



**CAMERON PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

2502 Country Club Drive  
Cameron Park, CA 95682  
(530) 677-2231 Phone  
(530) 677-2201 Fax  
[www.cameronpark.org](http://www.cameronpark.org)

# **AGENDA**

Regular Board of Directors Meetings are held  
Third Wednesday of the Month

**Board of Directors  
Strategic Plan Workshop  
Wednesday, February 24, 2021  
6:30 p.m.**

**TELECONFERENCE ZOOM MEETING**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82766037464>

**Meeting ID: 827 6603 7464**

(Teleconference/Electronic Meeting Protocols are attached)

## **Board Members**

Eric Aiston	President
Felicity Carlson	Vice President
Sidney Bazett	Board Member
Monique Scobey	Board Member
Ellie Wooten	Board Member

## **CALL TO ORDER**

1. Roll Call
  2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 

*Public testimony will be received on each agenda item as it is called. Principal party on each side of an issue is allocated 10 minutes to speak, individual comments are limited to 3 minutes except with the consent of the Board; individuals shall be allowed to speak on an item only once. Members of the audience are asked to volunteer their name before addressing the Board. The Board reserves the right to waive said rules by a majority vote.*

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## **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*The Board will make any necessary additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda and motion to adopt the Agenda.*

3. Adopt the Agenda
- 

## **OPEN FORUM FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

*Members of the public may speak on any item not on the agenda that falls within the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors.*

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## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

*For purposes of the Brown Act §54954.2 (a), items below provide a brief description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed. Recommendations of the staff, as shown, do not prevent the Board from taking other action.*

4. **APPROVE** Resolution 2021-06 Categorical Exemption for the Sports Field Renovation Project at Christa McAuliffe
  5. Workshop – Five Year Strategic Plan
- 

## **BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

*At this time, the Board and staff are provided the opportunity to speak on various issues. Direction by the President may be given; however, no action may be taken unless the Board agrees to include the matter on a subsequent agenda.*

6. General Matters to/from Board Members and Staff
- 

## **ADJOURNMENT –**

Please contact the District office at (530) 677-2231 or [admin@cameronpark.org](mailto:admin@cameronpark.org) if you require public documents in alternate formats or accommodation during public meetings. For the public's information, we are taking email requests at [admin@cameronpark.org](mailto:admin@cameronpark.org) for future notification of Cameron Park Community Services District meetings.

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# Teleconference/Electronic Meeting Protocols

## Cameron Park Community Services District

(Effective April 2, 2020)

*WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsome proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and*

*WHEREAS, March 17, 2020, Governor Newsome issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending parts of the Brown Act that required in-person attendance of Board members and citizens at public meetings; and*

*WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsome issued Executive Order N-33-20 directing most individuals to shelter at home or at their place of residence.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, the Cameron Park Community Services District will implement the following protocols for its Board and committee meetings.*

The guidance below provides useful information for accessing Cameron Park Community Services District (“District”) meetings remotely and establishing protocols for productive meetings.

### **BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

- **Attendance.** Board and Committee Members should attend District meetings remotely from their homes, offices, or an alternative off-site location. As per the Governor’s updated Executive Order N-29-20, there is no longer a requirement to post agendas at or identify the address of these locations.
- **Agendas.** Agenda packages will be made available on the District’s website. They will also be sent by email to all Board and Committee Members. Note that under the circumstances, District staff may not be able to send paper packets.
- **Board and Committee Member Participation.** Meeting Chair(s) will recognize individual Board and Committee Members and unmute their device so that comments may be heard or will read comments if they are provided in writing only.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

- **Attendance.** The District’s office will remain closed to the public until further notice. Members of the public will be able to hear and/or see public meetings via phone, computer, or smart device. Information about how to observe the meeting is listed on the agenda of each meeting.
- **Agendas.** Agendas will be made available on the District’s website and to any members of the public who have a standing request, as provided for in the Brown Act.
- **Public Participation.** The public can observe and participate in a meeting as follows:
  - **How to Observe the Meeting:**
    - **Telephone:** Listen to the meeting live by calling Zoom at (669) 900-6833 or (346) 248 7799. Enter the Meeting ID# listed at the top of the applicable Board or Committee agenda followed by the pound (#) key. More phone numbers can be found on Zoom’s website at <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/91011020000> if the line is busy.
    - **Computer:** Watch the live streaming of the meeting from a computer by navigating to the link listed at the top of the applicable Board or Committee agenda using a computer with internet access that meets Zoom’s system requirements (<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>)
    - **Mobile:** Log in through the Zoom mobile app on a smartphone and enter the Meeting ID# listed at the top of the applicable Board or Committee agenda.
  - **How to Submit Public Comments:**
    - **Before the Meeting:** Please email your comments to [admin@cameronpark.org](mailto:admin@cameronpark.org), with “Public Comment” in the subject line. In the body of the email, include the agenda item number and title, as well as your comments. If you would like your comment to be read aloud at the meeting (not to exceed 3 minutes at staff’s cadence), prominently write “Read Aloud at Meeting” at the top of the email. Emails running longer than the time limit will not be finished. All comments received at least 2 hours prior to the meeting on the day the meeting will be held, will be included as an agenda supplement on the District’s website

under the relevant meeting date, and provided to the Directors/Committee Members at the meeting. Comments received after that time will be treated as contemporaneous comments.

- **Contemporaneous Comments:** During the meeting, the Board President/Committee Chair or designee will announce the opportunity to make public comments. If you would like to make a comment during this time, you may do so by clicking the “raise hand” button. You will be addressed and un-muted when it is your turn to speak (not to exceed the 3 minute public comment time limit).

#### **FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS:**

- **Get Connected:** Please download Zoom application for your device and familiarize yourself with how to utilize this tool. There is no cost for using the application.
- **Ensure Quiet.** All audience members will be muted during the meeting until they are addressed by the Board/Committee as their time to speak. Please make every effort to find a location with limited ambient noise. Please turn off the ringer on your phone and other notification sounds on your devices to reduce interruptions.

We anticipate that this process of moving to remote meetings will likely include some challenges. Please bear with us as we navigate this process.



## Agenda Transmittal

**DATE:** February 24, 2020

**FROM:** Jill Ritzman, General Manager

**AGENDA ITEM #4:** **CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION, SPORTS FIELD RENOVATION AT CHRISTA MCAULIFFE PARK**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** **APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-06 APPROVING CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FOR HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT**

### Introduction

The Board of Directors approved, and staff is proceeding with the sports field renovation project at Christa McAuliffe Park. Per Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant requirements, a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document is required for the project, either the environmental document for the initial construction of the sports field or for the current project. Since a past CEQA document could not be located at the County or District, staff proceeded with securing a new environmental review under CEQA guidelines.

Cameron Park Community Services District (District) is considered the lead agency for approval of the environmental document, because these projects will be taking place on District properties.

### Discussion

The District contracted with a local environmental consulting firm, Sierra Ecosystem Associates (SEA) to complete the review. SEA conducted the review consistent with CEQA guidelines and concluded the project is exempt from CEQA; therefore, a Notice of Exemption is prepared for consideration by the Board of Directors.

SEA determined that there will be no impact to historic or cultural resources.

### Attachments:

4A – Notice of Exemption - Categorical Exemption  
4B – Resolution 2021-06

Cameron Park Community Services District

Christa McAuliffe Park Sportsfield  
Repair and Maintenance Project

## **Draft Notice of Exemption and Categorical Exemption Finding**

**Notice of Exemption****Appendix E**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**From:** (Public Agency): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Address)

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location - Specific:

Project Location - City: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Location - County: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

Lead Agency

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Area Code/Telephone/Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?    Yes    No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Lead Agency    Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_



## CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FINDING

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Name of Project:**

Christa McAuliffe Park Sportsfield Repair and Maintenance Project

**Lead Agency Name and Address:**

Cameron Park Community Services District, 2502 Country Club Dr, Cameron Park, CA 95682

**Contact Person and Phone number:**

Jill Ritzman, General Manager, (530) 350-4651

**Project Location:**

The Project is located between U.S. Highway 50 and Merrychase drive within the boundary of Cameron Park Community Services District, in El Dorado County. Coordinates are 38°39'23.9"N 121°00'18.5"W.

**General Plan Designation:**

Christa McAuliffe Park is designated as “Public Facility” in the El Dorado County General Plan Land Use (December 2019).

**Zoning:**

Christa McAuliffe Park is zoned as “Residential (R1)” by the El Dorado County General Plan (December 2019).

**Project Description:**

The Christa McAuliffe Park Sportsfield Repair and Maintenance Project (Project) would improve turf quality and durability and field drainage conditions within the limits of the existing sportsfield. The sportsfield is a turfgrass area that is approximately 3.5 acres. The Project would involve removing the existing turfgrass, grading the soil, leveling the surface, hauling excess turfgrass offsite, performing deep tine aeration of the subgrade soil to improve drainage, importing clean fill, amending the soil to improve turf health and durability, and then fertilizing and seeding of new turfgrass. No previously unexcavated areas would be graded and no trees would be removed.

The excavated turf would be removed and stockpiled at the existing paved parking lot. Excavated material would be temporarily stored in dumpsters in the parking area and hauled off-site during the weekend to prevent potential interference and traffic safety concerns with adjacent school operations. Approximately 230 yards of new fill material consisting of compost and sand would be imported and blended onto the sportsfield. This represents approximately 20 truck trips for import of clean fill. Excavation and truck hauling of materials into the Project site would be intermittent and limited to the hours of between 7am and 5pm on weekdays only. Temporary fencing would be placed around the sportsfield and remain

## CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FINDING

for the duration of heavy equipment operations and for four months following seeding of the field. The turfgrass area fencing would prevent public entry and the existing park amenities on the western side of the park (skate park and playground) may also be closed intermittently.

The Project heavy equipment operations would be completed in approximately 4 to 6 weeks during the months of April and May 2021.

Figure 1 shows the Project's location. Figure 2 provides a detailed location map of the proposed Project.

The existing oak knoll at the south eastern end of the parcel would be fenced off with an orange construction avoidance barrier to ensure that previously identified, sensitive cultural resources are not affected by construction equipment or other activities related to the Project.

### **CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FINDING**

The Cameron Park Community Services District (CSD) has determined this Project is categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines Article 19, Section 15301 Existing Facilities. The Class 1 exemption consists of "the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination."

### Exceptions to Categorical Exemptions

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2, and Public Resources Code, Section 21084, Cameron Park Community Services District has considered whether circumstances exist that would create an exception to this categorical exemption and has not found that any such circumstances exist. As a categorically exempt project, the CSD has made the following findings:

- | Yes                      | No                                  |   |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Would the project and successive projects of the same type in the same place result in cumulative impacts?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Are there "unusual circumstances" creating the reasonable possibility of significant effects?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Would the project result in damage to scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings within a state scenic highway?                 |

## CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FINDING

- Is the project located on a site that the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Secretary of the Environmental Protection have identified, pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5, as being affected by hazardous wastes or clean-up problems?
- Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource?

### Discussion

The Project site is within a 7.1-acre community park with an existing turfgrass sportsfield approximately 3.5 acres in size. The Parkway is located within the boundaries of Cameron Park CSD. The Park is surrounded by mixed use development including low and high density residential, commercial, churches, and Camerado Springs Middle School.

There are no substantial, potentially adverse environmental impacts identified with repair and maintenance of the existing sportsfield, and there are no other known projects of the same type planned within the immediate area that would cause a cumulative impact. There are no known unusual circumstances that would create the reasonable possibility of any significant effects associated with the Project.

There is no State Scenic Highway in the vicinity of the Project. U.S. Highway 50 becomes a scenic highway 12 miles to the east of the Project. The Project would not remove any trees, and there are no historic buildings on site to be affected by Project activities. As shown by a search of the Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database, there are no hazardous waste sites within or proximate to the Project (DTSC 2021).

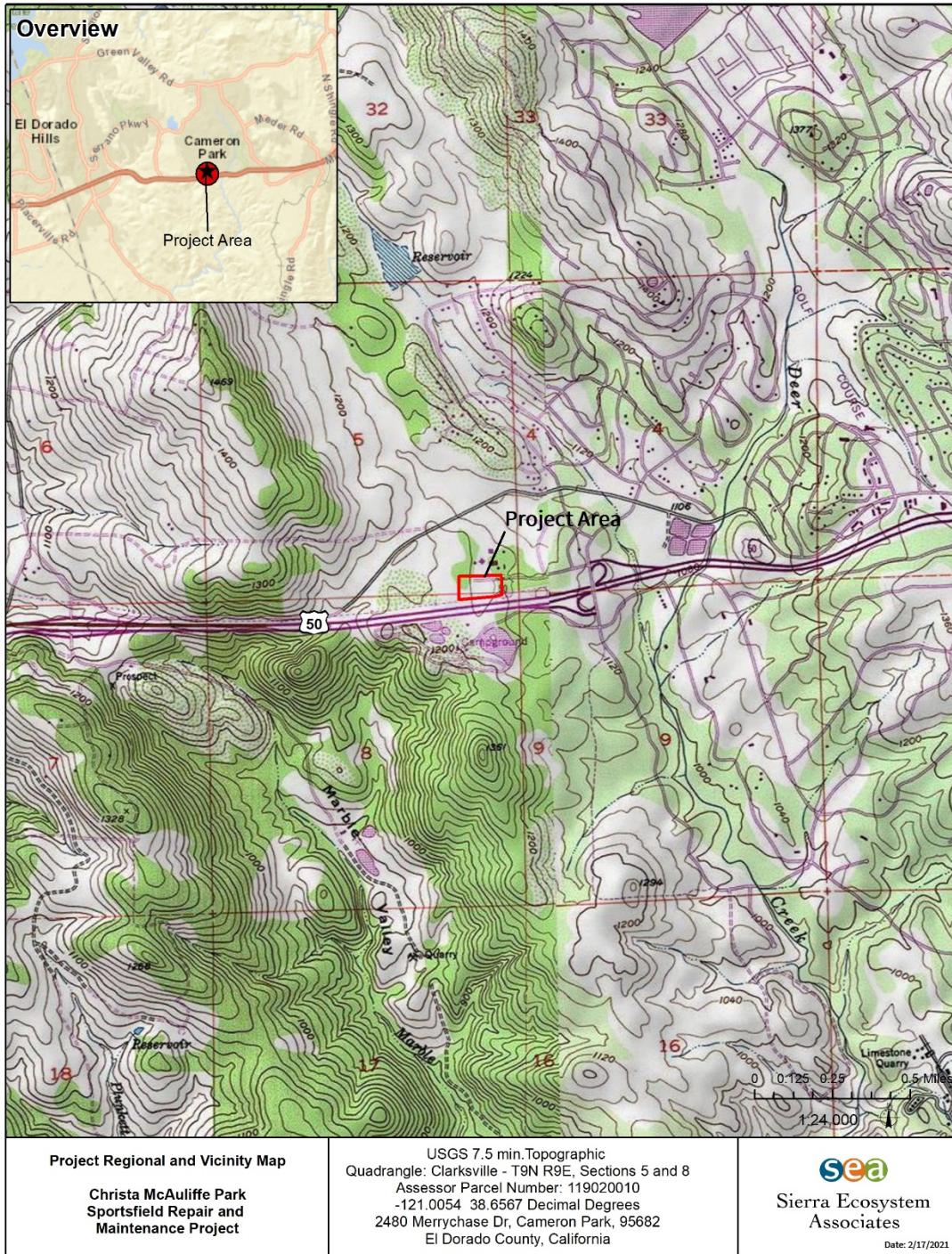
Cultural databases were searched by North Central Information Center, California State University, Sacramento, California. This included thorough record searches of the Project area and the surrounding area. The 1866 GLO plat of T9N, R9E shows evidence of a nineteenth-century “stone fence” in the parcel. A rock outcropping along with the recorded historic stone wall are located in the southeastern corner of the Project parcel, but both are greater than 50 feet from the sportsfield and would be protected during Project construction by installation of orange avoidance area fencing. In addition, the 1953 Clarksville 7.5’ USGS Topographical map shows evidence of twentieth-century Lincoln Highway, now Country Club Drive, to the east of the Project parcel. The historic Lincoln Highway is located greater than 100 feet away from the Project and would not be affected by the Project.

### References

DTSC, 2021. The California Dept. of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor Database. Searched February 11, 2021. <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/>

# CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FINDING

Figure 1: Project Location



# CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FINDING

Figure 2: Project Location - Detail



## **Draft Biological Resource Report**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The following report addresses the potential biological resources effects of the proposed Christa McAuliffe Park Sportsfield Repair and Maintenance Project (Project). The Cameron Park Community Services District (CSD) proposes to perform repairs of and renovate the 3.5 acre turfgrass sportsfield.

### **1.1 Project Description**

The Christa McAuliffe Park Sportsfield Repair and Maintenance Project (Project) would improve turf quality and durability and field drainage conditions within the limits of the existing sportsfield. The sportsfield is a turfgrass area that is approximately 3.5 acres. The Project would involve removing the existing turfgrass, grading the soil, leveling the surface, hauling excess soil offsite, performing deep tine aeration of the subgrade soil to improve drainage, importing clean fill, amending the soil to improve turf health and durability, and then fertilizing and seeding of new turfgrass. No previously unexcavated areas would be graded and no trees would be removed.

### **1.2 Survey Dates and Personnel**

EN2 Resources, Inc. (EN2) staff Senior Ecologist, Jeremy Waites (J. Waites), and Wildlife Biologist, April Hillman visited the Project site and completed a pedestrian field survey of the area on February 17, 2021. The field survey focused on: completing a habitat assessment for sensitive species and surveying vegetation cover types. Prior to the site visit, EN2 staff completed a desktop evaluation of published resources with information regarding the site and the surrounding area. Photos taken during the site visit are included in Appendix A.

## **2.0 METHODOLOGY**

Development of this biological report involved 1) a desktop evaluation and 2) a field survey. The methodology for each is described below.

### **2.1 Desktop Evaluation**

The desktop evaluation of the Project site consisted of the review of current database maintained by CDFW to identify special-status species which could occur on the Project site (CDFW 2021). In addition, J. Waites completed a search of database records in the CNDDDB for reported occurrences of special status species. The CNDDDB search included the Project site and a 5-mile buffer around the Project site. Table 1 summarizes the species identified in this focused query (CDFW 2021).

**Table 1. CNDDDB Species**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Listing	California Listing	Habitat	Habitat Present
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	tricolored blackbird	None	Threatened	Agricultural, marshes, grasslands	Poor
<i>Andrena blennospermatis</i>	Blennosperma vernal pool andrenid bee	None	None	Vernal Pools	None
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	golden eagle	None	None	Open mountains, foothills, plains	Poor
<i>Ardea herodias</i>	great blue heron	None	None	Open water shores, wetlands	None
<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	burrowing owl	None	None	Agricultural lands, deserts, grasslands, prairies	None
<i>Buteo regalis</i>	ferruginous hawk	None	None	Arid plains and intermountain regions. Open country with scattered trees	Poor
<i>Calystegia stebbinsii</i>	Stebbins' morning-glory	Endangered	Endangered	serpentinite, gabbroic soils	None
<i>Carex xerophila</i>	chaparral sedge	None	None	serpentinite, gabbroic soils	None
<i>Ceanothus roderickii</i>	Pine Hill ceanothus	Endangered	Rare	serpentinite, gabbroic soils	None
<i>Chlorogalum grandiflorum</i>	Red Hills soaproot	None	None	serpentinite, gabbroic soils	None
<i>Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae</i>	Brandegee's clarkia	None	None	Roadcuts, chaparral, montane coniferous forest	None
<i>Crocyanthemum suffrutescens</i>	Bisbee Peak rush-rose	None	None	gabbroic and lone soils	None
<i>Emys marmorata</i>	western pond turtle	None	None	Vegetated lakes, rivers	None
<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	North American porcupine	None	None	Coniferous and Shrubby areas	None
<i>Fremontodendron decumbens</i>	Pine Hill flannelbush	Endangered	Rare	serpentinite, gabbroic soils	None
<i>Galium californicum ssp. sierrae</i>	El Dorado bedstraw	Endangered	Rare	serpentinite, gabbroic soils	None
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	bald eagle	Delisted	Endangered	Areas near open water and mature nesting trees	None
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i>	California black rail	None	Threatened	Marshes	None
<i>Packera layneae</i>	Layne's ragwort	Threatened	Rare	Chapparal in serpentine and gabbroic soils	None



Phrynosoma blainvillii	coast horned lizard	None	None	Open areas of sandy soil and low vegetation in valleys, foothills and semiarid mountain	None
Sagittaria sanfordii	Sanford's arrowhead	None	None	Shallow, freshwater marshes and swamp	None
Wyethia reticulata	El Dorado County mule ears	None	None	serpentinite, gabbroic soils	None

## 2.2 Pedestrian Field Survey

The field assessment included a habitat analysis and a floristic botanical survey in which every plant species was identified, meaning that every plant taxon was identified to the taxonomic level necessary to determine if potential sensitive plant species could occur. Unknown species were identified using a taxonomic key in the Jepson Manual (Jepson 2020). The survey extent was comprehensive over the entire park (7.1 acres).

## 3.0 RESULTS BASED ON DESKTOP EVALUATION AND FIELD SURVEY

The following section provides details on the specific habitat characteristics at the site, conditions which influence those habitats, and includes information gathered during the February 2021 site visit.

The local topography surrounding the Project site is in rolling foothills surrounded by residential and commercial lands and bordered by Highway 50 on the south. As shown in Table 1, there is potential habitat special status species within or near the Project site. However, habitat is poor due to site characteristics found during the field survey.

### 3.1 Wetland Features

A total of two potential wetland features were adjacent to the Project area: an ephemeral drainage on the eastern edge and a shallow ditch between the sportsfield and U.S. Highway 50. The ephemeral drainage was vegetated by himilayan blackberry and willow. Water was flowing at the time of the survey. The ditch on the southern side of the park between the highway and the sportsfield appears to collect water flowing off the sportsfield. A culvert daylight briefly here that drains water under the turfgrass and passes under the highway. Project activities do not include the fill of any wetland features.

### 3.2 Vegetation Classification

The Project vicinity contains mostly chaparral and Mixed Oak Woodland. The park is mostly developed and planted with nonnative trees such as London plane tree (*Platanus xhispanica*) and a nonnative pine (*Pinus ssp.*) The eastern area of the park outside the Project area is oak

woodland containing blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*) and valley oak (*Quercus lobata*). The understory is dominated by nonnative annual grasses, yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), and redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*).

#### **4.0 DISCUSSION**

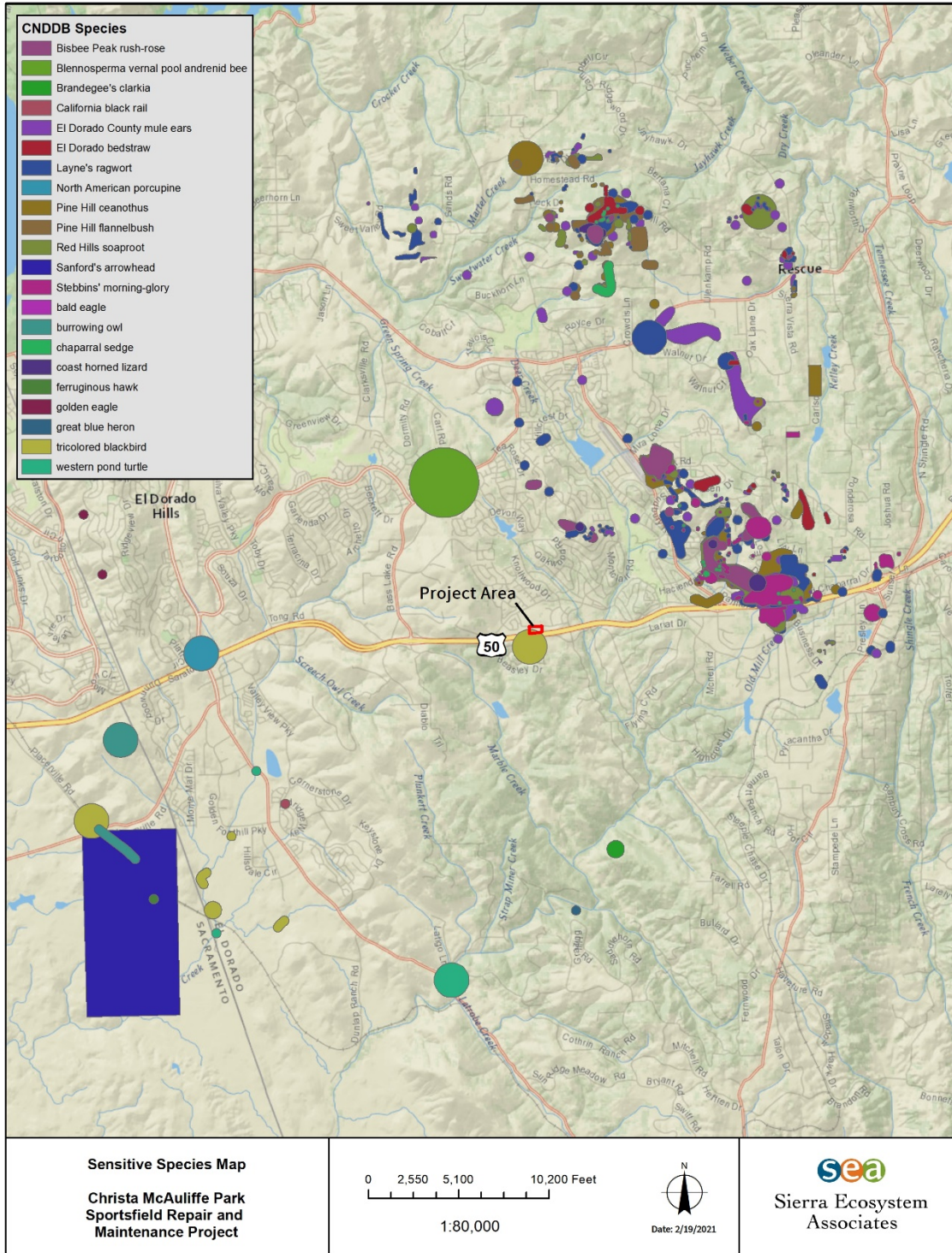
The CNDDDB database search found that most special status plants and animals prefer habitat within vernal pools or in gabbro and serpentine soils that exist within 5 miles of the Project in the Pine Hill area that supports protected endemic plant species. Based on the existing conditions of the Project area, no vernal pools or evidence of seasonal water retention areas exist within the Project boundary. The soil within the Project area is listed as Rescue sandy loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes and is unlikely to support the Pine Hill endemic plants. Project activities would be contained within the existing turfgrass area and would be unlikely to affect sensitive plant species. No sensitive plants were found during the survey on February 17, 2021.

Because of the habitat conditions present, the species most likely to occur within the Project site are avian species that are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Project activities do not include the removal of trees or shrubs that provide suitable nesting habitat and therefore are not likely to significantly impact the nesting migratory birds.

The tricolored blackbird is the only CNDDDB occurrence that is within one mile of the Project. More detailed analysis of this biological resource is covered in the Tricolored Blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) Analysis report in Appendix B.

# Appendix A

## Sensitive Species Map



## Appendix B

### **Tricolored Blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) Analysis For Christa McAuliffe Park Sportsfield Repair and Maintenance Project**

#### **Tricolored Blackbird Life History**

This species is found throughout California and in isolated areas of Oregon, Washington, and northern Baja California. The bird uses wetlands and agricultural fields for foraging and nesting. Main food sources include grasshoppers, beetles, weevils, caterpillars, snails, and seeds. Foraging mainly occurs on the ground in flocks.

Females create open-cup nests out of long leaves, particularly grasses and cattail leaves. They submerge the leaves in water before weaving them around plant stems. The bottom is enforced with mud. Nests are about 7 inches in height and 5 inches in width. Females lay three to four eggs, which are pale blue with red and brown splotches and wavy lines, concentrated more towards the large end of the egg.

#### **Tricolored Blackbird Nesting Habitat**

Tricolored blackbirds nest along freshwater marshes with presence of cattail, rushes and willows or in triticale (wheat and rye hybrid) fields with invasive mustard and mallow plants. A nearby water source and concealing vegetation is a requirement for nesting habitat. Nests are built anywhere from ground level to 8 feet in height. Tricolored blackbirds nest in dense colonies of up to 100,000 nests constructed 1-2 feet apart.

#### **Tricolored Blackbird Past Occurrences**

The tricolored blackbird record within the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) showed a past occurrence of nesting birds in what was surveyed as Site 2 below. The occurrence record observed 500 nesting birds in 1987. The site was surveyed again in 1992, 2000, and 2014 with no birds observed. The area was developed in 2000 and is now a residential area and ballfield. The record stated that no more suitable nesting habitat exists.

#### **Site 1 Survey & Observations**

Location: Christa McAuliffe Park, Cameron Park, CA

Flora: Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*), live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*), arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), Goodings or red willow (*Salix ssp.*), grape (*Vitis californica*)

Fauna: Brewer's blackbirds (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), mourning doves (*Zenaida macroura*), turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*)

Attributes: Baseball field, soccer/playing field, parking lot, playground. Potential small retention pond, small creek with flowing water, cultural resource rock wall

Tricolored Blackbird Habitat: While no appropriate nesting habitat was observed, it was concluded that tricolored blackbirds may use the vegetated area surrounding the small creek for foraging and other short-term use.

### **Site 2 Survey & Observations**

Location: Ponds located southwest of Christa McAuliffe Park, off of Crazy Horse Road, Cameron Park, CA and separated from the Project by U.S. Highway 50.

Flora: Various species of willows and cattails

Fauna: Bufflehead duck (*Bucephala albeola*)

Environment: Two ponds surrounded by vegetation and trees, small walking path accessible through entrance on Crazy Horse Road.

Tricolored Blackbird Habitat: This environment provides proper nesting habitat for this species due to the amount and type of vegetation and present water sources. It is situated in very close proximity to Highway 50 and a residential area which could pose limitations on amount of breeding pairs and success. Past occurrences are likely extirpated from this area.

### **References**

Tricolored Blackbird IDENTIFICATION, All About Birds, Cornell Lab of Ornithology. (n.d.). Retrieved February 17, 2021, from [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Tricolored\\_Blackbird/id](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Tricolored_Blackbird/id)

Tricolored Blackbird. (2020, February 11). Retrieved February 17, 2021, from <https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/tricolored-blackbird>

**Cultural Records Search Results Letter prepared by  
Sharon A. Waechter, MA/RPA**

February 17, 2021

Rick A. Lind, President  
EN2 Resources, Inc., also dba  
Sierra Ecosystem Associates  
1024 Simon Drive, Suite H  
Placerville, CA 95667

*Re: Crista McAuliffe Park Sportsfield Improvements Project, Cameron Park, El Dorado County, California*

Dear Rick:

At your request, I have obtained and reviewed the records search results for this project from the North Central Information Center (NCIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System, an adjunct of the State Office of Historic Preservation. I understand that you have already initiated Native American outreach for the project, and so I have not included that in my scope of work.

The NCIC provided me with a list and mapped locations of several previous archaeological surveys within one-quarter mile of your 3.5-acre project parcel at Christa McAuliffe Park. Three of these surveys overlap your parcel. One of these, completed in 1985 by the firm of Peak & Associates, included all of the 3.5 acres; the other two were linear surveys of the road that runs along the southern parcel boundary. The 1985 survey did not record any cultural resources, but the linear surveys identified and recorded a dry-stacked rock wall that extends into your project parcel at its southeastern corner.

A review of historical maps (USGS topographic quadrangles for 1891, 1892, 1941, 1944, 1947, 1953, 1994) showed no cultural features of any kind in your project parcel. However, the 1866 General Land Office (GLO) Original Survey Plat for Township 9 North/Range 9 East shows multiple features in the southeast quarter of Section 5, including several houses and fences. The dry-stacked rock wall recorded on your parcel is depicted on this map as a "Stone Fence" running north/south through the southeastern corner of the parcel; the wall therefore dates to the mid-1860s or earlier. The fence appears to be an isolated feature: the nearest house is located along the road to the north of your parcel (that road is an earlier alignment of Highway 50). The fence/wall probably marked the edge of a field or a property line. There are many such "stone fences" scattered throughout the western foothills of El Dorado and adjacent counties.

Typically, I would recommend an updated archaeological survey for your project, since the previous one is more than 30 years old and likely was not done to modern professional standards. However, because you have assured me that impacts will be limited to (shallow) turf removal and the placement of new soil in the already-disturbed playing fields, and that exclusionary fencing will be placed to protect the stone fence/wall, my conclusion is that a new survey is not necessary.

However, if there are any changes to project design that would include disturbances to previously undisturbed areas, a qualified archaeologist should conduct a pedestrian field survey of the areas to be impacted. This includes both surface (horizontal) and subsurface (vertical) impacts. I further recommend that you continue your efforts to consult with the local Native American community through the California Native American Heritage Commission.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments about this letter report.

Best,

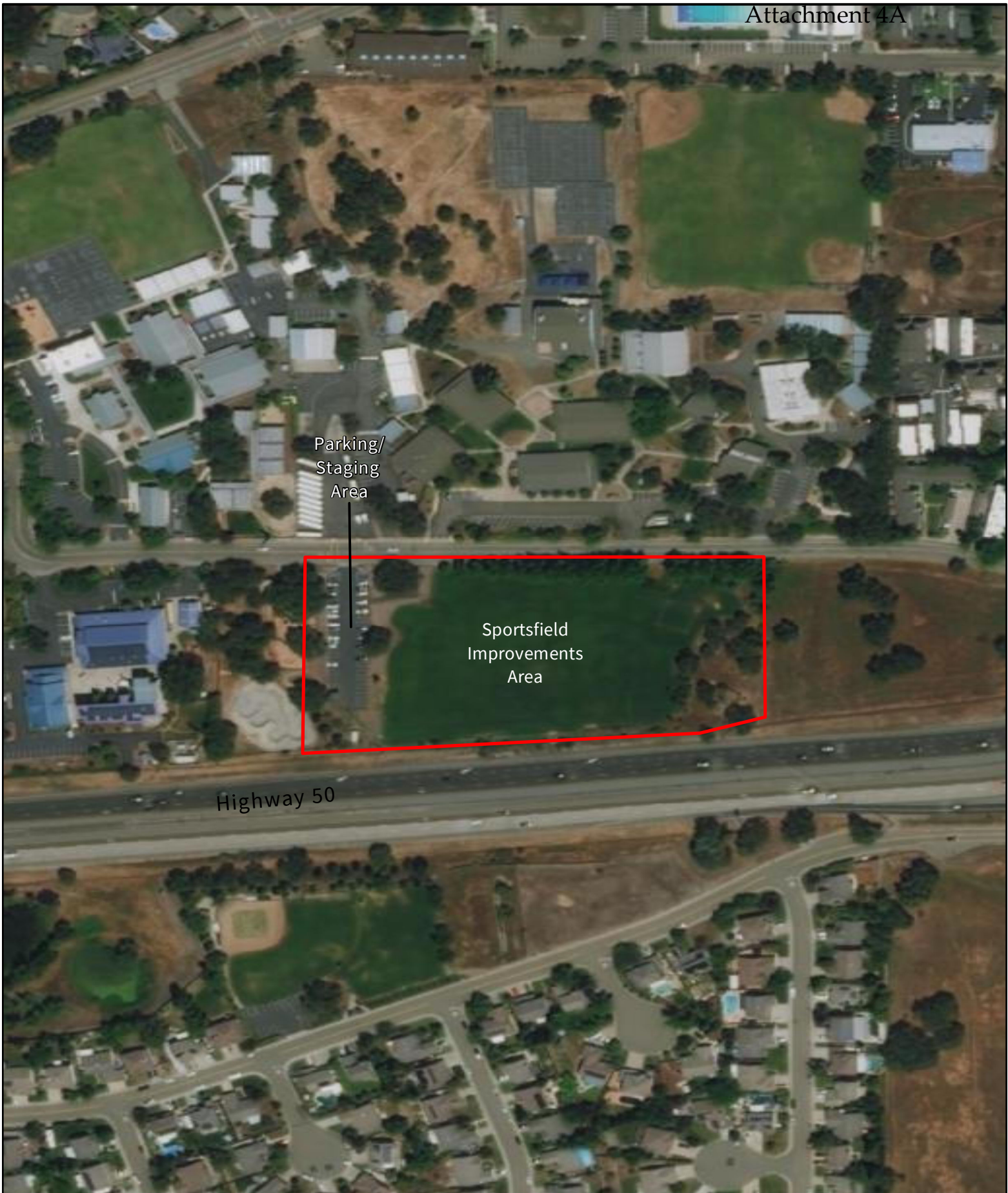
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon A. Waechter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Sharon A. Waechter, MA/RPA

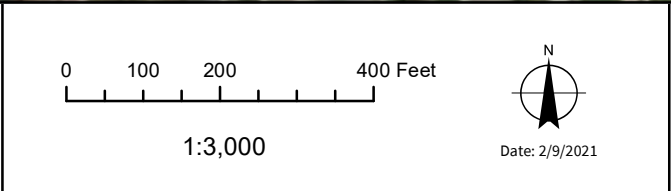
Attachments:

Aerial Photograph and Topographic Map (from SEA)

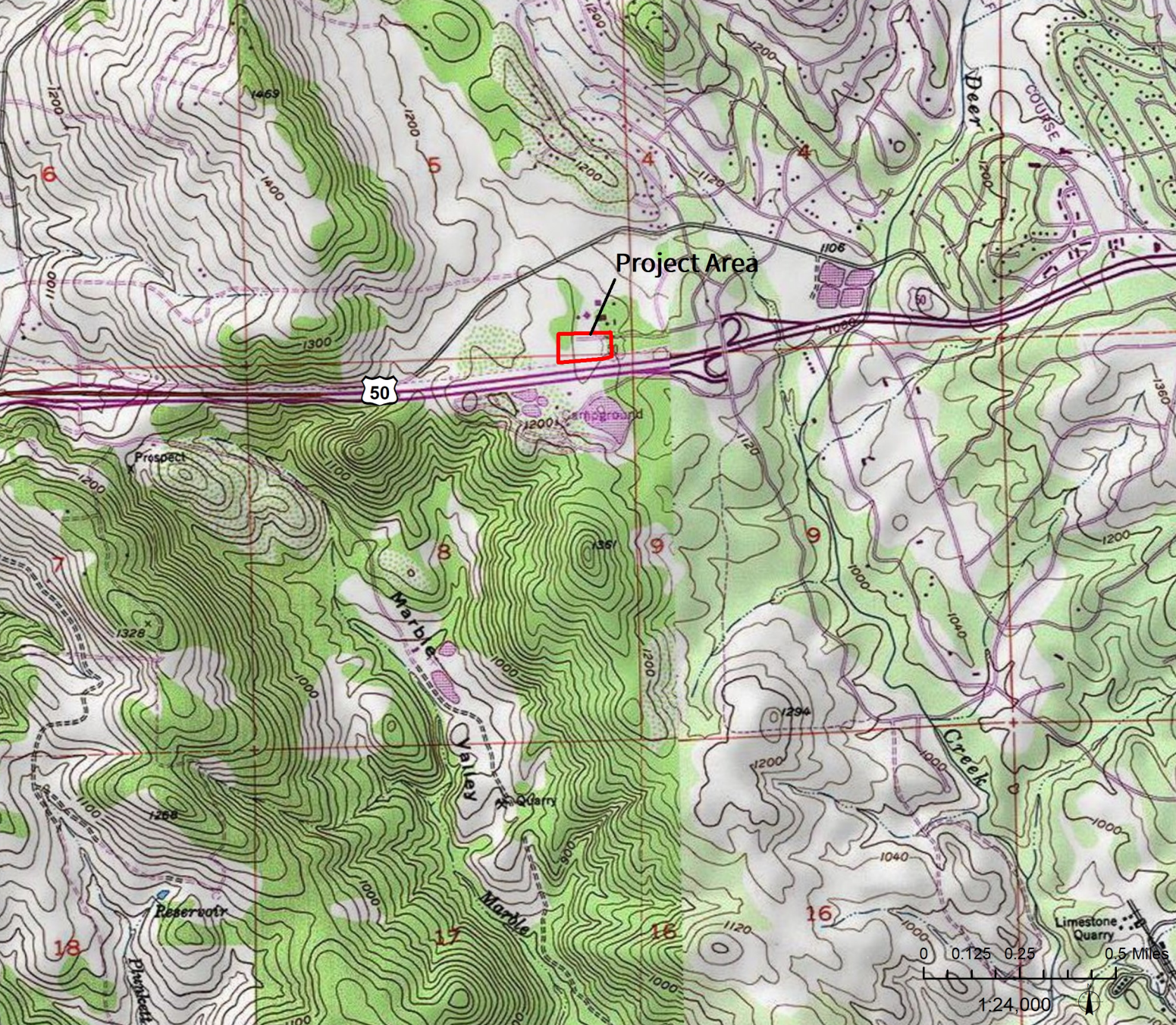
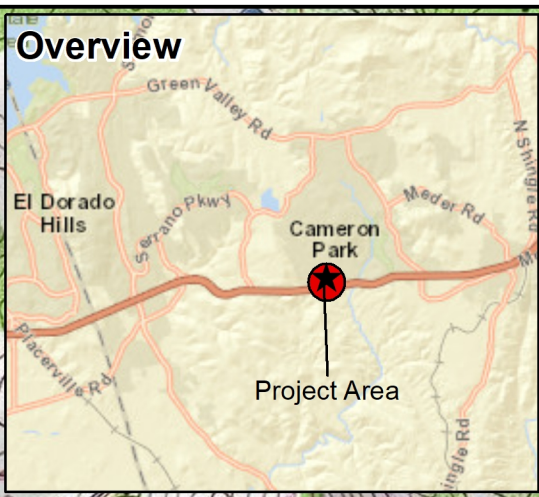




**Project Site Map**  
**Christa McAuliffe Park**  
**Sportsfield Improvements Project**



**sea**  
**Sierra Ecosystem**  
**Associates**



**Project Regional and Vicinity Map**  
  
**Christa McAuliffe Park**  
**Sportsfield Improvements Project**

USGS 7.5 min. Topographic  
 Quadrangle: Clarksville - T9N R9E, Sections 5 and 8  
 Assessor Parcel Number: 119020010  
 -121.0054 38.6567 Decimal Degrees  
 2480 Merrychase Dr, Cameron Park, 95682  
 El Dorado County, California

**sea**  
 Sierra Ecosystem  
 Associates

RESOLUTION No. 2021-06  
of the Board of Directors of the  
Cameron Park Community Services District  
February 24, 2021

RESOLUTION APPROVING CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION  
FOR CHRISTA McAULIFFE PARK SPORTS FIELD RENOVATION PROJECT

*WHEREAS*, Cameron Park Community Services District was awarded funds from the State of California, Parks, Environment, and Water Bond - Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant;

*WHEREAS*, the Board of Directors placed a high priority on the improvement of sports fields at Christa McAuliffe, Rasmussen and David West parks;

*WHEREAS*, State of California grant guidelines requires compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and its guidelines for discretionary projects being performed by a public agency, and the sports field renovation project is considered a discretionary project;

*WHEREAS*, Sierra Ecosystem Associates was hired by the District to conduct the review consistent with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, and concluded that the Christa McAuliffe Park Sports Field Renovation Project is exempt from CEQA; therefore, a Notice of Exemption – Categorical Exemption is prepared for consideration by the Board of Directors.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* by the Board of Directors of the Cameron Park Community Services District, El Dorado County, California, approves the Notice of Exemption - Categorical Exemption for the Christa McAuliffe Park Sports Field Renovation Project.

*PASSED AND ADOPTED* this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February 2021, by the following vote of said Board:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

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Director Eric Aiston, President  
Board of Directors

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Jill Ritzman, General Manager  
Secretary to the Board