MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FILE: S17-0010

PROJECT NAME: AT&T CAF 3 (Sites 1-6)

NAME OF APPLICANT: AT&T Mobility, Epic Wireless

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NOs.: 102-190-27, 041-250-27,074-100-24, 088-320-13, 041-900-07, 094-060-35

SECTION: 19 **T:** 10N **R:** 9E, **S:** 15 **T:** 9N **R:** 13E, **S: 12 T:** 12N **R:** 9E, **S:** 13 **T:** 11N **R: 10**E, **S:** 7 **T:** 9N **R:** 13E, **S:** 28 **T:** 9N **R:** 12E

LOCATION: Throughout northern El Dorado County in the vicinity of the Greenwood, Somerset, Grizzly Flats, Kelsey and El Dorado Hills areas (Attachment 1).

☐ **GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT: FROM: TO:**

☐ **REZONING: FROM: TO:**

☐ **TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP** ☐
SUBDIVISION (NAME):

☒ **SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW:** Construction and operation of six telecommunication towers.

☐ **OTHER:**

REASONS THE PROJECT WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

☐ **NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS WERE IDENTIFIED DURING THE INITIAL STUDY.**

☒ **MITIGATION HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED WHICH WOULD REDUCE POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS.**

☐ **OTHER:**

In accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), State Guidelines, and El Dorado County Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA, the County Environmental Agent analyzed the project and determined that the project will not have a significant impact on the environment. Based on this finding, the Planning Department hereby prepares this MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION. A period of thirty (30) days from the date of filing this mitigated negative declaration will be provided to enable public review of the project specifications and this document prior to action on the project by COUNTY OF EL DORADO. A copy of the project specifications is on file at the County of El Dorado Planning Services, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667.

This Mitigated Negative Declaration was adopted by the Planning Commission on January 25, 2018.

_____

Executive Secretary

Exhibit J

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT-PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

EL DORADO COUNTY

INITIAL STUDY AND PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT S17-0010 for AT&T CAF 2 WIRELESS FACILITIES

EL DORADO COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
INITIAL STUDY & PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT S17-0010

1.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

A. **Applicant:** Epic Wireless Group, LLC, c/o Jared Kearsley

B. **Staff Contact:** Evan Mattes

C. **Project Name:** Conditional Use Permit S17-0010 CAF 3

D. **Type of Application**: Conditional Use Permit

E. **Property Owner**: See Table 1

F. **Project Location:** See Table 1

G. **Assessor's Parcel Number**: See Table 1

H. **Parcel Size**: See Table 1

I. **Lease area size**: See Table 1

J. **Zoning:** See Table 1

K. **General Plan Designation**: See Table 1

L. **Public Agency Approvals**: El Dorado County Community Development Services**,** El Dorado County Building Services, El Dorado County Fire District.

Table 1. Project Information					
Tower Name	**APN Property Owner**	**Parcel Size/ Project Size**	**General Plan Land Use Designation**	**Zone District**	**Project Location**
Site 1 Grizzly Flats	041-250-27 Norman Anderson II	10.71 ac/ 1,800 sf	Medium Density Residential (MDR)	Residential One-Acre (R1A)/Residential Estate Five-Acres (RE-5)	5060 Sciaroni Rd., Grizzly Flats, CA 95636 (1,600 feet west of Grizzly Creek and 217 feet west of the Grizzly Flats Community Church)
Site 2 Kelsey	088-320-13 Eddie and Marcia Simmons	5 ac/ 1,400 sf	Rural Residential (RR)	Rural Lands Ten-Acres (RL-10)	6451 Shoo Fly Road, Placerville, CA 95667 (1.5 miles west of the American River)
Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing	041-900-07 Anthony and Lisa Cianchetta	10 ac/ 1,400 sf	Rural Residential (RR)	Rural Lands Ten-Acres (RL-10)	7800 Stephanie Lane, Somerset, CA 95684 (0.70 miles east of the North Fork Consumnes River)
Site 4 Green Springs Valley	102-190-27 David Joseph Alameda Living Trust	15.07 ac/ 1,800 sf	Rural Residential/Low Density Residential	Rural Lands Ten-Acres (RL-10)/Residential Estate Five-Acres (RE-5)	1937 Green Valley Road, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 (3,000 feet south of Sweetwater Creek)
Site 5 Fair Play	094-060-35 Danny Pastor	2.86 ac/ 1,600 sf	Rural Residential (RR)	Limited Agriculture Ten-Acres (LA-10)	7660 Perry Creek Rd, Somerset, CA 95684 (1,095 feet north of Perry Creek)
Site 6 Greenwood	074-100-24 Terry Vanderschuur	15.19 ac/ 1,400 sf	Low Density Residential (RR)	Residential Estate Five-Acres (RE-5)	666 Courageous Ct, Greenwood, CA 95635 (1,488 feet west of Greenwood Creek)

CONNECT AMERICA FUND (CAF) PROJECT

AT&T is participating in a Federal Government funded project called Connect America Fund (CAF) – which is to provide underserved areas throughout the United States in general and throughout El Dorado County in particular with hi-speed broadband internet. The CAF project is required to provide broadband internet services capable of 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload speeds.

SITE SPECIFIC PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The following section details project and environmental settings of each individual project site.

SITE 1: Grizzly Flats

Project Description: The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit for the construction and operation of an unmanned wireless telecommunication facility that consists of a 40' x 45', 1,800 square foot enclosed compound (lease area). The compound will include a 160 foot Stealth Monopine tower, one equipment shelter, one 35kw standby propane generator, and one 500 gallon propane tank (Site 1 Grizzly Flats Attachment 1). The proposed lease area is located on the east side of the property, and the site will not interfere with the existing use of the property. The unmanned facility will provide wireless high speed internet and enhanced wireless network coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Maintenance workers will visit the site approximately once a month. A 15-foot wide access route will be created directly from Sciaroni Rd. There will be minimal noise from the standby generator, automatically turning on once a week for 15 minutes for maintenance purposes and during emergency power outages. The applicant is anticipating to cover 392 homes; 185 more homes than their FCC obligation (Site 1 Grizzly Flats Attachment 2).

Environmental Setting: The lease site is approximately 1,600 feet west of the Grizzly Creek and the area consists of oak trees, evergreen trees, and rolling hills with rocky terrain. The site location's elevation is approximately 3,929 feet and has a gentle slope from southwest to northeast. All equipment is proposed to be located within a 1,800-square foot enclosed lease area. A 15-foot wide access drive between the wireless communications facility lease area to Sciaroni Rd provides access.

The topography is generally flat to gently-sloped. Elevations range from approximately 3,840 feet (1,164 meters) above mean sea level (MSL) in the northeast to 3,860 feet (1,170 meters) MSL in the southwest. Water drains overland and through a network of ruts in the unpaved roads offsite to the southwest. A constructed roadside irrigation canal runs along the east side of the site. The ruts in the unpaved roads do not exhibit evidence of wetland vegetation or an ordinary high water mark and are not considered to be jurisdictional features. The site is located in the Steely Fork Cosumnes River Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 12-180400130201). In general, water exits the site overland before entering a series of unnamed streams which eventually drain into the Steely Fork Cosumnes River. The project parcel and proposed lease area is identified as flood zone "X (Unshaded)." The parcel is not within an Airport Compatibility Zone. The site is not located within an earthquake fault zone.

Co-Location: The tower will be built to allow for colocation opportunities. However, there are no existing, potential co-location opportunities in the near vicinity of the provided search ring. The targeted area is a relatively low populated area, therefore, typical cellular services are less prone to be present.

Selection Process: The selection of a location for a wireless telecommunication facility that is needed to improve service and provide reliable coverage is dependent upon many factors, such as: topography, zoning regulations, existing structures, collocation opportunities, available utilities, access, and the existence of a willing landlord. Wireless communication utilizes line-of-sight technology that requires facilities to be in relative close proximity to the wireless handsets to be served. Each proposed site is unique and must be investigated and evaluated on its own terms.

Upon review of the region AT&T found no existing wireless facility locations that would provide collocation within the search ring. The majority of the search ring region is rural residential, so a new build tower becomes essential. Two alternative sites were considered within a quarter mile radius of the Grizzly Flat locus (Site 1 Grizzly Flats Attachment 3), and neither is preferred because they would likely reach fewer residents.

RF Emissions: An EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fields/Radio Frequency) for the proposed wireless facility was prepared and submitted to the El Dorado County Planning Services. It demonstrates compliance with the latest FCC Wireless Facility Standards for emissions and exposure levels.

Construction Schedule: The construction of the facility will be in compliance with all local rules and regulations, and will be limited to 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The crew size will range from two to ten individuals. The construction phase of the project is anticipated to last approximately two months and will not exceed acceptable construction noise levels.

Lighting: The only lighting on the facility will be located by the entry door to the pre-fabricated shelter. The light will be shielded, down-tilted, and include a motion sensor.

FCC Compliance: The proposed project will not interfere with any TV, radio, telephone, satellite, or other signals. Any interference would be against federal law and a violation of AT&T Wireless's FCC license.

Surrounding Land Uses: The facility is approximately 217 feet west of the Grizzly Flats Community Church and approximately 85 feet west of the nearest property line shared with the Church.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

	Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources		Air Quality
X	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology / Soils
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials		Hydrology / Water Quality
	Land Use / Planning		Mineral Resources		Noise
	Population / Housing		Public Services		Recreation
	Transportation/Traffic		Tribal Cultural Resources		Utilities / Service Systems

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect: 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards; and 2) has been addressed by Mitigation Measures based on the earlier analysis as described in attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects: a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, pursuant to applicable standards; and b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or Mitigation Measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

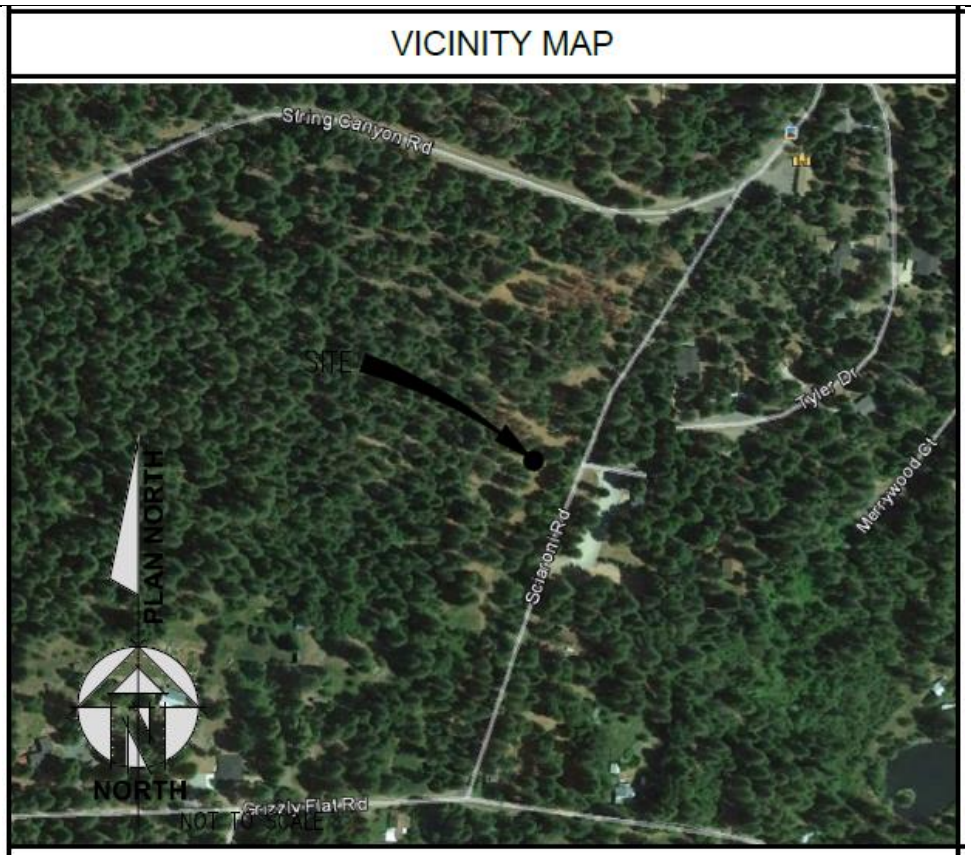
Signature: _____ Date: 12-14-2017

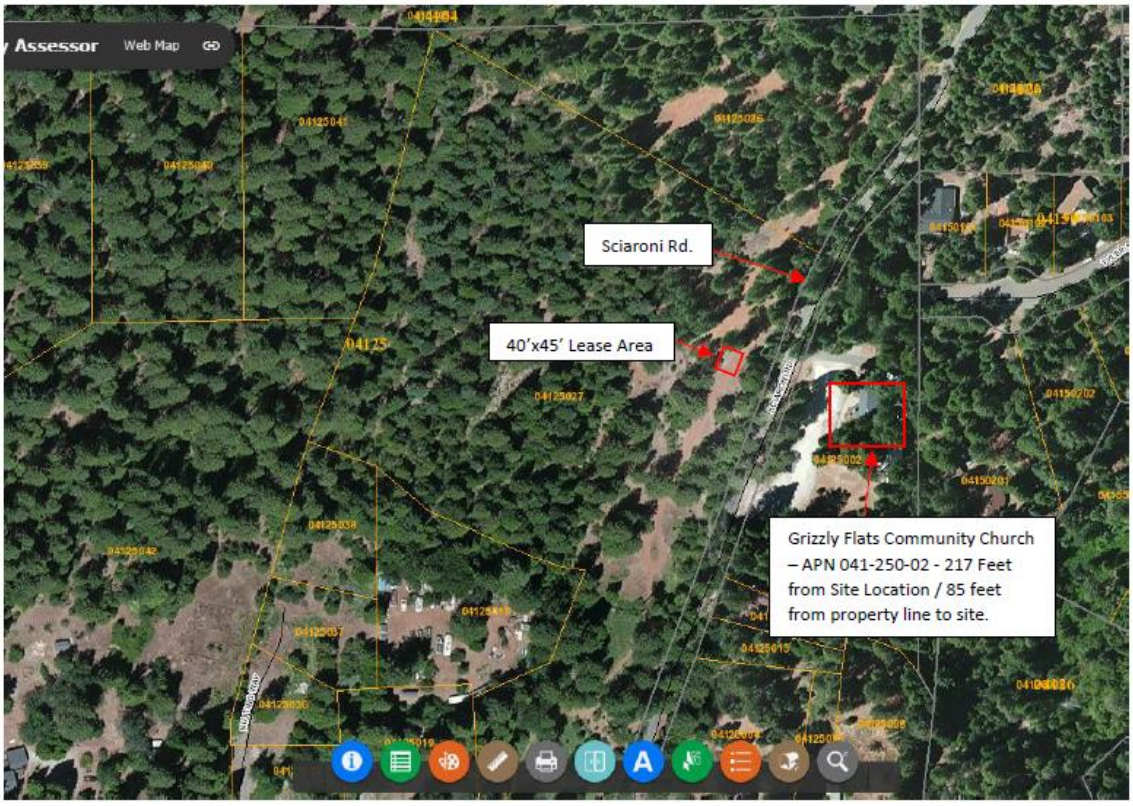
Printed Name: Evan Mattes, Assistant Planner For: El Dorado County

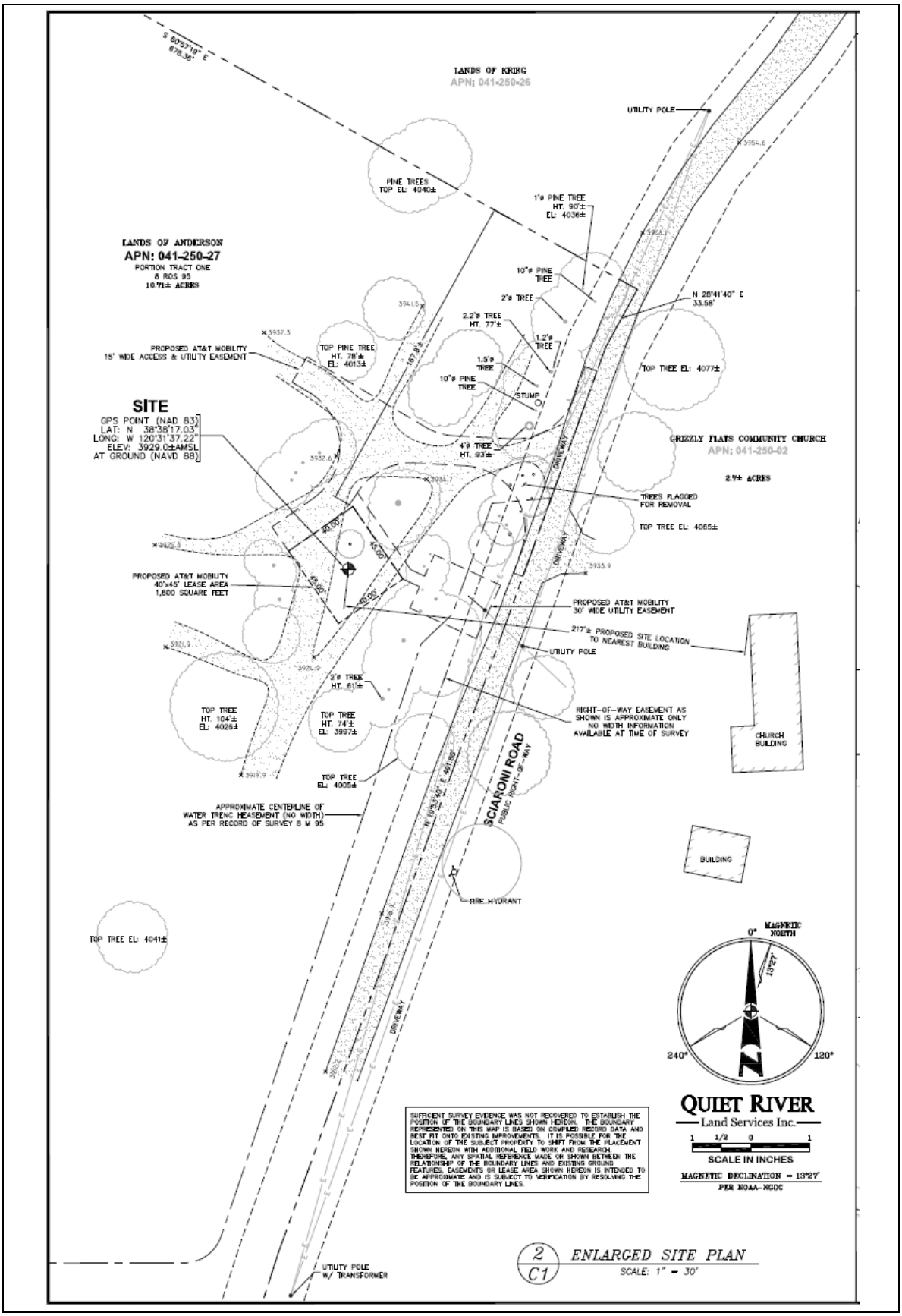
Signature: _____ Date: 12/14/17

Printed Name: Mel Pabalinas, Principal Planner For: El Dorado County

VICINITY MAP






LANDS OF KRUKG
APN; 041-250-26
UTILITY POLE
PINE TREES
TOP EL: 4040±
1'ø PINE TREE
HT. 90'±
EL: 4036±
LANDS OF ANDERSON
APN: 041-250-27
PORTION TRACT ONE
& ROS 95
10.71± ACRES
10"ø PINE TREE
2'ø TREE
N 28°41'40" E
33.58'
2.2'ø TREE
HT. 77'±
1.2'ø TREE
1.5'ø TREE
10"ø PINE TREE
STUMP
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY
15' WIDE ACCESS & UTILITY EASEMENT
TOP PINE TREE
HT. 78'±
EL: 4013±
TOP TREE EL: 4077±
SITE
GPS POINT (NAD 83)
LAT: N 38°38'17.03"
LONG: W 120°31'37.22"
ELEV: 3929.0±AMSL
AT GROUND (NAVD 88)
4'ø TREE
HT. 93'±
GRIZZLY FLATS COMMUNITY CHURCH
APN; 041-250-02
2.9± ACRES
TREES FLAGGED
FOR REMOVAL
TOP TREE EL: 4065±
DRIVE WAY
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY
40'x45' LEASE AREA
1,800 SQUARE FEET
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY
30' WIDE UTILITY EASEMENT
217'± PROPOSED SITE LOCATION
TO NEAREST BUILDING
UTILITY POLE
2'ø TREE
HT. 81'±
TOP TREE
HT. 104'±
EL: 4026±
TOP TREE
HT. 74'±
EL: 3997±
RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT AS
SHOWN IS APPROXIMATE ONLY
NO WIDTH INFORMATION
AVAILABLE AT TIME OF SURVEY
CHURCH
BUILDING
TOP TREE
EL: 4005±
SCIARONI ROAD
PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY
APPROXIMATE CENTERLINE OF
WATER TRENC HEASEMENT (NO WIDTH)
AS PER RECORD OF SURVEY 8 M 95
BUILDING
FIRE HYDRANT
TOP TREE EL: 4041±
MAGNETIC
NORTH
0°
240°
120°
QUIET RIVER
Land Services Inc.
SCALE IN INCHES
MAGNETIC DECLINATION = 13°27'
PER NOAA-NGDC
SUFFICIENT SURVEY EVIDENCE WAS NOT RECOVERED TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF THE BOUNDARY LINES SHOWN HEREON. THE BOUNDARY REPRESENTED ON THIS MAP IS BASED ON COMPILED RECORD DATA AND BEST FIT ONTO EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS. IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE LOCATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY TO SHIFT FROM THE PLACEMENT SHOWN HEREON WITH ADDITIONAL FIELD WORK AND RESEARCH. THEREFORE, ANY SPATIAL REFERENCE MADE OR SHOWN BETWEEN THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE BOUNDARY LINES AND EXISTING GROUND FEATURES, EASEMENTS OR LEASE AREA SHOWN HEREON IS INTENDED TO BE APPROXIMATE AND IS SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION BY RESOLVING THE POSITION OF THE BOUNDARY LINES.
UTILITY POLE
W/ TRANSFORMER
2
C1
ENLARGED SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 30'

SITE 2: Kelsey

Project Description: The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit for the construction and operation of an unmanned wireless telecommunication facility that consists of a 35' x 40', 1,400 square foot enclosed compound (lease area). The compound will include a 160 foot Stealth Monopine tower, one equipment shelter, one 35kw standby propane generator, and one 500 gallon propane tank (Site 2 Kelsey Attachment 1). The proposed lease area is located on the west side of the subject property. The site will not interfere with the existing use of the property. The unmanned facility will provide wireless high speed internet and enhanced wireless network coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Maintenance workers will visit the site approximately once a month. A 15-foot wide access route will be created directly from Shoo Fly Road. There will be minimal noise from the standby generator, automatically turning on once a week for 15 minutes for maintenance purposes and during emergency power outages. The facility is anticipated to cover approximately 363 homes; 29 more homes than their FCC obligation (Site 2 Kelsey Attachment 2).

Environmental Setting: The lease site is approximately 1.5 miles west of South Fork American River and the area consists of oak trees, evergreen trees, and rolling hills with rocky terrain. The site consists of approximately 0.90 acres of land that comprises mixed evergreen forest and disturbed/developed areas including a small portion of Shoo Fly Road. The site location's elevation is approximately 2,350 feet. All equipment is proposed to be located within a 1,400-square foot enclosed lease area. A 15-foot wide access drive between the wireless communications facility lease area to Shoo Fly Road provides access.

The site is located in the White Rock Creek-South Fork American River Subwatershed (HUC-12 180201290504). Water drains overland southwest to an unnamed waterway which in turn drains into the South Fork of the American River approximately two and half miles southwest of the site. The project parcel and proposed lease area is identified as flood zone "X (Unshaded)." The parcel is not within an Airport Compatibility Zone. The site is not located within an earthquake fault zone.

Co-Location: The tower will be built to allow for colocation opportunities. However, there are no existing, potential co-location opportunities in the near vicinity of the provided search ring. The targeted area is a relatively low populated area, therefore, typical cellular services are less prone to be present.

Site Selection Process: The selection of a location for a wireless telecommunication facility that is needed to improve service and provide reliable coverage is dependent upon many factors, such as: topography, zoning regulations, existing structures, collocation opportunities, available utilities, access, and the existence of a willing landlord. Wireless communication utilizes line-of-sight technology that requires facilities to be in relative close proximity to the wireless handsets to be served. Each proposed site is unique and must be investigated and evaluated on its own terms.

Upon review of the region AT&T found no existing wireless facility locations that would provide collocation within the search ring. The majority of the search ring region is rural residential, so a new build tower becomes essential. Two alternative sites were considered within a half mile radius of the Kelsey locus (Site 2 Kelsey Attachment 3), and neither is preferred because they would likely reach fewer residents.

RF Emissions: A EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fields/Radio Frequency) for the proposed wireless facility was prepared and submitted to the El Dorado County Planning Services. It demonstrates compliance with the latest FCC Wireless Facility Standards for emissions and exposure levels.

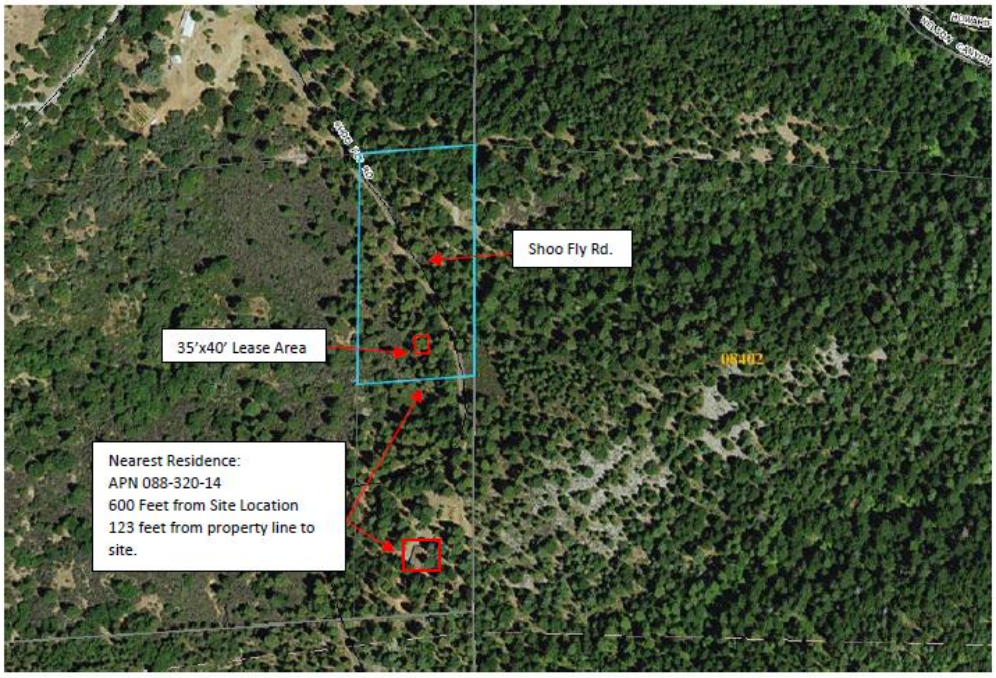
Construction Schedule: The construction of the facility will be in compliance with all local rules and regulations, and will be limited to 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The crew size will range from two to ten individuals. The construction phase of the project is anticipated to last approximately two months and will not exceed acceptable construction noise levels.

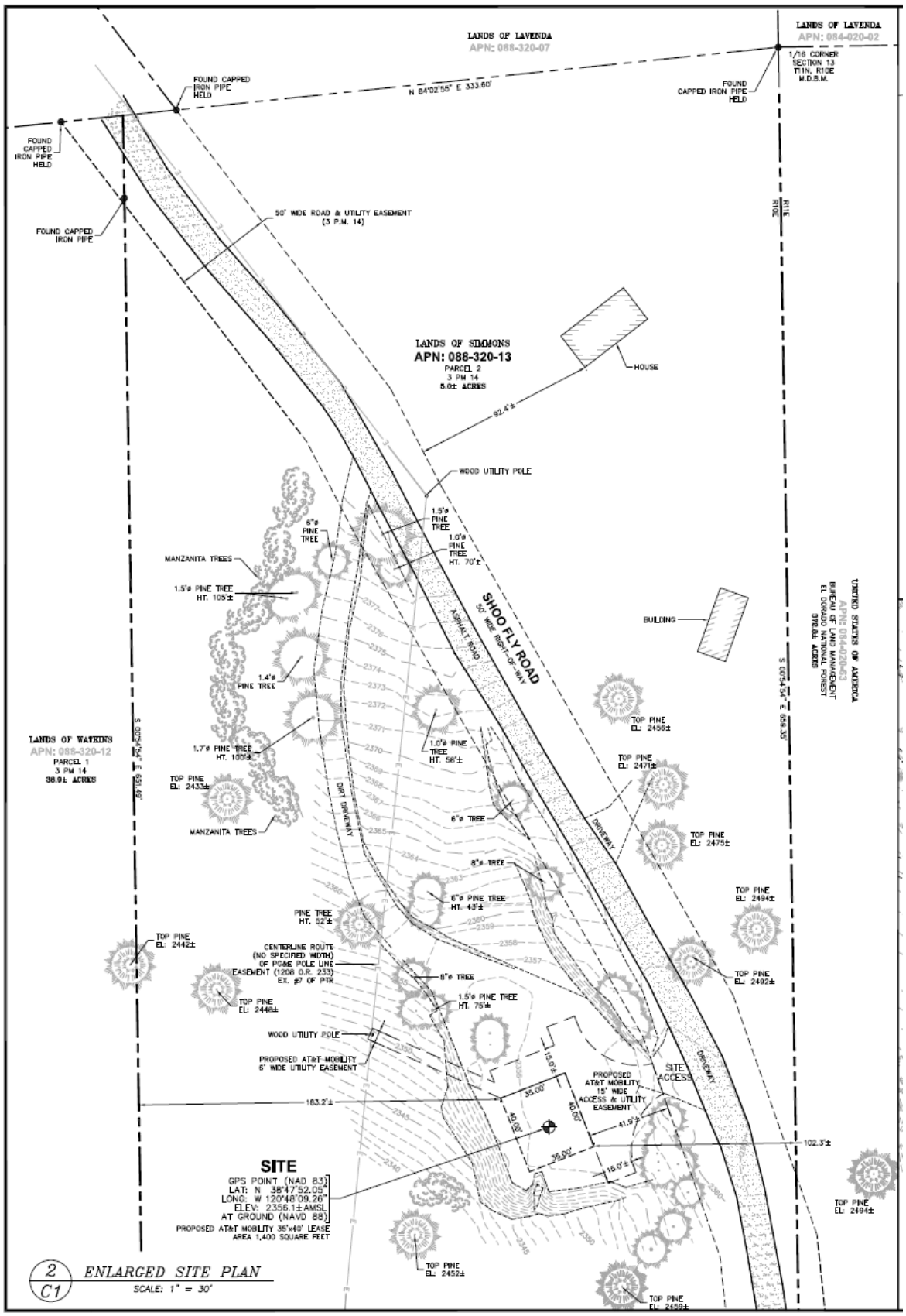
Lighting: The only lighting on the facility will be located by the entry door to the pre-fabricated shelter. The light will be shielded, down-tilted, and include a motion sensor.

FCC Compliance: The proposed project will not interfere with any TV, radio, telephone, satellite, or other signals. Any interference would be against federal law and a violation of AT&T Wireless's FCC license.

Surrounding Land Uses: There is one rural residence within 600 feet of the facility. The Facility is approximately 600 feet north of the nearest residence and approximately 123 feet north of the nearest property line shared said residence.

VICINITY MAP




LANDS OF LAVENDA
APN: 088-320-07
LANDS OF LAVENDA
APN: 084-020-02
1/16 CORNER SECTION 13 T1N, R10E M.D.B.M.
FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE HELD
N 84°02'55" E 333.60'
FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE HELD
FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE HELD
FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE
50' WIDE ROAD & UTILITY EASEMENT (3 P.M. 14)
R10E
LANDS OF SIMMONS
APN: 088-320-13
PARCEL 2
3 PM 14
5.0± ACRES
HOUSE
92.4'±
WOOD UTILITY POLE
6"ø PINE TREE
1.5'ø PINE TREE
1.0'ø PINE TREE HT. 70'±
MANZANITA TREES
1.5'ø PINE TREE HT. 105'±
SHOO FLY ROAD
50' WIDE RIGHT-OF-WAY
ASPHALT ROAD
BUILDING
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
APN: 084-020-03
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EL DORADO NATIONAL FOREST
372.8± ACRES
S 00°54'54" E 659.35'
1.4'ø PINE TREE
TOP PINE EL: 2456±
TOP PINE EL: 2471±
1.0'ø PINE TREE HT. 58'±
1.7'ø PINE TREE HT. 100'±
LANDS OF WATKINS
APN: 088-320-12
PARCEL 1
3 PM 14
38.9± ACRES
S 00°54'54" E 659.49'
TOP PINE EL: 2433±
MANZANITA TREES
DIRT DRIVEWAY
6"ø TREE
DRIVEWAY
TOP PINE EL: 2475±
8"ø TREE
6"ø PINE TREE HT. 43'±
TOP PINE EL: 2494±
PINE TREE HT. 52'±
TOP PINE EL: 2442±
CENTERLINE ROUTE (NO SPECIFIED WIDTH) OF PG&E POLE LINE EASEMENT (1208 O.R. 233) EX. #7 OF PTR
8"ø TREE
TOP PINE EL: 2492±
TOP PINE EL: 2446±
1.5'ø PINE TREE HT. 75'±
WOOD UTILITY POLE
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY 6' WIDE UTILITY EASEMENT
SITE ACCESS
DRIVEWAY
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY 15' WIDE ACCESS & UTILITY EASEMENT
183.2'±
35.00'
40.00'
41.9'±
102.3'±
35.00'
15.0'±
SITE
GPS POINT (NAD 83)
LAT: N 38°47'52.05"
LONG: W 120°48'09.26"
ELEV: 2356.1± AMSL
AT GROUND (NAVD 88)
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY 35'x40' LEASE AREA 1,400 SQUARE FEET
TOP PINE EL: 2494±
TOP PINE EL: 2452±
TOP PINE EL: 2458±
2 C1 ENLARGED SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 30'

SITE 3: Sweeny's Crossing

Project Description: The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit for the construction and operation of an unmanned wireless telecommunication facility that consists of a 35' x 40', 1,400 square foot enclosed compound (lease area). The compound will include a 160 foot Stealth Monopine tower, one equipment shelter, one 35kw standby propane generator, and one 500 gallon propane tank (Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing Attachment 1). The proposed lease area is located on the north side property, and the site will not interfere with the existing use of the property. The unmanned facility will provide wireless high speed internet and enhanced wireless network coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Maintenance workers will visit the site approximately once a month. A 15-foot wide access route will be created directly from Stephanie Lane. There will be minimal noise from the standby generator, automatically turning on once a week for 15 minutes for maintenance purposes and during emergency power outages. The applicant is anticipating to cover 438 homes; 35 more homes than their FCC obligation (Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing Attachment 2).

Environmental Setting: The lease site is approximately 0.70 miles east of the North Fork Consumnes River and consists of approximately 2.04 acres of land that comprises mixed pine/oak woodland, annual grassland, and disturbed/developed areas consisting of Stephanie Lane and the unpaved dirt access driveway to the north. The site also consists of rolling hills with rocky terrain. The site location's elevation is approximately 3,187 feet and has a gentle slope from northeast to southwest. All equipment is proposed to be located within a 1,400-square foot enclosed lease area. A 15-foot wide access drive between the wireless communications facility lease area to Stephanie Lane provides access.

The site is located in the Lower North Fork Cosumnes River Subwatershed (HUC-12180400130204). Water drains overland within the site, flowing south into the North Fork Cosumnes River approximately 0.6 miles away. This eventually connects with the Mokelumne River, San Joaquin River, and finally into the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The project parcel and proposed lease area is identified as flood zone "X (Unshaded)." The parcel is not within an Airport Compatibility Zone. The site is not located within an earthquake fault zone.

Co-Location: The tower will be built to allow for co-location opportunities. However, there are no existing, potential co-location opportunities in the near vicinity of the provided search ring. The targeted area is a relatively low populated area, therefore, typical cellular services are less prone to be present.

Selection Process: The selection of a location for a wireless telecommunication facility that is needed to improve service and provide reliable coverage is dependent upon many factors, such as: topography, zoning regulations, existing structures, collocation opportunities, available utilities, access, and the existence of a willing landlord. Wireless communication utilizes line-of-sight technology that requires facilities to be in relative close proximity to the wireless handsets to be served. Each proposed site is unique and must be investigated and evaluated on its own terms.

Upon review of the region no existing wireless facility locations were found that would provide collocation within the search ring. The majority of the search ring region is rural residential, so a new build tower becomes essential. Two alternative sites were considered within a quarter mile radius of the

Sweeny's Crossing locus (Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing Attachment 3), and neither is preferred because they would likely reach fewer residents.

RF Emissions: A EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fields/Radio Frequency) for the proposed wireless facility was prepared and submitted to the El Dorado County Planning Services. It demonstrates compliance with the latest FCC Wireless Facility Standards for emissions and exposure levels.

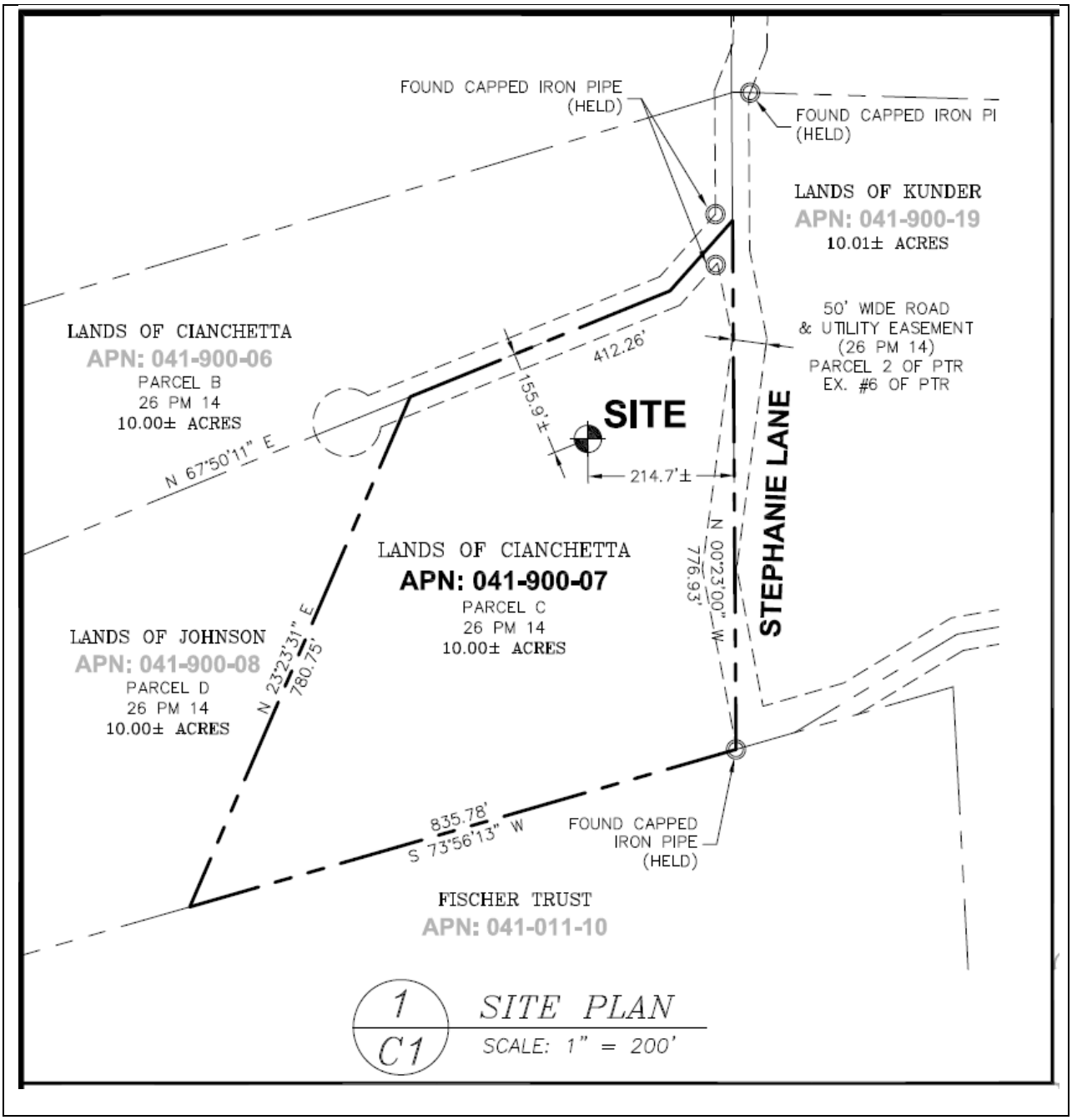
Construction Schedule: The construction of the facility will be in compliance with all local rules and regulations, and will be limited to 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The crew size will range from two to ten individuals. The construction phase of the project is anticipated to last approximately two months and will not exceed acceptable construction noise levels.

Lighting: The only lighting on the facility will be located by the entry door to the pre-fabricated shelter. The light will be shielded, down-tilted, and include a motion sensor.

FCC Compliance: The proposed project will not interfere with any TV, radio, telephone, satellite, or other signals. Any interference would be against federal law and a violation of AT&T Wireless's FCC license.

Surrounding Land Uses: There are two rural residences within 500 feet of the facility. The Facility is approximately 410 feet west of a nearby residence and approximately 253 feet northeast of the Cianchetta residence. The site is also 156 feet south of a property line owned by the Cianchetta's.

VICINITY MAP


FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE
(HELD)
FOUND CAPPED IRON PI
(HELD)
LANDS OF KUNDER
APN: 041-900-19
10.01± ACRES
50' WIDE ROAD
& UTILITY EASEMENT
(26 PM 14)
PARCEL 2 OF PTR
EX. #6 OF PTR
LANDS OF CIANCHETTA
APN: 041-900-06
PARCEL B
26 PM 14
10.00± ACRES
412.26'
155.9'±
SITE
214.7'±
N 67°50'11" E
STEPHANIE LANE
LANDS OF CIANCHETTA
APN: 041-900-07
PARCEL C
26 PM 14
10.00± ACRES
N 00°23'00" W
776.93'
LANDS OF JOHNSON
APN: 041-900-08
PARCEL D
26 PM 14
10.00± ACRES
N 23°23'31" E
780.75'
835.78'
S 73°56'13" W
FOUND CAPPED
IRON PIPE
(HELD)
FISCHER TRUST
APN: 041-011-10
1
C1
SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 200'

SITE 4: Green Springs Valley

Project Description: The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit for the construction and operation of an unmanned wireless telecommunication facility that consists of a 40' x 45', 1,800 square foot enclosed compound (lease area). The compound will include a 160 foot Stealth Monopine tower, one equipment shelter, one 35kw standby propane generator, and one 500 gallon propane tank (Site 4 Green Springs Valley Attachment 1). The proposed lease area is centrally located on the property, and the site will not interfere with the existing use of the property. The unmanned facility will provide wireless high speed internet and enhanced wireless network coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Maintenance workers will visit the site approximately once a month. A 15-foot wide access route will be created directly from Green Valley Rd. There will be minimal noise from the standby generator, automatically turning on once a week for 15 minutes for maintenance purposes and during emergency power outages. The applicant is anticipating to cover 206 homes; 66 more homes than their FCC obligation (Site 4 Green Springs Valley Attachment 2).

Environmental Setting: The lease site is approximately 3,000 feet south of Sweetwater Creek and the area consists of oak trees, evergreen trees, and rolling hills with rocky terrain. The site consists of approximately 3.29 acres of land that comprises non-native annual grassland and developed/disturbed areas consisting of an existing unpaved driveway, residences, and associated structures. The site location's elevation is approximately 950 feet. All equipment is proposed to be located within a 1,800-square foot enclosed lease area. A 15-foot wide access drive between the wireless communications facility lease area to Green Valley Road provides access.

The site is located in the Folsom Reservoir-South Fork American River Watershed Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 12-180201290703). Water from the southwestern portion of the site drains southwest overland to a roadside ditch along Green Valley Road that flows offsite to the southeast. This ditch along Green Valley Road drains into Green Spring Creek approximately 0.25 miles south the site, which drains into New York Creek which in turn drains into the South Fork of the American River finger of Folsom Lake. The roadside ditch does not exhibit wetland characteristics or an ordinary high-water mark, so it is not considered to be a jurisdictional aquatic feature and is not further discussed in this report. Water from the northeastern portion of the site drains offsite overland approximately 1,000 feet to Sweetwater Creek, which drains into the South Fork of the American River finger of Folsom Lake. The project parcel and proposed lease area is identified as flood zone "X (Unshaded)." The parcel is not within an Airport Compatibility Zone. The site is not located within an earthquake fault zone.

Co-Location: The tower will be built to allow for colocation opportunities. The nearby PG&E Transmission Tower located at 2425 Clarksville Road, Rescue, was initially considered for a co-location proposal. However, running the coverage simulation at the available antenna height of 120 feet, AT&T discovered that they would lose approximately 100 living units and only provide service to 106 LU's in Green Valley. This would have also resulted in AT&T failing to meet its FCC mandate for coverage for the Fair Play Community.

Selection Process: The selection of a location for a wireless telecommunication facility that is needed to improve service and provide reliable coverage is dependent upon many factors, such as: topography, zoning regulations, existing structures, collocation opportunities, available utilities, access, and the

existence of a willing landlord. Wireless communication utilizes line-of-sight technology that requires facilities to be in relative close proximity to the wireless handsets to be served. Each proposed site is unique and must be investigated and evaluated on its own terms.

Upon review of the region AT&T found no existing wireless facility locations that would provide collocation within the search ring. The majority of the search ring region is rural residential, so a new build tower becomes essential. Two alternative sites were considered within a quarter mile radius of the Green Springs Valley locus (Site 4 Green Springs Valley Attachment 3), and neither is preferred because they would likely reach fewer residents.

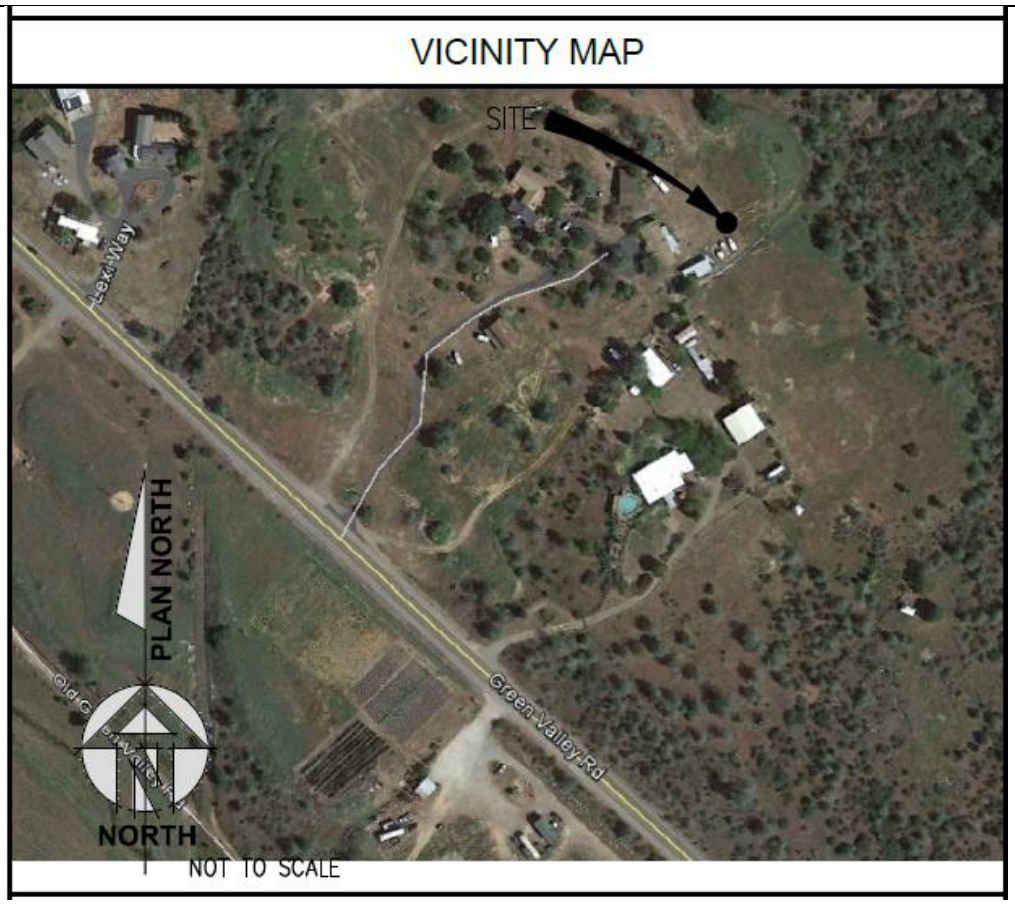
RF Emissions: A EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fields/Radio Frequency) for the proposed wireless facility was prepared and submitted to the El Dorado County Planning Services. It demonstrates compliance with the latest FCC Wireless Facility Standards for emissions and exposure levels.

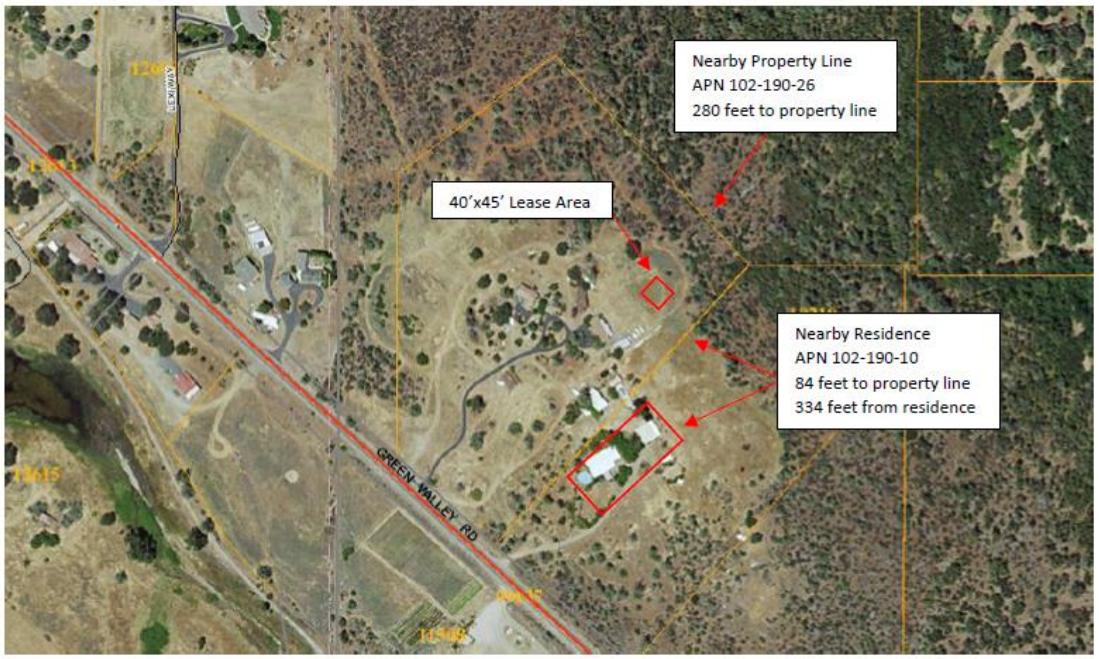
Construction Schedule: The construction of the facility will be in compliance with all local rules and regulations, and will be limited to 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The crew size will range from two to ten individuals. The construction phase of the project is anticipated to last approximately two months and will not exceed acceptable construction noise levels.

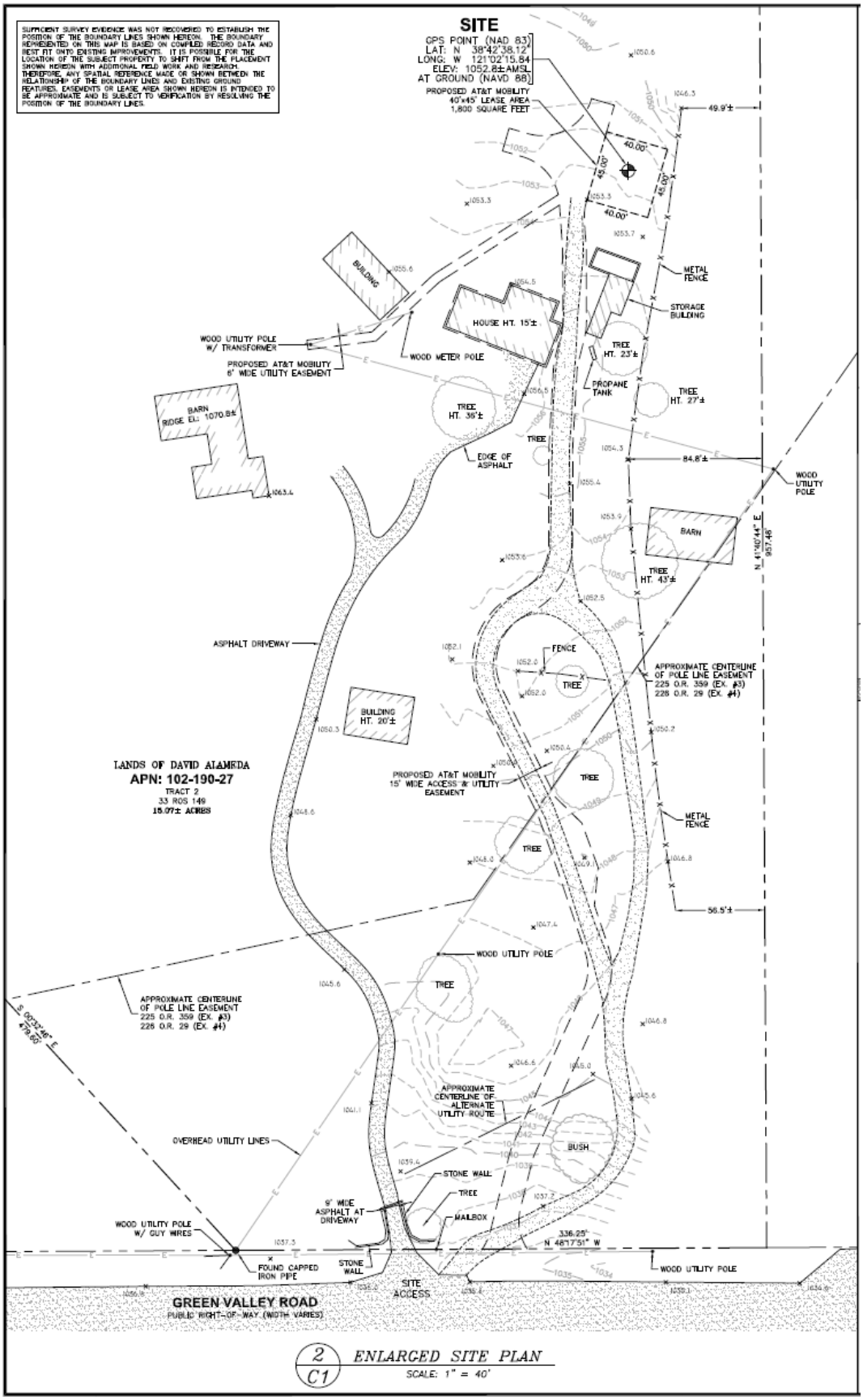
Lighting: The only lighting on the facility will be located by the entry door to the pre-fabricated shelter. The light will be shielded, down-tilted, and include a motion sensor.

FCC Compliance: The proposed project will not interfere with any TV, radio, telephone, satellite, or other signals. Any interference would be against federal law and a violation of AT&T Wireless's FCC license.

Surrounding Land Uses: The Facility is approximately 334 feet north of a residence and 280 feet south of a nearby property line.


VICINITY MAP
SITE
Lexi Way
Green Valley Rd
PLAN NORTH
NORTH
NOT TO SCALE


Nearby Property Line
APN 102-190-26
280 feet to property line
40'x45' Lease Area
Nearby Residence
APN 102-190-10
84 feet to property line
334 feet from residence
GREEN VALLEY RD



2/C1 ENLARGED SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 40'

SITE 5: Fair Play

Project Description: The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit for the construction and operation of an unmanned wireless telecommunication facility that consisting of a 40' x 40', 1,600 square foot enclosed compound (lease area). The compound will include a 162.5 foot Stealth Monopine tower, one equipment shelter, one 35kw standby propane generator, and one 500 gallon propane tank (Site 5 Fair Play Attachment 1). The proposed lease area is centrally located on the property, and the site will not interfere with the existing use of the property. The unmanned facility will provide wireless high speed internet and enhanced wireless network coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Maintenance workers will visit the site approximately once a month. A 15-foot wide access route will be created directly from Perry Creek Rd. There will be minimal noise from the standby generator, automatically turning on once a week for 15 minutes for maintenance purposes and during emergency power outages. The applicant is anticipated to cover 480 homes, 177 more homes than the FCC obligation (Site 5 Fair Play Attachment 2)

Environmental Setting: The lease site is approximately 1.5 miles north of Perry Creek Road and approximately 1.5 miles south of the Middle Fork of the Cosumnes River and the area consists of vineyards, oak trees, evergreen trees, and rolling hills with rocky terrain. The site location's elevation is approximately 2,300 feet and has a gentle slope from north to southwest.

All equipment is proposed to be located within a 1,600-square foot enclosed lease area. A 15-foot wide access drive between the wireless communications facility lease area to Perry Creek Road provides access. The site is located in the Spanish Creek-Middle Fork Cosumnes River Watershed Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 12-180400130404). In general, water exits the site through the southwest portion of the site before entering Perry Creek, which flows northwest, eventually draining into the Middle Fork of the Consumnes River. The project parcel and proposed lease area is identified as flood zone "X (Unshaded)." The parcel is not within an Airport Compatibility Zone. The site is not located within an earthquake fault zone.

Play Co-Location: The tower will be built to allow for colocation opportunities. However, running the coverage simulation at the available antenna height of 66 feet, AT&T discovered that they would lose approximately 220 living units (LU) and only provide service to 260 LU's in Fair Play. This would have also resulted in AT&T failing to meet its FCC mandate for coverage for the Fair Play Community.

Play Selection Process: The selection of a location for a wireless telecommunication facility that is needed to improve service and provide reliable coverage is dependent upon many factors, such as: topography, zoning regulations, existing structures, collocation opportunities, available utilities, access, and the existence of a willing landlord. Wireless communication utilizes line-of-sight technology that requires facilities to be in relative close proximity to the wireless handsets to be served. Each proposed site is unique and must be investigated and evaluated on its own terms.

Upon review of the region AT&T found no existing wireless facility locations that would provide co-location within the search ring. The majority of the search ring region is rural residential, so a new build tower becomes essential. Two alternative sites were considered within a half mile radius of the Grizzly Flat locus (Site 5 Fair Play Attachment 3), and neither is preferred because they would likely reach fewer residents.

RF Emissions: A EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fields/Radio Frequency) for the proposed wireless facility was prepared and submitted to the El Dorado County Planning Services. It demonstrates compliance with the latest FCC Wireless Facility Standards for emissions and exposure levels.

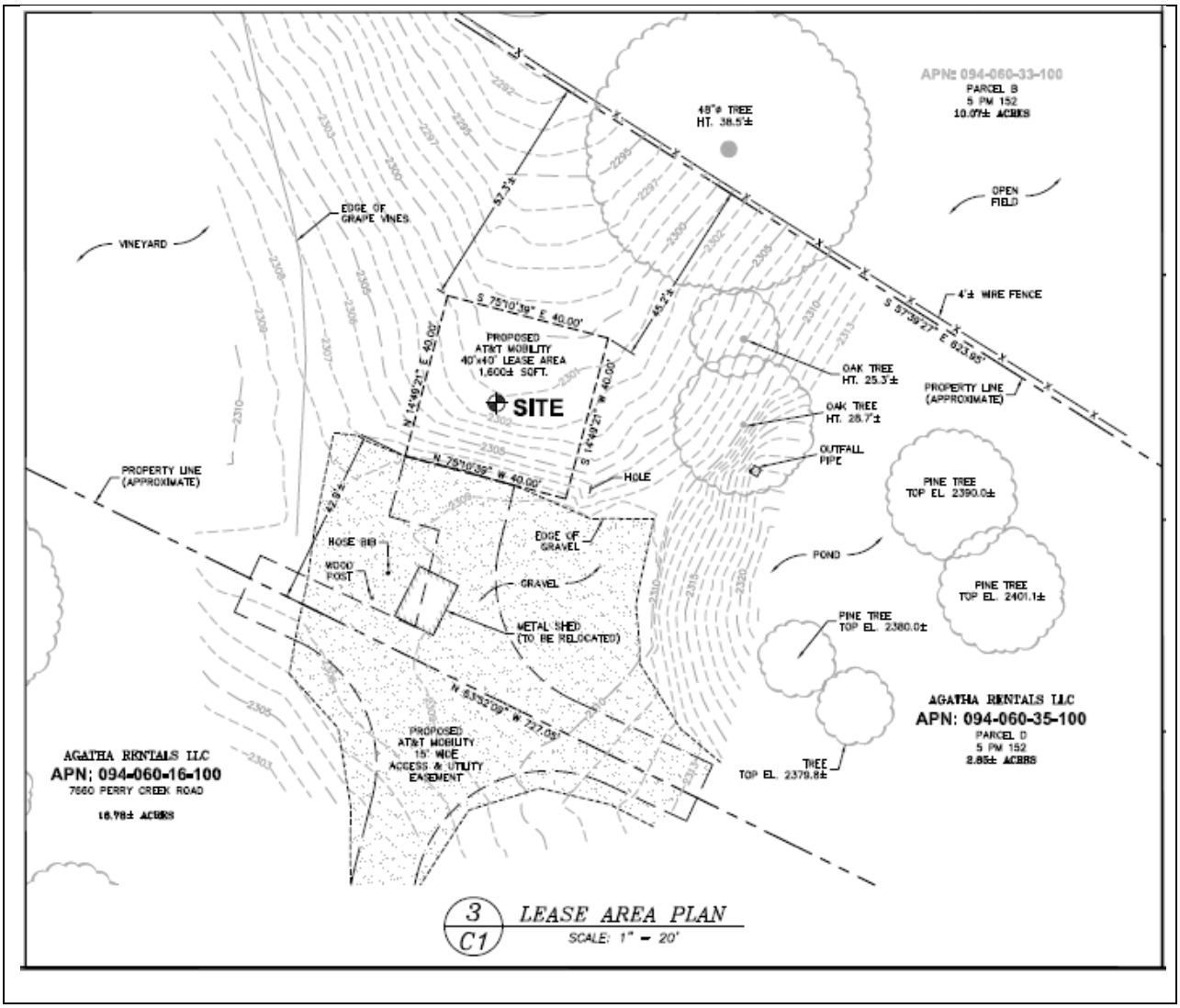
Construction Schedule: The construction of the facility will be in compliance with all local rules and regulations, and will be limited to 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The crew size will range from two to ten individuals. The construction phase of the project is anticipated to last approximately two months and will not exceed acceptable construction noise levels.

Lighting: The only lighting on the facility will be located by the entry door to the pre-fabricated shelter. The light will be shielded, down-tilted, and include a motion sensor.

FCC Compliance: The proposed project will not interfere with any TV, radio, telephone, satellite, or other signals. Any interference would be against federal law and a violation of AT&T Wireless's FCC license.

Surrounding Land Uses: The Facility is approximately 420 feet south of a residence, 600 feet west of a residence, and approximately 220 feet north of a residence owned by the same owner as our subject property.

VICINITY MAP


APN: 094-060-33-100
PARCEL B
5 PM 152
10.07± ACRES
48"ø TREE
HT. 38.5'±
OPEN FIELD
VINEYARD
EDGE OF GRAPE VINES
4'± WIRE FENCE
S 75°10'39" E 40.00'
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY 40'x40' LEASE AREA 1,600± SQFT.
SITE
N 14°49'21" E 40.00'
S 14°49'21" W 40.00'
N 75°10'39" W 40.00'
OAK TREE HT. 25.3'±
OAK TREE HT. 28.7'±
PROPERTY LINE (APPROXIMATE)
S 57°39'27" E 633.95'
OUTFALL PIPE
HOLE
PINE TREE TOP EL. 2390.0±
PROPERTY LINE (APPROXIMATE)
HOSE BIB
WOOD POST
EDGE OF GRAVEL
GRAVEL
POND
PINE TREE TOP EL. 2401.1±
METAL SHED (TO BE RELOCATED)
PINE TREE TOP EL. 2380.0±
N 83°32'09" W 727.05'
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY 15' WIDE ACCESS & UTILITY EASEMENT
AGATHA RENTALS LLC
APN: 094-060-35-100
PARCEL D
5 PM 152
2.85± ACRES
TREE TOP EL. 2379.8±
AGATHA RENTALS LLC
APN: 094-060-16-100
7660 PERRY CREEK ROAD
18.78± ACRES
3
C1
LEASE AREA PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 20'

SITE 6: Greenwood

Project Description: The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to construct an unmanned wireless telecommunication facility that consists of a 35' x 40', 1,400 square foot enclosed compound (lease area). The compound will include a 125 foot Stealth Monopine tower, one equipment shelter, one 35kw standby propane generator, and one 500 gallon propane tank (Site 6 Greenwood Attachment 1). The proposed lease area is located on the north side property, and the site will not interfere with the existing use of the property. The unmanned facility will provide wireless high speed internet and enhanced wireless network coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Maintenance workers will visit the site approximately once a month. A 15-foot wide access route will be created directly from Courageous Ct. There will be minimal noise from the standby generator, turning on once a week for 15 minutes for maintenance purposes and during emergency power outages. AT&T is anticipating meeting and beating their FCC objective for this search ring by covering approximately 440 homes; 189 more homes than their FCC obligation (Site 6 Greenwood Attachment 2).

Environmental Setting: The lease site is approximately 1,488 west of Greenwood Creek and the area consists of oak trees, evergreen trees, and rolling hills with rocky terrain. The 3.81 acres of land comprises mixed oak woodland and developed/disturbed areas consisting of Courageous Road, Courageous Court, and associated gravel driveways. The site location's elevation is approximately 1,933 feet. All equipment is proposed to be located within a 1,400-square foot enclosed lease area. A 15-foot wide access drive between the wireless communications facility lease area to Courageous Ct provides access.

The site is located in the Greenwood Creek Subwatershed (HUC-12 180201290701) and sits atop a small ridge. Water drains overland into Greenwood Creek approximately 0.25 miles to the east and into Penobscot Creek approximately 0.6 miles to the southwest. The roadside drainage along Courageous Road does not exhibit wetland characteristics or an ordinary highwater mark, therefore, it is not considered to be a jurisdictional aquatic feature. The project parcel and proposed lease area is identified as flood zone "X (Unshaded)." The parcel is not within an Airport Compatibility Zone. The site is not located within an earthquake fault zone.

Co-Location: The tower will be built to allow for colocation opportunities and stealthing technology. The nearby SBA Wireless Facility located at 3701 Pilgrim Ct, Greenwood, was initially considered for a colocation proposal. However, running the coverage simulation at the available antenna height of 85 feet, AT&T discovered that they would lose approximately 210 living units and only provide service to 230 LU's in Greenwood. This would have also resulted in AT&T failing to meet its FCC mandate for coverage for the Greenwood Community.

Selection Process: The selection of a location for a wireless telecommunication facility that is needed to improve service and provide reliable coverage is dependent upon many factors, such as: topography, zoning regulations, existing structures, collocation opportunities, available utilities, access, and the existence of a willing landlord. Wireless communication utilizes line-of-sight technology that requires facilities to be in relative close proximity to the wireless handsets to be served. Each proposed site is unique and must be investigated and evaluated on its own terms.
After establishing the need for the proposed facility, AT&T set out to identify the least intrusive means of achieving the necessary service objective. Upon review of the region AT&T found no existing

wireless facility locations that would provide collocation within the search ring. The majority of the search ring region is rural residential, so a new build tower becomes essential. Two alternative sites were considered within a quarter mile radius of the Greenwood locus (Site 6 Greenwood Attachment 3), and neither is preferred because they would likely reach fewer residents.

RF Emissions: A EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fields/Radio Frequency) for the proposed wireless facility was prepared and submitted to the El Dorado County Planning Services. It demonstrates compliance with the latest FCC Wireless Facility Standards for emissions and exposure levels.

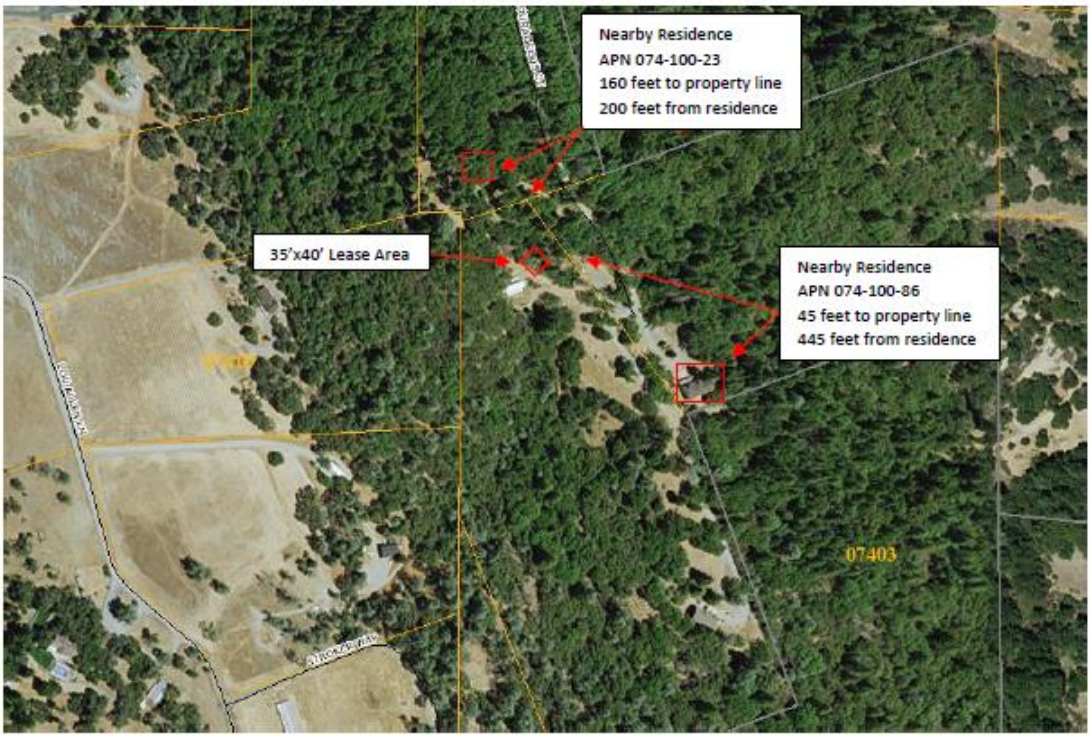
Construction Schedule: The construction of the facility will be in compliance with all local rules and regulations, and will be limited to 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The crew size will range from two to ten individuals. The construction phase of the project is anticipated to last approximately two months and will not exceed acceptable construction noise levels.

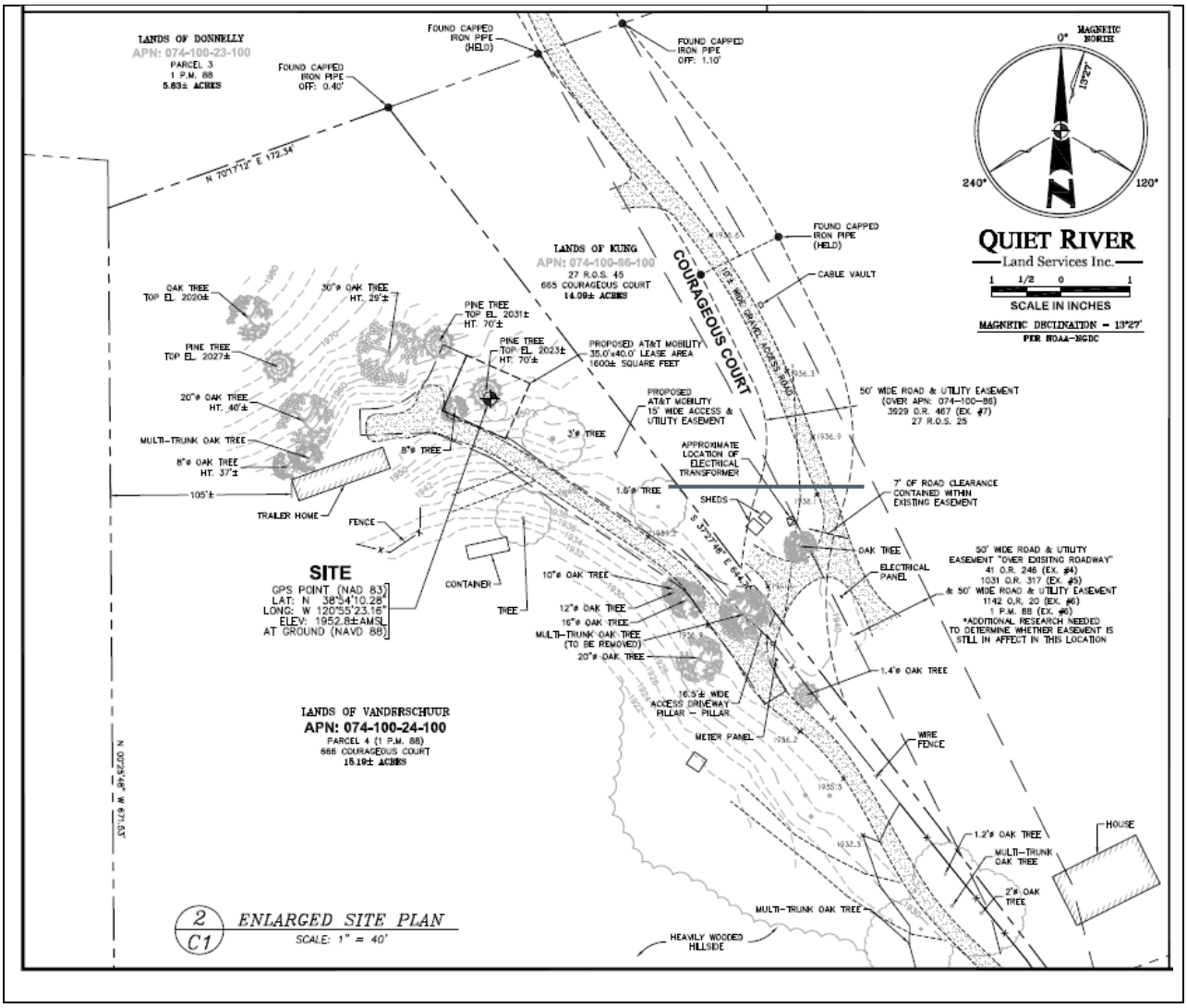
Lighting: The only lighting on the facility will be located by the entry door to the pre-fabricated shelter. The light will be shielded, down-tilted, and include a motion sensor.

FCC Compliance: The proposed project will not interfere with any TV, radio, telephone, satellite, or other signals. Any interference would be against federal law and a violation of AT&T Wireless's FCC license.

Surrounding Land Uses: There are two rural residences within 500 feet of the facility. The Facility is approximately 200 feet south of a residence and 445 feet north of a residence.

VICINITY MAP




LANDS OF DONNELLY
APN: 074-100-23-100
PARCEL 3
1 P.M. 88
5.63± ACRES
FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE (HELD)
FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE OFF: 0.40'
FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE OFF: 1.10'
N 70°17'12" E 172.54'
LANDS OF KUNG
APN: 074-100-86-100
27 R.O.S. 45
665 COURAGEOUS COURT
14.09± ACRES
COURAGEOUS COURT
15'± WIDE GRAVEL ACCESS ROAD
FOUND CAPPED IRON PIPE (HELD)
CABLE VAULT
MAGNETIC NORTH
13°27'
0°
240°
120°
QUIET RIVER
Land Services Inc.
1 1/2 0 1
SCALE IN INCHES
MAGNETIC DECLINATION = 13°27'
PER NOAA-NGDC
OAK TREE TOP EL. 2020±
30"ø OAK TREE HT. 29'±
PINE TREE TOP EL. 2031± HT. 70'±
PINE TREE TOP EL. 2027±
PINE TREE TOP EL. 2023± HT. 70'±
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY 35.0'x40.0' LEASE AREA 1600± SQUARE FEET
20"ø OAK TREE HT. 40'±
MULTI-TRUNK OAK TREE
8"ø OAK TREE HT. 37'±
105'±
TRAILER HOME
FENCE
3'ø TREE
8"ø TREE
PROPOSED AT&T MOBILITY 15' WIDE ACCESS & UTILITY EASEMENT
50' WIDE ROAD & UTILITY EASEMENT (OVER APN: 074-100-86) 3929 O.R. 467 (EX. #7) 27 R.O.S. 25
APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF ELECTRICAL TRANSFORMER
1.6'ø TREE
SHEDS
7' OF ROAD CLEARANCE CONTAINED WITHIN EXISTING EASEMENT
S 37°27'48" E 644.45'
OAK TREE
ELECTRICAL PANEL
50' WIDE ROAD & UTILITY EASEMENT "OVER EXISITNG ROADWAY" 41 O.R. 246 (EX. #4) 1031 O.R. 317 (EX. #5) & 50' WIDE ROAD & UTILITY EASEMENT 1142 O.R. 20 (EX. #6) 1 P.M. 88 (EX. #6)
*ADDITIONAL RESEARCH NEEDED TO DETERMINE WHETHER EASEMENT IS STILL IN AFFECT IN THIS LOCATION
SITE
GPS POINT (NAD 83)
LAT: N 38°34'10.28"
LONG: W 120°55'23.16"
ELEV: 1952.8±AMSL
AT GROUND (NAVD 88)
CONTAINER
TREE
10"ø OAK TREE
12"ø OAK TREE
16"ø OAK TREE
MULTI-TRUNK OAK TREE (TO BE REMOVED)
20"ø OAK TREE
1.4'ø OAK TREE
16.5'± WIDE ACCESS DRIVEWAY PILLAR - PILLAR
METER PANEL
WIRE FENCE
LANDS OF VANDERSCHUUR
APN: 074-100-24-100
PARCEL 4 (1 P.M. 88)
666 COURAGEOUS COURT
15.19± ACRES
N 00°25'48" W 479.53'
1.2'ø OAK TREE
MULTI-TRUNK OAK TREE
2'ø OAK TREE
HOUSE
MULTI-TRUNK OAK TREE
HEAVILY WOODED HILLSIDE
2/C1 ENLARGED SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 40'

2.0 POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS CHECKLIST SETTING

A. Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

The environmental factors checked below could be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

[ ]4.1 Aesthetics	[ ]4.2 Agriculture Resources	[ ]4.3 Air Quality
[X]4.4 Biological Resources	[ ]4.5 Cultural Resources	[ ]4.6 Geologic Processes
[ ]4.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	[ ]4.8 Hazards/Hazardous Material	[ ]4.9 Hydrology/Water Quality
[ ]4.10 Land Use	[ ]4.11 Mineral Resources	[ ]4.12 Noise
[ ]4.13 Housing	[ ]4.14 Public Services	[ ]4.15 Recreation
[ ]4.16 Transportation/Traffic	[ ]4.17 Tribal Cultural Resources	[ ]4.18 Utilities/Service Systems
[X]4.19 Mandatory Findings of Significance		

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

3.1 AESTHETIC/VISUAL RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**	**Reviewed Under Previous Document**
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Setting: As discussed the Environmental Setting the project sites are dispersed throughout rural El Dorado County and will be surrounded by rural residential uses and biological communities of annual grassland, oak tree woodland and pine woodland.

Impact Discussion:

(a)&(b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Site 1 Grizzly Flats is located at 5060 Sciaroni Road in El Dorado County. The tower will be located in a portion of the parcel that is comprised of oak trees. The project site is not located along a designated state scenic-highway or an identified scenic area. The nearest off-site structure is a church which is approximately 217 feet southeast of the lease area. Due to the existing vegetation and distance between the facility and surrounding residences, the ground equipment will not be visible from properties in the vicinity. The tower itself has been designed as a stealth monopine, and will blend into its surrounding environment (Site 1 Grizzly Flats Attachment 4).

Site 2 Kelsey is located at 6451 Shoo Fly Road in Placerville. The tower will be located in a portion of the parcel that is comprised of oak trees. The project site is not located along a designated state scenic-highway or an identified scenic area. Due to the existing vegetation and distance between the facility and surrounding residences, the ground equipment will not be visible from properties in the vicinity. The tower itself has been designed as a stealth monopine, and will blend into its surrounding environment (Site 2 Kelsey Attachment 4). The nearest off-site residential dwelling from the proposed communication tower is 600 feet south.

Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing is located at 7800 Stephanie Lane in Somerset. The tower will be located in a portion of the parcel that is comprised of oak trees. The project site is not located along a designated state scenic-highway or an identified scenic area. Due to the existing vegetation and distance between the facility and surrounding residences, the ground equipment will not be visible from properties in the vicinity. The tower itself has been designed as a stealth monopine, and will blend into its surrounding environment (Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing Attachment 4). The nearest off-site residential dwellings from the proposed communication tower are 410 feet east, and approximately 253 feet south-west.

Site 4 Green Springs Valley is located at 1937 Green Valley Road in El Dorado County. The tower will be located in a portion of the parcel that is comprised of oak trees. The project site is not located along a designated state scenic-highway or an identified scenic area. Due to the existing vegetation and distance between the facility and surrounding residences, the ground equipment will not be visible from properties in the vicinity. The tower itself has been designed as a stealth monopine, and will blend into its surrounding environment (Site 4 Green Springs Valley Attachment 4). The nearest off-site residential dwelling from the proposed communication tower is 334 feet south.

Site 5 Fair Play is located at 7660 Perry Creek Road in El Dorado County, California. The tower will be located in a portion of the parcel that is comprised of oak trees. The project site is not located along a designated state scenic-highway or an identified scenic area. The tower itself has been designed as a stealth monopine, and will blend into its surrounding environment (Site 5 Fair Play Attachment 4). The nearest off-site residential dwellings from the proposed communication tower are 420 feet north, approximately 220 feet south, and approximately 600 feet east.

Site 6 Greenwood is located at 666 Courageous Court, in Greenwood. The tower will be located in a portion of the parcel that is comprised of oak trees. The project site is not located along a designated state scenic-highway or an identified scenic area. Due to the existing vegetation and distance between the facility and surrounding residences, the ground equipment will not be visible from properties in the vicinity. The tower itself has been designed as a stealth monopine, and will blend into its surrounding environment (Site 6 Greenwood Attachment 4). The nearest off-site residential dwellings from the proposed communication tower are 200 feet north, and approximately 445 feet south.

The applicant supplied photo simulations for all proposed towers as seen from different locations in the various project areas.

(c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The **Site 1 Grizzly Flats** area and immediate vicinity is of gently rolling hills with rocky terrain. A stealth monopine is designed to resemble a pine tree to blend in better with the surrounding environment. In this case, there are pine and oak trees on the property. The monopine would be similar in size, albeit taller, to the surrounding trees. The location proposed will not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and is not expected to result in a significant impact to scenic vistas and to the area's visual aesthetics for the purpose of CEQA.

The **Site 2 Kelsey** area and immediate vicinity is of gently rolling hills with rocky terrain. A stealth monopine is designed to resemble a pine tree to blend in better with the surrounding environment. In this case, there are oak trees on the property. The monopine would be similar in size, albeit taller, to the surrounding trees. The location proposed will not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and is not expected to result in a significant impact to scenic vistas and to the area's visual aesthetics for the purpose of CEQA.

The **Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing** area and immediate vicinity is of gently rolling hills with rocky terrain. A stealth monopine is designed to resemble a pine tree to blend in better with the surrounding environment. In this case, there are oak trees on the property. The monopine would be similar in size, albeit taller, to the surrounding trees. The location proposed will not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and is not expected to result in a significant impact to scenic vistas and to the area's visual aesthetics for the purpose of CEQA.

The **Site 4 Green Springs Valley** area and immediate vicinity is of gently rolling hills with rocky terrain. A stealth monopine is designed to resemble a pine tree to blend in better with the surrounding environment. In this case, there are oak trees on the property. The monopine would be similar in size, albeit taller, to the surrounding trees. The location proposed will not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and is not expected to result in a significant impact to scenic vistas and to the area's visual aesthetics for the purpose of CEQA.

The **Site 5 Fair Play** area and immediate vicinity is of gently rolling hills, evergreen tree backdrops and vineyards. A stealth monopine is designed to resemble a pine tree to blend in better with the surrounding environment. In this case, there are oak trees on the property. The monopine would be similar in size, albeit taller, to the surrounding trees. This vegetation is relatively dense on the project parcel. The location proposed will not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and is not expected to result in a significant impact to scenic vistas and to the area's visual aesthetics for the purpose of CEQA.

The **Site 6 Greenwood** area and immediate vicinity is of gently rolling hills. A stealth monopine has been chosen to blend in better with the surrounding environment. In this case, there are oak trees on the property. The monopine would be similar in size, albeit taller, to the surrounding trees. The location proposed will not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and is not expected to result in a significant impact to scenic vistas and to the area's visual aesthetics for the purpose of CEQA.

(d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** None of the proposed towers will be lighted, and the County discourages additional lighting in the area. Further, any future lighting would be subject to section 130.34.020 of the El Dorado County Zoning Code, which requires that all outdoor lighting shall be located, adequately shielded, and directed such that no direct light falls outside the property line, or into the public right-of-way. Proposed lighting for the equipment shed will meet these requirements. With the implementation of outdoor lighting regulations at the time of development, the proposed project would not create new sources of substantial lighting or glare that would generate a significant impact.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: As conditioned and with adherence to El Dorado County Code of Ordinances (County Code), for this Aesthetics category, impacts would be anticipated to be less than significant.

3.2 AGRICULTURE RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

non-agricultural use?					
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☒	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

(a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Site 5 Fair Play is identified by General Plan Figure AF-1 as being Farmland of Local Importance. Project site 5 and the surrounding area are zoned for and used as rural residential uses. The lease area is not and would not interfere with continued agricultural uses. The project would have less than significant impacts of converting prime farmland to a non-agricultural use.

None of the other project sites have agricultural zoning designations nor are they identified as being on "Choice Agricultural Land in El Dorado County". The surrounding parcels are similarly zoned for rural residential uses.

(b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The Site 5 Fair Play parcel and parcels directly to the south of the project are under a Williamson Act Contract. The construction of a new communication tower was determined not to be an incompatible use with agricultural uses or the Williamson Act Contract. Impacts would be less than significant.

All other project parcels and parcels in the project vicinities are not under a Williamson Act Contract. The project parcels and surrounding areas are zoned for residential uses.

(c) **No Impact**. None of the project sites are located in a timber resource zoning category such as Timber Production (TPZ), or Forest Resource (FR). The project sites are also not classified as forest land, pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 12220(g). Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with, or cause the rezoning of, a timber resource zoning designation.

(d) **No Impact.** None of the project sites are considered forest land and therefore, the proposed project would not result in loss or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use.

(e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Site 5 Fair Play is used for agriculture but the project would be compatible with continued agricultural use.

None of the other project sites are considered farmland and none of the project sites are considered forest land and therefore, the proposed project would not result in loss or conversion farmland to a non-agricultural use or the loss or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: For this Agriculture category, the thresholds of significance have not been exceeded and no impacts would be anticipated to result from the project.

3.3 AIR QUALITY:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Setting:

El Dorado County's air pollution management is the responsibility of the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (EDCAQMD), and the project is subject to federal, state, and local regulations. The wider Sacramento Region, including portions of El Dorado County, is currently designated nonattainment for federal 8-hour ozone and PM2.5, while it currently meets the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and lead.

The federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requires plans which identify how nonattainment areas will attain and/or maintain the NAAQS. The CAA requires the US EPA to review each plan and any plan revisions and to approve the plan or plan revisions if consistent with the CAA. Key elements of these plans include emission inventories, emission control strategies and rules, air quality data analyses, modeling, air quality progress and attainment or maintenance demonstrations. The Sacramento Air Quality Management District has a prepared attainment plans, available at: http://www.airquality.org/air-quality-health/air-quality-plans/federal-planning.

The CARB also prepares and submits to the EPA a State Implementation Plan (SIP) explaining how the state will attain compliance with Federal clean air standards. The EDCAQMD rules are federally enforceable as parts of the SIP, and are available at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/drdb/ed/cur.htm.

Impact Discussion:

(a) – (d)Less Than Significant Impact. Construction activities for all sites, a source of organic gas emissions, will be limited to the monopine, related ground equipment, utilities and access drive. During construction, various diesel-powered vehicles and equipment would be in use.

Construction diesel emissions are temporary, affecting an area for a period of days or perhaps weeks. Additionally, construction-related sources are mobile and transient in nature. Because of its temporary duration and the limited area of disturbance, health risks from construction emissions of diesel particulate would be less-than-significant impact. The project is not expected to create any significant amounts of fugitive dust, oxides of nitrogen, or reactive organic gases emissions.

The applicant is proposing a propane back-up generator as part of the project. The standby generator is for emergency use only, therefore the project would not create on-going emissions. The ongoing project is not expected to generate any significant amounts of fugitive dust because the only soil disturbance would be some very minor excavation for the facility.

The effects of construction activities would be an increase in dustfall, and locally elevated levels of particulates downwind of construction activity. However, due to its limited construction and operational scope, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan.

Negligible amounts of emissions would be generated by construction equipment during site development activities, because of the limited amount of construction equipment and time needed to install the facility.

(e) Less Than Significant Impact. Potential standby generators are for emergency use only and will not result in objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Otherwise, the proposed monopine and ground related equipment will not use anything that will generate objectionable odors to the surrounding properties or area.

Mitigation Measure: None Required.

FINDING: The proposed project would not affect the implementation of regional air quality regulations or management plans. The proposed project would not be anticipated to cause substantial adverse effects to air quality, nor exceed established significance thresholds for air quality impacts.

3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document

a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 or the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish and wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources such as a tree preservation policy ordinance?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

The 10.71-acre project **Site 1 Grizzly Flats** parcel is developed with a fire house and associated parking lot, and is largely vegetated with oak trees.

The 5-acre project **Site 2 Kelsey** parcel is developed comprises mixed evergreen forest and disturbed/developed areas including a small portion of Shoo Fly Road.

The 10-acre **Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing** comprises mixed pine/oak woodland, annual grassland, and disturbed/developed areas consisting of Stephanie Lane and the unpaved dirt access driveway to the north.

The **Site 4 Green Springs Valley** parcel consists of approximately 15.07 acres of land that comprises non-native annual grassland and developed/disturbed areas consisting of an existing unpaved driveway, residences, and associated structures.

The 2.86-acre **Site 5 Fair Play** parcel is developed with limited agricultural and residential use, and is largely vegetated with oak trees.

The 15.19-acre **Site 6 Greenwood** comprises mixed oak woodland and developed/disturbed areas consisting of Courageous Road, Courageous Court, and associated gravel driveways.

Jurisdictional Waters of the United States, including Wetlands

Waters of the United States (U.S.), including wetlands, are broadly defined to include navigable waterways, and tributaries of navigable waterways, and adjacent wetlands. Although definitions vary to some degree, wetlands are generally considered to be areas that are periodically or permanently inundated by surface water or groundwater, supporting vegetation adapted to life in saturated soil. Jurisdictional wetlands are vegetated areas that meet specific vegetation, soil, and hydrologic criteria defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The USACE holds sole authority to determine the jurisdictional status of waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Jurisdictional wetlands and Waters of the U.S. include, but are not limited to, perennial and intermittent creeks and drainages, lakes, seeps, and springs; emergent marshes; riparian wetlands; and seasonal wetlands. Wetland and waters of the U.S. provide critical habitat components, such as nest sites and reliable source of water for a wide variety of wildlife species.

Site 1 Grizzly Flats sits atop a flat, wide ridge that slopes gently to the southwest. The lease area is located in a relatively flat open area at the center of the site. The topography is generally flat to gently-sloped. Elevations range from approximately 3,840 feet (1,164 meters) above mean sea level (MSL) in the northeast to 3,860 feet (1,170 meters) MSL in the southwest. Water drains overland and through a network of ruts in the unpaved roads offsite to the southwest. A constructed roadside irrigation canal runs along the east side of the site. The ruts in the unpaved roads do not exhibit evidence of wetland vegetation or an ordinary high water mark and are not considered to be jurisdictional features. The site is located in the Steely Fork Cosumnes River Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 12-180400130201). In general, water exits the site overland before entering a series of unnamed streams which eventually drain into the Steely Fork Cosumnes River.

The general topography of **Site 2 Kelsey** is sloping from approximately 2,360 feet above mean sea level (MSL) along the southern boundary to 2,377 feet above MSL along the northern

boundary of the site (719 to 725 meters). The proposed cellular tower location is located in the center of the site, west of the existing Shoo Fly Road access route within the disturbed/developed and graded areas. The site Area is located in the White Rock Creek-South Fork American River Subwatershed (HUC-12 180201290504). Water drains overland southwest to an unnamed waterway which in turn drains into the South Fork of the American River approximately two and half miles southwest of the site.

The general topography of **Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing** is gently sloping from approximately 3,189 feet above mean sea level (MSL) along the southwest boundary to 3,208 feet above MSL along the northeast boundary of the site (972 to 978 meters). The proposed cellular tower location is located in the southwest portion of the site, southwest of the existing Stephanie Lane access route within the mixed pine/oak woodland. The site is located in the Lower North Fork Cosumnes River Subwatershed (HUC-12 180400130204). Water drains overland within the site, flowing south into the North Fork Cosumnes River approximately 0.6 miles away. This eventually connects with the Mokelumne River, San Joaquin River, and finally into the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

The general topography of **Site 4 Green Springs Valley** is mildly sloping from approximately 1,040 feet (321 meters) above mean sea level (MSL) along the southwestern and northeastern boundaries to 1,060 feet (315 meters) above MSL near the main residence in the northeastern portion of the site. The proposed cellular tower location is located on the northeastern portion of the site, northeast of the existing driveway within the annual grassland. The site is located in the Folsom Reservoir-South Fork American River Watershed Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 12-180201290703). Water from the southwestern portion of the site drains southwest overland to a roadside ditch along Green Valley Road that flows offsite to the southeast. This ditch along Green Valley Road drains into Green Spring Creek approximately 0.25 miles south the site, which drains into New York Creek which in turn drains into the South Fork of the American River finger of Folsom Lake. The roadside ditch does not exhibit wetland characteristics or an ordinary high-water mark, so it is not considered to be a jurisdictional aquatic feature.

The general topography of **Site 5 Fair Play** is gently sloping from approximately 2,235 feet (681 meters) above mean sea level (MSL) in the southwestern portion of the site to 2,305 feet (703 meters) above MSL in the northern portion. The proposed cellular tower location is centrally located on the property within the mixed oak woodland. The area is located in the Spanish Creek-Middle Fork Cosumnes River Watershed Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 12-180400130404. Water exits the site through the southwest portion of the site before entering Perry Creek, which flows northwest, eventually draining into the Middle Fork Cosumnes River.

The general topography of **Site 6 Greenwood** is sloping from approximately 1,837 feet above mean sea level (MSL) along the northern boundary to 1,948 feet above MSL along the southern boundary of the site (560 to 594 meters). The proposed cellular tower location is located in the southern portion of the site, west of the existing Courageous Road within the mixed oak woodland. The site is located in the Greenwood Creek Subwatershed (HUC-12 180201290701) and sits atop a small ridge. Water drains overland into Greenwood Creek approximately 0.25 miles to the east and into Penobscot Creek approximately 0.6 miles to the southwest. The roadside drainage along Courageous Road does not exhibit wetland characteristics or an ordinary highwater mark, therefore, it is not considered to be a jurisdictional aquatic feature.

Special-Status Species

Many species of plants and animals within the State of California have low populations, limited distributions, or both. Such species may be considered "rare" and are vulnerable to extirpation as the state's human population grows and the habitats these species occupy are converted to agricultural and urban uses. A sizable number of native species and animals have been formally designated as threatened or endangered under State and Federal endangered species legislation. Others have been designated as "Candidates" for such listing; still others have been designated as "Species of Special Concern" by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) has developed its own set of lists of native plants considered rare, threatened or endangered. Collectively, these plants and animals are referred to as "special status species."

Limited, direct and indirect impacts to biological resources may result from the small amount of development enabled by the project, including the loss and/or alteration of existing undeveloped open space that may serve as habitat. California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15065 requires a mandatory finding of significance for projects that have the potential to substantially degrade or reduce the habitat of a threatened or endangered species, and to fully disclose and mitigate impacts to special status resources.

(a) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB Rarefind 5, Government Version, August 2017) was reviewed to determine if any special status animal and plant species or habitats occur on the project sites or in the project areas.

According to the records search, 8 special-status plant species have the potential to occur on or in the **Site 1 Grizzly Flats** vicinity of the site. Based on field observations and literature review, one of these species, Pleasant Valley mariposa lily – CNPS Rank 1B, was determined to have a high potential to occur within the site. Based on the vast majority of CNDDB element occurrences occurring in the month of July, the high number of element occurrences (26)within five miles, and the high elevation of the site, it is much more likely for Pleasant Valley mariposa lily to be observed in bloom later in its bloom period than May when the site visit was conducted. In a July 19, 2017 survey conducted during the evident and identifiable blooming period for the Pleasant Valley mariposa lily, it was not observed onsite. It is therefore concluded that these species are not present onsite. None of the plant species identified are federally or state listed endangered, threatened or species of concern. Because these species are not present on site, no mitigation is required.

According to the records search, 34 special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur within or in the vicinity of the site. Based on field observations and literature review, ten species were determined to have the potential to occur on the site including eight protected migratory bird species and two special-status bat species. Species that are considered to have a high potential for occurrence within the site include: hoary bat (Lasiuruscinereus) and long-legged myotis (Myotisvolans). Species that are considered to have a low potential for occurrence within the site include: calliope hummingbird (Stellula calliope), flammulated owl (Otusflammeolus), fox sparrow (Passerellailiaca), great gray owl (Strix nebulosi), Lewis' woodpecker

(Melanerpeslewis), olive-sided flycatcher (Contopuscooperi), rufous hummingbird (Selasphorusrufus), and Williamson's sapsucker (Sphyrapicusthyroideus).

With regard to bats, the parcel provides potential summer roosting habitat for two special-status bat species: hoary bat and long-legged myotis. Both are included on the California Special Animals List. These species roost in the foliage and cavities of coniferous trees. No evidence of bat roosts, such as guano, was observed during the site survey. There is one known CNDDB record for hoary bat and two known CNDDB records for long-legged myotis within five miles of the site. The mixed evergreen forest provides potential roosting habitat for both species. Therefore, these species have a high potential to occur within the site.

With regard to owls, the Great gray owl is listed as a California endangered species. This species nests in dense conifer forests adjacent to meadows and bogs. They generally favor habitat with mix of dense forest for nesting and roosting, and open areas for hunting. In the north, mostly around bogs, clearings, and burns in extensive coniferous woods; in the west, mostly around meadows in mountain forest. In California, due to the lack of suitable foraging habitat within the Sierran forests, great gray owls are found primarily within 300 yards of mountain meadows, where they can find viable prey in the grassland habitat. Prey consists of small burrowing mammals such as voles and pocket gophers. Historically, great gray owls prefer to use abandoned stick nests for nesting, and only 17 natural nests have been found in California (Mikkola 1983). Migration of great gray owls in California simply consists of the species moving to lower elevations when snow starts to accumulate. This species was not observed within or in the immediate vicinity of the site during survey. The mixed evergreen forest within and surrounding the site contains suitable nesting habitat for this species. However, the closest viable foraging habitat is approximately 400 meters to the east. There is one known CNDDB occurrence for this species within five miles of the site. This occurrence, however, occurs immediately adjacent to a meadow, where a pair of owls was observed in multiple years in the same area. Therefore, the potential for this species to occur within the site is low.

With regard to birds, the nests of raptors and most other birds are protected under the MBTA. Raptors are also protected by Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code, which makes it illegal to destroy any active raptor nest. Additionally, the USFWS and CDFW identified a number of avian species of conservation concern that do not have specific statutory protection. Avian species forage and nest in a variety of habitats throughout El Dorado County. The mixed evergreen forest on and surrounding the site may provide nesting and foraging habitat for raptors and other protected birds, including: calliope hummingbird, flammulated owl, fox sparrow, Lewis' woodpecker, olive-sided flycatcher, rufous hummingbird, and Williamson's sapsucker.

According to the records search, 12 special-status plant species have the potential to occur on or in the **Site 2 Kelsey** project vicinity. Based on field observations and literature review, none of these species were determined to have potential to occur within the site. A comprehensive list of species was gathered during the survey of all plants observed. All potentially occurring special-status plants were within their evident and identifiable bloom period during the survey, and none of these species were observed. Therefore, all 12 plant species are considered to have no potential to occur within the site.

According to the records search, 31 special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur within or in the vicinity of the site. Based on field observations and literature review, six (6) species were determined to have the potential to occur on the site including five protected migratory bird species and one special-status bat species. None of these species were determined to have a high potential for occurrence. Species that are considered to have a low potential for occurrence within the site include: silver-haired bat (Lasionycterisnoctivagans), fox sparrow (Passerellailiaca), oak titmouse (Baeolophusinornatus), olive-sided flycatcher (Contopuscooperi), rufous hummingbird (Selasphorusrufus), Lewis' woodpecker (Melanerpeslewis), and Williamson's sapsucker (Sphyrapicusthyroideus).With regard to bats, there was no evidence of silver-haired bat roosts, such as guano, observed during the site survey. There are two known CNDBB records for this species within five miles of the Study Area. The mixed evergreen forest provides potential roosting habitat, but there is no suitable foraging habitat within or surrounding the area. Therefore, this species has a low potential to occur on site.

According to the records search, six special-status plant species have the potential to occur on or in the vicinity of the site. Based on field observations and literature review, none of these species were determined to have potential to occur within the site. A comprehensive list of species was gathered during the survey of all plants observed. All potentially occurring special-status plants were within their evident and identifiable bloom period during the survey, and none of these species were observed. Therefore, all six plant species are considered to have no potential to occur within the site.

According to the records search, 33 special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur within or in the vicinity of the project **Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing**. Based on field observations and literature review, 11 species were determined to have the potential to occur on the site including eight protected migratory bird species and three special-status bat species. Species that are considered to have a high potential to occur within the site include: fringed myotis (Myotisthysanodes), long-legged myotis (Myotisvolans), and silver-haired bat (Lasionycterisnoctivagans). Species that are considered to have a low potential to occur within the site include: calliope hummingbird (Stellula calliope), fox sparrow (Passerellailiaca), Lewis' woodpecker (Melanerpeslewis), oak titmouse (Baeolophusinornatus), olive-sided flycatcher (Contopuscooperi), rufous hummingbird (Selasphorusrufus), white-headed woodpecker (Picoidesalbolarvatus), and Williamson's sapsucker (Sphyrapicusthyroideus).

With regard to bats, the site provides potential summer roosting habitat for three special-status bat species: fringed myotis, long-legged myotis, and silver-haired bat. All three species are included on the California Special Animals List. All three species will roost in wooded areas. No evidence of bat roosts, such as guano, was observed during the site survey. However, there is one recorded observation of fringed myotis and two recorded observations of long-legged myotis within five miles of the site. The mixed pine/oak woodland provides potential roosting habitat for all three species. Therefore, these species have a high potential to occur within the site.

With regard to birds, the nests of raptors and most other birds are protected under the MBTA. Raptors are also protected by Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code, which

makes it illegal to destroy any active raptor nest. Additionally, the USFWS and CDFW identified a number of avian species of conservation concern that do not have specific statutory protection. Avian species forage and nest in a variety of habitats throughout El Dorado County. The mixed oak woodland on and surrounding the site may provide nesting and foraging habitat for raptors and other protected birds, including: fox sparrow, oak titmouse, olive-sided flycatcher, rufous hummingbird, Lewis' woodpecker, and Williamson's sapsucker.

According to the records search, 18 special-status plant species have the potential to occur on or in the vicinity of the project **Site 4 Green Springs Valley**. Based on field observations and literature review, there are no special-status plant species that were determined to occur within the site. The site area provides habitat for nine of the 18 potentially-occurring species which include: Layne's ragwort (Packeralayneae), Pine Hill ceanothus (Ceanothusroderickii), Pine Hill flannelbush (Fremontodendrondecumbens), Stebbins' morning glory (Calystegiastebbinsii), big-scale balsamroot (Balsamorhizamacrolepis var. macrolepis), chaparral sedge (Carexxerophila), Brandegee's clarkia (Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeeae), Jepson's wooly sunflower (Eriophyllumjepsonii), and Sanborn's onion (Allium sanbornii var. sanbornii). These species were not observed during the site visit, which occurred during the evident and identifiable bloom period.

According to the records search, 40 special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur onsite or in the vicinity. Based on field observations and literature review, 10 species were determined to have the potential to occur on the site including seven protected migratory bird species, one amphibian species, one reptile species, and one invertebrate species. Species that are known to be present or that are considered to have a high potential to occur onsite include: golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos), yellow-billed magpie (Pica nuttalli), and coast horned lizard (Phrynosomablainvillii). Species that are considered to have a low potential to occur onsite include: peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus), white-tailed kite (Elanusleucurus), burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia), loggerhead shrike (Laniusludovicianus), rufous hummingbird (Selasphorusrufus), California red-legged frog (Rana draytonii), and western bumble bee (Bombusoccidentalis).

With regard to birds, the nests of raptors and most other birds are protected under the MBTA. Raptors are also protected by Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code, which makes it illegal to destroy any active raptor nest. Additionally, the USFWS and CDFW identified a number of avian species of conservation concern that do not have specific statutory protection. Avian species forage and nest in a variety of habitats throughout El Dorado County. The annual grassland and scattered trees on and surrounding the site may provide nesting habitat for raptors and other protected birds, including: golden eagle, yellowbilled magpie, white-tailed kite, burrowing owl, loggerhead shrike, and rufous hummingbird.

With regard to lizards, the coast horned lizard, also known as Blainville's horned lizard, is a California Species of Special Concern due to noncyclical population declines and range restrictions. This species inhabits open areas of sandy soil and low vegetation in valleys, foothills, and semiarid mountains. The annual grassland of the site provides habitat for this

species. There are three CNDDB occurrences of this species within five miles of the site. Therefore, this species has a high potential to occur within the site.

With regard to frogs, the California red-legged frog is a federally-listed species. This species is found near ponds in forests, woodlands, grasslands, coastal scrub, and stream-sides with plant cover and is most common in lowlands and foothills. Breeding occurs in water sources such as ponds and slow streams, though adults may disperse overland between breeding sites. Though the site does not contain water sources suitable for breeding, it does lie between potential breeding sites nearby (Sweetwater Creek approximately 1,500 feet to the northeast and Green Spring Creek approximately 500 feet to the southwest). There is one CNDDB occurrence within five miles of the site. However, the validity of this record has been questioned due to the uncharacteristically low elevation of the sighting, proximity to urban development, and presence of predatorial bullfrogs. Therefore, this species has an extremely low potential to occur within the site.

With regard to bees, the western bumble bee is on the California Special Animals list (CSA) as designated by the CDFW. This species is found in open grassy areas, urban parks and gardens, chaparral and shrub areas, and mountain meadows. They nest underground in abandoned rodent burrows or other cavities. Plants that this species is associated with include: ceanothus (Ceanothus sp.), thistle (Centaurea sp.), rabbitbrush (Chrysothamnus sp.), geranium (Geranium sp.), gumplant (Grindelia sp.), lupine (Lupinus sp.), sweetclover (Melilotus sp.), monardella (Monardella sp.), blackberry (Rubus sp.), goldenrod (Solidago sp.), and clover (Trifolium sp.). The annual grassland within the site provides suitable habitat for this species. There is one known CNDDB record for this species within five miles of the site. Therefore, this species has a low potential to occur within the site.

According to the records search, 18 special-status plant species have the potential to occur on or in the vicinity of project **Site 5 Fair Play**. Based on field observations and literature review, none of these species were determined to have a potential to occur within the site. A comprehensive list of plant species observed was gathered during the survey. All potentially occurring special-status plants were within their evident and identifiable bloom period during the survey, and none of these species were observed.

According to the records search, 38 special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur onsite or in the vicinity. Based on field observations and literature review, three species were determined to have the potential to occur in the site, all of which are protected migratory bird species. None of these species were determined to have a high potential for occurrence within the site. Species that are considered to have a low potential for occurrence within the site include: loggerhead shrike (Laniusludovicianus), oak titmouse (Baeolophusinornatus), and olive-sided flycatcher (Contopuscooperi).

The nests of raptors and most other birds are protected under the MBTA. Raptors are also protected by Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code, which makes it illegal to destroy any active raptor nest. Additionally, the USFWS and CDFW identified a number of avian species of conservation concern that do not have specific statutory protection. Avian

species forage and nest in a variety of habitats throughout El Dorado County. The oak woodland, non-native annual grassland, and agriculture/vineyard habitat on and surrounding the site provide nesting and/or foraging habitat for raptors and other protected birds, including: loggerhead shrike, oak titmouse, and olive-sided flycatcher.

According to the records search, nine (9) special-status plant species have the potential to occur on or in the vicinity of project **Site 6 Greenwood**. Based on field observations and literature review, none of these species were determined to have potential to occur within the site. A comprehensive list of species was gathered during the survey of all plants observed. All potentially occurring special-status plants were within their evident and identifiable bloom period during the survey, and none of these species were observed. Therefore, all nine (9) plant species are considered to have no potential to occur within the site. Because these species are not present on site, no mitigation is required.

According to the records search, 32 special-status wildlife species have the potential to occur within or in the vicinity of the site. Based on field observations and literature review, seven (7) species were determined to have the potential to occur in the site, all of which are migratory bird species. None of these species were determined to have a high potential for occurrence. Species that are considered to have a low potential to occur within the site include: fox sparrow (Passerellailiaca), Lewis' woodpecker (Melanerpeslewis), Nuttall's woodpecker (Picoidesnuttallii), oak titmouse (Baeolophusinornatus), olive-sided flycatcher (Contopuscooperi), rufous hummingbird (Selasphorusrufus), and Williamson's sapsucker (Sphyrapicusthyroideus).

With regards to birds, the nests of raptors and most other birds are protected under the MBTA. Raptors are also protected by Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code, which makes it illegal to destroy any active raptor nest. Additionally, the USFWS and CDFW identified a number of avian species of conservation concern that do not have specific statutory protection. Avian species forage and nest in a variety of habitats throughout El Dorado County. The mixed oak woodland on and surrounding the site may provide nesting and foraging habitat for raptors and other protected birds, including: fox sparrow, Lewis' woodpecker, Nuttall's woodpecker, oak titmouse, olive-sided flycatcher, rufous hummingbird, and Williamson's sapsucker.

(b) and (c) No impact. The leased project sites are located in rural residential areas and do not have any, streams, creeks or riparian habitat.

Site 1 Grizzly Flats does not have any, streams, creeks or riparian habitat on site. The American River is approximately 1.25 miles away, but the proposed project will not affect the river. The project site is located in an area where no federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act exists, or within proximity to the project site. A small ephemeral drainage crosses the eastern portion of the area and flows to the southwest. This is expected to be considered a water of the U.S. The drainage will not be impacted by the proposed project, so no regulatory permits are required, and there is no impact.

Site 2 Kelsey is located in a rural residential area and does not have any, streams, creeks or riparian habitat on site. The American River is approximately 1.5 miles away, but the proposed project will not affect the river. The project site is located in an area where no federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act exists, or within proximity to the project site. Water drains overland southwest to an unnamed waterway which in turn drains into the South Fork of the American River approximately two and half miles southwest of the site. This is expected to be considered a water of the U.S. The drainage will not be impacted by the proposed project.

Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing is located in a rural residential area and does not have any, streams, creeks or riparian habitat on site. The North Fork Consumnes River is approximately 0.7 miles away, but the proposed project will not affect the river. The project site is located in an area where no federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act exists, or within proximity to the project site. Water drains overland within the site, flowing south into the North Fork Cosumnes River approximately 0.6 miles away. This eventually connects with the Mokelumne River, San Joaquin River, and finally into the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. This is expected to be considered a water of the U.S. The drainage will not be impacted by the proposed project.

Site 4 Green Springs Valley is located in a rural residential area and does not have any, streams, creeks or riparian habitat on site. The Sweetwater Creek is approximately 3, 000 feet away, but the proposed project will not affect the creek. The project site is located in an area where no federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act exists, or within proximity to the project site. Water from the southwestern portion of the site drains southwest overland to a roadside ditch along Green Valley Road that flows offsite to the southeast. This ditch along Green Valley Road drains into Green Spring Creek approximately 0.25 miles south the site, which drains into New York Creek which in turn drains into the South Fork of the American River finger of Folsom Lake. The roadside ditch does not exhibit wetland characteristics or an ordinary high-water mark, so it is not considered to be a jurisdictional aquatic feature.

Site 5 Fair Play is located in a rural residential area and does not have any, streams or creeks on site. The Consumnes River is 1.5 miles away, but the proposed project will not affect the river. Water drains off of the site to the southwest through a constructed canal that runs parallel to the driveway, as well as an ephemeral drainage that runs from north to southwest approximately 45 feet northwest of, and parallel to, the driveway. On the north side of the site, where the proposed lease area is, water flows over land to the north and off property into an ephemeral drainage opposite the northern fence line. The constructed canal and ephemeral drainage are likely hydrologically connected to Perry Creek, approximately 240feet to the south, which runs parallel to Perry Creek Road. Potential jurisdictional waters of the U.S. and State located in the Study Area include 0.003 acres of depressional seasonal wetland,0.023 acres of ephemeral drainage, 0.017 acres of ditch/canal, and 0.014 acres of pond. However, none of the above-described features will be impacted by the proposed project and will be entirely avoided.

Site 6 Greenwood is approximately 1,488 feet west of Greenwood Creek but the proposed project will not affect the creek. The project site is located in an area where no federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act exists, or within proximity

to the project site. Water drains overland into Greenwood Creek approximately 0.25 miles to the east and into Penobscot Creek approximately 0.6 miles to the southwest. The roadside drainage along Courageous Road does not exhibit wetland characteristics or an ordinary highwater mark, therefore, it is not considered to be a jurisdictional aquatic feature.

(d) Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The project sites will not substantially interfere with native wildlife migration in the area. The project site areas are characterized as primarily rural residential, with disturbed and vegetated areas. None of the sites are considered a wildlife migration corridor, and therefore is not expected to result in impacts to wildlife migration corridors. While **Site 2 Kelsey** and **Site6 Greenwood** are located within an Important Biological Corridor identified by the El Dorado County General Plan, it will not create a barrier to wildlife movement, since the only fences constructed will be around the lease area. The proposed project will not cause significant reduction in the ecological functions of the site because the habitat in the area are already disturbed by human activities.

The construction of new communication towers creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 U.S.C. 703-712) and related Code of Federal Regulations designed to implement the MBTA, the Endangered Species Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Act. Interim guidelines regarding siting communications towers were developed by Fish and Wildlife Service personnel from research conducted in several eastern, midwestern, and southern states, and have been refined through Regional review. They are based on the best information available at this time, and are the most prudent and effective measures for avoiding bird strikes at monopoles. Some of the guidelines are:

- New facilities shall be collocated on existing towers or other existing structures.
- Towers shall be less than 200 feet above ground level
- Towers shall be freestanding (i.e., no guy wires)
- Towers and attendant facilities shall be sited, designed and constructed so as to avoid or minimize habitat loss within and adjacent to the monopole "footprint".
- New towers shall be designed structurally and electrically to accommodate the applicant/licensee's antennas and antennas for at least two additional users (minimum of three users for each monopole structure.
- Security lighting for on-ground facilities and equipment shall be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.
- Monopoles no longer in use or determined to be obsolete shall be removed within 12 months of cessation of use.

The project is consistent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service interim guidelines above. The footprint of the proposed lease area would not encroach onto any environmentally sensitive habitat.

(e) Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated. Project sites 1-5 will not impact any oak canopies. A total of 100 percent of the oak tree canopy cover is expected to be retained on these sites.

A total of 2.92 acres of oak canopy was mapped on **Site 6 Greenwood**. Seven oak trees will be significantly impacted. Of these seven trees, six will require mitigation. Tree #203 will not require mitigation because of its current health. Eight oak trees will be minimally impacted by work within their driplines, but will not require mitigation. Significantly impacted trees will result in the loss of 0.131 acres of oak canopy. Almost 100 percent of the oak tree canopy cover will therefore be retained, in compliance with Policy 7.4.4.4. Oak tree removal, revegetation, and mitigation will be implemented in accordance with the regulations in force at the time, and with the requirements in Mitigation Measure 4, below. The impact will be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

(f) No Impact. None of the project sites are located within an approved habitat conservation plan area.

Mitigation Measure #1 (Site 1 Grizzly Flats, Site 2 Kelsey, Site 3 Sweeny's Crossing):

Special-Status Bat Species:

A qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey within 14 days prior to clearing or grading operations to look for potential bat roosting habitat. This can be conducted in combination with a pre-construction nesting bird survey. If no bats are observed, a letter report shall be prepared to document the results of the survey, and no additional measures are recommended. If any bats are present and roosting on or within 100 feet of the project footprint, then the biologist shall establish an appropriate buffer around the roost site.

Additional mitigation measures for bat species, such as installation of bat boxes or alternate roost structures, would be recommended only if special-status bat species are found to be roosting within the project area.

Pre-construction worker awareness training shall be conducted alerting workers to the presence of and protections for various bat species.

Monitoring Responsibility: El Dorado County Development Services Division.

Mitigation Measure #2 (All sites):

All vegetation clearing including removal of trees and shrubs shall be completed between September 1 and February 14, if feasible. If vegetation removal and grading activities begin during the nesting season (February 15 to August 31), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey of the project footprint for active nests. Additionally, the surrounding 500 feet shall be surveyed for active raptor nests where accessible. The pre-construction survey shall be conducted within 14 days prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities. If the pre-construction survey shows that there is no evidence of active nests, a letter report shall be prepared to document the survey. If construction does not commence within 14 days of the pre-construction survey, or halts for more than 14 days, an additional survey is required prior to starting work.

If nests are found and considered to be active, the project biologist shall establish buffer zones to prohibit construction activities and minimize nest disturbance until the young have successfully fledged. Buffer width will depend on the species in question, surrounding existing disturbances, and specific site characteristics, but may range from 20 feet for some songbirds to up to 500 feet for raptors. If active nests are found within any trees slated for removal, then an appropriate buffer shall be established around the trees and the trees shall not be removed until a biologist determines that the nestlings have successfully fledged or until the nest is no longer active. In addition, a pre-construction worker awareness training shall be conducted alerting workers to the presence of and protections for the active avian nests. If construction activities are proposed to begin during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31), a survey is not required and no further studies are necessary.

Monitoring Requirement: The applicant shall conduct all construction activities outside the nesting season or perform a pre-construction survey and the necessary avoidance measures prior to initiation of construction activities. This mitigation measure shall be noted on the Final Map, in a notice of restriction that shall be recorded on the property, and future grading and residential construction plans. If a pre-construction survey is required, the Development Services Division shall verify the completion of survey prior to issuance of grading permit.

Monitoring Responsibility: El Dorado County Development Services Division.

Mitigation Measure #3 (Site 4 Green Springs Valley):

Corn Horned Lizard:
A pre-construction worker awareness training regarding coast horned lizard shall be conducted prior to the start of construction.

In addition, a pre-construction clearance survey for coast horned lizard shall be conducted immediately prior to the start of ground disturbance.

California Red-Legged Frog

Pre-construction worker awareness training regarding CRLF shall be conducted prior to the start of construction. In addition,

A pre-construction clearance survey for California red-legged frog shall be conducted immediately prior to the start of ground disturbance.

Monitoring Responsibility: El Dorado County Development Services Division.

Mitigation Measure #4 (Site 6 Greenwood):

Oak Woodland

Alteration of on-site individual oak trees and oak tree woodland, or the implementation of on-site work that may affect on-site oak trees, including their canopy or root systems, shall adhere to the adopted Oak Resource Management Plan (ORMP). In addition, a project specific technical

report and mitigation plan addressing impacts to on-site individual oak trees and oak tree woodlands consistent with the guidelines and regulations of the adopted ORMP must be prepared and approved by the County prior to project approval. The technical report must disclose the percentage of impacted oak woodland on-site and the related mitigation plan must indicate the appropriate mitigation ratio and mitigation type, consistent with the requirements of the ORMP. This shall be completed prior to issuance of building permits.

Monitoring Requirement: The applicant shall provide a project specific technical report and mitigation plan addressing impacts to on-site oak woodlands prior to on-site work which may affect oak trees, including their canopy or root systems. The applicant shall also provide evidence of implementation of mitigation through provision to the County evidence of a deed restriction or conservation acquisition, in-lieu fee payment, on-site replacement planting and deed restriction or conservation easement; on-site replacement planting, or any combination thereof, consistent with the ORMP.

Monitoring Responsibility: Planning Services

Finding: With mitigation measures incorporated, impacts to biological resources will be less than significant.

3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Impact Discussion:

(a) – (d) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. Cultural resources include prehistoric and historic period archaeological sites; historical features, such as rock walls, water ditches and flumes, and cemeteries; and architectural features. Cultural resources consist of any human-made site, object (i.e., artifact), or feature that defines and illuminates our past. A complete records search of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) maps for cultural resource site records and survey reports in El Dorado County within a ¼ mile radius of proposed project areas revealed that all six project sites contain zero (0) prehistoric-period resource(s) and zero (0) historic-period cultural resource(s). Impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: None Required.

FINDING: As conditioned and with adherence to El Dorado County Code of Ordinances (County Code), for this Cultural Resources category, impacts would be anticipated to be less than significant.

3.6 GEOLOGIC PROCESSES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
1. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
2. Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
3. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
4. Landslides?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence,	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

liquefaction or collapse?					
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1- B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal system where sewers are not available for the disposal or wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a.1) - a.4) Less Than Significant Impact. No seismic impacts, including seismic-related ground failure impacts are anticipated since no rupture of a known earthquake fault exists in the project areas. Further, the proposed project sites would be consistent with El Dorado County General Plan Objective 6.3.2, to address county-wide seismic hazards.

Like most of north central California, the sites can be expected to be subjected to strong seismic ground shaking at some future time. Accordingly, the proposed wireless communications facility extension would be designed and installed in accordance with building code requirements. Because the project appears to be located such that the probability of significant ground shaking is low, and because any structures that are built during the course of the project will be designed and installed in accordance with building code standards for the appropriate Seismic Hazard Zone, potential geologic impacts would be less than significant. Due to the relatively level proposed project areas, minimum disturbance of the project and existing vegetation on the sites, the potential for a land slide is unlikely.

(b) – (d) Less Than Significant Impact. The project sites do not involve large amounts of soil disturbance that could result in significant soil erosion impacts. The construction activities would result in a land disturbance of less than one acre and therefore are not expected to require a Storm water Pollution Prevention Permit (SWPPP) from State Water Resources Control Board prior to construction. Due to the relatively small amount of soils disturbance required for construction, erosion potential will be minimal. Due to the relatively small amount of soils disturbance required for construction, the potential for unstable soils, liquefaction, and expansion is minimal. Further, the project would be required to comply with applicable portions of the building code, which would offset potential impacts resulting from expansive soils.

(e) No Impact. The project does not require the use of septic systems.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: A review of the soils and geologic conditions on the project site determined that the project would not result in a substantial adverse effect. All grading activities would be required to comply with the El Dorado County Grading, Erosion Control and Sediment Ordinance which would address potential impacts related to soil erosion, landslides and other geologic impacts. Future development would be required to comply with the UBC which would address potential

seismic related impacts. For this Geology and Soils category, impacts would be less than significant.

3.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Impact Discussion:

Global climate change is the observed increase in the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans along with other significant changes in climate (such as precipitation or wind) that last for an extended period of time. The term "global climate change" is often used interchangeably with the term "global warming," but "global climate change" is preferred to "global warming" because it helps convey that there are other changes in addition to rising temperatures. Global surface temperatures have risen by 0.74°C ± 0.18°C over the last 100 years (1906 to 2005). The rate of warming over the last 50 years is almost double that over the last 100 years.[1] The prevailing scientific opinion on climate change is that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities. The increased amounts of carbon dioxide (CO2) and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) are the primary causes of the human-induced component of warming. GHGs are released by the burning of fossil fuels, land clearing, agriculture, and other activities, and lead to an increase in the greenhouse effect.[2]

GHGs are present in the atmosphere naturally, are released by natural sources, or are formed from secondary reactions taking place in the atmosphere. The following are the gases that are widely seen as the principal contributors to human-induced global climate change:[3]

[1] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 2007.*Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the IPCC*.

[2] The temperature on Earth is regulated by a system commonly known as the "greenhouse effect." Just as the glass in a greenhouse allows heat from sunlight in and reduces the amount of heat that escapes, greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide in the atmosphere keep the Earth at a relatively even temperature. Without the greenhouse effect, the Earth would be a frozen globe; thus, although an excess of greenhouse gas results in global warming, the *naturally occurring* greenhouse effect is necessary to keep our planet at a comfortable temperature.

[3] The greenhouse gases listed are consistent with the definition in Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (Government Code §38505).

- Carbon dioxide (CO2)
- Methane (CH4)
- Nitrous oxide (N2O)
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6)

Over the last 200 years, human activities have caused substantial quantities of GHGs to be released into the atmosphere. These extra emissions are increasing GHG concentrations in the atmosphere and enhancing the natural greenhouse effect, which is believed to be causing global warming, while manmade GHGs include naturally-occurring GHGs such as CO2, methane, and N2O, some gases, such as HFCs, PFCs, and SF6 are completely new to the atmosphere.

Section 15064.4 of the CEQA Guidelines sets forth guidance for determining the significance of Impacts from Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The guidelines allow impacts from a particular project to be described quantitatively or qualitatively and direct that impacts shall be evaluated in consideration of existing environmental setting, applicable thresholds of significance, and compliance with regulations and requirements adopted to implement the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.

Section 15064 (h)(3)of the CEQA Guidelines specifies that a project's contribution to a cumulative effect may be found 'not cumulatively considerable' if the project will comply with the requirements in a previously approved plan or mitigation program, including plans or regulations for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. El Dorado County has not adopted a plan or mitigation program for the reduction of greenhouse gases as of the publication of this study. Likewise, it has not adopted thresholds of significance for evaluating greenhouse gas emissions. However, the General Plan provides applicable county-wide goals and policies aimed at improving energy efficiency, improving transportation efficiency, and reducing air emissions, which could reduce or sequester GHGs, including Goal TC-1, Policies TC-1p and TC-1q, Goal 5.6, Objective 5.6.2, and Policies 5.6.2.1 and 5.6.2.2.

(a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project consists of six communication towers that would not significantly contribute to the existing greenhouse gas inventory for El Dorado County. Short term construction GHG emissions will occur during installation of the tower and ground equipment. Standby generators will only be used during power outages and for short duration during testing. Vehicle trips will be associated with very limited construction and routine maintenance. GHG emissions generated by the development and vehicle trips would be of an extremely limited scope and duration. The GHG emissions would be negligible, and the impact would therefore be less than significant.

(b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The El Dorado County General Plan establishes numerous policies relative to greenhouse gases. The everyday operation of the proposed

communication facilities would not generate greenhouse gas emissions. Due to the short term construction, limited vehicle trips to the site and monthly testing of the standby generators, the anticipated increase in emissions would not conflict with the applicable with policies adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: The project would result in less than significant impacts to greenhouse gas emissions. For this Greenhouse Gas Emissions category, there would be no significant adverse environmental effect as a result of the project.

3.8 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environmental through the routine transport use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one- quarter mile of an existing or proposed schools?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites complied pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
in the project area?					
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
g. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk or loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) Less Than Significant Impact. The project is proposed to utilize a standby propane generator for back-up power, and would include a separate propane tank. The storage of propane is required only for emergency purposes during a power outage and will not be routinely used or transported. The amount of propane stored would be similar to that for a residential use. Storage and handling of propane, or any other chemicals or hazardous materials, would be subject to a Hazardous Materials Business Plan, administered by the El Dorado County Public Health Department at the time of development of the project. The plan would include an inventory of hazardous materials and chemicals handled or stored on the site, an emergency response plan, and a training program in safety procedures.

Construction activities associated with the development of the proposed project would involve the use of potentially hazardous materials, including vehicle fuels, oils, and transmission fluids. However, all potentially hazardous materials would be contained, stored, and used in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and handled in compliance with applicable standards and regulations. In the event of an accidental release, construction personal who are experienced in containing accidental releases of hazardous materials will likely be present to contain and treat affected areas in the event a spill occurs. If a larger spill were to occur, construction personal would generally be on-hand to contact the appropriate agencies. Hazardous materials used during construction would ultimately disposed of by a licensed hazardous waste transporter at an authorized and licensed disposal facility or recycling facility.

<u>Radiofrequency (RF) Emissions</u>

Radiofrequency (RF) radiation emanates from antenna on cellular towers and is generated by the movement of electrical charges in the antenna. The energy levels it generates are not great enough to ionize, or break down, atoms and molecules, so it is known as "non-ionizing" radiation.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is the government agency responsible for the authorization and licensing of facilities such as cellular towers that generate RF radiation. For guidance in health and safety issues related to RF radiation, the FCC relies on other agencies and organizations for guidance, including the EPA, FDA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and OSHA, which have all been involved in monitoring and investigating issues related to RF exposure. The FCC has developed and adopted guidelines for human exposure to RF radiation using the recommendations of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), with the support of the EPA, FDA, OSHA and NIOSH. According to the FCC, both the NCRP exposure criteria and the IEEE standard were developed by expert scientists and engineers after extensive reviews of the scientific literature related to RF biological effects. The exposure guidelines are based on thresholds for known adverse effects, and they incorporate wide safety margins. In addition, under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) the FCC is required to evaluate transmitters and facilities for significant impacts on the environment, including human exposure to RF radiation. When an application is submitted to the FCC for construction or modification of a transmitting facility or renewal of a license, the FCC evaluates it for compliance with the RF exposure guidelines, which were previously evaluated under NEPA. Failure to show compliance with the FCC's RF exposure guidelines in the application process could lead to the additional environmental review and eventual rejection of an application. The proposed telecommunication facility is subject to the FCC exposure guidelines, and must fall under the FCC's American National Standards Institute (ANSI) public limit standard of .58 mW/cm2.

Finally, it should be noted that Section 704 of the Telecommunication Act of 1996 states that "No State or local government or instrumentality thereof may regulate the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the Commission's regulations concerning such emissions." Because the proposed facility would operate under federally mandated limits on RF radiation for cellular towers and is regulated by the FCC in this respect, the County may not regulate the placement or construction of this facility based on the RF emissions.

An EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fiels/Radio Frequency) has been prepared and submitted for the project. This report summarizes the results of RF-EME modeling in relation to relevant FCC RF-EME compliance standards for limiting human exposure to RF-EME fields. It demonstrates compliance. Should the facility's emissions exceed FCC standards, the applicant would be responsible for the cost of additional tests and corrective measures to establish compliance with FCC standards. These County development standards would be reflected as conditions of approval in the use permit.

The applicant has also provided a Hazardous Materials and Emissions Questionnaire to the County If materials exceed applicable thresholds outlined in the Hazardous Materials Release

Response Plans and Inventory Law of 1985 (The Business Plan Act), a Hazardous Materials Business Plan would need to be obtained. The plan, when implemented, would address potential impacts associated with the accidental spill or release of chemicals and/or hazardous materials used during operations.

b) Less Than Significant Impact. See discussion under 3.8(a), above.

c) Less Than Significant Impact. There are no schools within one-quarter mile of the project sites. As discussed above, the proposed project may require the use of potentially hazardous materials during construction and operation of the telecommunication facility, including the storage of diesel fuel. Standard construction practices and implementation of the Business Plan Act, would minimize the potential for accidental release of hazardous materials within proximately to or on the school site to a less than significant level.

d) Less Than Significant Impact. A review of regulatory agency databases, which included lists of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5, did not identify contamination sites as being located within, or in the vicinity of, the project sites.

e) No Impact. No public use airports have been identified to be located within the vicinity of the project sites. The proposed project is located outside the compatibility zones for the area airports, and therefore, would not result in a safety hazard to people working and residing on the project sites.

f) No Impact. No known private airstrips have been identified within two miles of the project sites. As a result, no safety hazards associated with airport operations are anticipated to affect people working or residing within the project sites.

g) No Impact. The proposed project consists of six unmanned facilities, so no evacuation and/or emergency response plans are necessary. The proposed project does not include any actions that physically interfere with any emergency response or emergency evacuation plans. Development of the proposed project would add a small amount of trips onto the area roadways; however, area roadways and intersections would continue to operate at an acceptable level of service. In the event future construction activities require work to be performed in the roadway, appropriate traffic control plans would be prepared in conjunction with County requirements.

h) No impact. The proposed use is unmanned and will not subject additional people to risk of fire.

Mitigation Measure: None required

FINDING: The proposed project would not expose the area to hazards relating to the use, storage, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials. For this Hazards and Hazardous Materials category, impacts would be less than significant.

3.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of preexisting nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped by Federal Flood Hazard Boundary, Flood Insurance Rate Map, or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
i. Expose people or structures to a	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

significant risk or loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?					
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a)& b) No Impact. The project does not require the use of water and would not create any water discharges.

(c)- f) Less Than Significant Impact. Equipment shelters are proposed within the fenced lease area. The proposed areas to be developed, including the monopine locations and the ground equipment areas shall be located in oak trees, pine trees and disturbed areas. The 15-foot wide access easements will not create any significant impact to drainage patterns or create significant amount of runoff.

(g)- i) No Impact. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for mapping areas subject to flooding during a 100-year flood event (i.e., 1 percent chance of occurring in a given year). According to floodplain mapping of the project areas, all project sites are located within the X zone (Unshaded). The X zone (Unshaded) is defined by FEMA as areas of minimal flood hazard from the principal source of flood in the area and determined to be outside of the 0.2 percent annual chance floodplain.

(j)No Impact. The lowest project site has an approximate elevation of 1,052 feet above sea level and the height of the improvements to the tower for collocation indicate that the sites will not be subject to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

Mitigation Measures: None required.

FINDING: The proposed project would be required to address any potential erosion and sediment control. No significant hydrological impacts are expected with the development of the project either directly or indirectly. For this hydrology category, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.

3.10 LAND USE:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Conflict with an applicable land use plan, policy, or regulations of an agency with	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?					
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

The project parcels are zoned R1A/RE-5, RL-10, RL-10/RE-5, LA-10 and RE-5. The monopine towers meet the necessary setback requirements from the all property lines.

Once constructed and operational, the communications facilities would provide 24-hour service to customers seven days a week. Apart from initial construction activity, no personnel will be stationed at the site. Routine maintenance and inspection of the facility would occur once a month during normal business hours. No water or sewer service is required as the site would be unmanned.

(a) Less Than Significant Impact. No new parcels or substantial development would result from this project. The project would not divide any established community.

(b) Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with the zoning code and General Plan, and is consistent with both. The proposed monopine towers are conditionally permitted use in the zoned R1A/RE-5, RL-10, RL-10/RE-5, LA-10 and RE-5 zones with the approval of a Conditional Use Permit, which the proposed project is seeking. The proposed project is subject to and will meet the development standards for communication facilities contained in El Dorado County Zoning Code Section 130.40.130.D, and the impact will therefore be less than significant.

(c.) No Impact. The sites are not located within a habitat conservation or natural community plan area.

Mitigation Measure: None Required.

FINDING: The proposed use of the land would be consistent with the Zoning Ordinance and General Plan. There would be no impact to land use goals or standards resulting from the project.

3.11 MINERAL RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous

	Impact	Mitigation Incorporated	Impact		Document
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) & b)No Impact. The California Geological Survey (CGS) has not classified the project sites as not located within a Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ). The proposed project would not use or extract any mineral or energy resources and would not restrict access to known mineral resource areas.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: No impacts to mineral resources are expected either directly or indirectly. For this mineral resources category, there would be no impacts.

3.12 NOISE:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

without the project?					
d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

The project sites are located in areas with rural residential and agricultural uses. Noise levels vary in the project areas. Noise is expected to be limited to construction of the proposed facilities and occasional use of the emergency generator. The proposed wireless communications facilities are unmanned and would not expose people at the facility to noise levels.

a)& c) Less Than Significant Impact. Uses associated with this project would not create a significant increase in ambient noise levels within or in proximity to the project sites. The potential use of onsite emergency standby generators would provide power until normal power is restored. The use of standby generators will be short term in duration and will not create significant impacts. After calculating all decibel levels at each nearby residence's property line and actual residence, the onsite Emergency Backup Generator and HVAC systems are within El Dorado County's noise level standards according to the El Dorado County Title 130 Zoning and Noise Ordinance, Chapter 130.37 – Noise Standards.

(b) No Impact. The proposed project would not include the development of land uses that would generate substantial ground-borne vibration or noise or use construction activities that would have such effects. No structures are proposed that would require heavy footings where the use of heavy pile drivers would be required.

(d) Less Than Significant Impact. Construction activity on the sites has the potential to generate high noise levels on and adjacent to the project site intermittently during project development activities. During construction, the highest noise levels would result from operation of heavy equipment, which can be expected to generate noise levels of between 85 to 90 decibels (dBA) at a distance of 50 feet from the source. Noise levels will be reduced, however, by a factor

of six dBA with each doubling of distance from the noise source and by intervening topography. Construction noise activities related to the construction is temporary in nature and is not seen will not be significant, given the distance to the nearest offsite structures. Consistent with County requirements, noise generating construction activities will be limited to daytime hours between 7:00am and 7:00 pm on weekdays and non-holidays, and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on weekends. Given the distance from the nearest off-site residential structures, construction noise is not expected to have a significant impact on nearby residence. Furthermore, any such noise disturbance would be intermittent, short-term in nature and required to be in compliance with County requirements. The impact would therefore be less than significant.

e) & f) No Impact. The project sites are located more than two miles from the nearest airport or private airstrip.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: As conditioned, and with adherence to County Code, no significant direct or indirect impacts to noise levels are expected either directly or indirectly. For this Noise category, the thresholds of significance would not be exceeded.

3.13 HOUSING:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) No Impact. The project would not affect the population of the area because no new parcels would be created and no additional dwellings would be placed on the project site as a result of this project.

b) & c) No Impact. The project would not displace individuals or housing. The project does not require the extension of any infrastructure, such as roads, water, or sewer systems. Therefore, the project would not induce substantial population growth in the project area.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: The project would not displace housing. There would be no potential for a significant impact due to substantial growth either directly or indirectly. For this Population and Housing category, the thresholds of significance would not be anticipated to be exceeded.

3.14 PUBLIC SERVICES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of or need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Police Protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. Other public services?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) - b) No Impact. The project would not increase the level of fire protection service needed on the site because wireless communication facilities do not normally require such services.

c) No Impact. The proposal is not expected to result in an increase in demand for police services because wireless communication facilities do not normally require such services.

d) No Impact. The communication facility is an unmanned facility and therefore will not result in an increase in demand for school facilities in the area.

e) No Impact. The communication facilities are an unmanned facility and therefore will not create an increase in park usage.

e) No Impact. The communication facilities are an unmanned facility and therefore will not require other public services

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: The project would not result in a significant increase of public services to the project. For this Public Services category, impacts would be less than significant.

3.15 RECREATION:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) & b) No Impact. The communication facilities are an unmanned facility and therefore will not create an increase in park usage. No recreational facilities are proposed under this proposal and none are located on the project sites. No impacts on existing or future recreational facilities would occur.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: No significant impacts to open space or park facilities would result as part of the project. For this Recreation category, impacts would be less than significant.

3.16 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. Result in inadequate parking capacity?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
g. Conflict with accepted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

Access to the facility will be provided by a 15-foot wide access drive from various private and county maintained roads.

(a)&(b) Less Than Significant Impact. The project areas are rural residential, and there are low traffic volumes. The proposed wireless communication facilities would temporally generate additional vehicle traffic in the project area during construction activities. This would be minor and would not have a significant impact on vehicular circulation in the project areas. Once construction has been completed, traffic will return to pre-construction levels. After construction activities have been completed, the project would require only one to two site visits per month for each site. This very low number of vehicle trips would not have any impact on vehicular circulation in the project area.

(c) No Impact. The project site is not located within an Airport Compatibility Zone.

(d) No Impact. The project design does not involve any modifications to roads, nor create any additional hazards of safety concerns.

(e)– (g) No Impact. Since the project is an unmanned facility and does not involve a substantial number of vehicle trips, the project will not result in inadequate emergency access.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: The project would not exceed the thresholds for traffic identified within the General Plan. For this Transportation/Traffic category, the thresholds of significance would not be exceeded and impacts would be less than significant.

3.17 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and this is:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**	**Reviewed Under Previous Document**
a. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k) or	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1. In apply the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of the Public Resources Code section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) Less Than Significant Impact. The United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria (UAIC), the Wilton Rancheria, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, the Ione Band of Miwok Indians, the Nashville-El Dorado Miwok, the T'si-Akim Maidu, and the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians were notified of the proposed project and given access to all project documents. No other tribes had requested to be notified of the proposed projects for consultation in the project area at the time. In response to requests from the UAIC, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians and the Wilton Rancheria, the Cultural Resources Search for the project was sent to the tribe via email. No other requests for further information or formal consultation were received for this project. Pursuant to the Records Search, by the North Central Information Center, the geographic area of the project sites are not known to contain any resources listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a

local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or considered significant by a California Native American tribe. The impact would be less than significant.

b) Less Than Significant Impact. See discussion 4.17(a) – *Tribal Cultural Resources.*

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: No significant TCRs are known to exist on the project site. As a result, the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change to a TCR and there would be a less than significant impact

3.18 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes, and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

(a)- g) No Impact. Implementation of the project would not require domestic water or wastewater treatment, or solid waste facilities. It would not be in non-compliance with any statutes or regulations relating to solid waste, nor would it employ equipment that would introduce interference into any system. Thus, the project would have no impact on any utilities or service systems.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

FINDING: No significant utility and service system impacts would be expected with the project, either directly or indirectly. For this Utilities and Service Systems category, the thresholds of significance would not be exceeded.

3.19 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE (SECTION 15065):

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
or prehistory?					
b. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. With the implementation of mitigation measures included in this Initial Study, the proposed project would not degrade the quality of the environment; result in an adverse impact on fish, wildlife, or plant species including special status species, or prehistoric or historic cultural resources. Prehistoric or historic cultural resources would not be adversely affected because no archeological or historic resources are known to exist in the project area and project implementation includes following appropriate procedures for avoiding or preserving artifacts or human remains should they be uncovered during project excavation.

b) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. This project has the potential to contribute impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable with respect to air quality, biological resources and cultural resources. Cumulative impacts to these areas would be mitigated due to the inclusion of the Mitigation Measures listed throughout this report.

Past, current, and probable future projects in the vicinity of the project site were reviewed to determine if any additional cumulative impacts may occur with the approval of this project. A two-mile radius was used in determining cumulative impacts. No additional cumulative impacts were discovered.

c) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. There have been no impacts discovered through the review of this application demonstrating that there would be substantial

adverse effects on human beings either directly or indirectly. However, the proposed project has the potential to cause both temporary and future impacts to the area by project-related impacts relating to air, biological resources, and cultural resources. With implementation of mitigation measures included in this Initial Study, these impacts would be effectively mitigated to a less than significant level.

FINDINGS: It has been determined that the proposed project would not result in significant environmental impacts. The project would not exceed applicable environmental standards, nor significantly contribute to cumulative environmental impacts.

Attachments

Sites 1-6, Attachment 1.....Site Plan
Sites 1-6, Attachment 2.....Coverage Map
Sites 1-6, Attachment 3.....Alternative Site Analysis
Sites 1-6, Attachment 4.....Photo Simulations