



# Public Notice

US Army Corps  
of Engineers

Sacramento District  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice Number: 199900580

Date: August 16, 2002

Comments Due: September 15, 2002

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

**SUBJECT:** Application for a Department of the Army permit under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to place fill material into the Wetland adjacent to Calf Pasture Creek, as shown in the attached drawings to realign highway 89 and construct a new County Road A-15 intersection.

**APPLICANT:** Jonathan Oldham  
California Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 496073  
Redding, CA 96049-6073

**LOCATION:** The proposed California Department of Transportation Highway 89 Curve Realignment at County Road A-15 project is located in Section 30, 31, Township 22 North, Range 12 East, Plumas, California. Latitude 39-43-56.4649 Longitude 120-33-23.6399, UTM Zone 10, 709400 North, 4400700 East.

**PURPOSE:** Re-align Highway 89 to bring this section of highway to current highway standards and improve operation and safety.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Re-align a 0.5 mile section of Highway 89 at the County Road A-15 intersection. The re-alignment will consist of straightening and widening the highway, relocating the road A-15 intersection, constructing a left turn lane at road A-15, and relocating a segment of Calf Pasture Creek. The re-alignment will result in the permanent impact to approximately 1.6 acres of wetlands, 675 linear feet (0.07 ac.) of Calf Pasture Creek, and 1020 linear feet (0.33 ac.) of irrigation/drainage ditch which is a relocated natural drainage. The project will also temporarily impact an additional 0.78 acre of wetlands during construction that will be restored on-site. CalTrans proposes to mitigate for project impacts both on-site and off-site. CalTrans has proposed to replace the lost 675 foot portion of Calf Pasture Creek by relocating the creek through the meadow creating 730 linear foot of new intermittent stream channel. The impacted drainage ditch is proposed to be replaced in-kind by relocated it onto adjacent private property. The proposed off-site mitigation area is located in near Crescent Mills along Indian Creek in Plumas County. CalTrans has proposed reclaiming an abandoned mill site and creating 1.6 acres of wetlands to mitigate for project impacts.

**AREA DESCRIPTION:** The project is located in the Mohawk Valley in Plumas County, a mountain valley east of the Sierra Nevada Crest in southern Plumas County. The valley floor ranges in elevation from 4400 to 4600 ft. above sea level. The project site is predominately made up of montane wet meadow and mixed pine forest. The area has been significantly altered in the past by human activity. The majority of the site is comprised of a heavily grazed meadow in which the hydrology has been altered to irrigate the pasture.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

A known cultural resources site is located in the permit area, and it appears the site will not be impacted by the proposed work.

Presently unknown cultural resources may be located in the permit area.

This activity would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat.

The Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) has made this determination based on information provided by the applicant and on the FHWA's preliminary investigation.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **September 15, 2002**. Personal information in comment letters is subject to release to the public through the Freedom of Information Act. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

If additional information is required, please contact Jonathan Oldham from the California Department of Transportation, telephone 530-225-3308, or Matthew Kelley, at the letterhead address, telephone 916-557-7724.

Michael J. Conrad, Jr.  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Engineer

Enclosures: 3 Drawings