

CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY SURVEY

**Meadow Edge Park Development Project
circa 63.72-Acres
Plumas County, California**

Prepared for

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ABSTRACT

This report details the results of a cultural resources inventory survey involving two adjacent parcels comprised of approximately 63.72-acres of land located immediately adjacent to the south side of Ede Street, which is situated immediately south of State Route 70, a short distance east of State Route 49, within the community of Vinton, in Plumas County, California.

The project property currently operates as a permitted 53-site manufactured home park. The proponent proposes to ultimately create fifty (50) new sites for a total of 103 spaces for manufactured homes. Following approval of the expanded number of units, additional development would be expected, including grading and land recontouring, as well as construction of new residential pads, construction of additional access and parking, placement of additional buried utilities, and general landscaping.

Existing records at the Northeast Information Center document that none of the present APE had been subjected to previous archaeological investigation, and that no cultural resources have been documented within the APE. As well, the present effort included an intensive-level pedestrian survey. The pedestrian survey failed to identify any prehistoric resources within the APE. One historic-era resource, designated "Meadow Edge Park," was identified, recorded and recommended not eligible for inclusion on the CRHR under any of the relevant criteria.

Consultation was undertaken with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) re. sacred land listings for the property. An information request letter was delivered to the NAHC on January 30, 2023. The NAHC responded on February 17, 2023, indicating that the search of their Sacred Lands Files resulted in negative findings.

The probability of encountering buried archaeological sites within the APE is low. This conclusion is derived in part from the observed soil matrices which have been subjected to a moderate-high degree of disturbance associated with past residential, utility and road construction activities. Evidence of ground disturbance assisted in determining whether or not subsurface resources were present within the APE. Overall, the soil types present, and contemporary disturbance would warrant a finding of low probability for encountering buried archaeological sites.

Based on the absence of significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources within the APE, archaeological clearance is recommended for the project/undertaking as presently proposed.

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APE Map.

Records Search from NEIC File # NE23-18, dated January 10, 2023.

Information request letter to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

Response from the NAHC.

DPR 523 forms for “Meadow Edge Park.”

1. INTRODUCTION

Project Background

This report details the results of a cultural resources inventory survey involving two adjacent parcels comprised of approximately 63.72-acres of land located immediately adjacent to the south side of Ede Street, which is situated immediately south of State Route 70, a short distance east of State Route 49, within the community of Vinton, in Plumas County, California.

The project property currently operates as a permitted 53-site manufactured home park. The proponent proposes to ultimately create fifty (50) new sites for a total of 103 spaces for manufactured homes. Following approval of the expanded number of units, additional development would be expected, including grading and land recontouring, as well as construction of new residential pads, construction of additional access and parking, placement of additional buried utilities, and general landscaping.

Since the project will involve physical disturbance to ground surface and sub-surface components in conjunction with a residential development, it has the potential to impact cultural resources that may be located within the area of potential effects (APE). In this case, the APE would consist of the circa 63.72-acre land area within which the residential development will be undertaken. Evaluation of the project's potential to impact cultural resources must be undertaken in conformity with Plumas County rules and regulations, and in compliance with requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq. (CEQA), and The California CEQA Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, California Administrative Code, Section 15000 et seq. (Guidelines as amended).

Regulatory Context

The following section provides a summary of the applicable regulations, policies and guidelines relating to the proper management of cultural resources.

The California Register of Historical Resources

In California, the term "historical resource" includes "any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California" (Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5020.1(j)). In 1992, the California legislature established the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) "to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state's historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change" (PRC Section 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the NRHP.

According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains “substantial integrity,” and (ii) meets at least one of the following criteria:

- (1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage
- (2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past
- (3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

To understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (see 14 CCR 4852(d)(2)). The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

California Environmental Quality Act

As described further, the following CEQA statutes and CEQA Guidelines are of relevance to the analysis of archaeological, historic, and tribal cultural resources:

- PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines “unique archaeological resource.”
- PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) define “historical resources.” In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.” It also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of a historical resource.
- PRC Section 21074(a) defines “tribal cultural resources.”
- PRC Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.

California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5

California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods, regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that if human remains are discovered in any place other than a dedicated cemetery, no further disturbance or excavation of the site or nearby area reasonably suspected to contain human remains can

occur until the County Coroner has examined the remains (Section 7050.5b). PRC Section 5097.98 also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the County Coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the California NAHC within 24 hours (Section 7050.5c). The NAHC will notify the Most Likely Descendant. With the permission of the landowner, the Most Likely Descendant may inspect the site of discovery. The inspection must be completed within 48 hours of notification of the Most Likely Descendant by the NAHC. The Most Likely Descendant may recommend means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and items associated with Native Americans.

PRC Sections 21083.2(b)–(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including examples of preservation-in-place mitigation measures; preservation-in-place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites because it maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archaeological context, and may also help avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the archaeological site(s).

Under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause “a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” (PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)). If a site is either listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or if it is included in a local register of historic resources, or identified as significant in a historical resources survey (meeting the requirements of PRC Section 5024.1(q)), it is a “historical resource” and is presumed to be historically or culturally significant for purposes of CEQA (PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). The lead agency is not precluded from determining that a resource is a historical resource, even if it does not fall within this presumption (PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)).

A “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” reflecting a significant effect under CEQA means “physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired” (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1); PRC Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, the significance of a historical resource is materially impaired when a project does any of the following:

- (1) Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the California Register; or
- (2) Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to Section 5020.1(k) of the PRC or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the PRC, unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project

- establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or
- (3) Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA [CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(2)].

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA inquiry begins with evaluating whether a project site contains any “historical resources,” then evaluates whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource’s historical significance is materially impaired.

If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (Section 21083.2(a), (b), and (c)).

Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information
- (2) Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type
- (3) Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person

Impacts to non-unique archaeological resources are generally not considered a significant environmental impact (PRC Section 21083.2(a); CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(4)). However, if a non-unique archaeological resource qualifies as tribal cultural resource (PRC 21074(c); 21083.2(h)), further consideration of significant impacts is required.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used when Native American remains are discovered. As described in the following text, these procedures are detailed in PRC Section 5097.98.

Native American Historic Cultural Sites

State law (PRC Section 5097 et seq.) addresses the disposition of Native American burials in archaeological sites and protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction; establishes procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains

are discovered during construction of a project; and established the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

In the event that Native American human remains or related cultural material are encountered, Section 15064.5(e) of the CEQA Guidelines (as incorporated from PRC Section 5097.98) and California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 define the subsequent protocol. In the event of the accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, excavation or other disturbances shall be suspended of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains or related material. Protocol requires that a county-approved coroner be contacted in order to determine if the remains are of Native American origin. Should the coroner determine the remains to be Native American, the coroner must contact the NAHC within 24 hours. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in PRC Section 5097.98 (14 CCR 15064.5(e)).

Scope of Work

Compliance with CEQA (and County rules and regulations) requires completion of projects in conformity with the amended (October 1998) Guidelines, including in particular Section 15064.5. Based on these rules, regulations and Guidelines, the following specific tasks were considered an adequate and appropriate Scope of Work for the present archaeological survey:

- Conduct a records search at the Northeast Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System and consult with the Native American Heritage Commission. The goals of the records search and consultation are to determine (a) the extent and distribution of previous archaeological surveys, (b) the locations of known archaeological sites and any previously recorded archaeological districts, and (c) the relationships between known sites and environmental variables. This step is designed to ensure that, during subsequent field survey work, all significant/eligible cultural resources are discovered, correctly identified, fully documented, and properly interpreted.
- Conduct a pedestrian survey of the APE in order to record and evaluate any previously unidentified cultural resources. Based on map review, a complete coverage, intensive survey was considered appropriate, given the presence of moderate archaeological sensitivity within the property. The purpose of the pedestrian survey is to ensure that any previously identified sites are re-located and evaluated in relation to the present project/undertaking. For any previously undocumented sites discovered, the field survey would include formally recording these resources on State of California DPR-523 Forms.
- Upon completion of the records search and pedestrian survey, prepare a Final Report that identifies project effects and recommends appropriate mitigation measures for sites that might be affected by the undertaking and that are considered significant or potentially significant per CEQA, and/or eligible or potentially eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources.

The remainder of the present document constitutes the Final Report for this project, detailing the results of the records search, consultation and pedestrian survey and providing recommendations for treatment of significant/eligible archaeological and historic sites. All field survey work followed guidelines provided by the Office of Historic Preservation (Sacramento) and conforms to accepted professional standards.

2. Location, Environmental and Cultural Context

Location

The project area involves approximately 63.72-acres of land located immediately adjacent to the south side of Ede Street, which is situated immediately south of State Route 70, a short distance east of State Route 49, within the community of Vinton, in Plumas County, California. Lands affected are located within a portion of Section 34 of Township 23 North, Range 16 East, as shown on the USGS Chilcoot, CA 7.5' Series quadrangle (see attached *APE Map*).

Environment

The project property is located within the northeastern portion of Sierra Valley, an intermontaine valley situated at approximately 4,850 feet elevation, and is surrounded by mountains ranging in elevation from 6,000 to 8,000 feet. Covering approximately 120,000 acres, Sierra Valley is a down-faulted basin, formerly a lake bed of similar geologic origin to Lake Tahoe to the south, now filled with sediment up to two thousand feet thick. Average annual rainfall is less than twenty inches, most falling as snow. The valley floor is comprised of a grassland and sagebrush ecosystem and includes extensive freshwater marshes populated with cattails, bulrushes, and alkaline flats that drain into the Middle Fork Feather River. Many species of wildlife make their permanent home in the valley, and a great number of migratory bird species stop over in the fall and nest in the valley in the spring. The valley also has thermal activity, with Sierra Hot Springs located in the south end of the valley floor.

Paleoclimatic data indicates that fluctuation in the area's climate occurred during the Holocene. A model of post-Pleistocene climatic fluctuations (Antevs 1955) postulates three primary climatic periods: the Anathermal (c. 7,000-9,000 BP), with climatic conditions wetter and cooler than the present; the Altithermal (c. 3,000-7,000 BP), with climatic conditions drier and warmer than the present; and the Medithermal (c. 3,000 BP), with climatic conditions emerging to the present condition. During the wetter and cooler conditions of the Anathermal, vegetative life zones may have been distributed at lower elevations than at present, a condition that would have affected the distribution of dependent faunal species as well. Conditions more beneficial to avifauna and fish may also have existed during such a period, while the opposite may be true of the Altithermal.

Most of the land in this area has been utilized for ranching, beginning around the middle of the 19th Century. Collectively, historic through contemporary activities have resulted in

impacts, in varying degrees, to the ground surface and subsurface components throughout the project area.

Elevation within the project area averages approximately 5,000 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). The most important natural surface water sources in the immediate vicinity of the project area is the East Channel of the Little Last Chance Creek, which creates a substantial wetlands west of the present APE.

Overall and based upon map review and the results of previous archaeological surveys in the vicinity, the project area appeared to contain lands ranging from moderate to high in archaeological sensitivity for both prehistoric and historic-period sites and features.

Prehistory

Only limited systematic archaeological excavation has been undertaken at major occupation sites within the immediate project vicinity, although a long regional prehistoric sequence has been reconstructed from work at Big Meadows (north of the project area at Lake Almanor), the Modoc Plateau northeast of Chester (Raven 1984), and the area around Lake Tahoe (Moratto 2004).

As regards initial human use and occupation in the northern Sierra Nevada and the southernmost Cascade Range generally, Kowta's review (1988) of Plumas County archaeology includes reference to a rare fluted projectile point from Big Meadows (Almanor), indicating aboriginal use of this locality for up to 10,000 years. Occasional finds of projectile points of the Great Basin Stemmed series, estimated to be 6,000-9,000 years old, have been found in the Bucks Lake basin and at Lake Davis near Portola, and further north near Macdoel in Butte Valley (Jensen and Farber 1982) as well as to the east in the Warner Range near Alturas. Kowta hypothesizes that these sporadic early finds may represent occasional forays westward into the mountainous zones from the Great Basin by hunting parties, perhaps in search of mountain sheep (1988:66).

The first widespread cultural complex identified in the northern Sierra Nevada is the Martis Tradition, dating from approximately 2,500 B.C. to A.D. 500. The Martis Tradition was first defined from excavation and survey work in the Martis Valley near Truckee (Heizer and Elsasser 1953). A three-phased sequence has been defined, but generally the entire sequence is characterized by large wide-stemmed projectile points and bifaces manufactured almost exclusively from fine-grained basalts, and manos and metates. Primary economic orientation appears to have been toward hunting and gathering, although a relatively low frequency of milling equipment has led to the inference that hunting may have been more important than seed collecting. Projectile points assigned to the Elko and Martis Series, most made of basalt and suggesting use as dart tips for use with the spear thrower (atlatl), characterize Martis components, along with occasional atlatl spurs and weights. During this fairly long period, the Martis "people" apparently evolved regional cultural variants and refined aspects of their adaptation.

Sometime around A.D. 400-600, the Martis gives way to the final prehistoric phases, collectively known as Kings Beach, which was first defined from sites on the north shore of Lake Tahoe and dating from about A.D. 500 to A.D. 1,850. Early sub-phases of the Kings Beach Complex are characterized by Eastgate and Rose Spring projectile points, with more recent sub-phases typified by Desert Series points. These latter point types are diagnostic of bow and arrow technology, and while basalt was still used in their manufacture, silicates are more prevalent and appear to represent the preferred lithic material for these artifacts. Plant food grinding tools include handstones and millstones, with use of mortars and pestles more prevalent during the later Phases of the Tradition. Bedrock milling features also appear, or become more prominent, during the Kings Beach sequence.

Ethnography

The project area is located within territory claimed by both the Washoe (d'Azevedo 1986; Nevers 1976), and the Northeastern Maidu (Riddell 1978: Figure 1). Washo territory straddled the boundary between the arid Great Basin to the east and the verdant Sierra Nevada to the west. Early in the 19th century, the Washo homeland extended from the southern rim of Honey Lake in California southward to the West Walker River, and from the Sierra Nevada eastward to Nevada's Pine Nut Mountains and Virginia Range (d'Azevedo 1986; Nevers 1976).

At the time of Euro-American contact, Washoe settlements were found in the larger valleys on and along the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada between Honey Lake to the north and Little Antelope Valley to the south (d'Azevedo 1986:468; Carlson 1986; Elston 1986:13; Price 1962, 1980). They are members of the widespread Hokan linguistic group and the only Great Basin group to speak a non-Numic language. Although the evidence is far from conclusive, Kroeber (1925:569) and Downs (1966:70) postulate an early relationship prior to 4,500 years ago between the Hokan speaking Washoe and other Hokan speakers in California.

The traditional Washoe were organized into basic household or extended family units residing in multifamily communities (Barrett, S.A. 1917:8; Jackson et al. 1994). Groups maintained ties with each other as well as with neighboring Penutian-speaking Maidu and Miwok to the north, south, and west, and with the Paiute to the east in the Great Basin. The Washoe had one of the highest precontact population densities in the region (Lindström and Bloomer 1994:27; Price 1980) and pursued an "intensive subsistence strategy and a demographically packed settlement pattern" as defined by Zeier and Elston (1986:379). This land use pattern involved high seasonal mobility, mixed strategies of foraging and collecting, and the intensive exploitation of various perennial and seasonal floral and faunal resources.

Fishing was one of the most important forms of subsistence acquisition available to the Washoe in lake, stream, and river settings and d'Azevedo (1986:473) and Lindström (1992:308) suggest that this activity provided the most predictable and consistent source of year-round food during prehistoric and ethnographic times. The hunting of large and small mammals provided hides, bones, ligaments, and other important materials but also constituted another important food source. The late summer and early fall were preferred

hunting seasons when species such as mule deer, pronghorn antelope, and mountain sheep were at their most robust. Hares and jackrabbits (whitetailed jackrabbit, cottontail and snowshoe hare) also supplied an abundant meat source and drives were organized in late fall to take advantage of this important resource.

The wide variety of flora available within Washoe territory provided a substantial part of their diet and many species were valued for their medicinal properties. The varied distribution of seasonally available plants was a major factor in the dispersal of Washoe groups and their frequent movements over a large range. Two of the most important Washoe staple foods, pine nuts (*ta gim*) and acorns (*malin*) for example, were available mostly in the late fall and winter when other plant resources were becoming scarce. Additionally, *Camassia*, *Brodiaea*, and other bulb and root plants represent important food sources for the Washoe.

In general, Washoe lifeways remained largely unchanged for centuries until the middle decades of the 19th century. Miners, loggers, ranchers, and Euro-American settlers began to flood the region following the gold strikes in the Sierra Nevada foothills and the silver discoveries in the nearby Nevada Comstock Lode. The Washoe, like many Native American groups in California and Nevada, suffered greatly from the loss of their traditional territory and lifeways and their population decreased dramatically and soon became marginalized.

The territory of the Maidu was vast, extending from the area between Lassen Peak in the north to Sierra Buttes in the south, and from the approximate 3,000-ft contour in the west to a line drawn between Eagle Lake and Honey Lake in the east (Riddell 1978). A substantial number of primary winter villages are located along the Middle Fork of the Feather River, and particularly at confluences of the Feather River with major tributaries.

The Maidu were hunter-gatherers, living off the products of the land but also cultivating tobacco. The basic social unit was the family, although the village may also be considered a social, political and economic unit. Villages were usually located on flats adjoining streams, and were inhabited most intensively during winter months as it was necessary to go out into the hills and higher elevation zones to establish temporary camps during food gathering seasons (i.e., spring, summer, and fall).

As with all northern California Indian groups, economic life for the Maidu revolved around hunting, fishing and the collecting of plant foods, with deer, acorns, and fish representing primary staples. The collection and processing of these various food resources was accomplished with the use of a wide variety of wooden, bone and stone artifacts. The Maidu were very sophisticated in terms of their knowledge of the uses of local animals and plants, and of the availability of raw material sources that could be used in manufacturing an immense array of primary and secondary tools and implements.

Based on the results of previous survey work within the general region, a range of prehistoric site types have been documented, including occupation sites, special purpose activity sites, milling and food processing stations, light- to high-density surface lithic scatters, petroglyphs, and isolated artifacts.

Clearly, not all of these site types were expected to be present within the present project area, but rather these were considered the most likely *types* to be encountered based on background information available and the results of previous archaeological survey within and Sierra Valley generally.

Historic Context

Historic evidence exists to document that some of the Spanish and Mexican expeditions and early fur trapping ventures may have come through and made brief stays at lower elevations within the northern Sierra Nevada Mountains. It was during one such expedition that Arguello named the Feather River itself. Between 1840 and 1850, however, immigration into California began in earnest. One of the primary routes into the State was through Beckwourth into Sierra Valley, and then along the Middle Fork of the Feather River. This route was intensively utilized beginning in 1849 and the California Gold Rush.

James P. Beckwourth, a self-described mountain man, trapper, and explorer, became one of the first to settle in the region and in fact blazed portions of the immigrant trail itself. Beckwourth soon built a house and trading post where the town of Beckwourth is today – adjacent to Highway 70 east of Portola, and approximately 11 miles west of the present APE. His trading post became a stopping place for travelers heading east to west, especially those lured by the California gold rush of 1849.

By the late 1850s numerous trails and wagon roads were established to handle the transport of goods and people from Sierra Valley, and the towns of Beckwourth, Loyalton, and Sierraville to the Nevada Territory and back. The northern part of the valley was settled primarily by farmers and ranchers and was less populated than the southern portion of the valley and the surrounding area. The southern portion of the valley was more heavily wooded and communities such as Sierraville and Loyalton served as ranching and lumber towns that developed in support of the Comstock Lode mines in Nevada.

In 1854, Plumas County was carved out of the eastern portion of Butte County. In 1864, portions of Plumas County were annexed to become Lassen County, and Plumas County acquired a small portion of Sierra County.

Another early and important figure in Plumas County was Arthur Walker Keddie, who arrived in California from Scotland at the age of 21 as a trained civil engineer and surveyor. Living and working out of Quincy, Keddie began surveying and mapping the Feather River Canyon and extensive tracts in Plumas County in 1863. Among his most important achievements was his survey and engineering drawings for the Western Pacific railroad from Oroville, through the Feather River Canyon, to Portola, Sierra Valley and on into Reno, Nevada. The completion of the project in 1910 made Portola an important stop on this leg of the trans-continental system, with both the railway and Highway 70 located within the project vicinity.

While Keddie's contributions were of National and State significance, equally important to historic development of the area was the emergence of an extensive system of logging rail lines that crossed much of Plumas County. The requirement for railroad logging in Plumas County derived from the rather large distances which raw material had to be transported to reach mill sites. Most of the primary forest stands were far from mainline railroads (at least during the latter half of the 19th Century), necessitating construction of the smaller systems – the narrow-gauge lines that could link the timber source with common rail carriers.

While limited mining was undertaken throughout the region, most early historic activity focused on ranching, logging, transportation, and, later, recreation. Logging has been particularly destructive of prehistoric and early historic cultural resources, since early operations in particular often involved clear cutting and use of removal practices that substantially impacted ground surface and subsurface soils.

Euro-American settlers of Sierra Valley were most highly concentrated along the rim of the valley and in the forested areas. The predominant economic industries of the valley included dairy and beef cattle, hay, and lumber. With the decline of the mining boom in California and in the Nevada Comstock Lode, the population of Sierra County by 1870 was only 5,600. The highest concentration of people in Sierra Valley fell into two areas: the communities along Highway 70 from Beckwourth to Chilcoot, and logging communities such as Sierraville in the southern portion of the Valley.

3. RECORDS SEARCH and SOURCES CONSULTED

Several types of information were considered relevant to evaluating the types of archaeological sites and site distribution that might be encountered within the project area. The information evaluated prior to conducting the pedestrian survey includes data maintained by the Northeast Information Center, and available published and unpublished documents relevant to regional prehistory, ethnography, and early historic developments.

Northeast Information Center Records

The official Plumas County archaeological records were examined on January 10, 2023 (I.C. File # NE23-18). This search documented the following existing conditions for a one-mile radius centered on the APE:

- According to the Information Center, none of the present APE has been subjected to previous archaeological investigation. Similarly, no investigations have been conducted within the one-mile search radius.
- According to the Information Center's records, no cultural resources have been documented within the APE. A segment of the Beckworth Trail (P-32-1635) has been documented immediately adjacent to the present APE, and the Last Chance Water Creek District (P-32-3542) has been documented within the one-mile search radius.

Other Sources Consulted

In addition to examining the archaeological site and survey records of Plumas County maintained at the Northeast Information Center, the following sources were also included in the search conducted at the Information Center, or were evaluated separately:

- The National Register of Historic Places (1986, Supplements).
- The California Register of Historical Resources.
- The California Inventory of Historic Resources (State of California 1976).
- The California Historical Landmarks (State of California 1996).
- The California Points of Historical Interest (May 1992 and updates).
- The Historic Property Data File (OHP 2012).
- 1876 GLO Plat, T23N, R16E.
- USGS Chilcoat, CA 15' quadrangle (1950)).
- NETR topographic maps (1952, 1956, 1966, 1979, 1993, 1998, 2012, 2015, 2018).
- NETR Aerials (1974, 1984, 1993, 1999, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2021).
- Existing published and unpublished documents relevant to prehistory, ethnography, and early historic developments in the vicinity. These sources, reviewed below, provided a general environmental and cultural context by means of which to assess likely site types and distribution patterns for the project area.

4. CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY and CULTURAL INVENTORY

Survey Strategy and Field Work

All of the APE was subjected to intensive pedestrian survey by means of walking parallel transects spaced at 30-meter intervals.

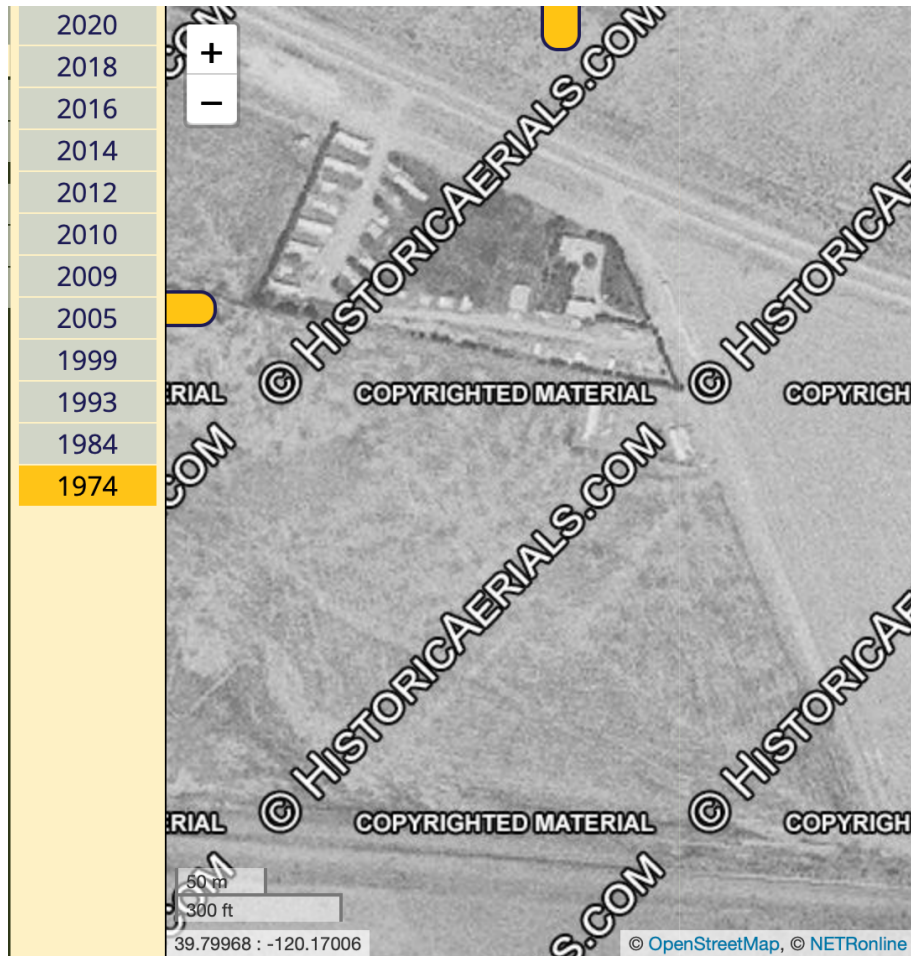
In searching for cultural resources, the surveyor considered the results of background research and was alert for any unusual contours, soil changes, distinctive vegetation patterns, exotic materials, artifacts, feature or feature remnants and other possible markers of cultural sites.

Fieldwork was undertaken on April 14-15, 2023, by Principal Investigator, Sean Michael Jensen, M.A. Mr. Jensen is a professional archaeologist, historian and architectural historian, with 37 years of experience in archaeology, architectural history and history, who meets the professional requirements of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation (Federal Register, Vol. 48, No. 190), as demonstrated in his listing on the California Historical Resources Information System list of qualified archaeologists, architectural historians and historians. No special problems were encountered and all survey objectives were satisfactorily achieved.

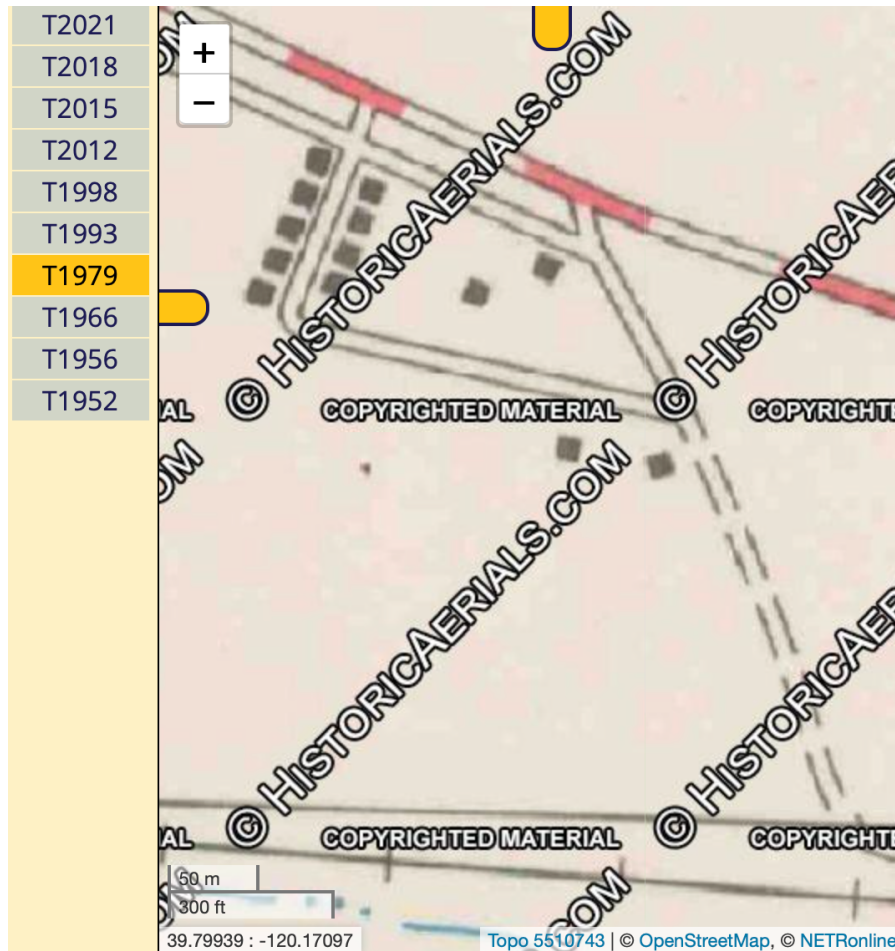
General Field Observations

Fieldwork identified the following general conditions within the project area. All of the present APE has been impacted directly by a series of disturbances, ranging from minimal to substantial. All of the property was originally utilized for livestock grazing, with more substantial disturbances accompanying the construction of what would become the Union Pacific Railroad to the south and what would later become State Route 70 to the north.

More recently (1956, 1965, 1972 and 1980), four (4) water wells were drilled within the property, all within immediate proximity of the existing mobile home park. These wells were necessary for the existing development to occur, in the first place, and ultimately expand to its current size. The placement of buried and overhead utilities, as well as graded roads and mobile home pads represent additional subsurface disturbances within the property.



Examination of the USGS quadrangles, NETR topographic maps (1952, 1956, 1966, 1979, 1993, 1998, 2012, 2015, 2018) and historic aerials (1974, 1984, 1993, 1999, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2021), confirmed that prior to the 1974 aerial image (see Photo, above), no buildings or structure appear within the APE. Several buildings, and the mobile home park's road layout, are depicted on the 1979 topographic map (see Photo, below).



Prehistoric Resources

No evidence of prehistoric activity or occupation was observed during the present pedestrian survey. The absence of such resources may best be explained by the absence of a suitable source of surface water within or immediately adjacent to the subject property.

Historic Resources

One historic-era resource was identified within the APE during the present investigation. This resource was documented on DPR 523 Forms, and assigned the temporary designation, "Meadow Edge Park."

Meadow Edge Park consists of a manufactured home park situated adjacent to the south side of State Route 70, a short distance east of State Route 49, within the community of Vinton. The park consists of graded roads, buried and overhead utilities, pads with manufactured homes, a stick-framed residence, apartment, duplex, an ancillary building and four wells houses. The site is located within a larger 63.72-acre property. Examination of records maintained by Plumas County failed to confirm dates for construction of the park and/or the buildings therein. However, dates for the wells were confirmed to be 1956, 1965, 1972 and 1980. These dates appear to precede phases of development within the property and the mobile home park. Plumas County records do show that a special use permit was issued for the 53-site JD Trailer Ranch Manufactured Home Park on July 20, 1965, the same years that the second well was drilled.

Consequently, it appears that the primary residence at 92400 Highway 70 was constructed sometime after 1965, and that that some of the roads and pads were graded and the utilities placed after issuance of the permit. Examination of the 1974 aerial image of the property shows approximately 12 manufactured home sites and some recreational vehicle sites, as well as the primary residence, duplex and multiple ancillary buildings in place. The 1984 aerial image shows additional road grading and additional manufactured home pads within the site boundary.

Based on materials and architectural styles, the primary residence, duplex and an ancillary building appear to be the oldest buildings on the property, while the remaining buildings and structures all appear to have been constructed after 1973.

The residence is a single-story, single-family residence, situated on a concrete slab foundation. Walls are covered with ship lapped composition siding, while the windows have been replaced with energy efficient vinyl clad varieties. The 2"x4" rafters support a roof covered with contemporary asphalt composition shingles.

The duplex is located a short distance west of the primary residence, is rectangle in plan, situated on a concrete slab foundation, and clad with the same ship lapped siding as the primary residence. Similarly, the roof material is composed of contemporary asphalt shingles, and windows represent aluminum framed varieties.

The ancillary building is located at the extreme southeast end of the manufactured home park site, and consists of an early ranching building that was utilized to store equipment and materials (fence posts, irrigation pipes, etc.). The building is rectangular in plan, is covered with horizontal 1"x12" siding, and the shed roof is supported by 2x6" rafters.

5. ELIGIBILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

General

Sites identified within the project area were to be evaluated for significance in relation to CEQA significance criteria. Historical resources per CEQA are defined as buildings, sites, structures, objects, or districts, each of which may have historical, architectural, archaeological, cultural, or scientific significance. CEQA requires that, if a project results in an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, alternative plans or mitigation measures must be considered; however, only significant historical resources need to be addressed. Therefore, before developing mitigation measures, the significance of cultural resources must be determined in relation to criteria presented in PRC 15064.5, which defines a historically significant resource (one eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, per PRC SS5024.1) as an archaeological site which possess one or more of the following attributes or qualities:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

In addition, CEQA further distinguishes between archaeological sites that meet the definition of a significant historical resource as described above (for the purpose of determining effects), and "unique archaeological resources." An archaeological resource is considered "unique" (Section 21083.2(g)) when the resource not merely adds to the current body of knowledge, but when there is a high probability that the resource also:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

In the present case, one cultural resource was identified within the APE.

Application of the Criteria to Historic Site "Meadow Edge Park"

Specific application of the criteria to the "Meadow Edge Park" yields the following recommendations.

- 1) This resource is not associated with events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California. The manufactured home park complex appears to have been constructed after 1965 and appears to represent common activities undertaken throughout the region, state and nation (i.e., residential development). There is no evidence that this property contributed in any exceptional way to the history of the region. Based on these findings, this resource would not appear to be eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources per Criterion 1), and this resource would not appear to be potentially significant per the CEQA criterion under PRC SS5024.1.
- 2) This site is not associated with the lives of persons important to local, or California history. As previously noted, the resource appears to have been constructed after 1965, and there is no evidence that those responsible for the ownership, construction, or utilization have been shown to have made significant contributions to the history of the region. Based on these findings, this resource would not appear to be eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources per Criterion 2). As well, based on these facts and considerations, this resource is not recommended significant per the CEQA criterion under PRC SS5024.1.
- 3) Based on existing inventory data maintained by the Northeast Information Center at CSU-Chico, a fair number of residential complexes, consisting of manufactured homes, have already been well documented in the county, and in adjacent counties, that duplicate the general qualities and attributes of the present resource. Clearly, this resource is not at all rare in the California inventory, nor does this resource represent a "... distinctive type..." or "...a distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction." For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources per Criterion 3). As well, based on these facts and considerations, this resource is not recommended significant per the CEQA criterion under PRC SS5024.1.
- 4) Data recovery work involving this resource could not be expected to provide unique or unusual additional information over and above that which exists in the existing site record prepared, and the information collected in conjunction with the present project. The information values possessed by this resource have been effectively preserved with this documentation. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources per Criterion 4). Similarly, based on these facts and considerations, this site is not recommended significant per the CEQA criterion under PRC SS5024.1.

While the site would not appear to be eligible for inclusion on either the CRHR, the issue of site integrity must be addressed. Site "Meadow Edge Park" represents a manufactured home park developed during the latter portion of the 20th century. The present components of the site do not reflect the site's attributes at its origin. Rather, various manufactured homes have been introduced, removed and replaced. Further, the primary residence has been substantially modified. These various alterations support a conclusion that overall site integrity has been substantially compromised.

The National Register Bulletin 15: How to apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, Section VIII.: How to Evaluate the Integrity of a Property provides a step-by-step process by which potentially eligible properties are evaluated for Integrity. The seven aspects of integrity include: *Location, Design, Setting, Materials, Workmanship, Feeling* and *Association*.

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event took place. Integrity of location refers to whether the property has been moved or relocated since its construction. A property is considered to have integrity of location if it was moved before or during its period of significance. In the present case, the period of historical significance is late-20th century, and the site has not been moved, and therefore retains the aspect of *Location*.

Design is the composition of elements that constitute the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. In the present case, almost all of these elements (e.g. plan, space, structure, style) have been removed. Only through mapping and aerial imagery can the *Design* of the site be appreciated. Nearly wholesale replacement of homes, along with road and home pad expansion has significantly compromised the aspect of *Design*.

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property that illustrates the character of the place. The late-20th century setting for the region has not been altered, and thus the site retains most of its *Setting* attribute.

Materials are the physical elements combined in a particular pattern or configuration to form the property during a period in the past. Integrity of *Materials* determines whether or not an authentic historic resource still exists. As previously discussed, many of the elements of the site's *Materials* are no longer extant. Homes have been placed, removed and replaced, and the primary residence and associated duplex have undergone upgrades which further compromise the site's *Materials* attribute.

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period of history. *Workmanship* is important because it can furnish evidence of the technology of the craft, illustrate the aesthetic principles of a historic period, and reveal individual, local, regional, or national applications of both technological practices and aesthetic principles. In the present case, the site's *Workmanship* attributes have been almost completely destroyed as a result of multiple manufacturers for the various homes.

Feeling is the quality that a historic property has in evoking the aesthetic or historic sense of a past period of time. The complex of manufactured homes does not evoke a particular Feeling that is unusual, unique or demonstrable of a particular era. Consequently, this site does not retain the *Feeling* attribute.

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. A property retains *Association* if it is the place where the event or activity occurred

and is sufficiently intact to convey that relationship to an observer. Like *Feeling*, *Association* requires the presence of physical features that convey a property's historic character.

Because *Feeling* and *Association* depend on individual perceptions, their retention *alone* is never sufficient to support eligibility of a property for the National Register.

In the case of the existing resource, *Association* requires that the associated event or person must be important, and thus not simply historic (i.e., eligible under Criteria 1 and/or 2 in the case of the CRHR). As previously discussed, there is no evidence that this resource made significant contributions to local, regional, state or national history, nor is there evidence that this site was designed, constructed or utilized by anyone that made significant contributions to history, and thus integrity of *Association* would be compromised.

Overall, an evaluation of the site's integrity results in the conclusion that the site does not retain sufficient integrity to convey any historic significance that it may once have possessed.

According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains “substantial integrity,” and (ii) meets at least one of the significance criteria.

In addition to not retaining integrity, this resource is not considered significant per any of the eligibility criteria, and is therefore not recommended a significant historical resource, or a unique archaeological resource.

6. PROJECT EFFECTS

A project may have a significant impact or adverse effect on significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources if the project will or could result in the physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance or values of the historic resource would be materially impaired. Actions that would materially impair a cultural resource are actions that would alter or diminish those attributes of a site that qualify the site for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.

Based on the specific findings detailed above under *Cultural Resources Survey and Cultural Inventory*, no significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources are present within the project area and no significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources will be affected by the undertaking, as presently proposed.

7. NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION

Consultation was undertaken with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) re. sacred land listings for the property. An information request letter was delivered to the NAHC on January 30, 2023. The NAHC responded on February 17, 2023, indicating that the search of their Sacred Lands Files resulted in negative findings.

8. PROJECT SUMMARY

This report details the results of a cultural resources inventory survey involving two adjacent parcels comprised of approximately 63.72-acres of land located immediately adjacent to the south side of Ede Street, which is situated immediately south of State Route 70, a short distance east of State Route 49, within the community of Vinton, in Plumas County, California.

The project property currently operates as a permitted 53-site manufactured home park. The proponent proposes to ultimately create fifty (50) new sites for a total of 103 spaces for manufactured homes. Following approval of the expanded number of units, additional development would be expected, including grading and land recontouring, as well as construction of new residential pads, construction of additional access and parking, placement of additional buried utilities, and general landscaping.

Existing records at the Northeast Information Center document that none of the present APE had been subjected to previous archaeological investigation, and that no cultural resources have been documented within the APE. As well, the present effort included an intensive-level pedestrian survey. The pedestrian survey failed to identify any prehistoric resources within the APE. One historic-era resource, designated “Meadow Edge Park,” was identified, recorded and recommended not eligible for inclusion on the CRHR under any of the relevant criteria.

Consultation was undertaken with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) re. sacred land listings for the property. An information request letter was delivered to the NAHC on January 30, 2023. The NAHC responded on February 17, 2023, indicating that the search of their Sacred Lands Files resulted in negative findings.

The probability of encountering buried archaeological sites within the APE is low. This conclusion is derived in part from the observed soil matrices which have been subjected to a moderate-high degree of disturbance associated with past residential, utility and road construction activities. Evidence of ground disturbance assisted in determining whether or not subsurface resources were present within the APE. Overall, the soil types present, and contemporary disturbance would warrant a finding of low probability for encountering buried archaeological sites.

Based on the absence of significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources within the APE, archaeological clearance is recommended for the project/undertaking as presently proposed, although the following general provisions are considered appropriate:

1. **Consultation in the event of inadvertent discovery of human remains:** In the event that human remains are inadvertently encountered during any project-associated ground-disturbing activity or at any time subsequently, State law shall be followed, which includes but is not limited to immediately contacting the County Coroner's office upon any discovery of human remains.

2. **Consultation in the event of inadvertent discovery of cultural material:** The present evaluation and recommendations are based on the findings of an inventory-level surface survey only. There is always the possibility that important unidentified cultural materials could be encountered on or below the surface during the course of future construction activities. This possibility is particularly relevant considering the constraints generally to archaeological field survey, and particularly where past ground disturbance activities (e.g., residential development, road and utility construction, etc.) have partially obscured historic ground surface visibility, as in the present case. In the event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unidentified cultural material, archaeological consultation should be sought immediately.

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CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY SURVEY

**Meadow Edge Park Development Project
circa 63.72-Acres
Plumas County, California**

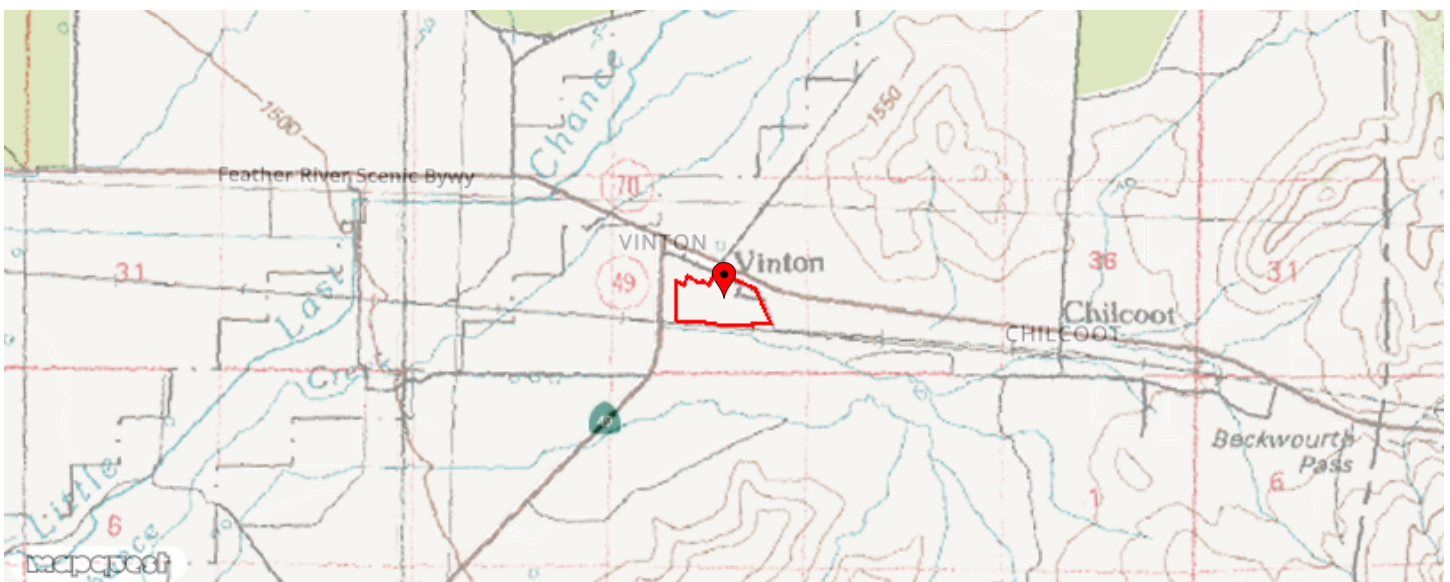
ATTACHMENTS

- APE Map
- Records Search from Northeast Information Center
- Information request letter to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)
- Response from the NAHC
- DPR 523 forms for “Meadow Edge Park”



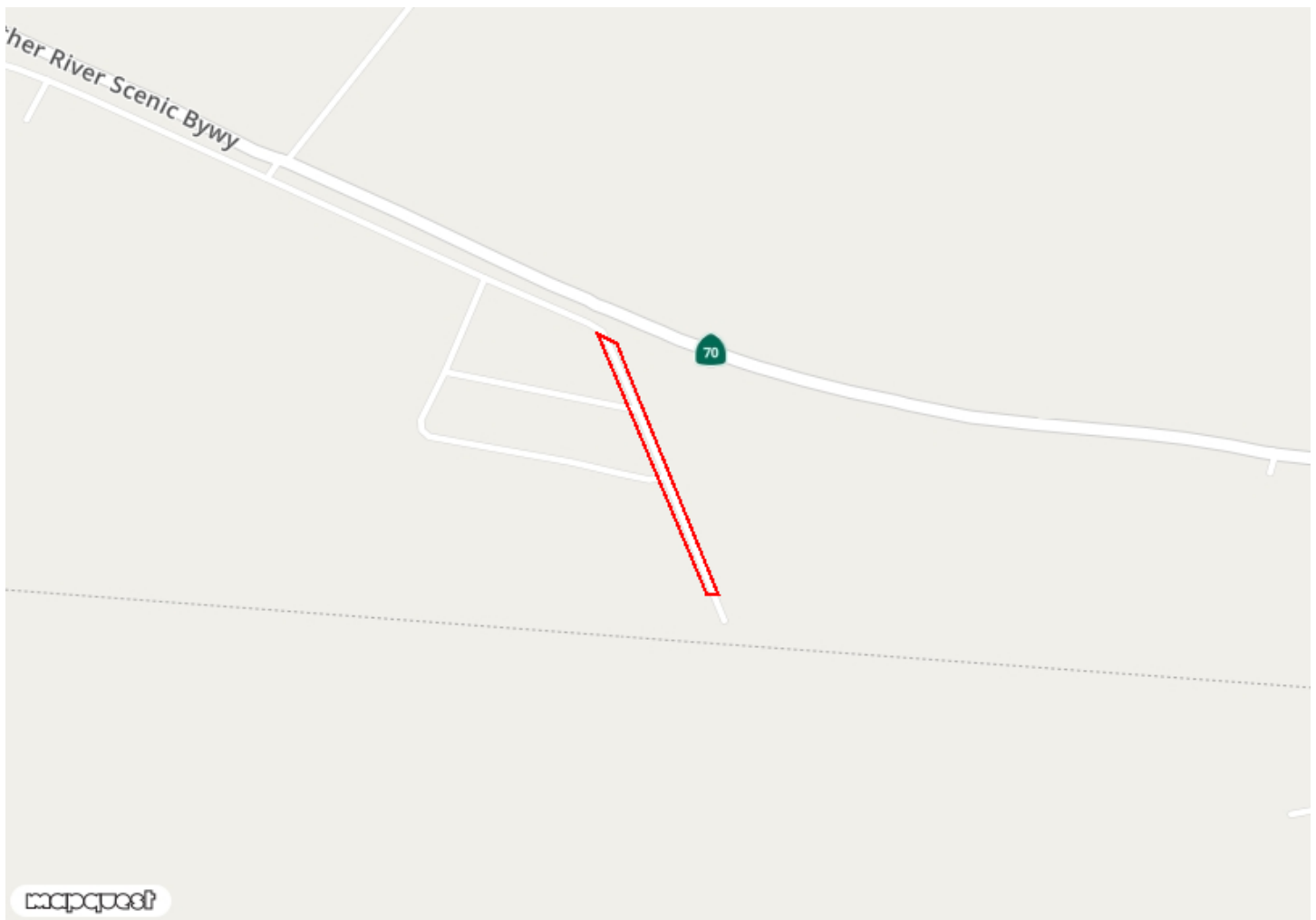
TOPOGRAPHY REPORT

92400 HIGHWAY 70 VINTON CA 96135





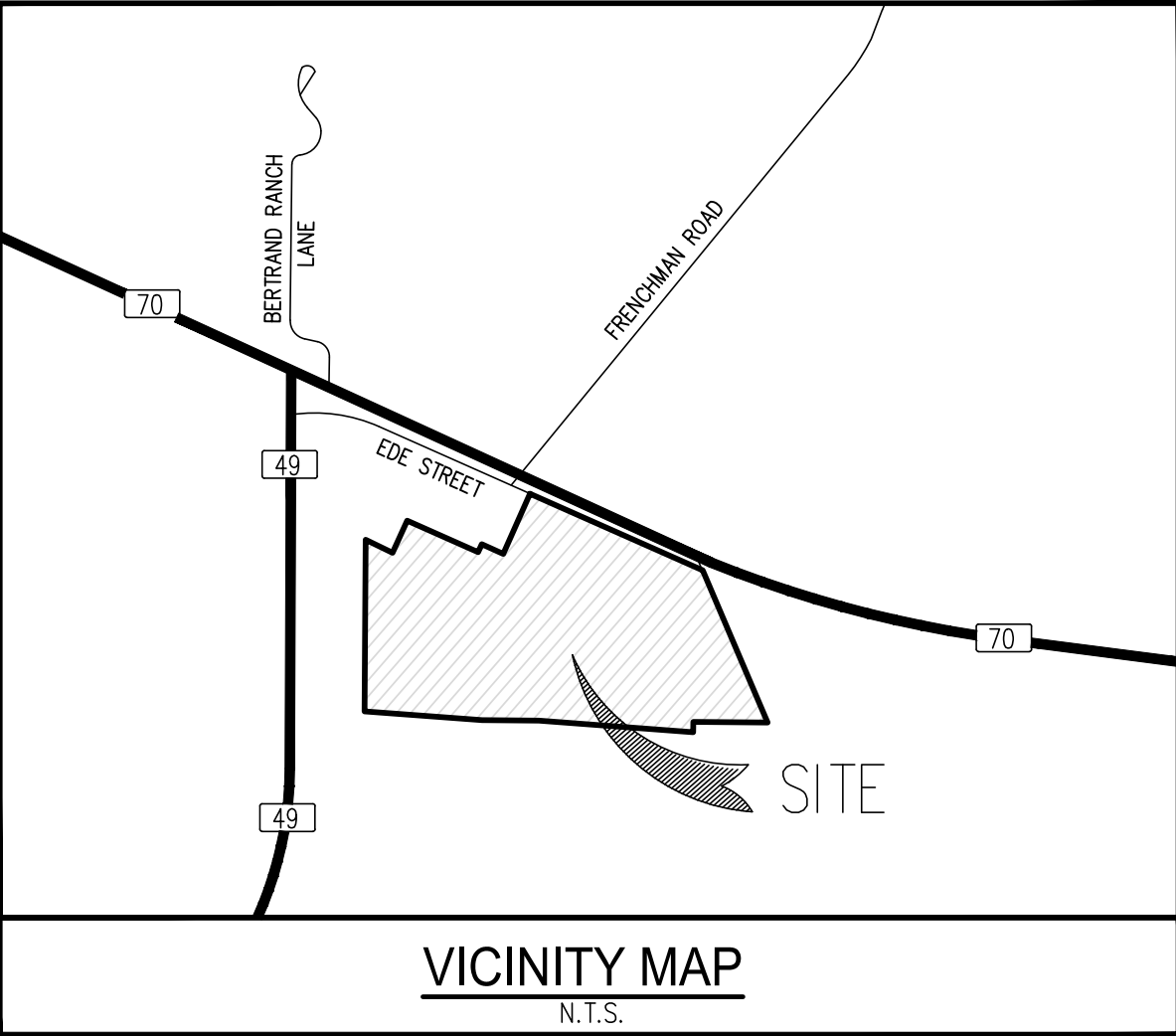
TOPOGRAPHY REPORT



LEGEND	
	PROPERTY LINE
	WATER STORAGE AREA
	OPEN SPACE/Common Area
	GRAVEL ROAD
	PROPOSED BIORETENTION AREA
	EXISTING OVERHEAD UTILITIES & POLES
	EXISTING WELL
	NOISE CONTOURS (APPROXIMATE)

OVERALL SITE PLAN
FOR
MEADOW EDGE PARK

NOVEMBER, 2024



ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

NOTES:
1. WASTEWATER TREATMENT & WATER STORAGE AREAS SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN SIZE AND LOCATION (SEE WASTEWATER DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS).

OVERALL LOTS
EXISTING SPACES = 53
PROPOSED SPACES = 50
TOTAL SPACES = 103

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROPERTY ADDRESS
92400 HIGHWAY 70
VINTON, CA 96135

OWNER/APPLICANT
ROUTE 49 PARTNERS
775-223-4891

PLANNING/ENGINEERING
MILLENNIUM PLANNING & ENGINEERING
471 SUTTON WAY, SUITE 210
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945
530-446-6765
CONTACT PERSON: ROB WOOD, AICP

SURVEYING
TERRAGRAPHIC LAND SURVEYING
P.O. BOX 266
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
530-318-1761
CONTACT PERSON: TRAVIS PACHACKI

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBERS
010-200-002
010-200-003

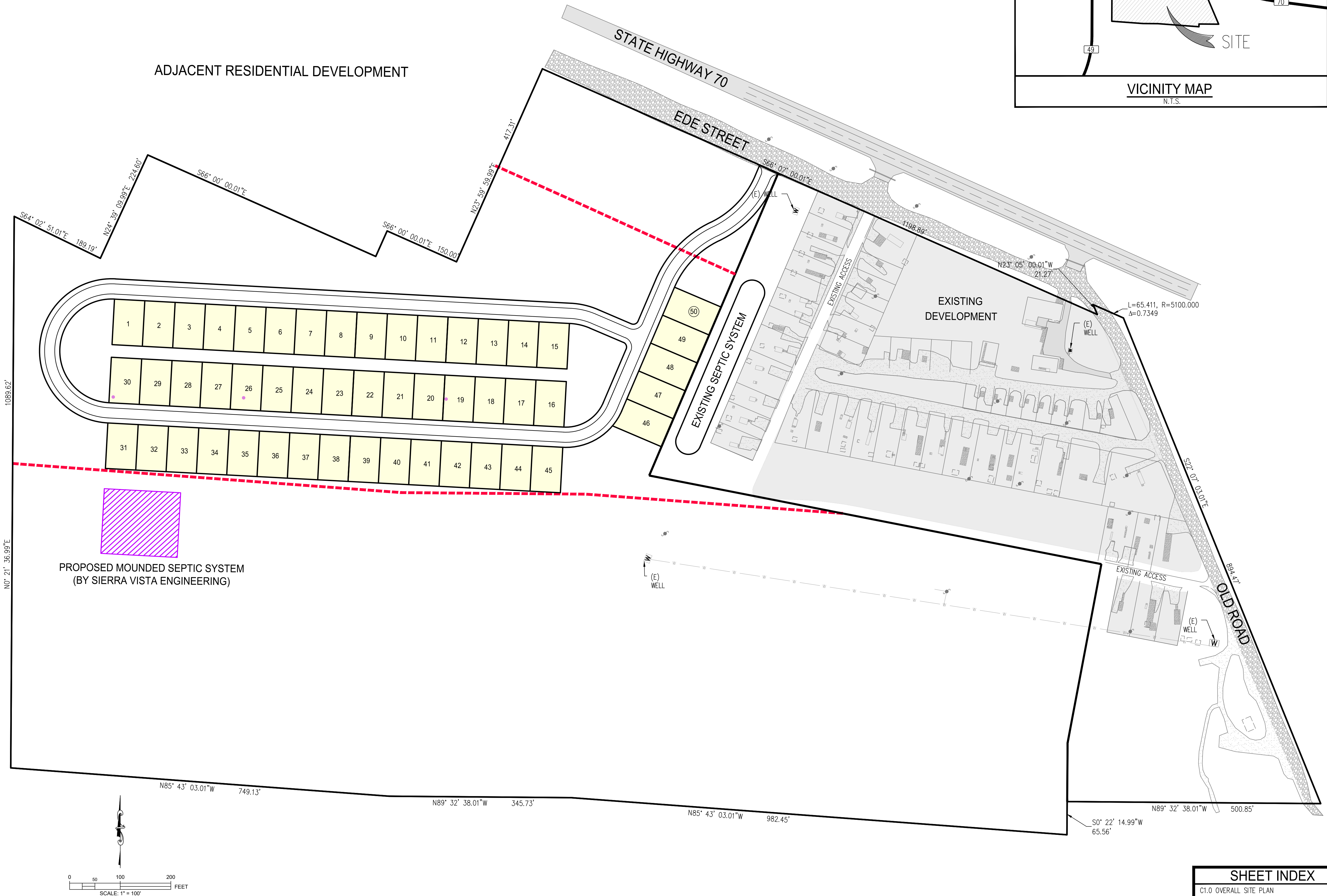
ZONING/GENERAL PLAN
ZONING: C-3 (COMMERCIAL), S-1 (SUBURBAN)
GENERAL PLAN: CONVENIENCE COMMERCIAL, SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL

LOT AREA
62.85 ACRES (APN-002)
0.87 ACRES (APN-003)
63.72 ACRES (OVERALL)

WATER AND ELECTRICAL
WELL & P&SREC

SEWAGE DISPOSAL
SEPTIC / PROPOSED ON-SITE TREATMENT FACILITY

FIRE PROTECTION
SIERRA VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT



MEADOW EDGE PARK
92400 HIGHWAY 70
SITE PLAN

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

DESIGNED:	REV.	DATE:

DRAWN:	PROJ. NO.:	DWG.:

DATE:

SHEET INDEX
C1.0 OVERALL SITE PLAN
C2.0 PRELIMINARY GRADING AND DRAINAGE PLAN
C3.0 PRELIMINARY UTILITY PLAN

SHEET NUMBER
C1.0

California Historical Resources Information System

BUTTE
GLENN
LASSEN
MODOC
PLUMAS
SHASTA

SIERRA
SISKIYOU
SUTTER
TEHAMA
TRINITY

Northeast Information Center
1074 East Avenue, Suite F
Chico, California 95926
Phone (530) 898-6256
neinfocntr@csuchico.edu

January 10, 2023

Theodor Goodman, Assistant Planner
Millennium Planning & Engineering
471 Sutton Way, Suite 210
Grass Valley, CA 95945

IC File # NE23-18 Non-Confidential Records Search

RE: Meadows Edge Park / APNs 010-200-002 & 010-2200-003
T23N, R16E, Section 34, MDBM
USGS Chilcoot 7.5' quad
63.72 acres (Plumas County)

Dear Mr. Goodman,

In response to your request, a records search for the project cited above was conducted by examining the official maps and records for historical resources and surveys in Plumas County. Historical resources in our inventory include archaeological objects, sites, landscapes, districts, and all manner of buildings and structures associated with past human activities. Please note that access to records of archaeological resources is restricted to qualified individuals.

Results:

Archaeological Resources: According to our records, no resources of this type have been recorded within the project boundaries. However, a segment of the Beckwourth Trail (P-32-001635) has been recorded adjacent to the project area. Twelve additional resources have been recorded within the one-mile vicinity.

Historic Properties: According to our records, no resources of this type have been recorded within or adjacent to the project boundaries. However, the Last Chance Creek Water District (P-32-003542) has been recorded within the one-mile vicinity. The Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD), which includes listings of the California Register of Historical Resources, California State Historical Landmarks, California State Points of Historical Interest, and the National Register of Historic Places, does not list any properties within or adjacent to the proposed project area. The BERD is available online at: https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30338

The USGS Chilcoot (1950) 15' topographic quadrangle fails to depict buildings or structures within the project boundaries; therefore, there is a low potential for any buildings or structures 45 years or older to be within the project area. The 1876 General Land Office (GLO) plat depicts the Mohawk Valley Road adjacent to the project area.

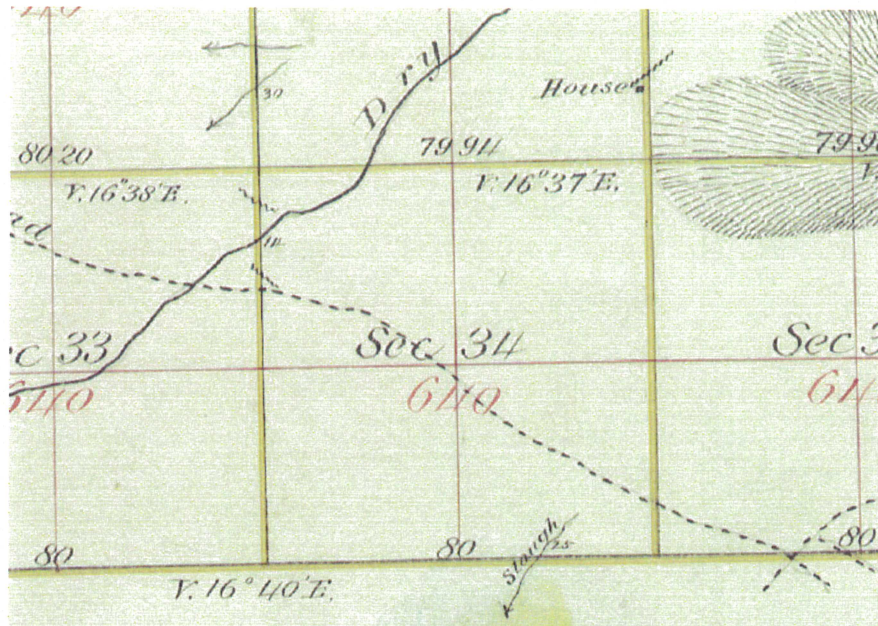


Figure 1. 1876 GLO Plat for Township 23 North, Range 16 East.

The project is in a region utilized by the Washoe populations at the time of Euro-American contact. Indigenous populations used the local region for seasonal and/or permanent settlement, as well as for the gathering of plants, roots, seeds, domestic materials, and hunting seasonal game. Historically, Euro-Americans utilized the region for transportation, ranching, mining, and logging opportunities.

Beckwourth Pass was discovered in 1851 by James Beckwourth while on a prospecting expedition. Beckwourth built a cabin in 1852, the first in Sierra Valley, then called Beckwourth Valley, as a trading post and a hotel. Emigrants came to and settled in Sierra Valley in 1852. Hay, dairy farming, and cattle ranching in this valley supplied mining camps in the Sierra City area and in the Comstock Lode area in Nevada.

Previous Investigations: According to our records, the project area has not been previously surveyed for historical resources.

Literature Search: The official records and maps for archaeological sites and surveys in Plumas County were reviewed. Also reviewed: **National Register of Historic Places - Listed properties and Determined Eligible Properties** (2012); **California Register of Historical Resources** (2012); **California Points of Historical Interest** (2012); **California Inventory of Historic Resources** (1976); **California Historical Landmarks** (2012); **Historic Spots in California** (1966), **Built Environment Resource Directory** (2020); and **Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 8, California** (1978).

Sensitivity Assessment and Recommendations:

Based upon the above information, the project has a sensitivity for the possible discovery of archaeological resources. Therefore, because the project area has not been previously surveyed for historical resources, we recommend that a professional archaeologist be contacted prior to ground disturbance. The project consultant can offer recommendations for avoidance and protection of any existing or newly identified resources. If the proposed project contains buildings or structures that meet the minimum age requirement (45 years in age or older) it is recommended that the resources be assessed by a qualified specialist familiar with architecture and history of the county. Review of the available historic building/structure data has included only those sources listed above and should not be considered comprehensive. A list of qualified consultants is available online at www.chrisinfo.org.

During any phase of parcel development, if any potential prehistoric, protohistoric, and/or historic historical resources are encountered, all work should cease in the area of the find pending an examination of the site and materials by the project archaeologist. This request to cease work in the area of a potential historical resource find is intended for accidental discoveries made during construction activities and is not intended as a substitute for the recommended historical resources survey. It is recommended that any identified historical resources be recorded on DPR 523 historic resource recordation forms, available online from the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) website: https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28351

If human remains are discovered, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires you to protect the discovery and notify the county coroner, who will determine if the find is Native American. If the remains are recognized as Native American, the coroner shall then notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 authorizes the NAHC to appoint a Most Likely Descendant (MLD) who will make recommendations for the treatment of the discovery.

The OHP contracts with the California Historical Resources Information System's (CHRIS) regional Information Centers (ICs) to maintain information in the CHRIS inventory and make it available to local, state, and federal agencies, historical resource professionals, Native American tribes, researchers, and the public. Recommendations made by IC coordinators or their staff regarding the interpretation and application of this information are advisory only. Such recommendations do not necessarily represent the evaluation or opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer in carrying out the OHP's regulatory authority under federal and state law.

Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the OHP are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area. Finally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the CHRIS Inventory, and the NAHC should be contacted at (916) 373-3710 for information regarding Native American representatives in the vicinity of the project.

Payment for this records search was received on January 9, 2023. Thank you for your dedication to preserving California's irreplaceable cultural heritage. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or need any further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RB' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Ryan Bradshaw, Coordinator
Northeast Information Center

GENESIS SOCIETY

a Corporation Sole

Historic Preservation Services

January 30, 2023

Native American Heritage Commission

1550 Harbor Boulevard,
West Sacramento, California 95691

Subject: Meadows Edge Park Development Project, circa 63.72-acres, Plumas County, California.

Dear Commission:

We have been requested to conduct an archaeological survey, for the above-cited project, and are requesting any information you may have concerning archaeological sites or traditional use areas for this area. Any information you might supply will be used to supplement the archaeological and historical study being prepared for this project.

Project Name: Meadows Edge Park Development Project
County: Plumas
Map: USGS Chilcoat, CA 7.5'
Location: Portion of Section 34 of T23N, R16E

Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Regards,

Sean Michael Jensen

Sean Michael Jensen, Administrator

(530) 680-6170

California

2398 Azalea Street
Kingsburg, CA 93631

Montana

123 E Swift Creek Way
Kalispell, MT 59901

seanjensen@comcast.net



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

February 17, 2023

SEAN JENSEN
Genesis SocietyVia Email to: eanjensen@comcast.netCHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
LuiseñoVICE CHAIRPERSON
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Sara Dutschke
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Stanley Rodriguez
KumeyaayCOMMISSIONER
[Vacant]COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
**Raymond C.
Hitchcock**
Miwok/Nisenan**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov**Re: Meadows Edge Park Development Project, Plumas County**

Dear Mr. JENSEN:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: Cameron.vela@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

*Cameron Vela*Cameron Vela
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Plumas County
2/17/2023**

***Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe of
the Enterprise Rancheria***

Glenda Nelson, Chairperson
2133 Monte Vista Avenue Maidu
Oroville, CA, 95966
Phone: (530) 532 - 9214
Fax: (530) 532-1768
info@enterpriserancheria.org

***United Auburn Indian
Community of the Auburn
Rancheria***

Gene Whitehouse, Chairperson
10720 Indian Hill Road Maidu
Auburn, CA, 95603 Miwok
Phone: (530) 883 - 2390
Fax: (530) 883-2380
bguth@auburnrancheria.com

***Greenville Rancheria of Maidu
Indians***

Kyle Self, Chairperson
P.O. Box 279 Maidu
Greenville, CA, 95947
Phone: (530) 284 - 7990
Fax: (530) 284-6612
kself@greenvillerrancheria.com

***Washoe Tribe of Nevada and
California***

Darrel Cruz, Cultural Resources
Department
919 Highway 395 North Washoe
Gardnerville, NV, 89410
Phone: (775) 265 - 8600
darrel.cruz@washoetribe.us

***Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu
Indians***

Guy Taylor,
#1 Alverda Drive KonKow
Oroville, CA, 95966 Maidu
Phone: (530) 533 - 3625

***Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu
Indians***

Benjamin Clark, Chairperson
#1 Alverda Drive KonKow
Oroville, CA, 95966 Maidu
Phone: (530) 533 - 3625
Fax: (530) 533-3680
frontdesk@mooretown.org

Susanville Indian Rancheria

Deana Bovee, Chairperson
745 Joaquin Street Maidu
Susanville, CA, 96130 Paiute
Phone: (530) 257 - 6264 Pit River
Fax: (530) 257-7986 Washoe
dovee@sir-nsn.gov

Tsi Akim Maidu

Grayson Coney, Cultural Director
P.O. Box 510 Maidu
Browns Valley, CA, 95918
Phone: (530) 383 - 7234
tsi-akim-maidu@att.net

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Meadows Edge Park Development Project, Plumas County.

State of California ☐ The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # P-32-00
HRI # _____
Trinomial **CA-PLU-**
NRHP Status Code

Other Listings
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Page _____ of _____ *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) Meadow Edge Park
P1. Other Identifier: _____

*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted

*a. County Plumas and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Chilcoot Date 2021 T 23N; R 16E; of N $\frac{1}{2}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 34 M.D. B.M.

c. Address 92400 CA-70 City Vinton Zip 96135

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10, 742360 mE/ 4409496 mN

e. Other Locational Data: From the intersection of State Highway 49 and State Highway 70, proceed easterly along State Highway 70 for approximately 0.5 miles to driveway situated on south side of highway. Driveway accesses the mobile home park and site.

P5a. Photograph or Drawing
See attached Photographs for descriptions.

*P3a. Description: Meadow Edge Park consists of a manufactured home park situated adjacent to the south side of State Route 70, a short distance east of State Route 49, within the community of Vinton. The park consists of graded roads, buried and overhead utilities, pads with manufactured homes, a stick-framed residence, apartment, duplex, an ancillary building and four wells houses. The site is located within a larger 63.72-acre property. Examination of records maintained by Plumas County failed to confirm dates for construction of the park and/or the buildings therein. However, dates for the wells were confirmed to be 1956, 1965, 1972 and 1980. These dates appear to precede phases of development within the property and the mobile home park. Plumas County records do show that a special use permit was issued for the 53-site JD Trailer Ranch Manufactured Home Park on July 20, 1965, the same years that the second well was drilled.
--CONTINUED--

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP39-Mobile Home Park.

*P4. Resources Present: ☐ Building ☐ Structure ☐

Object ☒ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) See photos for description.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: ☒ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both Historic, post-1943 origin.

*P7. Owner and Address: Unknown.

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address) Sean Jensen, Genesis Society, 123 East Swift Creek Way, Kalispell, MT 59901.

*P9. Date Recorded: 04/17/23.

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive-level inventory survey of circa 63.72-acres.

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.")

Cultural Resources Inventory Survey Meadow Edge Park Development Project, circa 63.72-acres, Plumas County, California.

*Attachments: ☐ NONE ☒ Location Map ☐ Continuation Sheet ☐ Building, Structure, and Object Record
☐ Archaeological Record ☐ District Record ☐ Linear Feature Record ☐ Milling Station Record ☐ Rock Art Record
☐ Artifact Record ☐ Photograph Record ☐ Other (List): _____

CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name: Meadow Edge Park

Page ____ of ____

Continuation

***P3a. Description:** Consequently, it appears that the primary residence at 92400 Highway 70 was constructed sometime after 1965, and that some of the roads and pads were graded and the utilities placed after issuance of the permit. Examination of the 1974 aerial image of the property shows approximately 12 manufactured home sites and some recreational vehicle sites, as well as the primary residence, duplex and multiple ancillary buildings in place. The 1984 aerial image shows additional road grading and additional manufactured home pads within the site boundary.

Based on materials and architectural styles, the primary residence, duplex and an ancillary building appear to be the oldest buildings on the property, while the remaining buildings and structures all appear to have been constructed after 1973.

The residence is a single-story, single-family residence, situated on a concrete slab foundation. Walls are covered with ship lapped composition siding, while the windows have been replaced with energy efficient vinyl clad varieties. The 2"x4" rafters support a roof covered with contemporary asphalt composition shingles.

The duplex is located a short distance west of the primary residence, is rectangle in plan, situated on a concrete slab foundation, and clad with the same ship lapped siding as the primary residence. Similarly, the roof material is composed of contemporary asphalt shingles, and windows represent aluminum framed varieties.

The ancillary building is located at the extreme southeast end of the manufactured home park site, and consists of an early ranching building that was utilized to store equipment and materials (fence posts, irrigation pipes, etc.). The building is rectangular in plan, is covered with horizontal 1"x12" siding, and the shed roof is supported by 2x6" rafters.

***B10. Significance:** Theme Residential Area Vinton, CA
Period of Significance Post-1965 Property Type Residential Applicable Criteria N/A

Specific application of the criteria to the "Meadow Edge Park" yields the following recommendations.

- 1) This resource is not associated with events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California. The manufactured home park complex appears to have been constructed after 1965 and appears to represent common activities undertaken throughout the region, state and nation (i.e., residential development). There is no evidence that this property contributed in any exceptional way to the history of the region. Based on these findings, this resource would not appear to be eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources per Criterion 1), and this resource would not appear to be potentially significant per the CEQA criterion under PRC SS5024.1.
- 2) This site is not associated with the lives of persons important to local, or California history. As previously noted, the resource appears to have been constructed after 1965, and there is no evidence that those responsible for the ownership, construction, or utilization have been shown to have made significant contributions to the history of the region. Based on these findings, this resource would not appear to be eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources per Criterion 2).

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Property Name: Meadow Edge Park

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As well, based on these facts and considerations, this resource is not recommended significant per the CEQA criterion under PRC SS5024.1.

- 3) Based on existing inventory data maintained by the Northeast Information Center at CSU-Chico, a fair number of residential complexes, consisting of manufactured homes, have already been well documented in the county, and in adjacent counties, that duplicate the general qualities and attributes of the present resource. Clearly, this resource is not at all rare in the California inventory, nor does this resource represent a "... distinctive type..." or "...a distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction." For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources per Criterion 3). As well, based on these facts and considerations, this resource is not recommended significant per the CEQA criterion under PRC SS5024.1.
- 4) Data recovery work involving this resource could not be expected to provide unique or unusual additional information over and above that which exists in the existing site record prepared, and the information collected in conjunction with the present project. The information values possessed by this resource have been effectively preserved with this documentation. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources per Criterion 4). Similarly, based on these facts and considerations, this site is not recommended significant per the CEQA criterion under PRC SS5024.1.

While the site would not appear to be eligible for inclusion on either the CRHR, the issue of site integrity must be addressed. Site "Meadow Edge Park" represents a manufactured home park developed during the latter portion of the 20th century. The present components of the site do not reflect the site's attributes at its origin. Rather, various manufactured homes have been introduced, removed and replaced. Further, the primary residence has been substantially modified. These various alterations support a conclusion that overall site integrity has been substantially compromised.

The National Register Bulletin 15: How to apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, Section VIII.: How to Evaluate the Integrity of a Property provides a step-by-step process by which potentially eligible properties are evaluated for Integrity. The seven aspects of integrity include: *Location, Design, Setting, Materials, Workmanship, Feeling* and *Association*.

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event took place. Integrity of location refers to whether the property has been moved or relocated since its construction. A property is considered to have integrity of location if it was moved before or during its period of significance. In the present case, the period of historical significance is late-20th century, and the site has not been moved, and therefore retains the aspect of *Location*.

Design is the composition of elements that constitute the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. In the present case, almost all of these elements (e.g. plan, space, structure, style) have been removed. Only through mapping and aerial imagery can the *Design* of the site be appreciated. Nearly

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Property Name: Meadow Edge Park

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wholesale replacement of homes, along with road and home pad expansion has significantly compromised the aspect of *Design*.

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property that illustrates the character of the place. The late-20th century setting for the region has not been altered, and thus the site retains most of its *Setting* attribute.

Materials are the physical elements combined in a particular pattern or configuration to form the property during a period in the past. Integrity of *Materials* determines whether or not an authentic historic resource still exists. As previously discussed, many of the elements of the site's *Materials* are no longer extant. Homes have been placed, removed and replaced, and the primary residence and associated duplex have undergone upgrades which further compromise the site's *Materials* attribute.

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period of history. *Workmanship* is important because it can furnish evidence of the technology of the craft, illustrate the aesthetic principles of a historic period, and reveal individual, local, regional, or national applications of both technological practices and aesthetic principles. In the present case, the site's *Workmanship* attributes have been almost completely destroyed as a result of multiple manufacturers for the various homes.

Feeling is the quality that a historic property has in evoking the aesthetic or historic sense of a past period of time. The complex of manufactured homes does not evoke a particular Feeling that is unusual, unique or demonstrable of a particular era. Consequently, this site does not retain the *Feeling* attribute.

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. A property retains *Association* if it is the place where the event or activity occurred and is sufficiently intact to convey that relationship to an observer. Like *Feeling*, *Association* requires the presence of physical features that convey a property's historic character.

Because *Feeling* and *Association* depend on individual perceptions, their retention *alone* is never sufficient to support eligibility of a property for the National Register.

In the case of the existing resource, *Association* requires that the associated event or person must be important, and thus not simply historic (i.e., eligible under Criteria 1 and/or 2 in the case of the CRHR). As previously discussed, there is no evidence that this resource made significant contributions to local, regional, state or national history, nor is there evidence that this site was designed, constructed or utilized by anyone that made significant contributions to history, and thus integrity of *Association* would be compromised.

Overall, an evaluation of the site's integrity results in the conclusion that the site does not retain sufficient integrity to convey any historic significance that it may once have possessed.

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Property Name: Meadow Edge Park

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According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1-4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains “substantial integrity,” and (ii) meets at least one of the significance criteria.

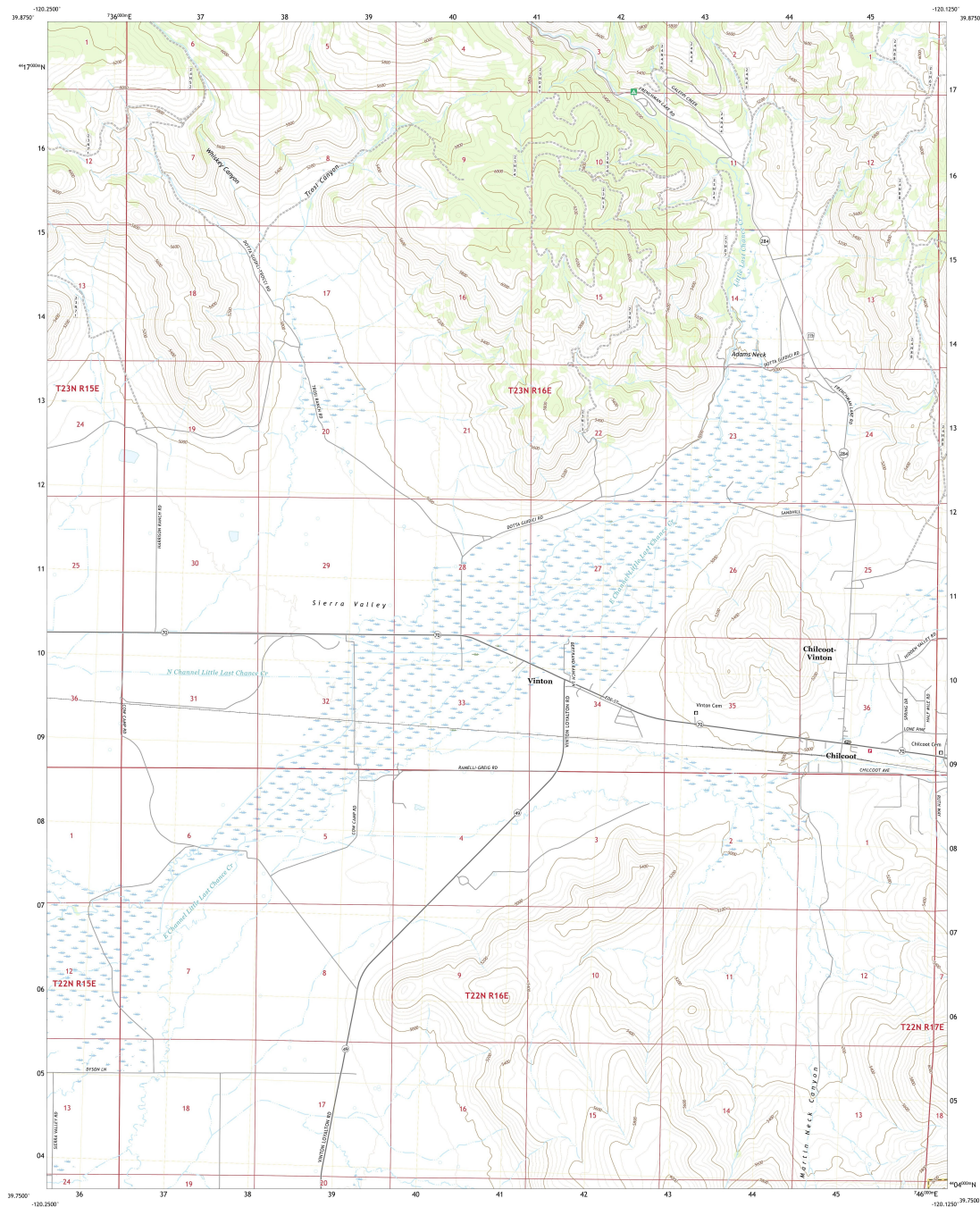
In addition to not retaining integrity, this resource is not considered significant per any of the eligibility criteria, and is therefore not recommended a significant historical resource, or a unique archaeological resource.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



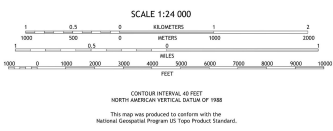
CHILCOOT QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA
7.5-MINUTE SERIES



Produced by the United States Geological Survey

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)
United States Geological Survey of the United States
This map is a legal document. Boundaries may be
different from those shown on other maps. Government
information may not be shown. Obtain permission before
reproducing or distributing.

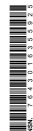
Images: USGS, 2010; July 2010; July 2010
Roads: USGS, 2010; July 2010; July 2010
Boundaries: USGS, 2010; July 2010; July 2010
Hydrography: USGS, 2010; July 2010; July 2010
Public Land Survey: USGS, 2010; July 2010; July 2010
Metadata: USGS, 2010; July 2010; July 2010

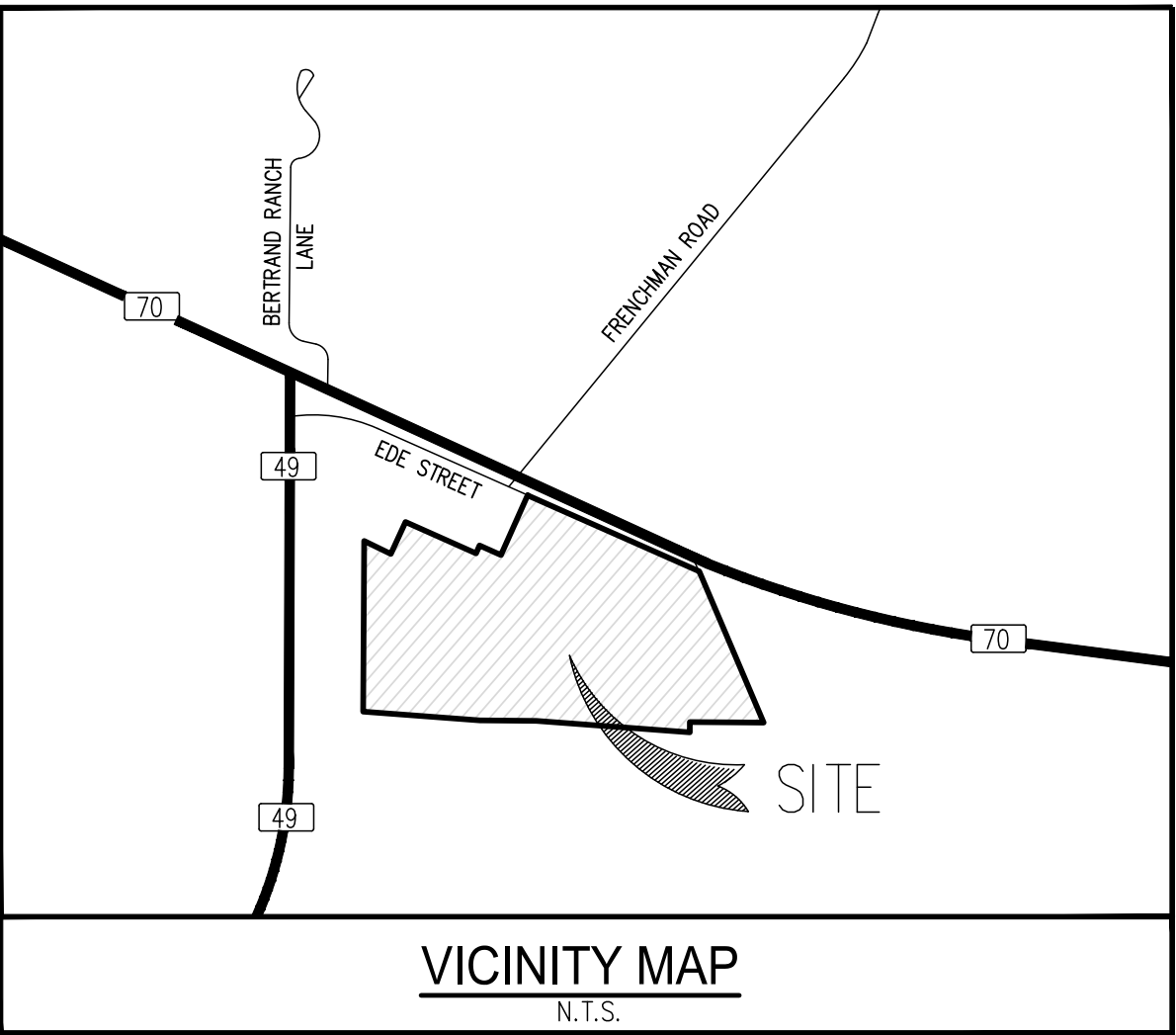
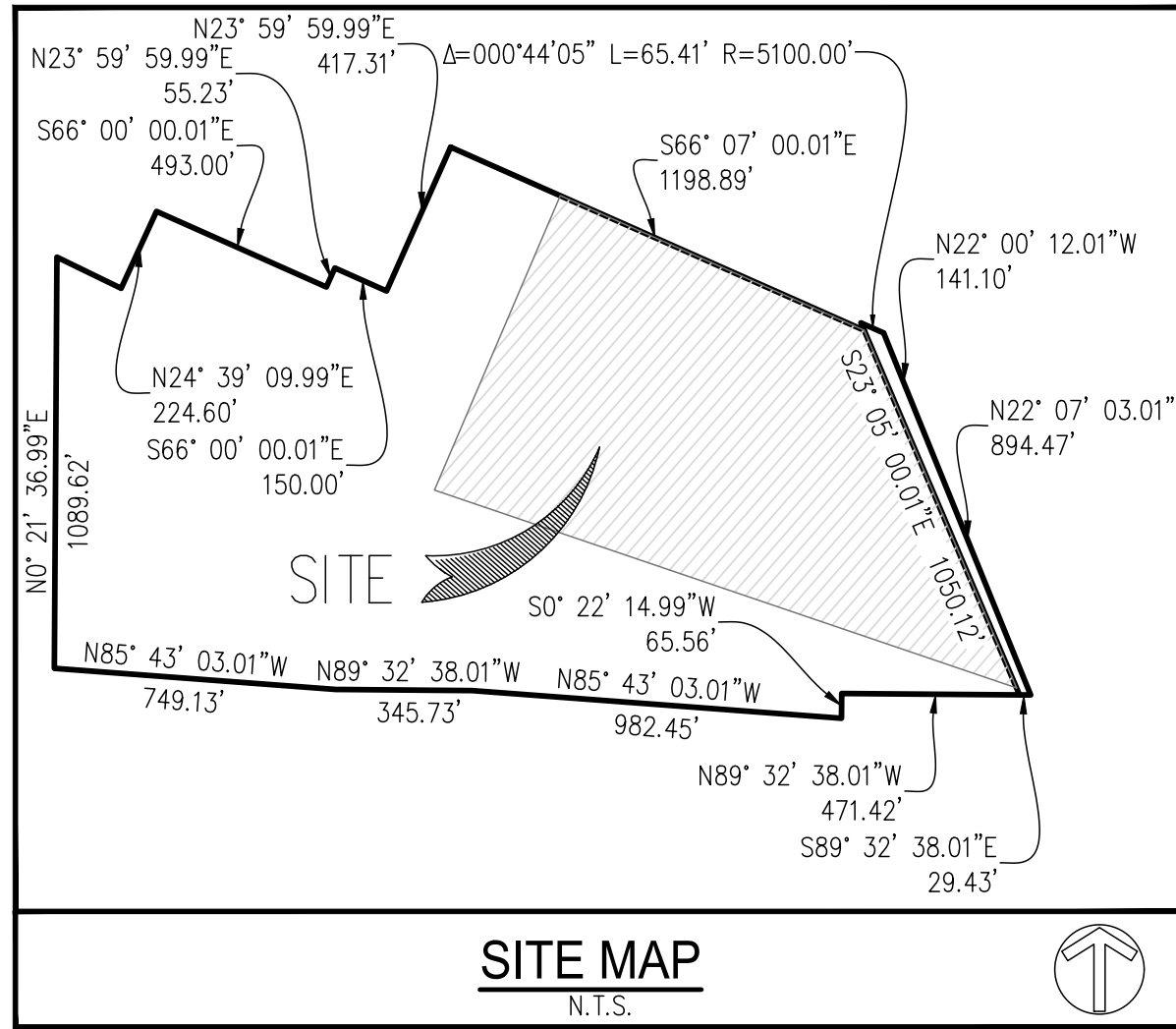


ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Expressway	Local Connector
Secondary Hwy	Local Road
Route	State Route
Interstate Route	US Route
FS Primary Route	FS Passenger Route
FS High Clearance Route	

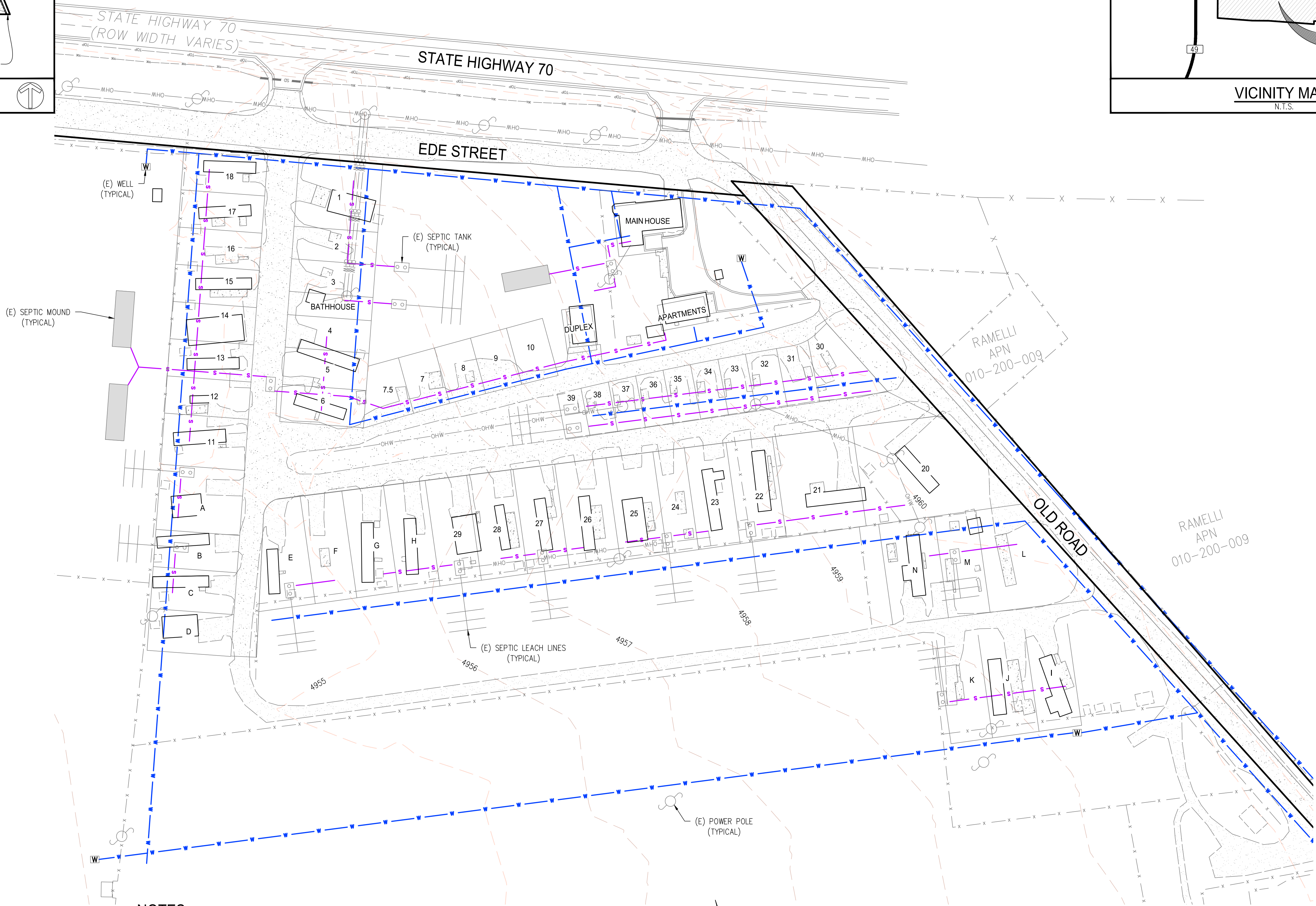
Check with local Forest Service unit for current forest conditions and restrictions.

CHILCOOT, CA
2011



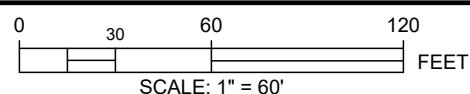


LEGEND	
	PROPERTY LINE
	EXISTING WATER LINE
	EXISTING SEPTIC LINE
	EXISTING OVERHEAD POWERLINE
	EXISTING FENCE
	EXISTING DIRT ROAD
	EXISTING CONCRETE



- NOTES:**
1. TOPOGRAPHY AND BOUNDARY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY TERRAGRAPHIC LAND SURVEYING.
 2. ALL EASEMENTS NOT SHOWN ARE EITHER NOT LOCATABLE PER RECORD OR DO NOT IMPACT THIS PROPERTY.
 3. ALL UTILITY LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATED PER EXISTING DEVELOPMENT RECORDS.
 4. EXISTING LOT NUMBERS ARE DERIVED FROM PLOT PLAN INCLUDED WITH THE 1979 SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR PARK EXPANSION.

EXISTING CONDITIONS



MEADOW EDGE PARK
92400 HIGHWAY 70
EXISTING CONDITIONS

DESIGNED:	REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE
TOG			
20-1104			
SEE DAYSTAMP			
DATE: SEP 1, 2022			

SHEET NUMBER

C2.0



MILLENNIUM
PLANNING & ENGINEERING
471 Sutter Way, Suite 210
Grass Valley, CA 95945
www.millenniumplanning.com

CALIFORNIA

PLUMAS COUNTY

CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name: Meadow Edge Park

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Site overview, northwest corner



Primary residence



Ancillary building



Pump house, 1972