

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

In compliance with Section 15072 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, notification is hereby given to responsible agencies, trustee agencies, interest groups and the general public that the Mendocino County Department of Transportation proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Eureka Hill Road – Garcia River Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and supporting attachments are available for review by the general public at the offices of the Mendocino County Department of Transportation, 340 Lake Mendocino Drive, Ukiah, CA 95482 and on the web at: <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot/environmental.htm>

The proposed MND will undergo a 30-day public review period during which time comments will be received, starting **June 13, 2014** and ending **July 14, 2014**. Comments responding to the adequacy and appropriateness of the MND should be sent to:

Mendocino County
Department of Transportation
340 Lake Mendocino Drive
Ukiah, CA 95482

Attn: Jackson Ford, Mendocino County – Environmental Compliance Specialist

Commentors wishing to *appeal* the decision to prepare an MND must specifically state this intention in their letter.

Project Location: The proposed project is in Mendocino County, California, on Eureka Hill Road (CR 505) at the crossing of the Garcia River at Mile Marker 4.92. The City of Point Arena is approximately 5.0 miles west of the proposed project area. Surrounding land uses are Rangeland 160 and Timber Preserve.

Project Description: The proposed project includes seismic retrofits of the Eureka Hill Road Bridge (No. 10C-0034) over the Garcia River in Mendocino County. The proposed improvements would strengthen the structural components to resist seismic loads on the structure and loads imposed by the soil movement. Support is provided at the ends of the superstructure near the abutments. The retrofit work would involve the following activities within or adjacent to the Garcia River: 1) constructing a temporary clear water crossing (temporary work pad) beneath the bridge with temporary culverts to maintain flow and fish passage through the site as well as providing construction access to piers; 2) excavating, driving piles, and constructing top mats to reinforce the bent foundations around piers 2, 3, and 4; and 3) revegetating temporarily disturbed riparian areas. Retrofitting of the bridge abutments (i.e., excavating, constructing two 72-inch Cast-In-Drilled-Hole (CIDH) piles at each bridge abutment, and constructing concrete girders between the CIDH pile groups and bumpers to the superstructure soffit would occur outside of the channel.

In order to complete the needed seismic retrofit work, it is likely that the Eureka Hill Road Bridge would be limited to one lane traffic control through the project site for some construction activities, including drilling CIDH piles. Limited east-west connections exist between State Routes 1 and 128, and closing Eureka Hill Road and detouring traffic would result in a 125-mile detour around the project site. Two areas (one on each side of the Garcia River) north of the bridge are available for potential construction staging areas. All in-channel work would occur between June 15 and October 15.

Project/CEQA Contact: Jackson Ford, (707) 463-4622