DURHAM-PENTZ ROAD/BUTTE CAMPUS DRIVE
INTERSECTION SIGNALIZATION PROJECT
COUNTY PROJECT NO. 43341-2006-1

This study covers the proposed Durham-Pentz Road/Butte Campus Drive intersection improvements.

DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/
PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

LEAD AGENCY:

Butte County Public Works Department
7 County Center Drive
Oroville, CA 95965
(530) 538-7681

Prepared by:

GALLAWAY
CONSULTING, INC.
115 Meyers Street, Suite 120, Chico, CA 95928
Phone(530)343-8327 Fax(530)342-1882

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BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT, GALLAWAY CONSULTING INC., 2007

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BCAQMD ..... Butte County Air Quality Management District
BMP(s) ..... Best Management Practice(s)
Caltrans ..... California Department of Transportation
CASWP ..... Construction Activity Storm Water Permit
DFG ..... California Department of Fish and Game
CEQA ..... California Environmental Quality Act
CESA ..... California Endangered Species Act
CNPS ..... California Native Plant Society
RWQCB ..... Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
CWA ..... Clean Water Act
dB ..... Decibel(s)
EPA ..... Environmental Protection Agency
ESA ..... Endangered Species Act
FEMA ..... Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM ..... Flood Insurance Rate Map
LOS ..... Level(s) of Service
mgd ..... Million Gallons per Day
MM ..... Mitigation Measure
NPDES ..... National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
PM10 ..... Particulate Matter less than 10 Microns
PM2.5 ..... Particulate Matter less than 2.5 Microns
SR[#] ..... State Route[70, 162, et al]
SR2S ..... Safe Routes to School (State's Acronym)
SRTS ..... Safe Routes to School (Federal Acronym)
SWPPP ..... Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
USACE ..... United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS ..... United States Fish and Wildlife Service

1.1 REGULATORY GUIDANCE

This document is an initial study with supporting environmental studies, which provide justification for a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines 14 California Code Regulations Section 15000 et seq.

An initial study is conducted by a lead agency to determine if a project may have a significant effect on the environment. In accordance with the CEQA Guidelines Section 15063, an EIR must be prepared if an initial study indicates that the proposed project under review may have a potentially significant impact on the environment. A Negative Declaration may be prepared instead, if the lead agency prepares a written statement describing the reasons why the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment, and therefore, why it does not require the preparation of an EIR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15371). According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, a Negative Declaration shall be prepared for a project subject to CEQA when either:

> *a) The initial study shows there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment, or*
>
> *b) The initial study identifies potentially significant effects, but:*
>
> > *(1) Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by or agreed to by the applicant before the proposed negative declaration is released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur and;*
> >
> > *(2) There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the proposed project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment.*

If revisions are adopted in the proposed project in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines Section 15070(b), a mitigated negative declaration is prepared.

1.2 PURPOSE

The purpose of this initial study is to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed improvements and installation of traffic signal infrastructure at the Durham-Pentz Road/Butte Campus Drive Intersection. Mitigation measures have been provided to reduce or eliminate any identified significant and/or potentially significant impacts.