CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

STAFF REPORT

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FOR THE

Eureka Hill Road at the Garcia River Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project (BR# 10C-0034)

LEAD AGENCY

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PREPARED BY

JACKSON FORD

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST MENDOCINO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MCDOT)

June 12, 2014

APPROVAL RECOMMENDED BY:

BY:

Scott Heegler

Sr. Civil Engineer

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Howard N. Dashiell

Director of Transportation

DATE

Project Title: Eureka Hill Road over the Garcia River Seismic Retrofit Project, County Bridge #10C-0034

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. See figure 1 location map.

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. 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.

Environmental Determination: The Mendocino County Department of Transportation has prepared a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the above project (there will not be a significant effect in this case because proposed mitigation measures will reduce potentially significant effects to a less than significant level). A copy of the Initial Study with mitigation measures in support of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Bridge Replacement Project is available for public review at the Friends of the Coast Community Library (225 Main Street, Point Arena), the County Department of Transportation in Ukiah (340 Lake Mendocino Drive), and the MDOT website http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot under the environmental documents tab.



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Eureka Hill Road - Garcia River Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project

Project Location