-Aiken Families Association, 2 to 15 percent slopes.” The 139 Holland-Aiken Families Association is commonly found on low-to-high terraces with slopes ranging from 2 to 15 percent and located at elevations between 700 and 1,500 feet where annual precipitation is between 50 and 70 inches. This soil type has a slow to moderately slow permeability, moderate infiltration, and moderate erosion hazard (NRCS 2020).

Mineral Resources

The California Division of Mines and Geology has not classified any lands within Siskiyou County into a Mineral Resource Zone based on guidelines adopted by the California State Mining and Geology Board (California Department of Conservation 2020). Despite rich mineral resources in the project area, exploitable mineral resources are not present on the project site. There are no known mineral or energy resources of local, regional, or national importance on or near the Proposed Project site according to the California Geological Survey (USGS 2020).

3.7 Noise

Noise is generally defined as unwanted sound, and can be intermittent or continuous, steady or impulsive, stationary or transient. Noise levels heard by humans and animals are dependent on several variables, including distance between the source and receiver, altitude, temperature, humidity, wind speed, terrain, and vegetation. Human and animal perception of noise is affected by intensity, frequency, pitch and duration, as well as the auditory system and physiology of the animal. Noise can influence humans or animals by interfering with normal activities or diminishing the quality of the environment. Response to noise is subjective, and therefore, the perception of noise can vary from person to person or among animals.

Many different metrics can be used to describe and quantify noise levels, including using units of decibels (dB). Humans typically have reduced hearing sensitivity at low frequencies compared with their response at high frequencies. The “A-weighting” of noise levels, or A-weighted decibels (dBA), closely correlates to the frequency response of normal human hearing (250 to 4,000 hertz). By utilizing A-weighted noise levels in an environmental study, a person’s response to noise can typically be assessed. However, low frequency sounds are measured using the “C-weighted” scale, or C-weighted decibels (dBC), which gives equal emphasis to sounds of most frequencies. Because decibels are logarithmic values, the combined noise level of two 50 dBA noise sources is 53 dBA, not 100 dBA.

The equivalent noise levels (Leq) during a certain time period uses a single number, similar to an average, to describe the constantly fluctuating instantaneous ambient noise levels at a receptor location during a period of time. The Leq accounts for all of the noises and quiet periods that occur during that time period.

Some land uses are considered to be more sensitive to ambient noise levels than others due to the amount of noise exposure and the types of activities typically involved.

Vibration

The effects of groundborne vibrations typically cause only a nuisance to people, but at extreme vibration levels, damage to buildings may occur. Although groundborne vibration can be felt outdoors, it is typically an annoyance only indoors, where the associated effects of the building shaking can be notable. Groundborne noise is an effect of groundborne vibration and only exists indoors, since it is produced from noise radiated from the motion of the walls and floors of a room and may consist of the rattling of windows or dishes on shelves.

Peak particle velocity (PPV) is often used to measure vibration. PPV is the maximum instantaneous peak (inches per second) of the vibration signal. Scientific studies have shown that human responses to vibration vary by the source of vibration, which is either continuous or transient. Continuous sources of vibration include construction, while transient sources include truck movements. Generally, the thresholds of perception and annoyance are higher for transient sources than for continuous sources. Structural damage can occur when PPV values are 0.5 inches per second or greater. Annoyance can occur at levels as low as 0.1 inches per second and become strongly perceptible at approximately 0.9 inches per second (Caltrans 2004).

Sensitive Receptors

Residences, schools, libraries, health care facilities, and parks are generally considered more sensitive to noise than are commercial and industrial land uses. The nearest sensitive noise receptors to the Proposed Project are the new Karuk Happy Camp Family Services Center located immediately to the north of the Proposed Project, the Happy Camp River Park, located approximately .5 mile northeast of the Proposed Project area and the Happy Camp Elementary School, located approximately 1,000 feet northeast of the Proposed Project area

Existing Noise Sources

The Proposed Project site is adjacent to several noise sources, including traffic noise from SR-96 and parking lot noise from the adjacent Family Services Center. There are no vibration sources in the vicinity of the Proposed Project site.

3.8 Public Services

Water Supply and Sanitary Sewer Services

Community water would be provided for the Proposed Project by the Happy Camp Community Services District and sewer service would be from the Happy Camp Sanitary District.

Solid Waste

Solid waste service for the Proposed Project area is provided by Happy Camp Disposal Service. Two active permitted solid waste disposal facilities are available in western Siskiyou County. Happy Camp Transfer Station is located 2 miles southwest of Happy Camp on SR-96—Chambers Road. The transfer station is operated by the County of Siskiyou General Services and has a maximum throughput of 99 cubic yards/day (CalRecycle 2018a). Scott Valley Disposal is located at 11217 North Highway 3 in Fort Jones. The transfer and processing station has a maximum permitted throughput of 15 tons per day and a permitted capacity of 2,600 tons per day (CalRecycle 2018b).

Electricity, Natural Gas and Telecommunications

Power for the Proposed Project would be provided by the Pacific Power and Light Company and propane gas is provided by various vendors in the area. Telephone service would be provided by Siskiyou Telephone.

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement services within the Proposed Project area are provided by the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office along with the California Highway Patrol (CHP). The sheriff's main office is located at 305 Butte Street in Yreka. The CHP provides traffic enforcement in unincorporated areas of Siskiyou County, and the CHP Yreka Area office, located at 1739 South Main Street in Yreka, oversees traffic enforcement of SR-96, including the 17 miles within or adjacent to SR-96 where the Proposed Project would be located.

Fire Protection

Fire protection services would be provided to the Proposed Project by Happy Camp Volunteer Fire, U.S. Forest Service, and CALFIRE.

Schools

The Proposed Project area is served by Happy Camp Elementary School and Happy Camp High School, which is operated by Siskiyou Union High School District. Both schools are located about within a mile of the Proposed Project area.

Parks and Recreation

The nearest parks to the Proposed Project area are Old Town Park, which is located approximately .25 mile west of the Proposed Project area and Happy Camp River Park, location approximately .5 mile northeast of the Proposed Project area. In addition, Recreational activities such as hiking, fishing, and camping occur in Klamath National Forest and the nearby Six Rivers National Forest.

3.9 Socioeconomic and Community Resources

Population Growth Trends

The 2010 United States Census reported that Happy Camp had a population of 1,190. Total Tribal enrollment for the Karuk Tribe in Happy Camp in 2018 is approximately 254 members and 157 descendants.

Racial and Ethnic Characteristics

The racial makeup of Happy Camp was 814 (68.4 percent) Caucasian, 2 (0.2 percent) African American, 277 (23.3 percent) Native American, 7 (0.6 percent) Asian, 1 (0.1 percent), Pacific Islander, 18 (1.5 percent) from other races, and 71 (6.0 percent) from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race was 95 (8.0 percent). The census reported that 1,190 people (100 percent of the population) lived in households (U.S. Census Bureau 2020)

Employment and Income

In the past 20 years, historic adverse impacts have been exacerbated by the extreme socioeconomic distress that followed the collapse of the timber industry in the mid-1990s, severely reducing employment opportunities. Until that time, the economy of California’s remote mid-Klamath River region had been 80 percent timber-dependent, and jobs were abundant in the forests and local sawmills. Following the closure of Happy Camp’s last lumber mill in 1994, the National Association of Counties declared it “one of the ten most economically endangered communities in the United States.” In the extremely remote and mountainous mid-Klamath River region—where the timber industry once supported virtually every worker and local business—the most promising future opportunities remain natural resource related; e.g., co-management of public lands, forests, and fisheries; recreation and tourism, and related small businesses.

Table 3.9-1 provides the United States Census Department and the Bureau of Labor Statistic reports on income data (U.S. Census Bureau 2020). The 2015 report is the most current local data available and is representative of the current conditions.

Table 3.9-1. Employment and Income Data

	Percent Unemployment Rate	Median Household Income	Percent Living in Poverty
Happy Camp	12.4	\$29,688	Not Reported
Siskiyou County	9.4	\$37,170	22.6
State of California	6.1	\$61,818	15.3
United States	5.3	\$53,889	31.5

The annual median income for Happy Camp is roughly half that of the state average and 20 percent lower than that of Siskiyou County. The unemployment rate is 103 percent higher than the State of California and 133 percent higher than the United States overall.

Environmental Justice

The EPA is required under the 1994 Executive Order 12898 on environmental justice (59 FR 7629) to identify and address disproportionately adverse human health or environmental effects from their programs, policies, and activities in minority and low-income populations in the U.S. This was followed in 1996 by the release of EPA’s Office of Environmental Justice’s Environmental Justice Implementation Plan. The Plan supplements the EPA’s environmental justice strategy and provides a framework for developing specific plans and guidance for implementing EO 12898. In 1998 the EPA developed a framework for assessing environmental justice in NEPA

documents in its Final Guidance for Incorporating Environmental Justice Concerns—EPA’s NEPA Compliance Analysis.

In 2002 the California State Lands Commission developed and adopted an Environmental Justice Policy to ensure equity and fairness within its own processes and procedures, stating that, “environmental justice is an essential consideration in the Commission’s processes, decisions and programs and that all people who live in California should have a meaningful way to participate in these activities.”

3.10 Transportation and Circulation

Roadway System

Local access to the Proposed Project site is provided by Hillside Road, located immediately off of SR-96. Hillside Road is a two-lane paved road that runs in a general north-south direction that is used to access residential housing and the existing Karuk Happy Camp Family Services Center. In anticipation of this future service delivery, Hillside Road has been widened and repaved in order to better accommodate the increase in traffic flow.

Traffic count data from Caltrans for 2017 (Caltrans 2017) indicates that traffic is robust during the summer months as peak month counts are used to calculate worst-case scenarios. As there are no post mile (PM) markers at the Hillside Road intersection, the closest PM (Second Street) is used. Combining the back and ahead peak months, average annual daily traffic counts would be 4,200 vehicles. Table 3.10-1 Traffic Count Data provides the traffic data from 2017. Figure 1.2-2, Project Area, illustrates the existing roadways in the vicinity of the Proposed Action area.

Table 3.10-1. Traffic Count Data

Route	PM	Description	Back Peak Hour	Back Peak Month	Back AADT	Ahead Peak Hour	Ahead Peak Month	Ahead AADT
SR-96	41.101	Happy Camp Main Street	130	1,100	990	210	2,200	1,800
SR-96	41.250	Happy Camp Second Street	190	2,200	1,750	170	2,000	1,600

Source: Caltrans 2017

Existing Bicycle and Pedestrian System

SR-96 and Hillside Road currently have no sidewalks to accommodate pedestrian activity. Furthermore, no bike lanes are provided along these roads.

Existing Transit Service

Existing public transit service within the Proposed Project area is primarily provided by the Siskiyou Transit and General Express (STAGE). STAGE has numerous stops in the Proposed Project area, with the closest stop to the Proposed Project at Happy Camp High School. The service is limited and only provided on Tuesdays and Fridays. The Karuk Tribe offers transportation services to their health clinic on a reservation basis.

Air Transportation

The closest public use airports to the Proposed Project are the Siskiyou County Airport (located approximately 48 miles east), Montague-Yreka Municipal Airport (located approximately 44 miles east), Scott Valley Airport (located approximately 31 miles east), and Happy Camp Airport (located approximately 1.5 north of the Proposed Project area). There are also two privately owned airports, both approximately 35 miles east of the Proposed Project area: Round Mountain Airport and Lefko Airport, and two public airports operated by Del Norte County to the west: Andy McBeth Airport, about 25 miles from the Proposed Project area, and Ward Field, about 30 miles from the Proposed Project area.

3.11 Water Resources

Surface Water, Drainage and Flooding

The closest source of surface water to the Proposed Project site is the Klamath River, which is located approximately 400 feet south of the Proposed Project. Storm water from the Proposed Project area is collected and conveyed through storm drains located along SR-96. These storm drains convey water to the Klamath River (LACO Associates 2017).

Groundwater

The Proposed Project is within the Happy Camp Town Area Groundwater Basin. This is a small groundwater basin, approximately 4 square miles in area, and is used for municipal, industrial, and agricultural uses. Hydrogeological information related to groundwater quality, water-bearing formations, groundwater level trends, or groundwater storage is not available.

Surface Water Quality

The Karuk Tribe has entered into cooperative agreements with both the USGS and USFWS to monitor and assess water quality conditions in the Klamath and its major tributaries. The Karuk Tribe's Water Pollution Control Program focuses on water quality conditions within the main stem of the Klamath River.

The Karuk Ancestral Territory covers over 90 miles of the main stem of the Klamath River and numerous tributaries. The Karuk Tribe's Department of Natural Resources has been monitoring daily water quality conditions in the Klamath River since January of 2000 and tributaries to the Klamath River since 1998, and has been collaboratively involved in maintaining water quality stations along the Klamath River and its tributaries with the EPA, the USGS, the Yurok Tribe, Oregon State University, and PacificCorps.

On May 29, 2008, EPA listed the main stem of the Klamath River as impaired for microcystin toxins in the reach including the Copco I, Copco II, and Iron Gate reservoirs, and the river waters in between. In addition, each segment of the Klamath River within California is listed on the state's 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies as impaired due to excessive nutrients, organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen, sedimentation, and temperature. The listings do not extend to any water bodies located within Indian country, as defined in 18 USC §1151.

Waters of the United States

The Proposed Project site was traversed by a qualified wetland delineator during field reconnaissance in 2017 and no wetlands were found to be present (LACO Associates 2017).

Floodplains

The Proposed Project is located on a riverine terrace and located above the identified 100-year flood plain. According to the flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs) for the Proposed Project, the project is not located within a 100-year floodplain (Figure 3.11-1 Flood Plain Map; FIRM Panel Number 06093C0945D, effective 01/19/2011).

3.12 Human Health and Safety

The Karuk Tribe currently provides preventative, diagnostic, geriatric, pediatric, outreach, TeleMed and emergent care services in Happy Camp, Orleans, and Yreka, with a medical clinic and outreach program in Orleans. All services provided by the Karuk Tribe Health program are available to eligible American Indian patients, without regard to ability to pay.

With no local hospital, triage and emergent services are provided to patients experiencing medical emergencies, and the current clinic often stabilizes the patient prior to their transfer to an out of area hospital either via ambulance or helicopter.

The current facility is located within the floodplain (see Figure 3.11-1, Flood Plain Map).

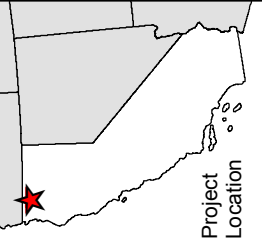
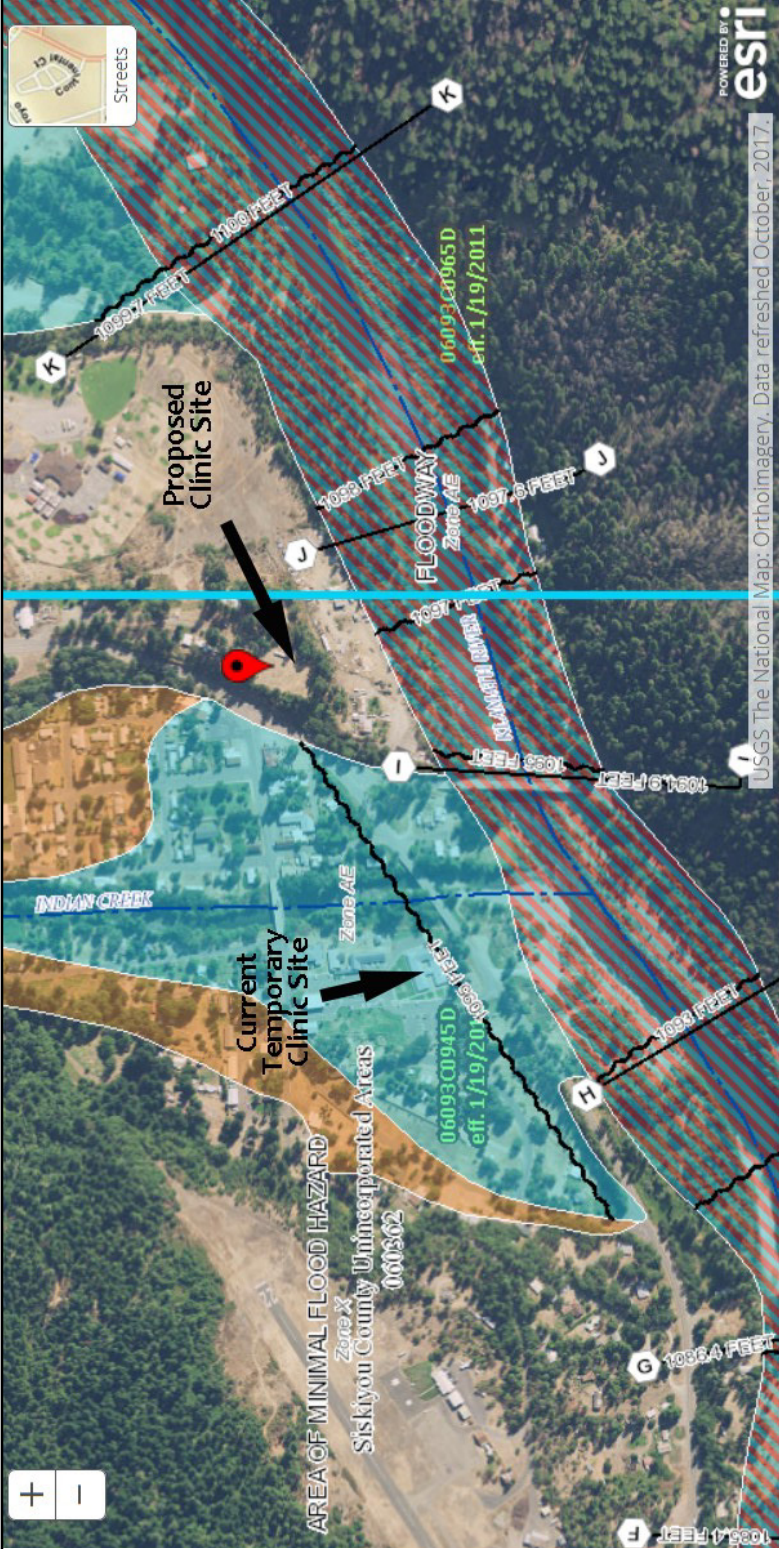


Figure 3.11-1
Flood Plain Map

Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental
Clinic Siskiyou County, California



SECTION 4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Two alternatives have been carried forward for assessment—Alternative A: Proposed Project and Alternative B: No Action. The No Action alternative, under which the Proposed Project would not be constructed and the current medical and dental clinic will remain in operation at its current location, serves as a benchmark for alternative comparison. However, the No Action alternative would not address the current service levels, building conditions, and space limitation of the current facility.

4.1 ALTERNATIVE A – PROPOSED ACTION

4.1.1 Air Quality

Changes in air quality and greenhouse gas emissions will be dependent on efficiency standards used for heating and cooling systems used in the new buildings, insulation, windows, and specialized operational equipment. Utility services exist at the site, and ground preparations will be minimal. The site offers potential for future expansion, which will require less additional infrastructure to support growth in services and facilities. In addition, Alternative A will incorporate many “green building” features, including roof solar panels, use of green-certified wood products, high-quality recycled materials, energy-efficient HVAC systems, water-conserving plumbing fixtures (e.g., toilets, urinals, and water faucets), and electric or propane-fueled appliances.

Construction of Alternative A will require the use of heavy equipment and vehicles within the project area, and travel to and from the site with materials and construction personnel. The California Environmental Protection Agency Air Resources Board (ARB) has published federal, state and local statutes governing emissions caused by heavy equipment and vehicles (ARB 2015). Therefore, during construction, it is expected that there may be short-term construction-related impacts to air quality. The project would include best management practices (BMPs) during construction, as outlined in Mitigation Measures Air – 1 (Section 5.1), which would reduce these potential short-term impacts to a less than significant level.

Once Alternative A becomes operational, its normal day-to-day activities will generate air pollutant emissions for mobile sources as a result of vehicle trips. However, compared to the current operations at the existing facility, this increase will not be significant. In addition, the impacts from project operations on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions will depend on the efficiency of equipment and operational logistics such as number of personnel traveling to work, and similar components that generate emissions or use energy from remote sources. Clear guidelines for efficient operation, and a commitment to energy efficient vehicles and equipment, will help to reduce any additional impacts due to an increase in staff and patients due to increasing capacity of the facility. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not have significant long-term negative impacts on air quality. In addition, the additional parcels that would be transferred into trust would not result in impacts to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions since there is no development proposed on those parcels at this time.

4.1.2 Visual Resources

Implementation of Alternative A would provide a noticeable visual contrast from the existing conditions, as currently the southern portion of the parcel is undeveloped. The northern portion of the parcel includes the recently constructed Family Services Center. The Proposed Project would include the construction of

approximately 11,526 square feet of development between two buildings, as well as additional parking. The new, modern facility may be constructed using a combination of stucco, metal wall panel, stucco, metal and glass storefront, and metal with stone veneer. The elevations of the Proposed Project would not exceed single-story and would not result in significant impacts to the existing viewshed. Although the implementation of Alternative A may involve short-term, construction-related impacts to visual quality, the new facility would be designed to provide consistency with the surroundings and the recently constructed Family Services Center.

The Proposed Project would introduce new lighting sources to an undeveloped area. The area is currently surrounded with commercial development and limited residential development, and the lighting would be designed to avoid significant increases in nighttime light per Mitigation Measure Aesthetics-1 (Section 5.2).

The additional parcels that would be transferred into trust would not result in impacts to visual resources since there is no development proposed on those parcels at this time.

4.1.3 Biological Resources

Alternative A is not expected to impact rare or endangered plant or animal species. An endangered species list was obtained from the USFWS and reviewed for habitat potential and a site review was conducted by LACO Associates in March 2017 (LACO Associates 2017). Based on those reviews, it was determined that since development is proposed on the portion of APN 016-412-200 highly disturbed by previous development, no significant impacts to wildlife and/or vegetation would occur as a result of the Proposed Project. In addition, a request for initiation of an informal consultation with the USFWS was sent on June 9, 2020 for the federally listed endangered Gentner's fritillary (*Fritillaria gentneri*). The USFWS found the species will not be affected by construction on the property. Therefore, unless a new species or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the proposed project, no further coordination with the USFWS is necessary (Appendix D).

The Proposed Project area is located near mature trees, which could potentially provide nesting sites for a variety of sensitive bird species. A variety of raptors and other bird species could potentially nest near the site. With the implementation of Mitigation Measures Wildlife – 1 (Section 5.3), the Proposed Project would have a less than adverse effect on special-status wildlife species potentially occurring on or adjacent to the project site.

The additional parcels transferred into trust would not result in impacts to biological resources since no development is proposed on those parcels at this time.

4.1.4 Cultural Resources

Karuk THPO-Archaeologist Alex Watts-Tobin conducted a records search at the Northeast Information Center on January 29, 2016 and April 11, 2017 (Karuk Tribe 2017). During the visit, a search was conducted for documented archaeological sites within 0.5 mile of the Proposed Project area, and for studies that focused on the area around the project location. This search included the following categories: National Register Listed and Eligible properties; California Register of Historical Resources; California Points of Historical Interest; California Inventory of Historical Resources; and California Historical Landmarks.

Records were also searched at the Klamath National Forest (SRNF) on April 10, 2017. The project area lies in the Happy Camp District of the Klamath National Forest. Mapping data consulted for this project includes

LiDAR surface data, 1944 aerial pictures, and historical maps. Additional inquiries within the Tribe have yielded some oral history about the project area and its wider setting.

No archaeological sites were found within the APE of the Proposed Project. There were, however, a number of site records located within the standard buffer of 0.5 mile, as described in Appendix A.

The Karuk Tribe has been delegated responsibly for Section 106 consultations; Mr. Watts-Tobin, its THPO, was consulted on March 13, 2017 and issued this statement: “The recommended finding for this project is No Historic Properties Affected by this Undertaking.” The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was consulted on May 27, 2020 and a concurrence letter was issued by SHPO on June 23, 2020 (Appendix B).

Although no sites were found within the APE, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not be expected to result in an increase in impacts to cultural resources since the site has been previously disturbed. However, with the implementation of Mitigation Measures Cultural–1 and Cultural–2 (Section 5.4), the potential for impacts to uncovered cultural resources that may be discovered during ground-disturbing, construction-related activities would be reduced.

In addition, the additional parcels that would be transferred into trust would not result in impacts to cultural resources since there is no development proposed on those parcels at this time.

4.1.5 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

A database search of the California Geotracker Database determined that no known sites are located in areas that would cause contamination of the site, which was confirmed by a site visit by LACO Associates on March 12, 2017 (LACO Associates 2017). However, during construction of the Proposed Project, hazardous materials such as solvents, paints, and fuel may be used or stored on site, and may have the potential to spill or leak. Depending on the hazard of the materials, they may pose a hazard to the environment and construction employees. Appropriate BMPs would be in place during construction to reduce impacts from accidental spills and leaks of hazardous materials.

During operation of the Proposed Project, similar hazardous materials would remain on site, including fuels and cleaning products. The Karuk Tribe would adhere to the typical safety guidelines and standards for the storage and handling of these products and avoid impacts from hazardous materials used during operation. Implementation of Mitigation Measure Hazards–1 (Section 5.5) would reduce the potential for impacts from hazardous materials during construction and operation.

4.1.6 Land Resources

Seismic Hazards and Soils

The proposed area would be subject to ground shaking if a seismic hazard were to occur. Compliance with the Uniform Building Code and standard engineering design techniques would help to reduce potential impacts related to ground shaking. These site conditions would increase the potential for geotechnical hazards. Construction of the Proposed Project would remove non-native vegetation and grasses and involve grading and earth-moving activities, increasing the potential for erosion impacts.

The implementation of Mitigation Measures Land Resources–1 and Land Resources–2 will reduce potential impacts related to geotechnical hazards and erosion. Upon completion of the construction phase, native soils would no longer be exposed due to landscaping and vegetation and the increase in impervious surfaces, such as buildings, concrete, or asphalt. This would stabilize soils and reduce the potential for erosion.

Mineral Resources

Since there are no known mineral or energy resources of local, regional, or national importance on or near the Proposed Project site according to the California Geological Survey, there would be no impacts to mineral resources as a result of construction and operation of the Proposed Project. In addition, since there are no plans for the additional parcels to be placed into trust, there would be no impacts to mineral resources as a result of the transfer from fee to trust.

4.1.7 Noise

Construction

Construction of the Proposed Project would consist of grading, the erection of foundations and buildings, and finishing work. The construction noise would be intermittent and temporary. The construction activity noise levels at and near the Proposed Project area would fluctuate depending on the particular type, number, and duration of use of various pieces of construction equipment.

As stated above, the nearest sensitive noise receptor to construction activities are nearby residents, businesses, parks, and the Karuk Happy Camp Family Services Center. Therefore, certain construction activities could impact those users. The typical noise levels from construction equipment are listed in Table 3.5-1.

Table 4.1.7-1. Typical Noise Levels from Construction Equipment

Construction Equipment	Noise Level (dBA, L _{eq} at 50 feet from source) ^b
<i>Stationary Equipment</i>	
Air Compressor	81
Generator	81
<i>Mobile Equipment</i>	
Dump Truck	84
Concrete Mix Truck	85
Scraper	89
Jackhammer	88
Dozer	85
Paver	89
Backhoe	80

Source: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Construction Noise Handbook, 2006.

Construction noise can have noise measured at 50 feet of up to 89 dBA. Noise from construction generally attenuates at a rate of 6-7.5 dBA per doubling of distance. The nearest sensitive receptor is the Family Services

Center, located approximately 100 feet north of the construction activity, thereby resulting in approximately 82 dBA at the highest degree of noise level.

Siskiyou County Code, Planning and Zoning (Title 10), does not include an ordinance for noise control, and generally the code aims to minimize exposure to excessive noise. For example, certain demolition activities the County Code requires implementation of BMPs for noise control, “so as to avoid adverse impacts on the public health, welfare, and safety and so as to avoid noise and/or the discharge of contaminants to the soil, water or atmosphere so as to avoid any violation of any applicable rules, regulations, ordinances, statutes, or other applicable law” (County Code, Sec. 10-13.10). Construction noise would only occur during the weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7p.m., with no weekend or evening construction. BMPs would be implemented (Mitigation Measure Noise-1; Section 5.7) that would further reduce short-term construction noise impacts on sensitive receptors.

Operation

The primary source of noise from the Proposed Project would be the increase in vehicle noise and parking lot noise during operation. The Proposed Project would add trips and would therefore increase noise levels from the additional trip generation along SR-96. The additional noise generated would not be considered significant given the level of the noise generated from major roadways, and the increase in traffic would not be considered significant and therefore would not significantly increase the noise levels. In addition, since there are no plans for the additional parcels to be placed into trust, there would be no impacts to noise as a result of the transfer from fee to trust.

4.1.8 Public Services

Water Supply and Sanitary Sewer Services

Community water would be provided for the Proposed Project by the Happy Camp Community Services District and sewer service would be from the Happy Camp Sanitary District. The facility has capacity to serve the Proposed Project’s demands.

The Happy Camp Community Services District (KCSD) provides wastewater services in the project area and is providing a “will-serve” letter once the architectural plans are developed.

Solid Waste

Alternative A would not result in a significant increase in solid waste. Waste generated during construction of the Proposed Project (clearing and grubbing from site preparation) would be minimal and used on site as needed. During operation of the Proposed Project, the Yreka Transfer Facility will receive all solid waste generated and the landfill has sufficient capacity to accommodate the solid waste that would be generated by the Proposed Project.

Electricity, Natural Gas and Telecommunications.

Alternative A would not require expansion of facilities for power, natural gas, or telecommunications. Electrical power and natural gas will be from existing power and propane supplies. In addition, telephone service would continue to be provided by Siskiyou Telephone. The utilities are currently in place under the parking lot to be extended to the new buildings.

Law Enforcement

Alternative A would not result in a significant increase in demand for law enforcement services. The Proposed Project will be served by the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department, which has adequate staff to serve the proposed facility. No additional staff or equipment is necessary.

Fire Protection

Alternative A has the potential to increase the need for additional fire protection services. Implementation of Mitigation Measure Public Services-1 (Section 5.8) would assure that the potential impacts to fire protection services is minimized.

Schools

Alternative A will not result in a permanent increase in population. During construction, there will be a short-term increase in population. Once the Proposed Project is in operation, employment will be filled by the existing work force in the area. Therefore, the Proposed Project will not result in an increase of school-aged children, requiring the development of new school facilities, or require an increase in staff or equipment.

Parks and Recreation

Alternative A will not result in increases of existing park or recreation facilities. The Proposed Project will include the development of a new medical and dental clinic to serve the existing community. There would be no increase in population that would require in the development of new parks and recreational facilities.

4.1.9 Socioeconomic and Community Resources

Construction of Alternative A could temporarily stimulate additional jobs. The majority of the workforce would be drawn from communities outside the vicinity of the Proposed Project area. With an estimated construction schedule of 16 months, length of employment would vary depending on the stage of development and skills required. Construction would not result in an increase in the number of permanent residents as the increase would be temporary, and workers would find temporary housing in the immediate vicinity of the Proposed Project area. The operational staff at the facility would be approximately 50 staff once the construction is complete. This staff would be transferred from the existing facility and there would be an approximately 200% percent increase in staff, to be drawn from the existing community. Therefore, the operation of the Proposed Project would not result in significant increases in existing employment or permanent residences. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in a significant increase in jobs in the area. Therefore, there would not be a cumulative impact on employment and population growth in the area.

In addition, although development of the new medical and dental facility would result in short-term

construction-related impacts, the operation of the new healthcare facility would benefit the community by delivering healthcare to the entire region. The current site is unable to deliver services in an operationally efficient manner. Therefore, once construction is complete, the healthcare facility would be a benefit to the community and no impacts related to environmental justice would result.

4.1.10 *Transportation and Circulation*

The existing medical and dental facility is currently in operation at the Tribal Administrative office, on the opposite side of SR-96 from the location of Alternative A. The existing facility will remain in operation until the new facility is completed. During construction, there will be minimal short-term impacts on traffic patterns from trucks entering and leaving the Proposed Project area. Travel trips by the construction crew, along with transport of equipment and materials, would add to the current traffic volumes on SR-96 and Hillside Road, but the increase would not be significant and long-term. The impacts to local traffic would most likely occur in the early morning and at the end of the construction day and the amount of traffic would fluctuate depending on the phase of construction. In addition, the staging area and construction crew parking would be located off site, adjacent to the Proposed Project area, and all vehicles would therefore enter and exit from the same area.

After construction is complete, the staff commute would be transferred from the existing facility to the new facility, located across the SR-96, a move that would add no significant commuting distance. Although the new facility would be able to accommodate more patients, scheduling would help to reduce any large increase in traffic in and out of the facility.

In addition, since there are no plans for the additional parcels to be placed into trust, there would be no impacts related to transportation and circulation as a result of the transfer from fee to trust.

4.1.11 *Water Resources*

Surface Water, Drainage, Flooding and Surface Water Quality

The construction of the new medical and dental clinic would involve the removal of native vegetation, grading, and earth-moving activities. This would expose native soils and increase the potential for erosion and sedimentation, which could have a negative impact on off-site water bodies as a result of storm water runoff. The construction site could introduce water pollutants, including paints, solvents, concrete, drywall, pesticides and fertilizers, construction debris and trash, and spilled oil, fuel, and other fluids from construction vehicles, to storm water runoff. Mitigation Measure Water Resources–1 would reduce impacts by designing a drainage plan prior to construction. In addition, Water Resources–2 may be required as part of a NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges for Construction Activities from the California State Water Resource Control Board if applicable.

Upon completion of construction and during operation of the Proposed Project, the site will include buildings and paved surfaces, and will be landscaped with native vegetation and ground cover. This would greatly reduce the potential for water quality impacts related to erosion and sedimentation. In addition, design features would include storm water infiltration in drainage swells or treated and discharged into the local drainage systems.

Groundwater

Prior to construction, a final geotechnical investigation would be prepared (Mitigation Measure Land Resources–1). The geotechnical investigation would include recommendations to reduce impacts related to groundwater. With the incorporation of the recommendations for groundwater management, the construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not result in temporary or permanent impacts to groundwater levels.

Waters of the United States

The project site was traversed by a qualified wetland delineator during the field reconnaissance on March 12, 2017. No wetlands were found to be present (Karuk Tribe 2017). Therefore, Alternative A would not result in impacts to Waters of the United States.

Floodplains

According to the FIRMs for the Proposed Project, the project is not located within a 100-year floodplain (FIRM Panel Number 06093C0945D, effective 01/19/2011). Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in impacts related to flooding, which exists at the current medical facility site.

4.1.12 Human Health and Safety

Alternative A would include an ambulatory program that does not exist at the current location. Therefore, the Proposed Project would result in a positive impact related to emergency services since currently the closest facility for serious emergencies and ambulance services is at Fairchild Medical Center in Yreka.

In addition, the new facility would be located outside the floodplain and therefore, providing the opportunity for emergency services during flooding events.

4.2 ALTERNATIVE B – NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

4.2.1 Air Quality

Under the No Action Alternative, the site would remain undeveloped and the existing healthcare facility would continue operations and maintenance at the existing location and would not contribute additional impacts to air quality.

4.2.2 Visual Resources

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would not change the aesthetics of the site and would not result in short-term impacts on the existing visual environment because no construction or development would occur. Nor would it introduce new lighting to the area.

4.2.3 Biological Resources

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would not result in placement of parcels into trust and the development of new facilities. As such, there would be no significant direct or indirect impacts to biological resources within or in the vicinity of the Proposed Project area.

4.2.4 Cultural Resources

Under the No Action Alternative, the project site would not be placed in trust, no grading would take place and structures would be constructed. Therefore, there would be no adverse impacts to any unknown cultural resources on the site.

4.2.5 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

No development would occur under this alternative, and the project site would remain in its undeveloped state. No hazardous material impacts would occur under the No Action Alternative.

4.2.6 Land Resources

Under the No Action Alternative, the land would not be taken into trust and the proposed development would not be built. The site would remain undeveloped, and land resources would not be adversely impacted.

4.2.7 Noise

Under the No Action Alternative, the site would remain the same and no development would occur at this time. In addition, there would be no transfer of additional parcels into trust. Therefore, there would not be potential noise impacts.

4.2.8 Public Services

The No Action Alternative would not increase demands on public services. Although the utility extensions are in place under the existing parking area readily available for the new development, no new utility extension would be required.

4.2.9 Socioeconomic and Community Resources

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would not result in an increase in population and there would be no change from present conditions, nor would jobs be created or lost.

4.2.10 Transportation and Circulation

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no development constructed on the project site, and consequently no increase in vehicular traffic on project area roadways. There would be no change in pedestrian, bicycle, or transit circumstances.

4.2.11 Water Resources

Under this alternative, the Proposed Project area would remain vacant. Therefore, there would be no increase or decrease to impacts on surface water, water supply, discharge, groundwater or water quality. The existing healthcare facility would continue operations and maintenance at the existing location. No additional development would occur.

The current facility site has no interaction with waters of the U.S. Therefore, no impacts would occur to waters of the U.S. However, since the existing healthcare facility is located in the floodplain, under this alternative, the existing site would still be subject to flooding.

4.2.12 Human Health and Safety

The existing medical and dental clinic was constructed 24 years ago in 1995, in what was intended to be only a temporary location. The Happy Camp Family Services Office, a modular office now in need of extensive improvements, was constructed in 1987, over 32 years ago. The Indian Health Services Report of Facility Condition was conducted in 2011 and reports the concerns regarding the safety of the electrical system, as well as its health and air conditioning system. The current medical and dental clinic is insufficient and does not have the capacity to deliver adequate service to the community. Although no construction would occur as a result of continuing use of the existing facility and therefore, no direct impacts to human health and safety would occur during construction, the continuing use of the existing facility would result in a negative impact to human health and safety since it is unable to respond to the demands of the community.

4.3 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Potential cumulative impacts for each environmental issue area are discussed below. Cumulative impacts are defined in 40 CFR §1508.7 as the impacts:

... on the environment which result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

In addition to the Proposed Project, the Karuk Tribe is currently planning to transfer four additional parcels into federal trust. Currently there are no plans for development on the four additional parcels. Potential future projects or projects currently in construction were reviewed to identify whether the Proposed Project could contribute to cumulatively significant impacts when evaluated in combination with other projects. The county does not have any other proposed developments in the vicinity of the project site currently.

4.3.1 Air Quality

Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in cumulative impacts. There will be short-term construction-related impacts that would be minimized by the implementation of Mitigation Measures Air-1. Operation of the Proposed Project would result in a less of a negative contribution to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions due to efficiency standards used for heating and cooling systems used in the new buildings, insulation, windows, and specialized operational equipment.

There are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on air quality.

4.3.2 Visual Resources

The proposed new medical and dental clinic would be located on a portion of the parcel that is currently undeveloped, adjacent to the south of the recently constructed Family Services Center. There are no other developments planned in that area that would result in cumulative impacts to aesthetics from a significant increase in development nor would there be a significant increase in new light sources to the area.

There are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on aesthetics.

4.3.3 Biological Resources

There are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on biological resources.

4.3.4 Cultural Resources

Since the implementation of the Proposed Project is not expected to result in impacts to cultural resources, there would not be a cumulative impact to cultural resources from construction and operation of the new Medical and Dental Clinic. In addition, there would be measures in place to avoid unforeseen impacts to cultural resources and therefore, would reduce the potential for cumulative impact.

In addition, there are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on cultural resources.

4.3.5 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

The Proposed Project would not result in impacts from hazards. The Proposed Project would have measures in place to reduce project-related impacts from hazards and therefore, would not contribute to cumulative impacts from hazardous materials.

In addition, there are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on hazards and hazardous materials.

4.3.6 Land Resources

Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in a cumulative impact related to land resources. Though there would be some land cover type conversion, cumulatively this would not result in a significant impact.

In addition, there are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on land resources.

4.3.7 Noise

The Proposed Project would not result in impacts from noise. The Proposed Project would have measures in place to reduce construction-related impacts from noise. There are no other projects in the vicinity that would result in cumulative noise impacts.

In addition, there are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on noise.

4.3.8 Public Services

Considering that the Proposed Project would not result in significant impacts to public services, there would not be any cumulative effects as a result of implementation of the Proposed Project.

In addition, there are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on public services.

4.3.9 Socioeconomic and Community Resources

The Proposed Project would not result in impacts from increased employment when combined with other projects in the area. The Proposed Project would not employ a significant number of new staff to the area who would contribute, cumulatively, when combined with other projects proposed in the area.

There are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on socioeconomic and community resources.

4.3.10 Transportation and Circulation

There is no other development planned in the vicinity that would contribute to a cumulative effect on transportation and circulation in the area. Since the current healthcare facility traffic would be transferred to the Proposed Project, there would be an increase in trips to the area but the increase would not be significant as compared to what is currently being generated. Therefore, implementation of the new medical and dental clinic would not result in a cumulative impact to traffic in the area.

There are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on transportation and circulation.

4.3.11 Water Resources

Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in cumulative impacts to surface water, water supply, discharge, groundwater, water quality, waters of the U.S., or flood plains. The project would not result in impacts to water resources, and with implementation of Mitigation Measures Water Resources–1 and 2, as well as design features that would reduce surface run-off, there would be no significant increase in discharge into storm water systems and no degradation of water quality. During operation, design features would include storm water infiltration in drainage swells or treated and discharged into the local drainage systems. The Proposed Project therefore would not contribute cumulatively to an increased impact to water resources.

In addition, there are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on water resources.

4.3.12 Human Health and Safety

Since there is no other development planned to be in construction in the Proposed Project area, the construction of the new medical and dental clinic would not result in cumulative impacts to health and safety. During operation, the new facility would result in a positive impact to the health and safety of the community, and no cumulative impacts are expected.

There are no plans for development on the four additional parcels that are proposed for transfer from fee to trust and therefore, when considered in combination of other past and unknown future actions, the Proposed Project would not lead to a significant cumulative impacts on human health and safety.

4.4 INDIRECT AND GROWTH INDUCING EFFECTS

NEPA requires the review of growth-inducing effects from the Proposed Action. For purposes of evaluation, a growth-inducing impact is defined as an impact that fosters economic or population growth either directly or indirectly as a result of implementing the Proposed Action. Direct growth inducement would result if a Proposed Action, for example, involved the construction of new housing. Indirect growth inducement would result if a project established substantial new permanent employment opportunities (e.g., new commercial, industrial, or governmental enterprises) or if it involved a construction effort with substantial short-term employment opportunities that would indirectly stimulate the need for additional housing and services. Growth inducement may constitute an adverse impact if the growth is not consistent with, or accommodated by, the land use plans and growth management plans and policies for the area affected. Local land use plans provide for land use development patterns and growth policies that allow for orderly urban development supported by adequate urban public services, such as water supply, roadway infrastructure, sewer services, and solid waste services. A project that would induce “disorderly” growth (i.e., conflict with the local land use plans) could indirectly cause additional adverse environmental impacts and other public services impacts.

During construction, while there may be a short-term increase in population to the area from labor, it is anticipated that once construction is complete, the additional labor force would be reduced or would not increase, as it is anticipated that construction staff would be filled from the local labor pool. In addition, the Proposed Project would not require infrastructure improvements to service the project site, which would induce growth off reservation. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not be considered growth-inducing.

SECTION 5 MITIGATION MEASURES

5.1 *Air Quality*

Air-1: The Karuk Tribe will implement the following construction BMPs, which would periodically be monitored during construction to ensure compliance at the site boundary for fugitive dust and visible emissions:

- Visible track-out on any paved public road shall be removed at the end of the work day or at least once per day, with removal being accomplished by using wet sweeping or a HEPA filter equipped vacuum device.
- Storage piles shall be treated by either keeping the surface adequately wetted, stabilizing the surface with chemical dust suppressants, or covering with tarps or vegetative cover.
- Unpaved staging and work areas shall be watered every two hours of active operation or more frequently as needed or stabilized with chemical dust suppressants.
- Earthmoving areas and excavated materials shall be pre-wetted to the depth of the anticipated cuts.
- Trucks transporting excavated material off site shall be maintained such that no spillage can occur from holes or other openings in cargo compartments and loads shall be adequately wetted and covered with tarps or loaded such that the material does not touch the front, back or sides of the cargo compartment at any point less than six inches from the top and that no point of the load extends above the top of the cargo compartment.
- The following measures for all construction equipment that use diesel fuel will be implemented:
 - Use aqueous diesel fuel;
 - Use only equipment with diesel oxidation catalysts.
 - Be properly maintained and minimize idling time to 5 minutes when equipment is not in use.

5.2 *Visual Resources*

Aesthetics-1: The Karuk Tribe shall ensure that the proposed new lighting will not result in excessive glare to nearby drivers or increases in nighttime lighting to nearby residences by incorporating “dark sky friendly” light fixtures per the Dark Sky international standards for new construction, where feasible.

5.3 *Biological Resources*

Wildlife-1: A general survey for listed and proposed species was conducted during the preparation of the 2017 EA for the Happy Camp Family Services Center. For all construction-related activities that take place within the nesting season (March 15 to August 30), including brushing and grading for vegetation removal, a preconstruction nesting bird survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than two weeks prior to project initiation if required. The survey shall include a 500-foot buffer except where prohibited by private ownership. If active nests are found, a letter report shall be sent to the USFWS for federal-listed species. A no-

disturbance buffer zone of 100 to 500 feet shall be established around the nests according to the avian biologist's assessment of the species' sensitivity to disturbance. Within this buffer zone, no construction shall take place until August 30 or the biologist determines that the nest is no longer active.

5.4 Cultural Resources

Cultural-1: In the event that any prehistoric or historic cultural resources are discovered during ground-disturbing activities, all work within 50 feet of the resources shall be halted and a Karuk tribal representative and BIA archaeologist shall be consulted to assess the significance of the find. Examples would include ground stone, flaked or chipped stone, historic debris, building foundations, or non-human bone. If any find is determined to be significant by the qualified professionals, then appropriate agency and tribal representatives shall meet to determine the appropriate course of action.

Cultural-2: If human remains are encountered, work shall halt in the vicinity of the find and the Siskiyou County Coroner shall be notified immediately. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.13 of NHPA: Post-Review Discoveries, and 43 C.F.R. § 10.4 (2006) of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA): Inadvertent Discoveries, the Karuk Tribe representative and BIA archaeologist will also be contacted immediately. No further ground disturbance shall occur in the vicinity of the find until the Siskiyou County Coroner, tribal official, and BIA archaeologist have examined the find and agreed on an appropriate course of action. If the remains are determined to be Native American, or if Native American funerary objects, or items of cultural patrimony subject to NAGPRA are uncovered, the provisions of NAGPRA Section 3 [25 U.S.C. 3002 a-e] may apply, and its regulations at 43 CFR 10 and the provisions of ARPA at 43 CFR 7 shall be followed [Stipulation 7.9 (a)].

5.5 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Hazards-1: A Hazardous Materials Plan will be prepared prior to construction. Hazardous materials, such as solvents and fuels, shall be stored in covered containers and protected from accidental release from vandalism, rainfall, and runoff. All stored fuels and solvents shall be contained in an area of impervious surface with containment capacity equal to the volume of materials stored. In addition, spill cleanup kits and materials shall be readily available on site. Construction workers shall be properly trained in spill prevention and cleanup.

5.6 Land Resources

Land Resources-1: Prior to construction, a final geotechnical investigation should be prepared for the Proposed Project. The design of the project shall incorporate the engineering recommendations from the geotechnical investigation. Recommendations may include (but are not limited to) the export of unstable soils, the use of engineering fill, foundation and retaining wall design requirements, and other related engineering design measures to lessen potential geotechnical hazards at the site.

Land Resources-2: An erosion and sediment control plan for the Proposed Project shall be prepared by a qualified civil or geotechnical engineer and implemented during construction. The erosion and sedimentation control plan shall include BMPs to reduce potential erosion and sedimentation impacts.

5.7 Noise

Noise-1: During construction of the Proposed Project, the following BMPs would be implemented to minimize noise impacts:

- All stationary noise-generating equipment would be located as far as possible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors.
- Construction equipment powered by gasoline or diesel engines would have sound control devices at least as effective as those provided by the original equipment manufacturer. No equipment would be allowed to have an un-muffled exhaust, as appropriate.
- The construction contractor would ensure that noise-generating mobile equipment and machinery are turned off when not in use.

5.8 Public Services

Public Services-1: The Proposed Project shall be designed in compliance with the following fire safety standards:

- All structures shall be designed in compliance with the Uniform Fire Code. Compliance with the Uniform Fire Code may require the use of fire-safe building materials.
- Emergency access shall be ensured by a minimum 18-foot road or driveway width with surfaces accommodating conventional vehicles and 40,000 pound loads, grades not exceeding 16 percent, curve radii of at least 50 feet, dead ends meeting maximum length requirements with turnouts and turnarounds, and roadway structures and gate entrances that do not obstruct clear passage of authorized vehicles.
- Signing and building numbering shall facilitate locating a fire and avoiding delays in response times by being sufficiently visible, non-duplicative, and indicative of location and any traffic access limitations.
- Emergency water sources shall be available and accessible in adequate quantities to combat wildfire with labeled hydrants meeting uniform specifications.
- Flammable vegetation shall not be planted adjacent to structures and in the general vicinity of the development. Fuel modification practices shall be practiced to reduce the volume and density of flammable vegetation on the Proposed Project site.

5.9 Socioeconomics and Community Resources

No Mitigation Measures required.

5.10 Transportation and Circulation

Transportation-1: The use of traffic control measures during construction would ensure that the effects on traffic would not create unsafe conditions. In addition, the Karuk Tribe would inform adjacent residences and commercial users of construction activities and potential delays.

5.11 Water Resources

Water Resources–1: A drainage plan shall be prepared that includes feasible post-construction storm water quality control measures. Such measures shall include any combination of the following techniques:

- Design the Proposed Project to locate impervious surfaces as far away from natural drainage channels as possible and utilize vegetation and grass swales to decrease runoff velocity and filter storm water pollutants.
- Install drop inlets that channel storm water to a sedimentation trap and then to a new detention pond. Detention ponds should be designed to allow sediments and pollutants to settle, to release runoff at pre-development levels, and to filter nutrients in the runoff by including wetland plants.
- Install and regularly maintain catch basin or inlet inserts, grease/oil water separators, or media filters to capture and filter storm water pollutants.

Water Resources–2: The following BMPs shall be implemented during the construction of the Proposed Project to reduce potential water quality impacts:

- Phase grading operations to reduce disturbed areas and time of exposure. Avoid grading and excavation during wet weather.
- Construct diversion dikes and drainage swales to channel runoff around the construction site.
- Delineate clearing limits, easements, setbacks, sensitive or critical areas, trees, drainage courses, and buffer zones to prevent excessive of unnecessary disturbances and exposure.
- Plant vegetation on exposed slopes or use erosion control blankets (e.g., jute matting, glass fiber or excelsior matting, mulch netting) to reduce the potential for erosion.
- Once grading is complete, stabilize the disturbed areas with permanent vegetation as soon as possible.
- Cover stockpiled soil and landscaping materials with secured plastic sheeting and divert runoff around them.
- Protect drainage courses, creeks, or catch basins with straw bales, silt fences, and/or temporary drainage swales.
- Protect storm drain inlets from sediment-laden runoff with sand bags barriers, filter fabric fences, block and gravel filters, and excavated drop inlet sediment traps.
- Prevent construction vehicles from tracking soil onto adjacent streets by constructing a temporary stone pad with a filter fabric underliner near the exit where dirt and mud can be washed from vehicles.
- Use dry sweep methods to clean sediments from streets, driveways, and paved areas of the construction site.

- Maintain all construction vehicles and equipment. Inspect frequently for and repair leaks.
- Designate specific areas of the construction site, located well away from creeks or storm drain inlets, for auto and equipment parking and routine vehicle maintenance.
- Perform major maintenance, repair, and vehicle and equipment washing off site or in designated and controlled area. Clean up spills immediately.
- When vehicle fluids or materials such as paints, solvents, fertilizers, and other materials are spilled, cleanup immediately. Use dry cleanup techniques whenever possible.
- Store wet and dry building materials that have the potential to pollute runoff under cover and/or surrounded by berms when rain is forecast or during wet weather months.
- Cover and maintain dumpsters.
- Collect and properly dispose of construction debris, plant and organic material, trash, and hazardous materials as soon as possible.
- Plan roadwork and pavement construction to avoid stormwater pollution during wet weather months.

5.12 Human Health and Safety

No Mitigation Measures needed.

SECTION 6 CONSULTATION, COORDINATION AND LIST OF PREPARERS

6.1 Federal, State and Local Agencies Consulted

United States Department of Interior – Bureau of Indian Affairs
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation
Native American Heritage Commission

6.2 Tribes Consulted

Scott Quinn – Director of Tribal Lands Management
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64236 Second Avenue
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Alex Watts-Tobin, PhD – Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 282
Orleans, CA 95556

6.3 Preparers of Environmental Assessment

Garcia and Associates (GANDA)
Project Manager, Jessica Koteen
Rad Smith
Rachel Stromberg
Jamie Potenberg

SECTION 7 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A: ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

Available upon request to the Karuk Tribal Historic Preservation Office

64236 Second Avenue, Happy Camp, CA 96049

Alex Watts-Tobin, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer/Tribal Archeologist

atobin@karuk.us

530.493-1600

APPENDIX B: STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE CONCURRENCE LETTER



**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Lisa Ann L. Mangat, Director

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer

1725 23rd Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Telephone: (916) 445-7000 FAX: (916) 445-7053

calshpo.ohp@parks.ca.gov www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

June 23, 2020

Reply In Reference To: BIA_2019_0528_002

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ryan Hunter – Acting Regional Director
United States Department of Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs - Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

RE: Fee-to-Trust conveyance 1 parcel, Karuk Tribe-Family Services Center, Siskiyou County

This letter is being sent in electronic format only. Please confirm receipt of this letter. If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, respond to this email to request a hard copy be mailed.

Dear Mr. Hunter:

The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) received the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) 27 May 2020 letter initiating consultation on the above referenced undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended 8-05-04) regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). BIA is requesting SHPO agreement on a finding of *"No historic properties affected."*

BIA proposes to convey one parcel of land constituting 5.6-acres in Siskiyou County from fee to trust status for the Karuk Tribe for their construction of a family services center. The proposed undertaking is in the community of Happy Camp. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) was determined to be the aforementioned acreage and was illustrated in the location maps that were attached to the following study that was prepared by the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) and submitted by BIA as evidence of CHRIS and Klamath National Forest record searches and field-survey of the APE having been completed by the Karuk Tribe:

- *Archaeological and Cultural Resources Report for the Family Services Center: former Rustic Inn Property* (Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources/Watts-Tobin/BIA 2017)

Submitted materials did not discuss consultation with the Native American Heritage

Commission (NAHC) or with the contacts they would have identified. Section 106 work completed by the Karuk Tribe and submitted by BIA described the APE as the former location of the razed mid-century motel known as the Rustic Inn. Field-survey reported in the submitted study confirmed the absence of the motel prior to the completion of that work. No historic properties were identified in the APE.

My following comments are based on a review of submitted materials:

1. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(a)(1), I have no additional comments on the APE.
2. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(b)(1), I have no objections to the “*Level of Effort*” identifying historic properties however BIA should consider consulting with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and the contacts they would identify for this and future consultations as, regardless of tribal affiliation, they may have information important to the identification and evaluation of historic properties.
3. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1), I **agree** with the finding of “*No historic properties affected.*”
4. Be aware that consultation on the potential for any inadvertent discovery being a historic property should proceed in compliance with 36 CFR Part 800.13 for “*Post Review Discoveries.*”

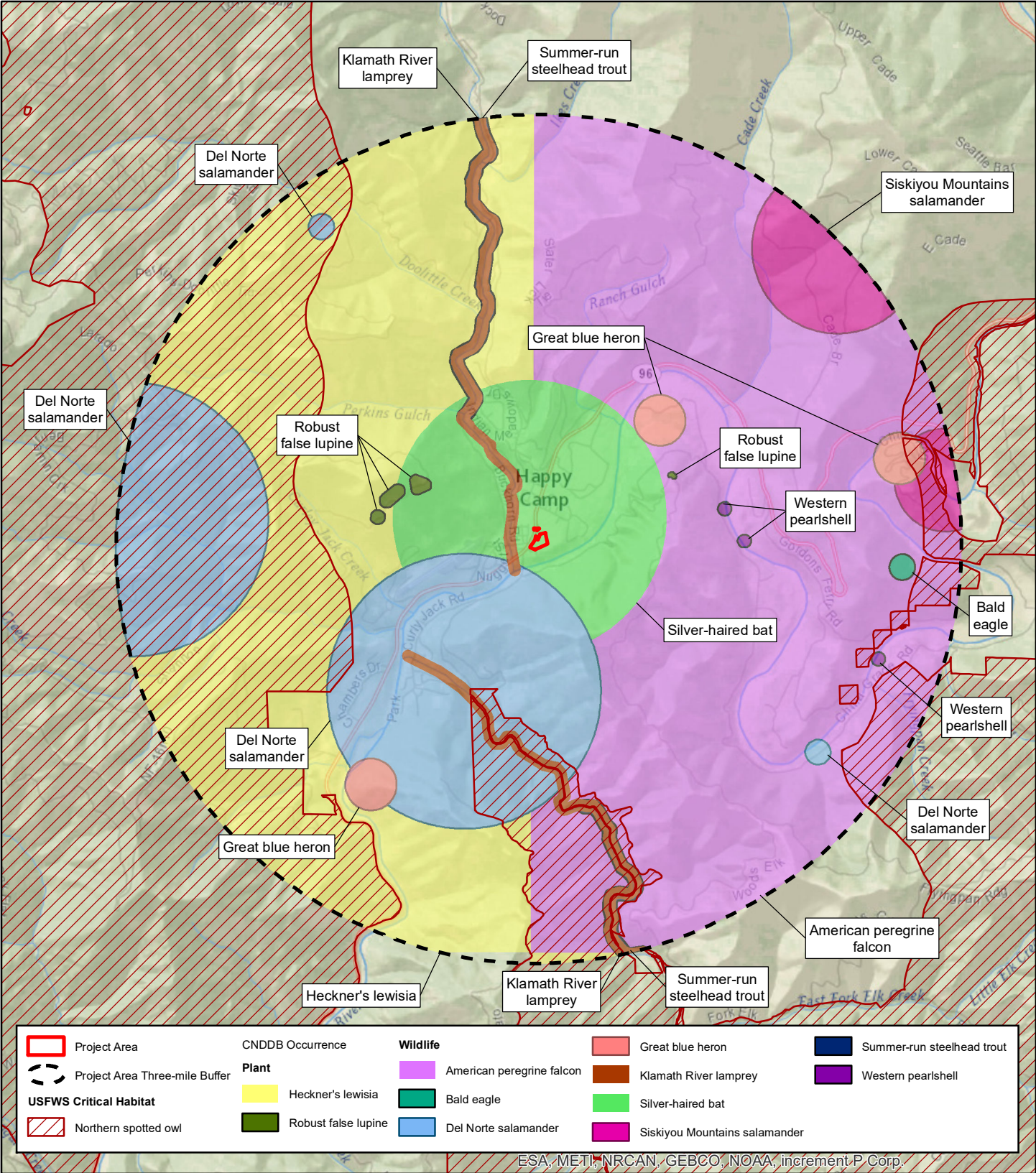
BIA may have additional Section 106 responsibilities for the undertaking under certain conditions such as changes in the project scope, description or implementation from those that were described in the submitted consultation. Please direct questions to Jeff Brooke, Associate State Archaeologist, at (916) 445-7003 or Jeff.Brooke@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



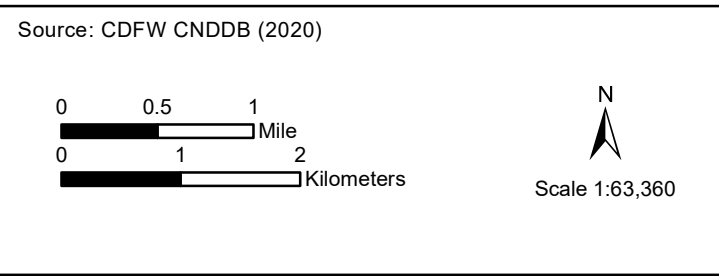
Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer

APPENDIX C: RESULTS: CALIFORNIA NATURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE (CNDDDB) AND UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (USFWS) INFORMATION, PLANNING AND CONSULTATION SYSTEM (IPAC)



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ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment.P Corp.



CNDDB Occurrences
Karuk Tribe Medical / Dental Clinic
Siskiyou County, California

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Siskiyou County, California



Local office

Yreka Fish And Wildlife Office

☎ (530) 842-5763

📠 (530) 842-4517

1829 South Oregon Street
Yreka, CA 96097-3446

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population, even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information.
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Fisher <i>Pekania pennanti</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3651	Proposed Threatened
Gray Wolf <i>Canis lupus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488	Endangered
North American Wolverine <i>Gulo gulo luscus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5123	Proposed Threatened

Birds

NAME	STATUS
Marbled Murrelet <i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4467	Threatened
Northern Spotted Owl <i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1123	Threatened
Yellow-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911	Threatened

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
Oregon Spotted Frog <i>Rana pretiosa</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6633	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Lost River Sucker <i>Deltistes luxatus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5604	Endangered

Shortnose Sucker *Chasmistes brevirostris*

There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7160>

Endangered

Crustaceans

NAME

STATUS

Conservancy Fairy Shrimp *Branchinecta conservatio*

There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8246>

Endangered

Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp *Branchinecta lynchi*

There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498>

Threatened

Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp *Lepidurus packardii*

There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2246>

Endangered

Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

Applegate's Milk-vetch *Astragalus applegatei*

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5497>

Endangered

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME

BREEDING SEASON (IF A BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED, WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE. "BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626>

Breeds Jan 1 to Sep 30

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias fannini*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 15

Rufous Hummingbird *selasphorus rufus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8002>

Breeds Apr 15 to Jul 15

Western Screech-owl *Megascops kennicottii kennicottii*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

Breeds Mar 1 to Jun 30

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

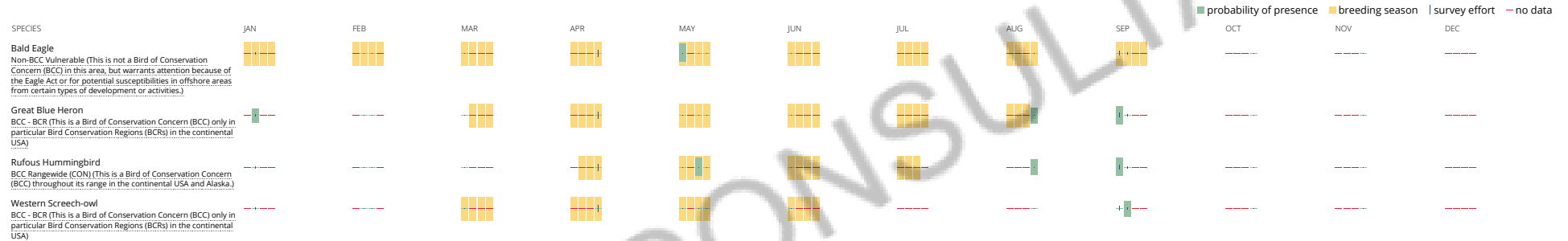
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (-)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) and/or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

WETLAND INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

APPENDIX D: UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CONCURRENCE LETTER



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office
1829 South Oregon Street
Yreka, California 96097

In Reply Refer to:
08EYRE00-
2020-I-0135

Memorandum

To: Deputy Regional Director, Pacific Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Sacramento, California

From: Field Supervisor, Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office, Yreka, California

Subject: Request for Initiation of Informal Consultation on the Karuk Tribe Fee to
Trust/New Medical and Dental Clinic Project, Happy Camp, Siskiyou County,
California

Date: July 2, 2020

This memorandum acknowledges our receipt of your June 8, 2020, letter requesting initiation of section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). We received your request on June 9, 2020.

Your request addresses the proposed transfer of 5.6 acres of fee land (assessor parcel #016-412-200) in Happy Camp, Siskiyou County, California, to Federal trust status so the Karuk Tribe can construct a Family Services Center on a portion of that property. Your request includes a determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the federally listed endangered Gentner's fritillary (*Fritillaria gentneri*).

Based on our review of the information in the June 5, 2020, Public Review Draft Environmental Assessment of the Karuk Tribe Fee-to-Trust/New Medical and Dental Clinic Project accompanying your letter, we have determined that the proposed action will have no effect on Gentner's fritillary. Although the vegetation community on the property is consistent with a variety of habitats where Gentner's fritillary is found, the project area is well outside the current known range of the species.

Gentner's fritillary is a narrow endemic found primarily in Jackson and Josephine Counties in Oregon, and along the border with Jackson County in extreme northern Siskiyou County, California. Therefore, we don't expect that Gentner's fritillary will be found on site during the proposed pre-project botanical survey.

For the reasons above, we do not concur with your determination that the proposed project may affect Gentner's fritillary, but instead find that the species will not be affected by construction on the property. Therefore, unless a new species or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the proposed project, no further coordination with us, pursuant to the ESA, is necessary.

Please contact Nadine Kanim at nadine_kanim@fws.gov, or Christine Jordan at Christine_Jordan@fws.gov, if you have any questions about the response above.