



**California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
North Central Region  
1701 NIMBUS RD.  
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670**

California Endangered Species Act  
Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2018-073-02

**WILLOW CREEK BRIDGE ON CARBONDALE ROAD REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**Authority:** This California Endangered Species Act (CESA) incidental take permit (ITP) is issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivisions (b) and (c), and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 783.0 et seq. CESA prohibits the take<sup>1</sup> of any species of wildlife designated by the California Fish and Game Commission as an endangered, threatened, or candidate species.<sup>2</sup> CDFW may authorize the take of any such species by permit if the conditions set forth in Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivisions (b) and (c) are met. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 783.4).

<b>Permittee:</b>	<b>Amador County Department of Transportation and Public Works</b>
<b>Principal Officer:</b>	<b>Mark Hopkins, Senior Project Manager</b>
<b>Contact Person:</b>	<b>Mark Hopkins, (209) 223-6429</b>
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	<b>810 Court Street Jackson, CA 95642</b>

**Amended ITP<sup>3</sup> Background:**

On June 8, 2018, Amador County Department of Transportation and Works submitted a CESA ITP application to CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivisions (b) and (c), and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 783.0 et seq. Amador County Department of Transportation and Works sought take coverage authorization for CESA listed species associated with project-related impacts from the Willow Creek Bridge on Carbondale Road Replacement Project in Amador County, California (Project).

On July 21, 2020, CDFW issued ITP No. 2081-2018-073-02 to Amador County Department of Transportation and Works (Permittee) authorizing take of California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) (Covered Species) associated with the Project. The Project as

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 86, "'take' means hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." (See also *Environmental Protection Information Center v. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection* (2008) 44 Cal.4th 459, 507 [for purposes of incidental take permitting under Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivision (b), "'take' ... means to catch, capture or kill".])

<sup>2</sup> The definition of an endangered, threatened, and candidate species for purposes of CESA are found in Fish and Game Code sections 2062, 2067, and 2068, respectively.

<sup>3</sup> When this incidental take permit and attachments refer to the "ITP", it means the "Amended ITP" unless the context dictates otherwise.

described in the ITP originally issued by CDFW includes the replacement of an existing bridge on Carbondale Road spanning Willow Creek with a new structure that will be approximately 30 feet wide and 80 feet in length. The bridge will consist of a cast-in-place, reinforced concrete slab supported on spread footings. In issuing the ITP, CDFW found, among other things, that Permittee's compliance with the Conditions of Approval of the ITP would fully mitigate impacts to the Covered Species and would not jeopardize the continued existence of the Covered Species.

On July 1, 2022, Amador County Department of Transportation and Works submitted a request for a "minor amendment" to CESA ITP No. 2081-2018-073-02 (See Cal. Code Regs., § 783.6(c)(4)). CDFW approved the minor amendment on January 17, 2023, which changed the expiration date from June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2025.

On March 19, 2024, Amador County Department of Transportation and Works submitted a request for a "minor amendment" to CESA ITP No. 2081-2018-073-02 (See Cal. Code Regs., § 783.6(c)(4)). The minor amendment modifies Condition of Approval 5.2 Designated Biologist to add in the option for a Biological Monitor during periods when the Covered Species is not expected to be present and modifies Condition of Approval 6.3 Compliance Monitoring to add in the option of a Biological Monitor during compliance monitoring.

CDFW now reissues this ITP including the revised provisions in the first and second minor amendments (Collectively, the Amended ITP). The Amended ITP includes all of the operative provisions as of the effective date of this Amended ITP. Attachment 3 to this Amended ITP shows the specific red-line changes made to the original ITP as a result of the first minor amendment. Attachment 4 to this Amended ITP shows the specific red-line changes made to the original ITP as a result of the second minor amendment.

**Effective Date and Expiration Date of this ITP:**

This ITP amendment shall become effective as of the date signed by CDFW.. Unless renewed by CDFW, this ITP's authorization to take the Covered Species shall expire on **June 30, 2025**.

Notwithstanding the expiration date on the take authorization provided by this ITP, Permittee's obligations pursuant to this ITP do not end until CDFW accepts as complete the Permittee's Final Mitigation Report required by Condition of Approval 6.7 of this ITP.

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**Project Location:**

The Project site is located at the intersection of Forest Home Road and Carbondale Road where Carbondale Road Crosses over Willow Creek; in the County of Amador, State of California; Latitude 38.448190, Longitude -120.9629090; Sections 22 and 23, Township 7N, Range 9E of the Mt. Diablo Meridian, U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) 7.5 quad Irish Hill. See Figure 1 for Map of Project Location.

**Project Description:**

The proposed Project will replace an existing bridge on Carbondale Road spanning Willow Creek with a new structure that will be approximately 30 feet wide and 80 feet in length. The bridge will consist of a cast-in-place, reinforced concrete slab supported on spread footings. The roadway alignment will remain unchanged. The bridge and the roadway profile will be raised by 4 feet to provide additional hydraulic capacity. The western roadway approach will begin approximately 145 feet east of the Forest Home Road/Carbondale Road intersection, approximately 400 feet west of the proposed bridge. The eastern approach will begin approximately 560 feet east of the new bridge. Construction of the bridge will involve excavation for, and construction of concrete abutments and a central pier supported on spread footings. The installation of rock for scour protection will occur at the support locations for the bridge. Other temporary work within Willow Creek includes the removal of the existing bridge and falsework erection.

It is anticipated that Willow Creek will be dry during construction activities and water diversions are not expected to occur. Construction of the roadway approaches will involve the removal of existing pavement and the placement of fill material, aggregate base and hot mix asphalt pavement. The Project expects that a portion of the right of way will be acquired on the south side of the roadway to accommodate the higher roadway profile and increased roadway width. See Figure 2 for Project Plans.

**Covered Species Subject to Take Authorization Provided by this ITP:**

This ITP covers the following species:

<b>Name</b>	<b>CESA Status</b>
1. California tiger salamander ( <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> )	Threatened <sup>4</sup>

This species and only this species is the “Covered Species” for the purposes of this ITP.

**Impacts of the Taking on Covered Species:**

Project activities and their resulting impacts are expected to result in the incidental take of individuals of the Covered Species. The activities expected to result in incidental take of individuals of the Covered Species include excavation, grading, and paving of the bridge’s

<sup>4</sup>See Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14 § 670.5, subd. (b)(3)(G).

associated roadway approaches, road shoulders, and bridge embankments (Covered Activities).

Incidental take of individuals of the Covered Species in the form of mortality ("kill") may occur as a result of Covered Activities such as the potential collapsing of burrows or burrow entrances during movement of heavy equipment or materials. Incidental take of individuals of the Covered Species may also occur from the Covered Activities in the form of pursue, catch, capture, or attempt to do so of the Covered Species from any Covered Activities. The areas where authorized take of the Covered Species is expected to occur include: upland grassland habitat, along the sides of the road, and under the rock slope protection around the bridge as shown in Figure 3, Project Impact Map.

The Project is expected to cause the permanent loss of 0.57 acres of upland habitat for the Covered Species, and temporary loss of 0.37 acres of upland habitat for the Covered Species. Impacts of the authorized taking also include adverse impacts to the Covered Species related to temporal losses, increased habitat fragmentation and edge effects, and the Project's incremental contribution to cumulative impacts (indirect impacts). These impacts include: stress resulting from noise and vibrations from tunneling and capture and relocation, and long-term effects due to increased pollution, displacement from preferred habitat, increased competition for food and space, and increased vulnerability to predation.

#### **Incidental Take Authorization of Covered Species:**

This ITP authorizes incidental take of the Covered Species and only the Covered Species. With respect to incidental take of the Covered Species, CDFW authorizes the Permittee, its employees, contractors, and agents to take Covered Species incidentally in carrying out the Covered Activities, subject to the limitations described in this section and the Conditions of Approval identified below. This ITP does not authorize take of Covered Species from activities outside the scope of the Covered Activities, take of Covered Species outside of the Project Area, take of Covered Species resulting from violation of this ITP, or intentional take of Covered Species except for capture and relocation of Covered Species as authorized by this ITP.

#### **Conditions of Approval:**

Unless specified otherwise, the following measures apply to all Covered Activities within the Project Area, including areas used for vehicular ingress and egress, staging and parking, and noise and vibration generating activities that may/will cause take. CDFW's issuance of this ITP and Permittee's authorization to take the Covered Species are subject to Permittee's compliance with and implementation of the following Conditions of Approval:

- 1. Legal Compliance:** Permittee shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws in existence on the effective date of this ITP or adopted thereafter.

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- 2. CEQA Compliance:** Permittee shall implement and adhere to the mitigation measures related to the Covered Species in the Biological Resources section of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and Initial Study (SCH No.: 2018012015) adopted by Amador County Department of Transportation and Public Works on February 27, 2018, as lead agency for the Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.).
- 3. LSA Agreement Compliance:** Permittee shall implement and adhere to the mitigation measures and conditions related to the Covered Species in the Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) (Notification No. 1600-2019-0142-R2) for the Project executed by CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq.
- 4. ITP Time Frame Compliance:** Permittee shall fully implement and adhere to the conditions of this ITP within the time frames set forth below and as set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), which is included as Attachment 1 to this ITP.
- 5. General Provisions:**
  - 5.1. Designated Representative. Before starting Covered Activities, Permittee shall designate a representative (Designated Representative) responsible for communications with CDFW and overseeing compliance with this ITP. Permittee shall notify CDFW in writing before starting Covered Activities of the Designated Representative's name, business address, and contact information, and shall notify CDFW in writing if a substitute Designated Representative is selected or identified at any time during the term of this ITP.
  - 5.2. Designated Biologist and/or Biological Monitor. Permittee shall submit to CDFW in writing the name, qualifications, business address, and contact information of a Designated Biologist and/or Biological Monitor at least 30 days before starting Covered Activities. Permittee shall ensure that the Designated Biologist and/or Biological Monitor is knowledgeable and experienced in the biology and natural history of the Covered Species. The Designated Biologist or the Biological Monitor shall be responsible for monitoring Covered Activities to help minimize and fully mitigate or avoid the incidental take of individual Covered Species and to minimize disturbance of Covered Species' habitat. Permittee shall obtain CDFW approval of the Designated Biologist and/or Biological Monitor in writing before starting Covered Activities and shall also obtain approval in advance in writing if the Designated Biologist must be changed. A Biological Monitor shall be restricted to periods when the Covered Species is not expected to be present, after consultation and written approval from CDFW.

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- 5.2.1. Designated Capture and Handling Biologist. Permittee shall submit to CDFW in writing the name, qualifications, business address, and contact information of a Designated Capture and Handling Biologist (Capture Biologist) responsible for Covered Species Encounters as defined in Condition of Approval 7.6 at least 30 days before starting Covered Activities. Permittee shall ensure that the Capture Biologist is knowledgeable and experienced in the biology, has the valid handling authorizations for the Covered Species, and is experienced in the natural history of the Covered Species. The Capture Biologist shall be responsible for monitoring Covered Activities to help minimize and fully mitigate or avoid the incidental take of individual Covered Species and to minimize disturbance of Covered Species' habitat. Permittee shall obtain CDFW approval of the Capture Biologist in writing before starting Covered Activities and shall also obtain approval in advance in writing if the Capture Biologist must be changed.
- 5.2.2. Capture Biologist Role. For the purposes of this ITP, the approved Capture Biologist may fulfil any role of the Designated Biologist identified in this ITP including, but not limited to, monitoring, reporting, stop work, or presenting the education program.
- 5.3. Designated Biologist Authority. To ensure compliance with the Conditions of Approval of this ITP, the Designated Biologist shall have authority to immediately stop any activity that does not comply with this ITP, and/or to order any reasonable measure to avoid the unauthorized take of an individual of the Covered Species.
- 5.4. Education Program. Permittee shall conduct an education program for all persons employed or otherwise working in the Project Area before performing any work. The program shall consist of a presentation from the Designated Biologist that includes a discussion of the biology and general behavior of the Covered Species, information about the distribution and habitat needs of the Covered Species, sensitivity of the Covered Species to human activities, its status pursuant to CESA including legal protection, recovery efforts, penalties for violations and Project-specific protective measures described in this ITP. Permittee shall provide interpretation for non-English speaking workers, and the same instruction shall be provided to any new workers before they are authorized to perform work in the Project Area. Permittee shall prepare and distribute wallet-sized cards or a fact sheet handout containing this information for workers to carry in the Project Area. Upon completion of the program, employees shall sign a form stating they attended the program and understand all protection measures. This training shall be repeated at least once annually for long-term and/or permanent employees that will be conducting work in the Project Area.
- 5.5. Construction Monitoring Notebook. The Designated Biologist shall maintain a construction-monitoring notebook on-site throughout the construction period, which

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shall include a copy of this ITP with attachments and a list of signatures of all personnel who have successfully completed the education program. Permittee shall ensure a copy of the construction-monitoring notebook is available for review at the Project site upon request by CDFW.

- 5.6. Trash Abatement. Permittee shall initiate a trash abatement program before starting Covered Activities and shall continue the program for the duration of the Project. Permittee shall ensure that trash and food items are contained in animal-proof containers and removed at least once a week to avoid attracting opportunistic predators such as ravens, coyotes, and feral dogs.
- 5.7. Dust Control. Permittee shall implement dust control measures during Covered Activities to facilitate visibility for monitoring of the Covered Species by the Designated Biologist. Permittee shall keep the amount of water used to the minimum amount needed and shall not allow water to form puddles.
- 5.8. Erosion Control. All erosion and sediment control measures shall be installed prior to earth moving Covered Activities. Permittee shall utilize erosion control measures throughout all phases of Project where sediment runoff from exposed slopes could leave the Project Area and/or enter a stream or pond. No phase of the Project that may cause the introduction of sediments into a drainage, stream, or pond may be started if that phase and its associated erosion control measures cannot be completed prior to the onset of a storm. Permittee shall consult 72-hour weather forecasts from the National Weather Service prior to startup of any phase of the Project that may result in sediment runoff to the stream. The Designated Biologist(s) shall monitor erosion control measures before, during, and after each storm event and Permittee shall repair and/or replace ineffective measures immediately.
- 5.9. Delineation of Property Boundaries. Before starting Covered Activities, Permittee shall clearly delineate the boundaries of the Project Area with fencing, stakes, or flags. Permittee shall restrict all Covered Activities to within the fenced, staked, or flagged areas. Permittee shall maintain all fencing, stakes, and flags until the completion of Covered Activities.
- 5.10. Delineation of Habitat. Permittee shall clearly delineate habitat of the Covered Species within the Project Area with posted signs, posting stakes, flags, and/or rope or cord, and place fencing as necessary to minimize the disturbance of Covered Species' habitat.
- 5.11. Project Access. Project-related personnel shall access the Project Area using existing routes and shall not cross Covered Species' habitat outside of or in route to the Project Area. Permittee shall restrict Project-related vehicle traffic to established roads, staging, and parking areas. Permittee shall ensure that vehicle speeds do not

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exceed 15 miles per hour to avoid Covered Species on or traversing the roads. If Permittee determines construction of routes for travel are necessary outside of the Project Area, the Designated Representative shall contact CDFW for written approval before carrying out such an activity. CDFW may require an amendment to this ITP, among other reasons, if additional take of Covered Species will occur as a result of the Project modification.

- 5.12. Staging Areas. Permittee shall confine all Project-related parking, storage areas, laydown sites, equipment storage, and any other surface-disturbing activities to the Project Area using, to the extent possible, previously disturbed areas. Additionally, Permittee shall not use or cross Covered Species' habitat outside of the marked Project Area unless provided for as described in Condition of Approval 5.11 of this ITP.
- 5.13. Hazardous Waste. Permittee shall immediately stop and, pursuant to pertinent state and federal statutes and regulations, arrange for repair and clean up by qualified individuals of any fuel or hazardous waste leaks or spills at the time of occurrence, or as soon as it is safe to do so. Permittee shall exclude the storage and handling of hazardous materials from the Project Area and shall properly contain and dispose of any unused or leftover hazardous products off-site.
- 5.14. CDFW Access. Permittee shall provide CDFW staff with reasonable access to the Project and shall otherwise fully cooperate with CDFW efforts to verify compliance with or effectiveness of mitigation measures set forth in this ITP.
- 5.15. Refuse Removal. Upon completion of Covered Activities, Permittee shall remove from the Project Area and properly dispose of all temporary fill and construction refuse, including, but not limited to, broken equipment parts, wrapping material, cords, cables, wire, rope, strapping, twine, buckets, metal or plastic containers, and boxes.

## **6. Monitoring, Notification and Reporting Provisions:**

- 6.1. Notification Before Commencement. The Designated Representative shall notify CDFW 14 calendar days before starting Covered Activities and shall document compliance with all pre-Project Conditions of Approval before starting Covered Activities.
- 6.2. Notification of Non-compliance. The Designated Representative or Designated Biologist shall immediately notify CDFW in writing if it determines that the Permittee is not in compliance with any Condition of Approval of this ITP, including but not limited to any actual or anticipated failure to implement measures within the time

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periods indicated in this ITP and/or the MMRP. The Designated Representative shall report any non-compliance with this ITP to CDFW within 24 hours.

- 6.3. Compliance Monitoring. The Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor shall be on-site daily when Covered Activities occur. The Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor shall conduct compliance inspections to (1) minimize incidental take of the Covered Species; (2) prevent unlawful take of species; (3) check for compliance with all measures of this ITP; (4) check all exclusion zones; and (5) ensure that signs, stakes, and fencing are intact, and that Covered Activities are only occurring in the Project Area. The Designated Representative, Biological Monitor or Designated Biologist shall prepare daily written observation and inspection records summarizing: oversight activities and compliance inspections, observations of Covered Species and their sign, survey results, and monitoring activities required by this ITP.
- 6.4. Quarterly Compliance Report. The Designated Representative or Designated Biologist shall compile the observation and inspection records identified in Condition of Approval 6.3 into a Quarterly Compliance Report and submit it to CDFW along with a copy of the MMRP table with notes showing the current implementation status of each mitigation measure. Quarterly Compliance Reports shall be submitted to the CDFW offices listed in the Notices section of this ITP and via e-mail to CDFW's Regional Representative and Headquarters CESA Program. At the time of this ITP's approval, the CDFW Regional Representative is the R2 CESA Program (R2CESA@wildlife.ca.gov) and Headquarters CESA Program email is CESA@wildlife.ca.gov. CDFW may at any time increase the timing and number of compliance inspections and reports required under this provision depending upon the results of previous compliance inspections. If CDFW determines the reporting schedule must be changed, CDFW will notify Permittee in writing of the new reporting schedule.
- 6.5. Annual Status Report. Permittee shall provide CDFW with an Annual Status Report (ASR) no later than January 31 of every year beginning with issuance of this ITP and continuing until CDFW accepts the Final Mitigation Report identified below. Each ASR shall include, at a minimum: (1) a summary of all Quarterly Compliance Reports for that year identified in Condition of Approval 6.4; (2) a general description of the status of the Project Area and Covered Activities, including actual or projected completion dates, if known; (3) a copy of the table in the MMRP with notes showing the current implementation status of each mitigation measure; (4) an assessment of the effectiveness of each completed or partially completed mitigation measure in avoiding, minimizing and mitigating Project impacts; (5) all available information about Project-related incidental take of the Covered Species; (6) an accounting of the number of acres subject to both temporary and permanent disturbance, both for the prior calendar year, and a total since ITP issuance; and (7) information about other Project impacts on the Covered Species.

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- 6.6. CNDDDB Observations. The Designated Biologist shall submit all observations of Covered Species to CDFW’s California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) within 60 calendar days of the observation and the Designated Biologist shall include copies of the submitted forms with the next Quarterly Compliance Report or ASR, whichever is submitted first relative to the observation.
- 6.7. Final Mitigation Report. No later than 45 days after completion of all mitigation measures, Permittee shall provide CDFW with a Final Mitigation Report. The Designated Biologist shall prepare the Final Mitigation Report which shall include, at a minimum: (1) a summary of all Quarterly Compliance Reports and all ASRs; (2) a copy of the table in the MMRP with notes showing when each of the mitigation measures was implemented; (3) all available information about Project-related incidental take of the Covered Species; (4) information about other Project impacts on the Covered Species; (5) beginning and ending dates of Covered Activities; (6) an assessment of the effectiveness of this ITP’s Conditions of Approval in minimizing and fully mitigating Project impacts of the taking on Covered Species; (7) recommendations on how mitigation measures might be changed to more effectively minimize take and mitigate the impacts of future projects on the Covered Species; and (8) any other pertinent information.
- 6.8. Notification of Take or Injury. Permittee shall immediately notify the Designated Biologist if a Covered Species is taken or injured by a Project-related activity, or if a Covered Species is otherwise found dead or injured within the vicinity of the Project. The Designated Biologist or Designated Representative shall provide initial notification to CDFW by calling the Regional Office at (916) 358-2930. The initial notification to CDFW shall include information regarding the location, species, and number of animals taken or injured and the ITP Number. Following initial notification, Permittee shall send CDFW a written report within two calendar days. The report shall include the date and time of the finding or incident, location of the animal or carcass, and if possible, provide a photograph, explanation as to cause of take or injury, and any other pertinent information.

**7. Take Minimization Measures:**

The following requirements are intended to ensure the minimization of incidental take of Covered Species in the Project Area during Covered Activities. Permittee shall implement and adhere to the following conditions to minimize take of Covered Species:

- 7.1. Timing of Work. Construction activities within Covered Species habitat shall be conducted between June 1 and October 31.
- 7.2. Daily Construction Schedule. If Covered Activities must be implemented during the breeding and dispersal season (after October 15 and before July 31), Covered Activities will not start until 30 minutes after sunrise and must be complete 30

minutes prior to sunset.

- 7.3. Covered Species Pre-construction Surveys. No more than 48-hours prior to the commencement of initial ground disturbance, the Designated Biologist shall survey for the Covered Species within 200-feet of suitable habitat. If a Covered Species is found, the Designated Biologist shall delay installation of the exclusion barrier until the Designated Biologist can verify that the Covered Species has moved out of the Project Area or the Capture Biologist relocates the Covered Species out of the Project Area in accordance with Condition of Approval 7.7. Surveys shall be reinitiated if a substantial rain event (at least 0.25 inches in 24 hours) occurs while performing Covered Activities to avoid affecting Covered Species that may have emerged from their burrows within or adjacent to the Project Area.
- 7.4. Covered Species Exclusion Fencing. Permittee shall install exclusion fencing around the Project footprint prior to commencing Covered Activities. Temporary high-visibility construction fencing will be installed along the edge of work areas, and exclusion fencing will be installed immediately outside of the temporary high-visibility construction fencing to exclude the Covered Species from entering the construction area or becoming entangled in the construction fencing. Exclusion fencing will be at least 1-foot tall and be buried at least 6 inches below the ground to prevent the Covered Species from going under the fencing. Refuge opportunities shall be provided at various locations along the fence, as outlined in Condition of Approval 7.7. Fencing will remain in place until all Covered Activities within the area are complete. No Covered Activities will occur outside the delineated Project footprint. The Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor shall inspect the exclusion fencing each morning for the Covered Species and inspect the fencing at least twice weekly for integrity and repair/maintain the fence when necessary.
- 7.5. Covered Species Checks. Workers shall inspect under vehicles, equipment, and materials for the Covered Species before the vehicles, equipment, and materials are moved. If the Covered Species is present, the worker shall notify the Designated Biologist. All ruts and holes near root structures, foundations, abutments, etc., shall be inspected by the Designated Biologist for the Covered Species prior to and during initial excavation and grading. If the Designated Biologist or anyone else discovers the Covered Species, the Capture Biologist shall move the individual as required by Condition of Approval 7.7.
- 7.6. Covered Species Encounter Protocol. Covered Species encountered during Covered Activities and within Covered Activity boundaries shall be allowed to move away from the area on their own volition. Covered Activities will be suspended within a 50-foot radius of the Covered Species until the animal leaves the Covered Activity boundary or is relocated (as described in the Condition of Approval 7.7) by the Capture Biologist. If the animal is handled, verbal or email notification and a report will be

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submitted, including date(s), location(s), habitat description, and any corrective measures taken to protect the Covered Species, within twenty-four (24) days to CDFW. The Designated Biologist will report any take of the Covered Species to CDFW immediately. Any worker who inadvertently injures or kills a Covered Species or who finds dead, injured, or entrapped Covered Species shall immediately report the incident to the Designated Biologist.

- 7.7. Covered Species Relocation Plan. Permittee shall prepare a Covered Species Relocation Plan (Relocation Plan) for Covered Activities. The Relocation Plan shall include the name(s) of the Capture Biologist who will relocate the Covered Species; pre-construction habitat assessment methodology; measures to minimize impacts to the Covered Species; identification of refuge areas along the exclusion fencing, capture, handling, and relocation methods; a map and description of the relocation area(s) for captured Covered Species, including relative location, quality of habitat, non-native species or the potential for Covered Species-barred tiger salamander hybrids to be present, identified upland burrows determined to be suitable for Covered Species placement, distance to aquatic habitat, and potential barriers for movement; written permission from the landowner to use their land as a relocation site if applicable; and identification of a wildlife rehabilitation center or veterinary facility that routinely evaluates or treats amphibians. Permittee shall submit the Relocation Plan to CDFW for written approval at least 30 days prior to the beginning of any Covered Activities, including preconstruction surveys. If Covered Species is found within a construction site or 200 feet beyond the construction site (200-foot boundary), Project personnel shall notify the Designated Biologist immediately. If the Covered Species is encountered within a construction site, it is directly threatened by Covered Activities, and it is unable to move to a safe area on its own, the Capture Biologist shall relocate Covered Species to a safe area in accordance with the Relocation Plan.
- 7.8. Covered Species Injury or Death. The Permittee shall immediately notify the Designated Biologist if a Covered Species is injured or killed by a Project-related activity, or if a Covered Species is otherwise found dead or injured within the vicinity of the Project. The Designated Biologist shall immediately take the injured Covered Species to a CDFW-approved wildlife rehabilitation or veterinary facility. Permittee shall identify the facility in the Plan described in Condition of Approval 7.7. Permittee shall bear any costs associated with the care or treatment of such injured Covered Species. The Designated Biologist shall provide initial notification to CDFW offices listed in the Notices section of this ITP and via e-mail to CDFW's Regional Representative and Headquarters CESA Program. At the time of this ITP's approval, the CDFW Regional Representative is R2CESA@wildlife.ca.gov. The initial notification to CDFW shall include information regarding the location, species, and number of animals taken or injured, the name of the facility where the animal was taken, and reference ITP# 2081-2018-073-02. Following initial notification, Permittee

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shall send CDFW a written report within two calendar days. The report shall include the date and time of the finding or incident, location of the animal or carcass, and if possible, provide a photograph, explanation as to cause of take or injury, and any other pertinent information.

If the Covered Species is found recently deceased, the carcass shall be immediately bagged, labeled, and preserved in a freezer. The label shall include time and date, GPS location, circumstances surrounding death (if known), and ITP tracking number 2081-2018-073-02. Specimens shall be delivered to the CDFW Wildlife Investigations Lab, Attention: Deana Clifford, 1701 Nimbus Road Suite D, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 within two (2) calendar days of the discovery.

- 7.9. Avoid Covered Species Entrapment. All excavated locations, steep-walled holes, or trenches more than six (6) inches deep will be provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earthen fill or wooden planks at the end of each workday or 30 minutes prior to sunset, whichever occurs first. All steep-walled holes or trenches will be inspected by the Designated Biologist each morning to ensure that no wildlife has become entrapped. All construction pipes, culverts, similar structures, construction equipment, and construction debris left overnight will be inspected for Covered Species by the Designated Biologist prior to being moved. If a Covered Species is encountered, refer to Condition of Approval 7.6.
- 7.10. Erosion Control Materials. Permittee shall prohibit use of erosion control materials potentially harmful to Covered Species and other species, such as monofilament netting (erosion control matting) or similar material, in potential Covered Species' habitat. Tightly woven fiber netting (mesh size less than 0.25 inch) or similar material shall be used for erosion control or other purposes within the Project Area.
- 7.11. Inspection of Refuge Habitat. All potential refuge features (e.g. debris piles), created as a result of the Project shall be inspected by the Designated Biologist for the Covered Species prior to removal. The Designated Biologist shall inspect the debris piles for the Covered Species as the debris is being loaded to trucks.
- 7.12. Soil Stockpiles. Permittee shall place soil stockpiles where soil will not pass into potential Covered Species habitat; nor shall it pass into any other "Waters of the State," in accordance with Fish and Game Code section 5650 *et seq.* Permittee shall use appropriate best management practices to protect stockpiles and prevent soil erosion.
- 7.13. Vehicle Speed Limit. The Permittee, Designated Biologist, and work crew shall ensure that Project-related vehicles do not exceed a speed limit of 15 miles per hour when traveling through the Project area.

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**8. Habitat Management Land Acquisition:**

CDFW has determined that permanent protection and perpetual management of compensatory habitat is necessary and required pursuant to CESA to fully mitigate Project-related impacts of the taking on the Covered Species that will result with implementation of the Covered Activities. This determination is based on factors including an assessment of the importance of the habitat in the Project Area, the extent to which the Covered Activities will impact the habitat, and CDFW’s estimate of the acreage required to provide for adequate compensation.

To meet this requirement, the Permittee purchased 2.08 acres (1.71 acres for permanent impacts and 0.37 acre for temporary) of Covered Species credits (Attachment 2) from a CDFW-approved mitigation bank (Condition of Approval 8.1).

- 8.1. Covered Species Credits. Permittee has purchased 2.08 acres of Covered Species credits from a CDFW-approved mitigation bank prior to initiating Covered Activities.
- 8.2. Cost Estimates. CDFW has estimated the purchase of Covered Species credits at a CDFW-approved mitigation bank identified in Condition of Approval 8.1, estimated at \$29,000 per credit, at \$60,320.
- 8.3. Bill of Sale. Permittee has submitted to CDFW, prior to Project activities, a copy of the Bill of Sale and payment receipt (Attachment 2) in-lieu of a Performance Security.

**Amendment:**

This ITP may be amended as provided by California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 783.6, subdivision (c), and other applicable law. This ITP may be amended without the concurrence of the Permittee as required by law, including if CDFW determines that continued implementation of the Project as authorized under this ITP would jeopardize the continued existence of the Covered Species or where Project changes or changed biological conditions necessitate an ITP amendment to ensure that all Project-related impacts of the taking to the Covered Species are minimized and fully mitigated.

**Stop-Work Order:**

CDFW may issue Permittee a written stop-work order requiring Permittee to suspend any Covered Activity for an initial period of up to 25 days to prevent or remedy a violation of this ITP, including but not limited to the failure to comply with reporting or monitoring obligations, or to prevent the unauthorized take of any CESA endangered, threatened, or candidate species. Permittee shall stop work immediately as directed by CDFW upon receipt of any such stop-work order. Upon written notice to Permittee, CDFW may extend any stop-work order issued to Permittee for a period not to exceed 25 additional days. Suspension and revocation of this ITP shall be governed by California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section

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783.7, and any other applicable law. Neither the Designated Biologist nor CDFW shall be liable for any costs incurred in complying with stop-work orders.

**Compliance with Other Laws:**

This ITP sets forth CDFW's requirements for the Permittee to implement the Project pursuant to CESA. This ITP does not necessarily create an entitlement to proceed with the Project. Permittee is responsible for complying with all other applicable federal, state, and local law.

**Notices:**

Written notices, reports and other communications relating to this ITP shall be delivered to CDFW by email or registered first class mail at the following address, or at addresses CDFW may subsequently provide the Permittee. Notices, reports, and other communications shall reference the Project name, Permittee, and ITP Number (2081-2018-073-02) in a cover letter and on any other associated documents. Email submittal is preferred.

Original cover with attachment(s) to:

Morgan Kilgour, Regional Manager  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
1701 Nimbus Rd, Suite A  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670  
Telephone (916) 358-2930  
R2CESA@wildlife.ca.gov

and a copy to:

CESA@wildlife.ca.gov

Unless Permittee is notified otherwise, CDFW's Regional Representative for purposes of addressing issues that arise during implementation of this ITP is:

Region 2 CESA Program  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
1701 Nimbus Rd, Suite A  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670  
Telephone (916) 358-2930  
R2CESA@wildlife.ca.gov

**Compliance with CEQA:**

CDFW's issuance of this ITP is subject to CEQA. CDFW is a responsible agency pursuant to CEQA with respect to this ITP because of prior environmental review of the Project by the lead agency, Amador County Department of Transportation and Public Works. (See generally Pub. Resources Code, §§ 21067, 21069.) The lead agency's prior environmental review of

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the Project is set forth in the Willow Creek Bridge on Carbondale Road Replacement Project Mitigated Negative Declaration, (SCH No.: 2018012015) dated February 27, 2018, that the Amador County Department of Transportation and Public Works adopted for the Willow Creek Bridge on Carbondale Road Replacement Project. At the time the lead agency adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approved the Project it also adopted various mitigation measures for the Covered Species as conditions of Project approval.

This ITP, along with CDFW's related CEQA findings, which are available as a separate document, provide evidence of CDFW's consideration of the lead agency's Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project and the environmental effects related to issuance of this ITP (CEQA Guidelines, § 15096, subd. (f)). CDFW finds that issuance of this ITP will not result in any previously undisclosed potentially significant effects on the environment or a substantial increase in the severity of any potentially significant environmental effects previously disclosed by the lead agency. Furthermore, to the extent the potential for such effects exists, CDFW finds adherence to and implementation of the Conditions of Project Approval adopted by the lead agency, and that adherence to and implementation of the Conditions of Approval imposed by CDFW through the issuance of this ITP, will avoid or reduce to below a level of significance any such potential effects. CDFW consequently finds that issuance of this ITP will not result in any significant, adverse impacts on the environment.

**Findings Pursuant to CESA:**

These findings are intended to document CDFW's compliance with the specific findings requirements set forth in CESA and related regulations. (Fish & G. Code § 2081, subs. (b)-(c); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 783.4, subds, (a)-(b), 783.5, subd. (c)(2).)

CDFW finds based on substantial evidence in the ITP application, Willow Creek Bridge on Carbondale Road Project Mitigated Negative Declaration, the results of a site visit, and the administrative record of proceedings, that issuance of this ITP complies and is consistent with the criteria governing the issuance of ITPs pursuant to CESA:

- (1) Take of Covered Species as defined in this ITP will be incidental to the otherwise lawful activities covered under this ITP;
- (2) Impacts of the taking on Covered Species will be minimized and fully mitigated through the implementation of measures required by this ITP and as described in the MMRP. Measures include: (1) purchase of Covered Species credits; (2) establishment of avoidance zones; (3) worker education; and (4) Quarterly Compliance Reports. CDFW evaluated factors including an assessment of the importance of the habitat in the Project Area, the extent to which the Covered Activities will impact the habitat, and CDFW's estimate of the acreage required to provide for adequate compensation. Based on this evaluation, CDFW determined that the purchase of Covered Species credits, along with the minimization, monitoring, reporting, and funding requirements of this ITP minimizes and fully mitigates the impacts of the taking caused by the Project;

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- (3) The take avoidance and mitigation measures required pursuant to the conditions of this ITP and its attachments are roughly proportional in extent to the impacts of the taking authorized by this ITP;
- (4) The measures required by this ITP maintain Permittee's objectives to the greatest extent possible;
- (5) All required measures are capable of successful implementation;
- (6) This ITP is consistent with any regulations adopted pursuant to Fish and Game Code sections 2112 and 2114;
- (7) Permittee has ensured adequate funding to implement the measures required by this ITP as well as for monitoring compliance with, and the effectiveness of, those measures for the Project; and
- (8) Issuance of this ITP will not jeopardize the continued existence of the Covered Species based on the best scientific and other information reasonably available, and this finding includes consideration of the species' capability to survive and reproduce, and any adverse impacts of the taking on those abilities in light of (1) known population trends; (2) known threats to the species; and (3) reasonably foreseeable impacts on the species from other related projects and activities. Moreover, CDFW's finding is based, in part, on CDFW's express authority to amend the terms and conditions of this ITP without concurrence of the Permittee as necessary to avoid jeopardy and as required by law.

**Attachments:**

FIGURE 1	Map of Project
FIGURE 2	Project Design
FIGURE 3	Project Impacts Map
ATTACHMENT 1	Amended Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
ATTACHMENT 2	Finalized Credit Sale Agreement
ATTACHMENT 3	Minor Amendment No. 1 with Track Changes
ATTACHMENT 4	Minor Amendment No. 2 with Track Changes

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**ISSUED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

on 9/10/2024

DocuSigned by:  
*Morgan Kilgour*  
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Morgan Kilgour, PhD, Regional Manager  
NORTH CENTRAL REGION

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