



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2023 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/23) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER:
 09--01242023-014
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY EDC CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL vickie.sanders@edcgov.us	DATE 01/24/2023
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING EL DORADO	DOCUMENT NUMBER FW2023-0014	

PROJECT TITLE
 RUBICON TRAIL MAINTENACE BUILDING

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME EL DORADO CO DOT/ EL DORADO CO	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL vickie.sanders@edcgov.us	PHONE NUMBER (530) 621-7538
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 330 FAIR LANE	CITY PLACERVILLE	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 95667

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency School District Other Special District State Agency Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$3,839.25	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,764.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,305.25	\$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt from fee		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Exemption (attach)		
<input type="checkbox"/> CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash Credit Check Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ _____ **\$0.00**

SIGNATURE 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Janelle K. Horne Recorder-Clerk, by Michelle Whitford, Dpty
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El Dorado County

Janelle K. Horne, Recorder-Clerk
360 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5490

Receipt: 23-1818

ProductName	Extended
FISH FISH AND WILDLIFE FILING	\$0.00
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Thank You for Your Business

**1/24/23 1:48 PM MW
PLACERVILLE**

CEQA Notice of Exemption

To: County of El Dorado,
Recorder-Clerk's Office
360 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

From: County of El Dorado
Chief Administrative Office
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Project Title: Rubicon Trail Maintenance Building

Project Location – Specific: Project location at the end of Forest Service road 14N05, near Ellis Creek

Project Location – City: Unincorporated

Project Location – County: El Dorado

Description of Project: Construction of a metal maintenance building to secure septic pumper units and equipment for maintenance on the Rubicon Trail.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of El Dorado County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: County of El Dorado Department of Transportation

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a);
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c);
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:
Protection of Natural Resources §15307, and; Protection of Environment §15308.
- Statutory Exemption: State Code Number: §15221

Reasons why project is exempt: No impacts will occur to adjacent off-trail areas. Implementation of the Clean-up and Abatement Order (R5-2009-0030) with respect to existing erosion, sedimentation, sanitation, and spill contamination issues is covered under §15307 (Actions by Regulatory agencies for Protection of Natural Resources) and §15308 (Actions by Agencies for Protecting the Environment). Record of Decision from the US Forest Service is attached. §15221 of the CEQA Guidelines sets forth rules governing use of a NEPA document to satisfy CEQA.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Vickie Sanders, El Dorado County Parks Manager.

Phone: (530) 621-7538

Signature:



Date:

1/24/23

Vickie-Sanders@ced.gov.us

FILED

JAN 24 2023

JANELLE K. HORNE, Recorder-Clerk

by Michelle Whitford



Decision Memo EDC Maintenance Shed

USDA Forest Service Pacific District, Eldorado National Forest El Dorado County, California

Background

The Pacific Ranger District proposes to issue a long-term Special Use Permit to El Dorado County to construct and utilize an oversized two car garage as a shed to store a pumper truck and trailer in the area of Ellis Creek near the Rubicon Jeep Trail. The stored equipment will be used to pump the restrooms along the Rubicon Jeep Trail. The shed will have a small living quarters which would be available as a working or emergency shelter for County and Forest Service employees. While employees are at the facility, a small gasoline powered generator will be used for electric power and a simple water pump set up will be used to draft water from Ellis Creek when needed. The County would like to have water storage so the drafting would occur only as needed when storage is low or empty, and they do not plan on using it every day or even every month. The total amount of water used per season is assumed to be less than 200 gallons.

The shed will be adjacent to a landing and work area that the County already uses under a Special Use Permit. The already disturbed landing area will be used as a staging area, and new ground disturbance will only occur at the new structure site. During construction, some tree and vegetation removal will occur and resulting piles to burn, and some heavy equipment will be used to create the pad for the structure (roughly 45 x 23 feet). Construction should take about 30 days and would occur in fall or spring depending on bids and field conditions. The County will be responsible for maintenance of the building.

Decision

My decision is to implement the proposed action as described above and in conjunction with the Forest Service standard and project-specific design criteria listed below.

Purpose and Need

El Dorado County needs to pump waste from the restrooms on the Rubicon Trail, which includes two toilet units that were installed in 2020 on the north shore of Buck Island Reservoir by Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD) for the Forest Service. In order to approach this task safely and efficiently, the County has requested permission to build an oversized two car garage (45' X 23') to securely store the pumper truck and pumper trailer in the Ellis Creek drainage as well as house a small emergency shelter for the County and Forest Service employees working on the trail in this remote portion of the County. The Forest would issue a long term SUP to the County for shed construction, long-term use, and maintenance. This shed will primarily be used during the summer and fall when use on the Rubicon Trail is highest. This emergency shelter would likely be most needed when required winter inspections occur.



Environmental Analysis

This action is categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental impact statement (EIS) or an environmental assessment (EA). The applicable category of actions is identified in agency procedures is 36 CFR 220.6(e)(3): “*Approval, modification, or continuation of minor special uses of NFS lands that require less than five contiguous acres of land.*”

This category of action(s) is applicable because the shed location would occupy less than 0.25 acre of National Forest System land and the total project footprint during construction will be well under 1 acre in size. I find that there are no extraordinary circumstances that would warrant further analysis and documentation in an EA or EIS. I took into account resource conditions identified in agency procedures that should be considered in determining whether extraordinary circumstances might exist:

- Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species –
Only the federally listed endangered Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog (SNYLF) has potential to be near the permitted area, and the proposed structure does occur within the Crystal Range Unit (subunit 2E) of Critical Habitat for the SNYLF. The proposed activities are not expected to cause any direct or indirect effects to individual SNYLF, because there is none to low potential for SNYLF occupancy in the entire permit area due to 1) the presence of rainbow trout throughout Ellis Creek that prey on and compete with frogs, and 2) the lack of SNYLF detections within 1 mile of proposed activities. The closest occurrence of SNYLF is about 1.6 miles north in an unconnected drainage documented in 1997 (2 adults). Most of this project area occurs on existing disturbed ground (road and landing area). All activities, except intermittent water drafting, will occur outside potential habitat for SNYLF and outside Primary Constituent Elements (PCE) for SNYLF Critical Habitat. Ellis Creek, the area where water will be drafted from during construction, does not provide suitable habitat for SNYLF due to presence of fish. Water drafting will be permitted from an insignificant amount of Critical Habitat relative to the surrounding available habitat that would continue to provide aquatic habitat. Additionally, Design Criteria and BMPS will be implemented, so that any potential effects are anticipated to be insignificant and discountable.
- Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds –
Installation of the maintenance shed would have negligible impacts to watershed resources. The shed would be built on flat ground that is surrounded by a thick duff layer, and no bare ground is present. This would restrict any soil movement outside of the work area as long as applicable BMPs and design criteria are followed. No floodplains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds would be adversely impacted by this project.
- Congressionally designated areas such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas – None are present
- Inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas – None are present
- Research natural areas – None are present
- American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites – None are present
- Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas –



The Rubicon Jeep Trail is located approximately 300 feet away. Per Cultural Resource Report R2020-0503-55002 (Serin 2020), the location of the maintenance shed will be far enough away as to avoid having visual impacts for users along the jeep trail. The Ellis Creek Bridge is a prominent example of new construction in this vicinity of the jeep trail, along with the restroom that was constructed nearby. This project may be implemented without further cultural resource review. However, additional review may be required if the project boundaries or activities be expanded beyond the current APE.

Project Design Criteria

All applicable standards and guidelines described in the Eldorado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USDA 1989), as amended by the 2004 Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment ((SNFPA, USDA 2004a & 2004b) would be followed during project implementation.

This project would also incorporate the National Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Water Quality Management on National Forest System Lands (USDA 2012). The list of applicable BMPs is listed in Appendix A.

There are other applicable, standard policies, and guidelines included in various Forest Service Handbooks, laws, and regulations that would be adhered to throughout implementation of this project. In addition, the following project-specific design criteria will be adhered to:

Aquatics:

1) GENERAL

- a) All applicable Best Management Practices described in the National BMPs for Water Quality will be followed (FS-990a, April 2012, also see Appendix A).
- b) If a proposed or federally listed Threatened, Endangered, or Forest Service Sensitive (TES) botanical, aquatic, or terrestrial species are detected during work, operations would cease in that area and the appropriate biologist would be informed immediately to determine appropriate actions to take. Before commencing activities, consultation may need to be re-initiated with USFWS for listed species.
- c) Do not use tightly woven fiber or monofilament netting (or similar materials) for erosion control or other purposes when netting is left exposed. Netting used would be suitable per Metz (2016).

2) CRITERIA FOR CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

- a) No heavy equipment ground disturbance will occur within 100 feet of Ellis Creek.
- b) All staging of equipment and materials is restricted to the existing disturbed road and parking area.
- c) During construction, erosion control materials must be installed around bare ground prior to any forecast of precipitation.

3) CRITERIA FOR BURN ACTIVITIES

- a) Construction of burn piles would not occur within 82 feet of Ellis Creek.
- b) Hand piles will be ignited in a manner to allow time for animals potentially using a pile as cover to escape.

- c) Burn piles would not be placed in gullies or dry channels that could deliver sediment, ash, and nutrients directly to downslope aquatic resources during wet season precipitation.
- 4) *CRITERIA FOR CHEMICAL USE*
 - a) Storage and refilling of fuels or any chemicals, and maintenance of generators and pumps would not occur within 100 feet of Ellis Creek.
 - b) When a fuel pump is used, it will be placed in an industry standard secondary containment that will capture any fuel or oil drips and be located as far away from stream channel as possible.
- 5) *CRITERIA FOR WATER DRAFTING ACTIVITIES*
 - a) The development of water drafting sources shall follow all applicable guidelines under BMP 2.5 (USFS 2012). Locate water drafting sites to avoid adverse effects to in-stream flows and depletion of pool habitat.
 - b) A Forest Service approved screen-covered drafting box, or other device to create a low entry velocity, would be used while drafting to minimize removal of aquatic species. Pump intake screens shall have openings not exceeding 3/32-inch (approximately 1/10 inch) and be sized according to the pump intake capacity. Place hose intake into bucket in the deepest part of a pool. Use a low-velocity water pump and do not pump natural ponds to low levels beyond which they cannot recover quickly (approximately one hour).

Botany –

- 1) Should any new threatened, endangered, sensitive (TES) or watchlist species be located during the proposed project, available steps will be taken to evaluate and mitigate effects.
- 2) To prevent the introduction of noxious weeds, it is required that all equipment to be cleaned of any soil, seeds, plant propagules, and debris before entering Forest Service lands.
- 3) Forest Service employees, contractors, volunteers, etc. executing project work will clean clothing, boots, gear, tools, and equipment prior to accessing the site and ensure sanitation through-out project implementation period.
- 4) All gravel, fill, or other materials are required to be weed-free. Use onsite sand, gravel, rock, or organic matter from un-infested areas when possible. Otherwise, obtain weed-free materials from sources that have been approved by the FS botanist
- 5) Any new infestation of invasive plants discovered during the project implementation should be reported to the Forest Botanist. Do not stage equipment, materials, or crews in invasive plant-infested areas (between the locked gated portions of 14N05)
- 6) It is recommended that existing invasive plant infestations be treated prior to project implementation should resources be available to do so

Engineering –

- 1. Unless circumstances or risk analysis warrant a water hose and hydrant system for suppression of fires, limit facility fire protection measures to prevention and containment of structural fires and to the protection and safe evacuation of personnel.
- 2. Ensure all sleeping quarters have photo cell or ionization-type smoke detectors/alarms.
- 3. Ensure that facility design life is 30 years. Exceptions require justification.



4. All phases of the project are required to be compliance with required Federal, State, and local codes and regulations.

Visuals –

- 1) Contact the Forest Landscape Architect during the project design phase, so that the proposed design of the garage/emergency shelter can be reviewed for compliance with accessibility requirements

Wildlife –

- 1) Recommendations to minimize potential effects on Forest Service Sensitive Species (FSS):
 - a) All structural vents will have covers to prevent birds, bats, and other wildlife from entering and becoming trapped.
 - b) If any TES species are observed during implementation, the FS District Wildlife Biologist will be notified to determine if additional mitigation(s) is required.

Public Involvement

This action was originally listed as a proposal on the Eldorado National Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions and updated periodically during the analysis. Scoping was done both internally and externally. El Dorado County Parks and Trails Division notified various four-wheel drive clubs, such as the Rubicon Trails Foundation and the Forest Service formed an Interdisciplinary Team of resource specialists to review the project for potential impacts on the environment.

Findings Required by Other Laws and Regulations

This action is found to be consistent with all applicable laws and the Eldorado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (1989), as amended by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment (2004).

Administrative Review (Objection) Opportunities

This decision is not subject to legal notice and comment procedures of 36 CFR 218.22, and is not subject to the pre-decisional administrative review process pursuant to 36 CFR 218.

Implementation Date

Construction will take place in the fall or spring and should take about 30 days.

Contact

For additional information concerning this decision, contact: Karl Goodwin, Assistant Recreation Officer, Pacific Ranger District, 7887 Hwy 50, Pollock Pines CA, 95726, (530) 647-5421

Digitally signed by Steven Hall
Date: 2020.12.22 08:57:48
-08'00'

STEVEN HALL
Acting District Ranger

Date



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Appendix A: Best Management Practices:

- Fac-1. Facilities and Nonrecreation Special Uses Planning
- Fac-2. Facility Construction and Stormwater Control
- Fac-6. Hazardous Materials
- Road-9. Parking and Staging Areas
- Road-10. Equipment Refueling and Servicing

From: USDA Forest Service. 2012. National Best Management Practices for Water Quality Management on National Forest Service Lands. Volume 1: National Core BMP Technical Guide. Publication FS-990a.

https://www.fs.fed.us/naturalresources/watershed/pubs/FS_National_Core_BMPs_April2012.pdf