

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Central Region 1234 East Shaw Avenue Fresno, California 93710

California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2024-064-04

Tulare 245 Culvert Rehabilitation Project (Project) Caltrans EA 06-0X070

I. 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 take¹ of any species of wildlife designated by the California Fish and Game Commission as an endangered, threatened, or candidate species.² However, CDFW may authorize the take of any such species by permit pursuant to the conditions set forth in Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivisions (b). (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 783.4.)

Permittee: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Principal Officer: Dena Gonzalez, Biology Branch Chief

Contact Person: Alexandria Singh, (559) 383-5801

Mailing Address: 2015 East Shields Avenue, Suite 100

Fresno, California 93726

II. Effective Date and Expiration Date of this ITP:

This ITP is effective as of the date signed by CDFW below. Unless renewed by CDFW, this ITP and its authorization to take the Covered Species shall expire on May 1, 2029.

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 Permittee's Final Mitigation Report required as a Condition of Approval 6.10 of this ITP.

III. Project Location:

The Tulare 245 Culvert Rehabilitation Project (Project) is located on State Route (SR) 245 between post miles (PM) 3.38 and 23.91 in Tulare County (see Figure 1). The Project occurs at 35 discrete locations in portions of the following locations in the Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian of the Public Land Survey System:

¹Pursuant 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".)

²The 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.

- Township 18 South, Range 27 East, in portions of Section 18 (Rocky Hill, California, USGS guad map)
- Township 17 South, Range 26 East, Section 36 (Woodlake, California, USGS quad map)
- Township 16 South, Range 26 East, in portions of Section 3, 10, 11, 22, and 35 (Stokes Mountain and Auckland, California, USGS quad map)
- Township 15 South, Range 26 East, in portions of Section 24, 25, 26, 34, and 35 (Stokes Mountain and Auckland, California, USGS quad map)

The southern end of the Project is located at the intersection of SR 245 and Avenue 314 in the community of Lindcove, at Latitude 36.360084 and Longitude -119.098389. The northern end of the project is located near the community of Auckland, at Latitude 36.608287 and Longitude -119.093383.

IV. Project Description:

The Project involves the replacement and rehabilitation of existing culverts at 35 locations within a 21-mile section of SR 245 in Tulare County. Only activities related to the replacement and rehabilitation of the culverts are covered by this ITP, which includes vegetation clearing and grubbing (removal of roots); excavation and grading; replacing and repairing existing culverts; temporary stream diversions, as necessary; replacing right of way fencing at culvert areas; and site restoration. Project activities are expected to take 200 working days, intermittently over the course of three years, with no night work.

Culvert Repair and Replacement Activities:

Existing corrugated steel pipes (CSPs) will be replaced with reinforced concrete pipes (RCPs) of the same or larger diameter as the existing pipes (ranging from 8 to 48 inches in diameter) at 31 locations in the Project Area (PMs 3.38, 3.53, 3.68, 6.39, 15.60, 15.87, 17.79, 18.27, 18.41, 18.50, 18.76, 18.97, 19.00, 19.12, 19.20, 19.32, 20.42, 20.50, 20.55, 20.60, 21.15, 21.45, 21.95, 22.61, 22.79, 23.30, 23.55, 23.60, 23.64, 23.81, and 23.91). The new RCP segments will be pre-cast (manufactured at a facility, off-site) and installed on site. All of the culvert replacements will be using the "cut and cover" method, where the culvert is excavated out, replaced, and then the trench backfilled. When work at a given culvert is incomplete and construction is not taking place, the trench will be covered with a steel plate to allow traffic movement over the area.

Existing CSPs at two locations (PMs 3.88 and 18.80) will be repaired using a cured-in-place pipeliner installed inside the culvert. The cured-in-place pipeliners will consist of a corrosion resistant polyester, vinyl ester, or epoxy resin that will be installed using hand tools, then cured with hot water, steam, or UV light. Existing RCPs at two locations (PMs 14.14 and 19.29) will be repaired by paving the invert (bottom) of the existing pipes. Light reinforcing mesh will be attached to the lower third of the culvert over which concrete will be poured and shaped.

Other Construction Activities:

Construction equipment parking and staging areas will be located at existing vehicle pullout areas within the highway ROW that are a mix of gravel and paved surfaces, heavily compacted, and non-vegetated, at the following five locations:

- A 0.1-acre pullout off the northbound lane just north of the Avenue 320 intersection at PM 4.1:
- A 0.13-acre pullout off the northbound lane approximately 0.3 miles south of the Avenue 398 intersection at PM 14.7;
- A 0.34-acre lot off the southbound lane at the Avenue 398 intersection at PM 15.0;
- A 0.25-acre pullout off the southbound lane approximately 0.4 miles north of the Avenue 404 intersection at PM 16.2;
- A 0.17-acre pullout off the northbound lane approximately 0.7 miles north of the Millwood Drive intersection at PM 17.5.

Workers will generally access the culvert east from the roadway using cranes and/or long reach excavators for culvert replacement but may also drive equipment along the road shoulder when the culvert is far from the road. For culvert lining, foot crews will clear a small walking path to the culvert openings. Work vehicles may be driven and parked in the road shoulder adjacent to culvert work areas. When possible, work will be completed while the streams are naturally dry. If water is present, temporary stream diversions will be implemented using silt fencing, fiber rolls, or sandbag barriers and water will be pumped out and released downstream or onto the adjacent streambank to restore downstream flow.

Prior to culvert work commencing, vegetation will be cleared and grubbed from the work limits as necessary. Two trees will be removed at Drainage System #88 (PM 23.94). Utility relocation is not anticipated at any of the 35 culvert locations. Temporarily disturbed soil will be re-contoured after the culvert installations, erosion control treatments installed, which will include reseeding.

V. Covered Species Subject to Take Authorization Provided by this ITP:

This ITP covers the following species:

Name <u>CESA Status</u>³

1. California Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) Threatened⁴

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

³ Under CESA, a species may be on the list of endangered species, the list of threatened species, or the list of candidate species.

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

VI. Impacts of the Taking on Covered Species:

Project activities and their impacts are expected to result in the incidental take of individuals of the Covered Species. The activities described above are expected to result in incidental take of individuals of the Covered Species include the following: clearing and grubbing to remove vegetation (including trees and woody plants); soil grading; leveling (cut or fill); compacting soil; excavating and trenching; culvert replacement; pouring concrete; paving; temporarily storing materials, vehicles, and equipment; transporting construction materials and other project-related traffic; trash and debris removal; installation of erosion controls and reseeding; and pre-construction excavation of small mammal burrows and Covered Species salvage and relocation efforts required by this ITP (Covered Activities).

Incidental take of individuals of California tiger salamander (CTS) in the form of mortality ("kill") may occur as a result of Covered Activities such as construction crews or equipment running over, crushing, or entombing Covered Species situated either above or below ground during initial ground-disturbance or during ongoing construction. Incidental take of individuals may also occur from Covered Activities in the form of catch, capture or attempt to do so from entrapment in holes or open trenches; entrapment in fencing; uncovering individuals during the excavation of burrow systems; corralling individuals into a confined area, and capturing, collecting, and relocating individuals of the Covered Species during mortality reduction activities required by this ITP; and by temporary loss of habitat. Incidental take of individuals may also occur from the Project's incremental contribution to cumulative impacts (indirect impacts) including potential exposure to chemical contamination from uncured concrete, concrete dust, drilling fluids, petroleum products, paint, and other construction chemicals; loss of burrowing habitat used for shelter and escape cover; long term effects due to increased pollution; introduction or spread of invasive species; and increased vulnerability to predation.

The Project is expected to cause temporary disturbance to a total of approximately 1.003 acres of upland habitat for CTS among the 35 project locations cumulatively (see Figures 2 and 3). Temporary impacts will result from using and storing materials, vehicles, and equipment; off-road equipment access; foot traffic; and vegetation removal. The Project is not expected to result in permanent impacts to CTS upland or breeding habitat. The Project is within and directly adjacent to the ROW on SR 245 at the 35 culvert work locations and five staging area locations (Project Area). Habitat conditions for CTS consist of non-native grasslands and ruderal vegetation that is routinely mowed/maintained and ephemeral streams/wetlands that are not ponded for long enough to provide breeding conditions for CTS. However, CTS may utilize these areas for dispersal, cover and refugia (including burrows), and/or foraging. 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), described above.

VII. 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.

VIII. 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.
- 2. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance: Permittee shall implement and adhere to the mitigation measures related to the Covered Species in the Biological Resources section of the Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration (SCH No.: 2023020265) adopted by the California Department of Transportation on February 10, 2023, and revalidated on April 24, 2025, 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) (EPIMS-TUL-52125-R4) 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. <u>Designated Representative</u>. 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(s), Biological Monitor(s). Permittee shall submit to CDFW in writing the name, qualifications, business address, and contact information of the Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) using the Biologist Resume Form (Attachment 2) or another format containing the same information at least 30 days before starting Covered Activities. The Permittee may request approval of Designated Biologist(s) to monitor and handle specific Covered Species covered by this ITP. The Designated Monitor(s) may assist the Designated Biologist(s) in compliance monitoring under the direct supervision of the Designated Biologist(s) and as specified in the Compliance Monitoring Condition of Approval. Permittee shall ensure that the Designated Biologist(s) are knowledgeable in the biology and natural history of the Covered Species for which approval is being sought, and have experience with surveying, collecting and handling the Covered Species, excavating small mammal burrows for the Covered Species, enforcing nodisturbance buffers, and monitoring construction activities under an ITP for the Covered Species. Permittee shall ensure that the Designated Monitor(s) are knowledgeable and experienced in the biology and natural history of the Covered Species. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) 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(s) and Designated Monitor(s) in writing before starting Covered Activities, and shall also obtain approval in advance, in writing, if the Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s) must be changed.
- 5.3. Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) Authority. To ensure compliance with the Conditions of Approval of this ITP, the Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall immediately stop any activity that does not comply with this ITP and/or order any reasonable measure to avoid the unauthorized take of an individual of the Covered Species. Permittee shall provide unfettered access to the Project Area and otherwise facilitate Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) in the performance of their duties. If the Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s) is unable to comply with the ITP, then they shall notify the CDFW Representative immediately. Permittee shall not enter into any agreement or contract of any kind, including but not limited to non-disclosure agreements and confidentiality agreements, with its contractors and/or the Designated Biologist(s) that prohibit or impede open communication with CDFW, including but not limited to providing CDFW staff with the results of any surveys, reports, or studies or notifying CDFW of any non-compliance or take. Failure to notify CDFW of any noncompliance, take, injury or damage of a Covered Species because of such agreement or contract may result in CDFW taking actions to prevent or remedy a violation of this ITP.

- 5.4. Education Program. Permittee shall conduct an education program for all persons employed or otherwise working in the Project Area before they are authorized to perform any work. The program shall consist of a presentation from the Designated Biologist(s) for the Covered Species included in this ITP, 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.
- Designated Monitoring Documentation. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall maintain construction-monitoring documentation onsite in either hard copy or digital format throughout the construction period, which 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 documentation is available for review at the Project Area 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, ideally at daily intervals but at least once a week, to avoid attracting opportunistic predators such as ravens, coyotes, and feral dogs.
- 5.7. Delineation of Work Area Boundaries. Before starting Covered Activities within each discrete part of the Project Area, including parking, staging, and equipment storage areas (Work Area), Permittee shall clearly delineate the boundaries of the Work Area. The boundary of the Work Area location shall be delineated with stakes, fencing, and/or flags and shall be maintained with signage until the completion of Covered Activities in that area.
- 5.8. Project Access. Project-related personnel shall access the Project Area for any Covered Activities using existing routes and shall not cross Covered Species' habitat outside of, or on route to the Project Area. Permittee shall restrict Project-related vehicle traffic to established roads, staging areas, and parking areas as per the Staging Areas Condition of Approval. Permittee shall ensure that vehicle

speeds do not exceed 15 miles per hour to avoid Covered Species on or traversing the roads. If Permittee determines construction of routes for travel is necessary outside of the Project Area, the Designated Representative shall contact CDFW for written approval before conducting such an activity. CDFW may require an amendment to this ITP, among other reasons, if additional take of Covered Species will occur because of the project modification.

- 5.9. <u>Staging Areas</u>. Permittee shall confine all Project-related parking, storage areas, laydown sites, equipment storage, and any other surface-disturbing activities to the areas within the Project Area described in the Project Description. If Permittee determines parking, storage, laydown, or staging areas 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.
- **5.10.** <u>Hazardous Waste</u>. 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.
- **5.11.** 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.
- **5.12.** 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.
- **5.13.** Wildfire Avoidance. Permittee or Permittee's contractors shall minimize the potential for human-caused wildfires by carrying water or fire extinguishers and shovels in all Project-related vehicles and equipment. The use of shields, protective mats, or use of other fire preventative methods shall be used during grinding and welding to minimize the potential for fire. Personnel shall be trained regarding the fire hazard for wildlife as part of the worker education program described in the Education Program Condition of Approval.

6. Monitoring, Notification and Reporting Provisions:

- 6.1. Notification Before Commencement. The Designated Representative shall notify CDFW at least 14 calendar days before starting Covered Activities and at least 14 days before recommencing after any suspension of construction for more than 30 days and shall document compliance with all pre-Project Conditions of Approval before starting Covered Activities.
- 6.2. Notification of Non-compliance. The Designated Representative, Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall immediately notify CDFW if 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 periods indicated in this ITP and/or the MMRP. The Designated Representative shall follow up within 24 hours with a written report to CDFW describing, in detail, any non-compliance with this ITP and suggested measures to remedy the situation.
- **6.3.** Pre-Activity Survey Reports. Prior to starting Covered Activities at each Work Area, Permittee shall prepare and submit to CDFW the results of pre-activity surveys and maps (according to the <u>Pre-Activity Clearance Surveys</u> and <u>Flag and Map Burrows and Crevices</u> Conditions of Approval).
- 6.4. Compliance Monitoring. A Designated Biologist shall be on-site at each Work Area for the duration of the day until Burrows and Crevice Excavation Condition of Approval and initial grading activities are complete at that Work Area. Thereafter, Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s) shall conduct compliance inspections at least twice per week during all Covered Activities. During Covered Activities, at least one Designated Biologist shall be available to respond to the Project Area within one hour of being contacted to address all Covered Species needs and any other issues that may arise during implementation of this ITP. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) 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) document Covered Activities observed (5) ensure that signs, stakes, and fencing are intact; and (6) that that Covered Activities are only occurring in the Project Area. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall prepare daily written observation, inspection records, and photographic documentation summarizing oversight activities and compliance inspections, observations of all Covered Species and their sign, survey results, and monitoring activities required by this ITP. Daily written observations, inspection records, and photographic documentation shall be provided to CDFW upon request.
- **6.5.** <u>Covered Species Observations and Notification</u>. During all Covered Activities, workers shall inform a Designated Biologist if an individual of CTS is observed in

the Project Area. All work in the vicinity of the observed Covered Species, which could injure or kill the animal, shall cease immediately until the Covered Species moves from the Project Area of its own accord or until the Designated Biologist(s) have relocated the Covered Species following the CDFW-approved relocation plan (as per the <u>Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan</u> Condition of Approval). Permittee shall report other observations of live/non-injured CTS within five business days of discovery of a Covered Species within the Project Area to the Regional Representative and Regional Office identified in the <u>Monthly Compliance Reports</u> Condition of Approval.

The Designated Biologist(s) shall maintain a record of Covered Species handled and all documented observations of Covered Species. This information shall include for each individual of Covered Species: (1) date, time, and location (Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates and maps) and capture/removal and/or observation as well as release, as applicable; (2) the name of the party that identified the Covered Species; (3) circumstances of the observation; (3) the general condition and health, noting all visible conditions including gait and behavior, ectoparasites, injuries, etc.; (4) any diagnostic markings, sex, age (juvenile or adult); (5) actions undertaken; (6) habitat description; and (7) ambient temperature when handled and released or observed. The Designated Biologist(s) shall also submit this information to CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) as per the CNDDB Observations Condition of Approval. The relocation summary shall be included with in the next applicable Monthly Compliance and Annual Status report, and the Final Mitigation Report.

6.6. Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan. The Designated Biologist(s) shall prepare a Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan and submit it to CDFW for review and approval a minimum of 30 days prior to starting Covered Activities (including vehicle and equipment parking and staging). The Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan shall include, but not be limited to: detailed survey, capture, handling, and relocation methods; identification of suitable relocation areas; required frequency and duration of compliance monitoring as per the Compliance Monitoring Condition of Approval; identification of a wildlife rehabilitation center or veterinary facility that will accept and is capable of treating injured CTS; and measures to be coordinated with the Covered Species Mortality and Reduction Plan. Covered Activities (including vehicle and equipment parking and staging) may not proceed until the Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan has been approved in writing by CDFW. Designated Monitor(s) are prohibited from capturing and handling CTS unless specifically approved in writing by CDFW and under the direct supervision of the Designated Biologist(s). Any proposed changes to the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan shall be submitted in writing to CDFW and approved by CDFW in writing prior to implementation of any proposed Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan modifications.

- 6.7. Monthly Compliance Reports. The Designated Representative or Designated Biologist(s) shall compile the observation and inspection records identified in the Compliance Monitoring Condition of Approval; CTS no-disturbance buffer maps according to the Burrow and Crevice Avoidance Condition of Approval; and a copy of the MMRP table with notes showing the current implementation status of each mitigation measure into a Monthly Compliance Report and for CDFW. Monthly 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 by the 7th calendar day following the reporting month. At the time of this ITP's approval, the CDFW Regional Representative is Grant Piepkorn (Grant.Piepkorn@wildlife.ca.gov), the Regional Office email is RRR.R4@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.
- 6.8. Annual Status Reports. Permittee shall provide CDFW with an Annual Status Report no later than January 31 of every year beginning with issuance of this ITP and continuing until CDFW accepts the Final Mitigation Report. Each Annual Status Report shall include, at a minimum: (1) a summary of all Monthly Compliance Reports for that year identified in the Monthly Compliance Reports Condition of Approval; (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) a summary of all compliance monitoring and surveys associated with ground-disturbing Project activities for the reporting period all available information about Project-related incidental take of 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. Annual Status Reports shall be submitted via email to the entities identified in the Monthly Compliance Reports Condition of Approval.
- **6.9.** CNDDB Observations. The Designated Biologist(s) shall submit all observations of Covered Species to CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) within 60 calendar days of the observation, and the Designated Biologist(s) shall include copies of the submitted forms with the next applicable Annual Status Report.

- 6.10. 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(s) shall prepare the Final Mitigation Report which shall include, at a minimum: (1) a summary of all Monthly Compliance Reports and all Annual Status Reports; (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 all Covered Species; and (8) any other pertinent information
- **6.11.** Notification of Take or Injury. Permittee shall immediately notify the Designated Biologist(s) if a CTS is taken or injured by a Project-related activity, or if a CTS is otherwise found dead or injured within the vicinity of the Project. If a CTS is injured, the Designated Biologist(s) shall take the injured animal(s) to a CDFW-approved facility according to the Covered Species Injury Condition of Approval. The Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Representative shall provide initial notification to CDFW by calling the Regional Office at (559) 243-4005 and the CDFW Regional Representative. The initial notification to CDFW shall include information regarding the location, species, and number of animals taken or injured and the ITP Number. Permittee shall adhere to the Covered Species Injury Condition of Approval, as applicable. Following initial notification, the 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. photograph(s), if possible, explanation as to the cause of take or injury, proposed measures to minimize risks of additional mortality or injury, and any other pertinent information. The written report shall be submitted via email to the Regional Representative and Regional Office identified in the Monthly Compliance Reports Condition of Approval. If an individual of the Covered Species is found deceased, the Designated Biologist(s) shall immediately collect, bag, and freeze the carcass and consult with the CDFW Designated Representative to determine if submittal of the carcass to a laboratory is warranted.
- **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. Open Excavation Inspection. Workers shall inspect all open holes, sumps, and trenches at the beginning and end of each day for trapped animals. Workers shall either cover all trenches greater than 6-inches deep, holes, sumps, and other excavations with sidewalls steeper than a 1:1 (45 degree) slope when workers or equipment are not actively working in the excavation or ensure that excavations have an escape ramp of earth or a non-slip material with a less than 1:1 (45 degree) slope. Coverings shall be comprised of hardware cloth or similar that restricts animals such as CTS from digging or squeezing under and becoming entrapped. The Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s) shall inspect excavation coverings to ensure compliance and shall thoroughly inspect all trenches, holes, sumps, and other excavations for CTS (or other animals) before they are backfilled. If any worker discovers that a CTS has become trapped. Permittee shall cease all Project-related activities in the vicinity and notify the Designated Biologist(s) immediately. Project workers, Designated Biologist(s), and Designated Monitor(s) shall provide the opportunity for the animal to escape unimpeded out of the Work Area before allowing work to continue. Alternatively, if the CTS will not leave the Work Area unimpeded, the Designated Biologist(s) have captured and relocated the individual(s) as per the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan).
- 7.2. Materials, Vehicle and Equipment Inspection. Workers shall thoroughly inspect all conduits with a diameter of one inch or greater, vehicles and other equipment that are stored for one or more overnight periods for CTS before the object is subsequently moved, buried, or capped. If a CTS is present, Permittee shall cease all Project-related activities in the vicinity, notify the Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s), and wait for the individual(s) to move unimpeded out of the Project Area. Alternatively, if the CTS will not leave the Project Area unimpeded, the Designated Biologist(s) shall capture and relocate the animal as per the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan.
- 7.3. <u>Dust Control</u>. Permittee shall not apply dust suppressant, surfactant, soil binders, or stabilizer products that may be harmful to Covered Species. Permittee shall obtain written approval from CDFW before applying any dust suppressant (other than water), surfactant, soil binders, stabilizer products, hydro-mulch, or hydroseed. Permittee shall provide all available documentation of each product's safety or hazards to wildlife to CDFW with any such request for approval.
- 7.4. Erosion Control Materials. Permittee shall prohibit use of erosion control materials that are potentially harmful to Covered Species and other species, such as monofilament netting, photodegradable mesh (erosion control matting), soil binders, stabilizer products, hydro-mulch, or hydroseed in potential Covered Species' habitat unless otherwise approved by CDFW in writing prior to implementation. Requests for such erosion control materials shall include an impact assessment on Covered Species.

- **7.5.** <u>Vegetation Management</u>. Permittee shall minimize disturbance or removal of vegetation to the amount necessary to complete Covered Activities. As feasible, vegetation shall be trimmed with hand tools to no lower than 4-inches above the ground surface, to the extent necessary to gain access to Work Areas.
- 7.6. Herbicide Use. Permittee shall not use herbicides at any time during Project Activities (including plant establishment) unless the Designated Biologist(s) or an approved Designated Monitor(s) surveys the application area and determines that Covered Species are not present. Permittee shall ensure that all herbicide use (mixing, application, and clean-up) is done by a licensed applicator in accordance with all applicable State, federal, and local regulations. Permittee shall only apply herbicide sprays via ground application when wind speed measures less than three miles per hour. Permittee shall ensure that great care is taken to avoid herbicide outside the boundaries of the Project Area. All herbicide sprays utilized within the Project Area shall contain a dye to prevent overspray.
- 7.7. <u>Soil Stockpiles</u>. Permittee shall ensure that soil stockpiles are placed where soil shall not pass into potential CTS breeding habitat, or into any "waters of the state," including streams that traverse the Project Area, in accordance with Fish and Game Code section 5650. Permittee shall appropriately protect stockpiles to prevent soil erosion.
- 7.8. Pre-Activity Clearance Surveys. No more than 14 days prior to starting Covered Activities at each Work Area (including staging areas), the Designated Biologist(s) shall survey the Work Area and a 50-foot buffer for CTS individuals and burrows and crevices suitable for CTS occupancy. Designated Monitor(s) may assist with pre-activity surveys when accompanied by Designated Biologist(s). Surveys shall be repeated if there has been a break in Covered Activities by more than 30 days to search for new burrows and crevices suitable for CTS occupancy. These surveys shall provide 100 percent visual coverage (including burrow and crevice openings) of the Project Work Area and a 50-foot buffer zone around the Work Area. If any life stages (adults, metamorphs, eggs, or larvae) of CTS are found within the Project Area and avoidance is not possible, the Designated Biologist(s) shall capture and relocate the CTS according to the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan.
- 7.9. Flag and Map Burrows and Crevices. During pre-activity clearance surveys, the Designated Biologist(s) or approved Designated Monitor(s) shall map all accessible animal burrows and crevices suitable for CTS occupancy and flag those for avoidance or excavation, according to the Burrow and Crevice Avoidance and Burrow and Crevice Excavation Conditions of Approval. For purposes of this ITP, "accessible" is defined as within the Project Area and safe for workers to access given slope considerations. Accessible burrows and crevices located within the Project Area that are also within 1,844 feet of known or potential breeding habitat

(includes seasonal ponds, stock or otherwise human-created and managed ponds, and potential pools in streams) shall be distinctively flagged and mapped for burrow/crevice excavation. The mapped locations of all animal burrow and crevices suitable for CTS occupancy shall be submitted with the Pre-Activity Clearance Survey Reports.

- 7.10. Burrow and Crevice Avoidance. The Permittee shall establish a no-disturbance buffer of 50 feet or greater around potential CTS burrows and crevices identified and/or flagged according to the Pre-Activity Clearance Surveys and Flag and Map Burrows and Crevices Conditions of Approval, when they can be avoided from ground disturbing or other Covered Activities that could crush or entomb CTS. The boundary of the no-disturbance areas shall be mapped and clearly marked in the field using signs, stakes or posts with highly visible rope, or high visibility fencing that shall be removed upon completion of Covered Activities in each Work Area. The Permittee shall provide the no-disturbance maps with the Pre-Activity Clearance Survey Reports.
- 7.11. Burrow and Crevice Excavation. No more than seven days after completing preactivity clearance surveys and no more than 14 days prior to initiating Covered Activities within a given Work Area, or resuming Covered Activities after a break of at least 30 days, all burrows and crevices identified and flagged as within 1,844 feet of known or potential breeding habitat during the Pre-Activity Clearance Surveys and Flag and Map Burrows and Crevices Conditions of Approval that are within the Work Area and cannot be avoided by Covered Activities shall be fully excavated under the direct supervision of the Designated Biologist(s) based on the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan. The Designated Biologist(s) shall capture and relocate any live CTS discovered during burrow and crevice excavation in accordance with the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan. The Permittee shall provide the results of the burrow and crevice excavation and any CTS relocation activities with the next applicable Monthly Compliance and Annual Status reports (see Monthly Compliance Reports and Annual Status Reports Conditions of Approval).
- 7.12. Precipitation. The Permittee shall monitor the National Weather Service 72-hour forecast for the Work Areas. If a significant rainfall event (defined as 70% or greater chance of over 1/4-inch of rainfall is predicted within a 24-hour period), or if rainfall commences during Covered Activities, Permittee shall cease all Covered Activities in all Work Areas where the Covered Species Exclusion Fencing Condition of Approval has not yet been completed. Work at these locations may resume 24 hours after the rain ceases and a significant rainfall event is not predicted in the 72-hour forecast. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall survey for CTS at those Work Area locations before Covered Activities resume, and the Designated Biologist(s) shall capture and relocate any

- that are discovered during the surveys, according to the CDFW-approved <u>Covered</u> Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan.
- 7.13. Fieldwork Code of Practice. To ensure that the Designated Biologist(s) does not convey disease between the Project Area and areas outside the Project Area, the fieldwork code of practice developed by the Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force Fieldwork Code of Practice (see Attachment 3) shall be always followed. The Designated Biologist(s) may substitute a bleach solution (0.5 to 1.0 cup of bleach to 1.0 gallon of water) for the ethanol solution. The Designated Biologist(s) shall ensure that all traces of the disinfectant are removed before entering the next aquatic habitat.
- 7.14. Covered Species Injury. If a CTS is injured as a result of Project-related activities, the Designated Biologist(s) shall immediately take it to a CDFW approved wildlife rehabilitation or veterinary facility according to the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan. Permittee shall bear any costs associated with the care or treatment of such injured or damaged Covered Species. The Permittee shall notify CDFW of the injury as described in the Notification of Take or Injury Condition of Approval.
- 8. Compensatory Mitigation: 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 from 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 protected acreage required to provide for adequate compensation.
 - 8.1. Covered Species Credits. Permittee shall purchase Covered Species credits to complete compensatory mitigation obligations. Permittee shall purchase 1.103 acres of Covered Species credits, identified as California tiger salamander upland credits, from a CDFW-approved mitigation or conservation bank prior to initiating Covered Activities and shall submit to CDFW a copy of the Bill of Sale(s) and Payment Receipt. Prior to purchase of Covered Species credits, Permittee shall obtain CDFW approval to ensure the mitigation or conservation bank is appropriate to compensate for the impacts of the Project.

IX. 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 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.

X. Stop-Work Order:

If CDFW determines Permittee has violated any term or condition of this ITP or has engaged in unlawful take, CDFW may issue Permittee a written stop-work order instructing Permittee to suspend any Covered Activity for an initial period of up to 30 days or risk suspension or revocation of this ITP. CDFW can issue a stop-work order 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, regardless of whether that species is a Covered Species under this ITP. 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 30 additional days.

If Permittee fails to remedy the violation or to comply with a stop-work order, CDFW may proceed with suspension and revocation of this ITP. Suspension and revocation of this ITP shall be governed by California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 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.

XI. Liability:

All terms and conditions of this ITP shall be binding upon each Permittee. Notwithstanding California Civil Code section 1431 or any other provision of law, each Permittee shall be jointly and severally liable for performance of all terms, conditions, and obligations of this ITP and shall be jointly and severally liable for any unauthorized take or other violations of this ITP, whether committed by Permittees or any person acting on behalf of one or more Permittees, including their officers, employees, representatives, agents or contractors and subcontractors. Any failure by one or more Permittees to comply with any term, condition, or obligation herein shall be deemed a failure to comply by all Permittees.

XII. Compliance with Other Laws:

This ITP sets forth CDFW's requirements for 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.

XIII. 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 Permittee. Notices, reports, and other communications shall reference the Project name, Permittee, and ITP Number (2081-2024-064-04) in a cover letter and on any other associated documents.

Original cover with attachment(s) to:

Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager California Department of Fish and Wildlife 1234 East Shaw Avenue Fresno, California 93710 RRR.R4@wildlife.ca.gov

and a copy to:

Habitat Conservation Planning Branch California Department of Fish and Wildlife Attention: CESA Permitting Program Post Office Box 944209 Sacramento, California 94244-2090 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:

Grant Piepkorn
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
Telephone (559) 807-1459
Grant.Piepkorn@wildlife.ca.gov

XIV. Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act:

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, California Department of Transportation. (See generally Pub. Resources Code, §§ 21067, 21069.) The lead agency's prior environmental review of the Project is set forth in the Tulare 245 Culvert Rehabilitation Project (SCH No.: 2023020265) adopted by Caltrans on February 10, 2023, and revalidated on April 24, 2025. At the time the lead agency adopted the 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 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.

XV. 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, Negative Declaration, results of site visit and consultations with the Applicant, 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) permanent habitat protection; (2) establishment of avoidance zones; (3) worker education; and (4) Monthly 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 protection and management in perpetuity of 1.103 acres of compensatory habitat that is contiguous with other protected Covered Species habitat and/or is of higher quality than the habitat being destroyed by the Project, 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;
- (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 Permittee as necessary to avoid jeopardy and as required by law.

XVI. Attachments:

FIGURE 1 Project Location Map Book
FIGURE 2 Project Impacts Map Book
FIGURE 3 Project Staging Area Map Book

ATTACHMENT 1 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

ATTACHMENT 2 Biologist Resume Form

ATTACHMENT 3 Declining Amphibian Task Force Fieldwork Code Of

Practice

ISSUED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE ON

5/22/2025

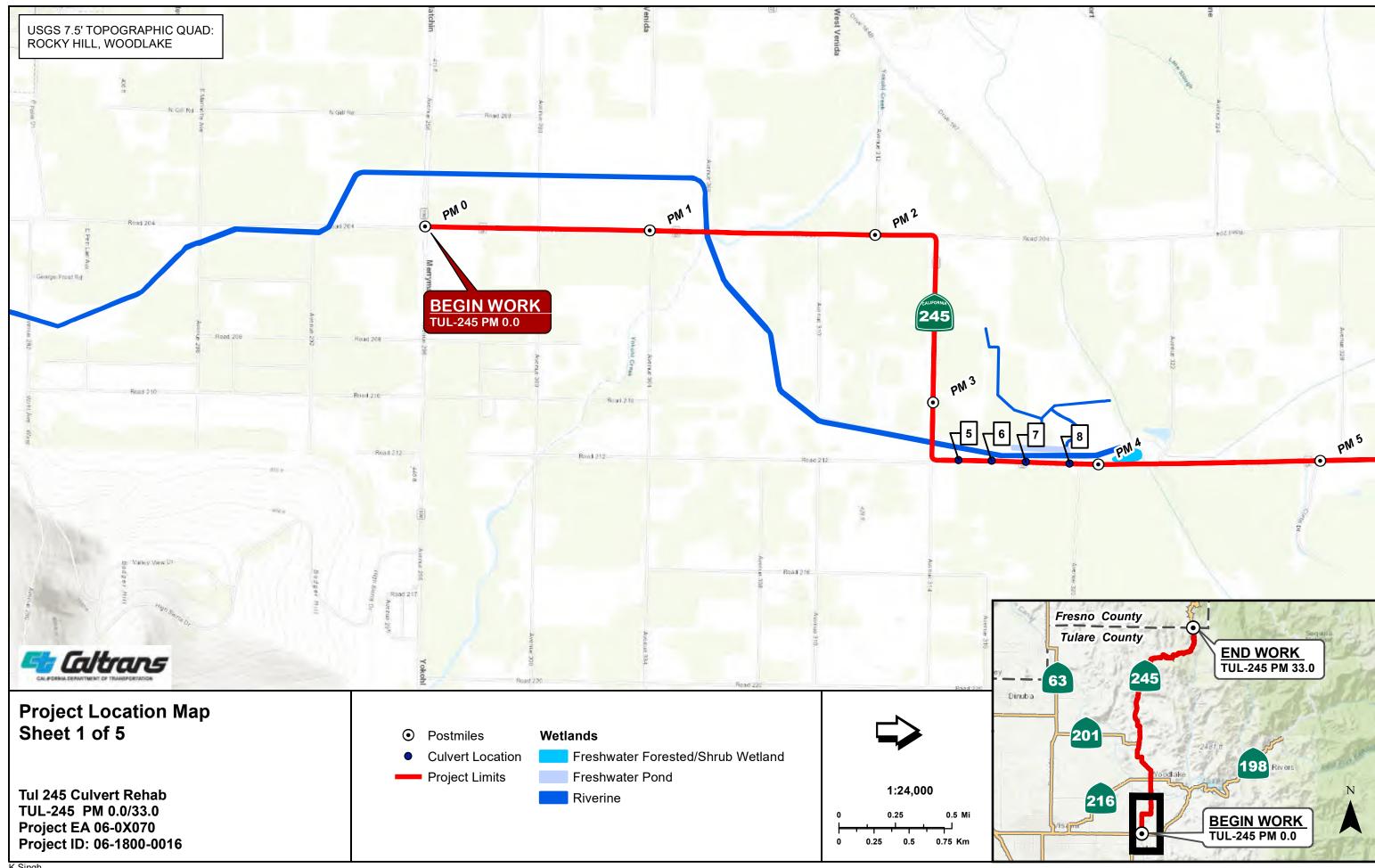
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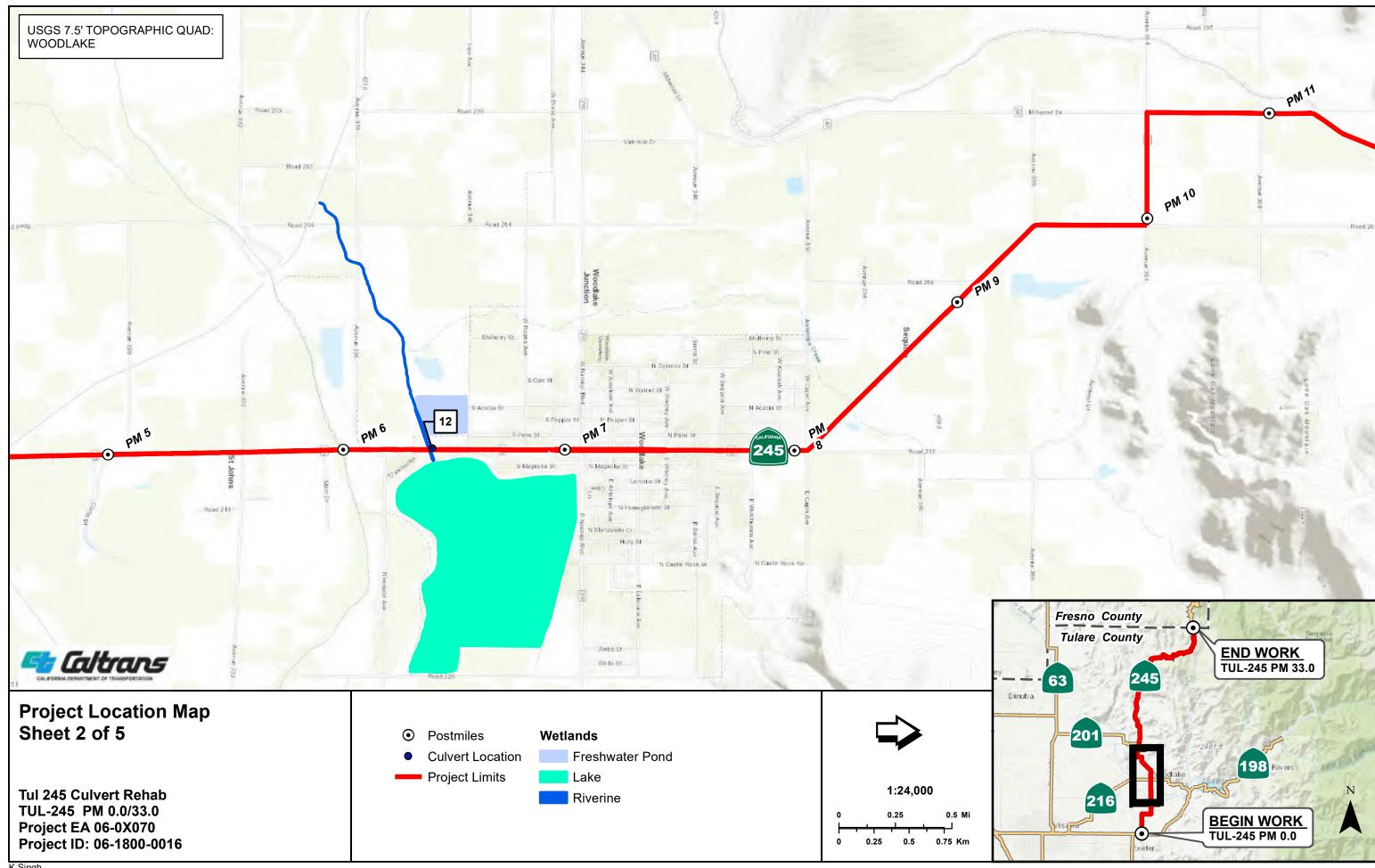
Julie Vance

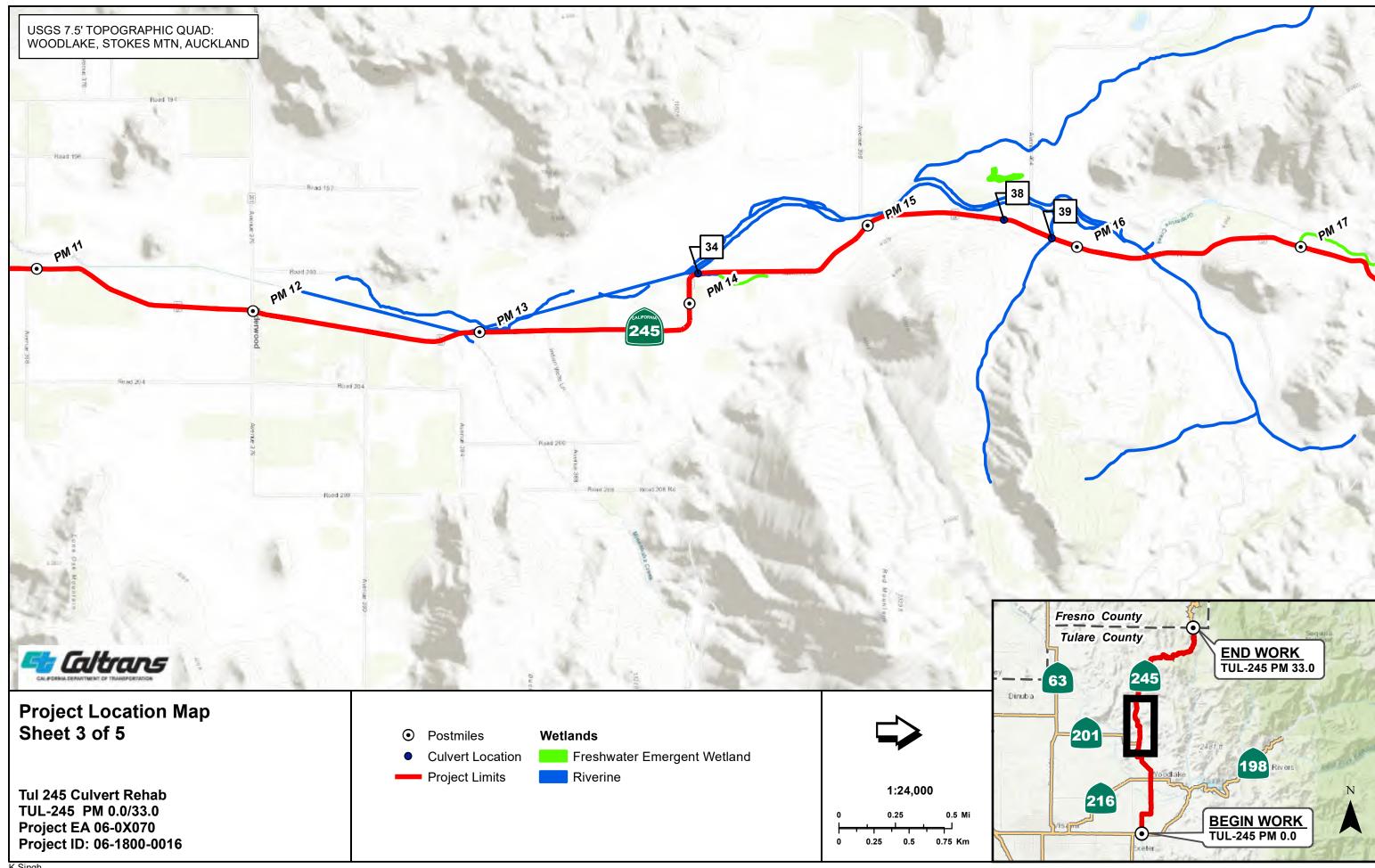
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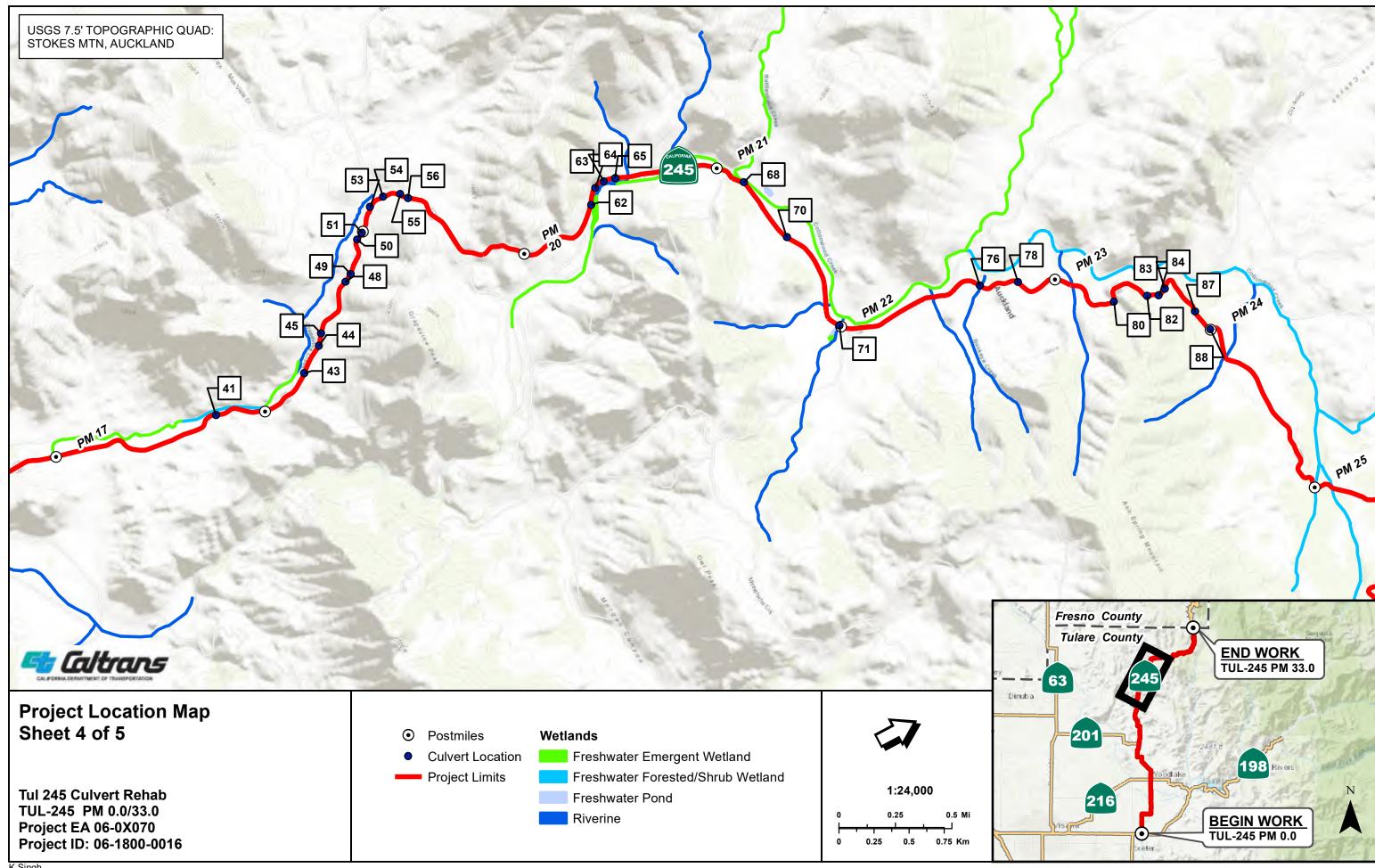
Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager Central Region (R4)

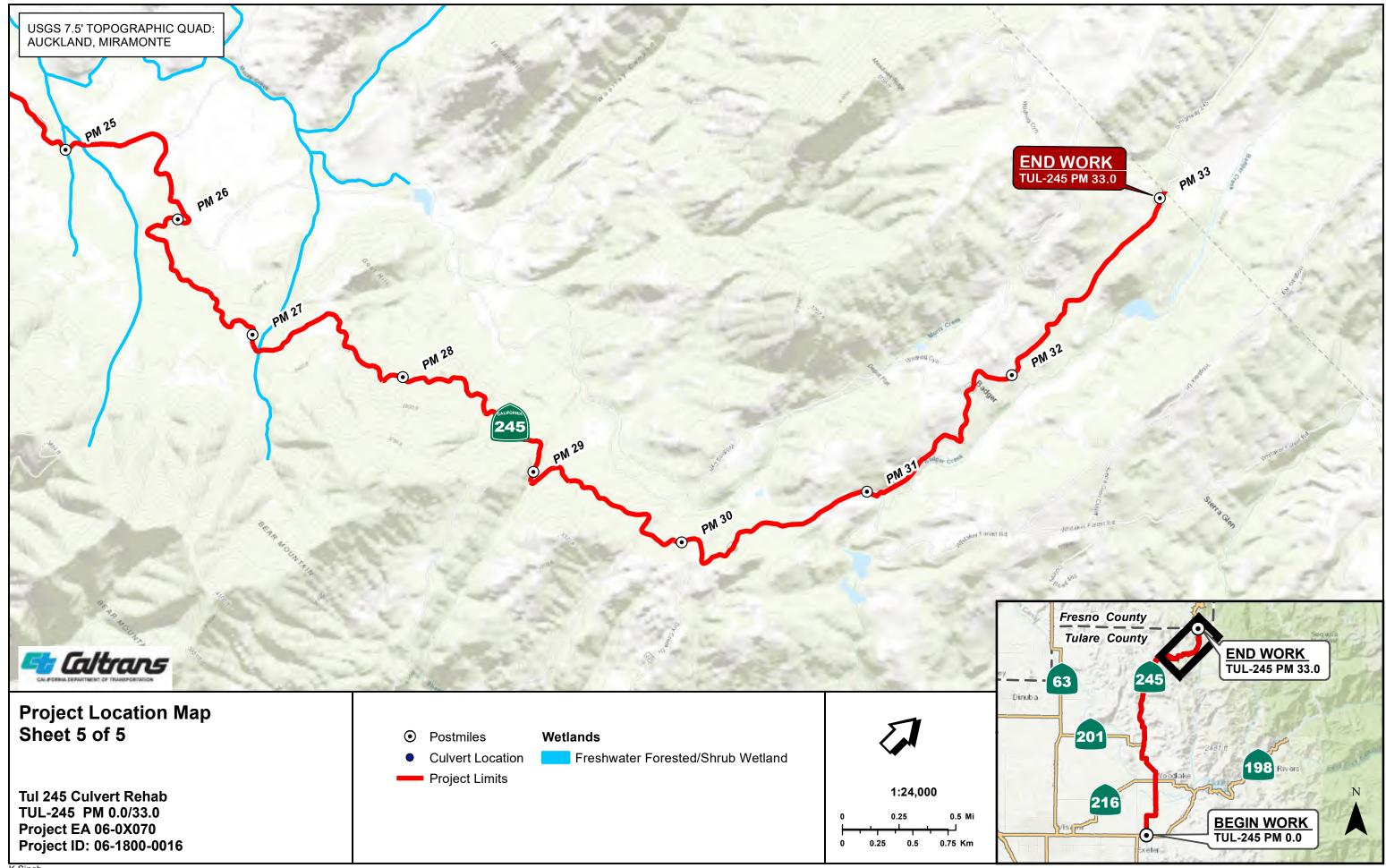




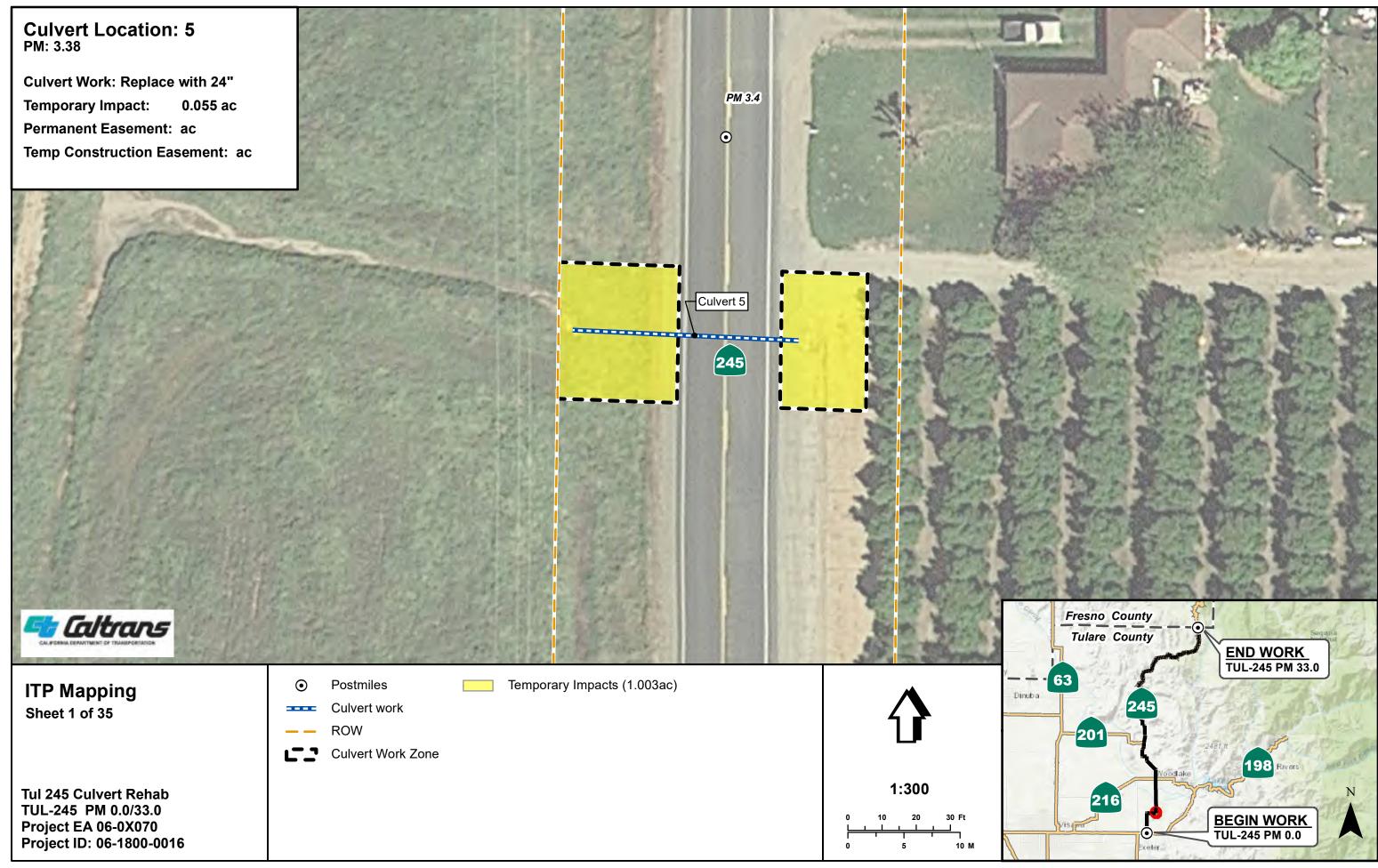


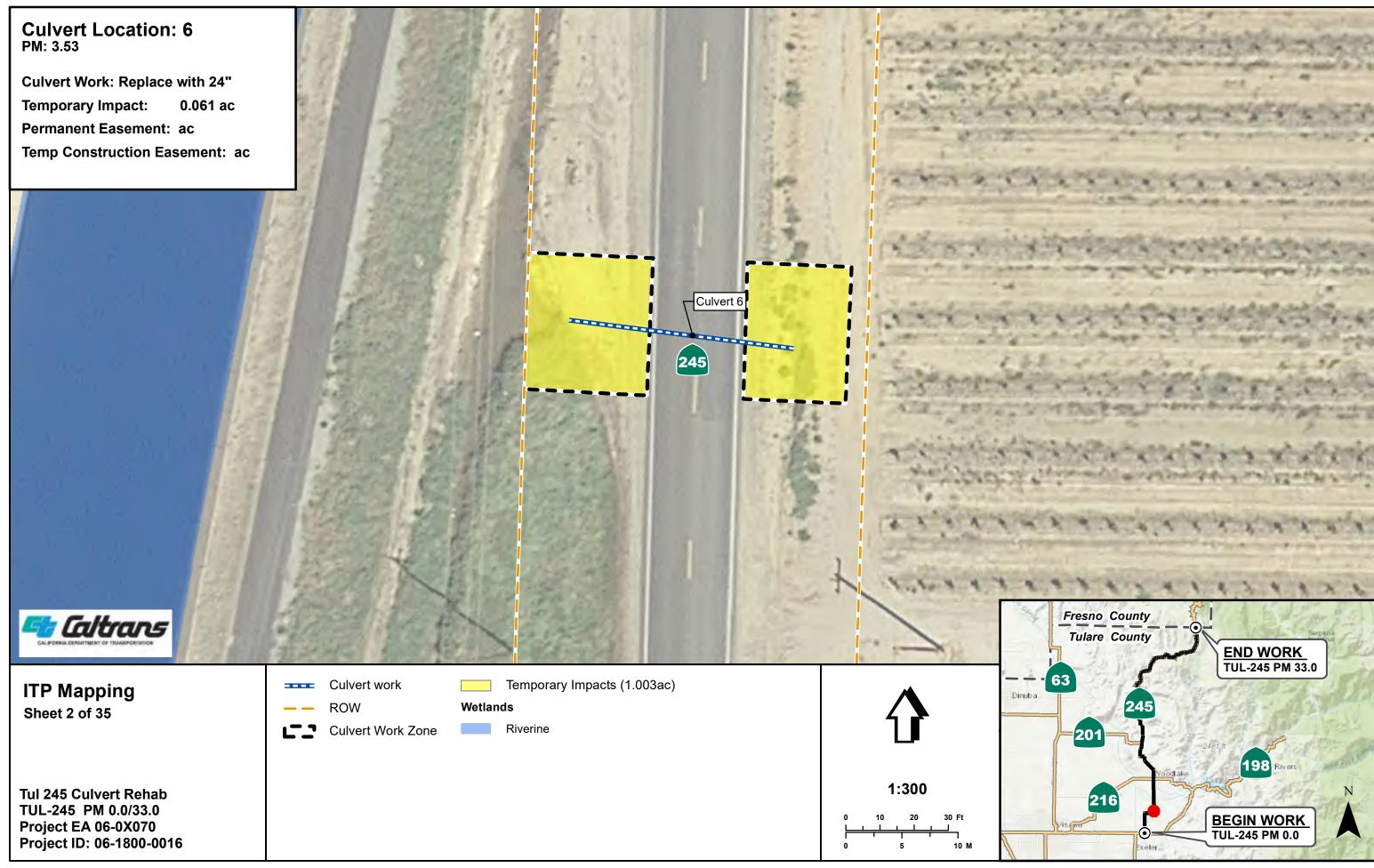


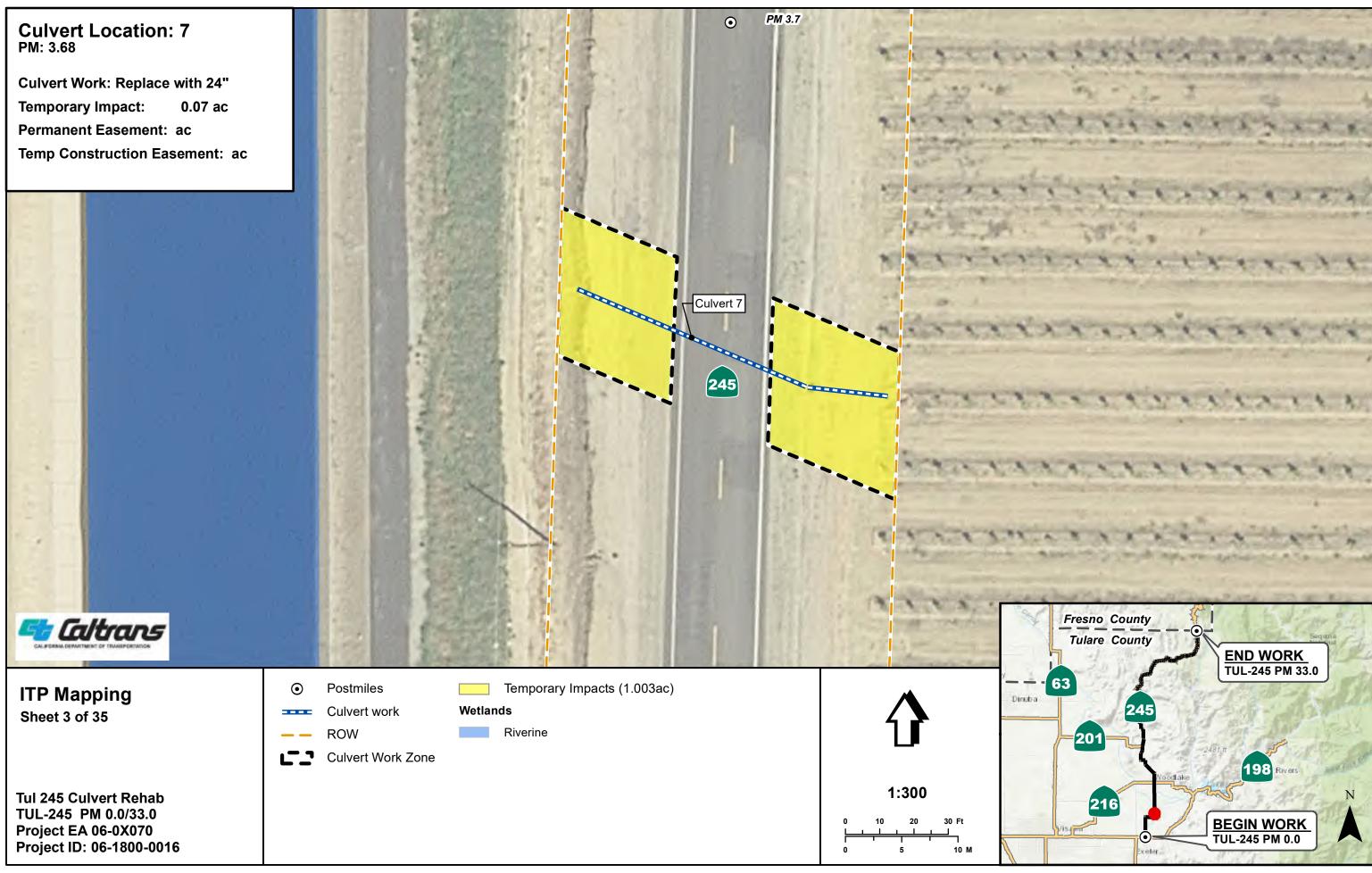


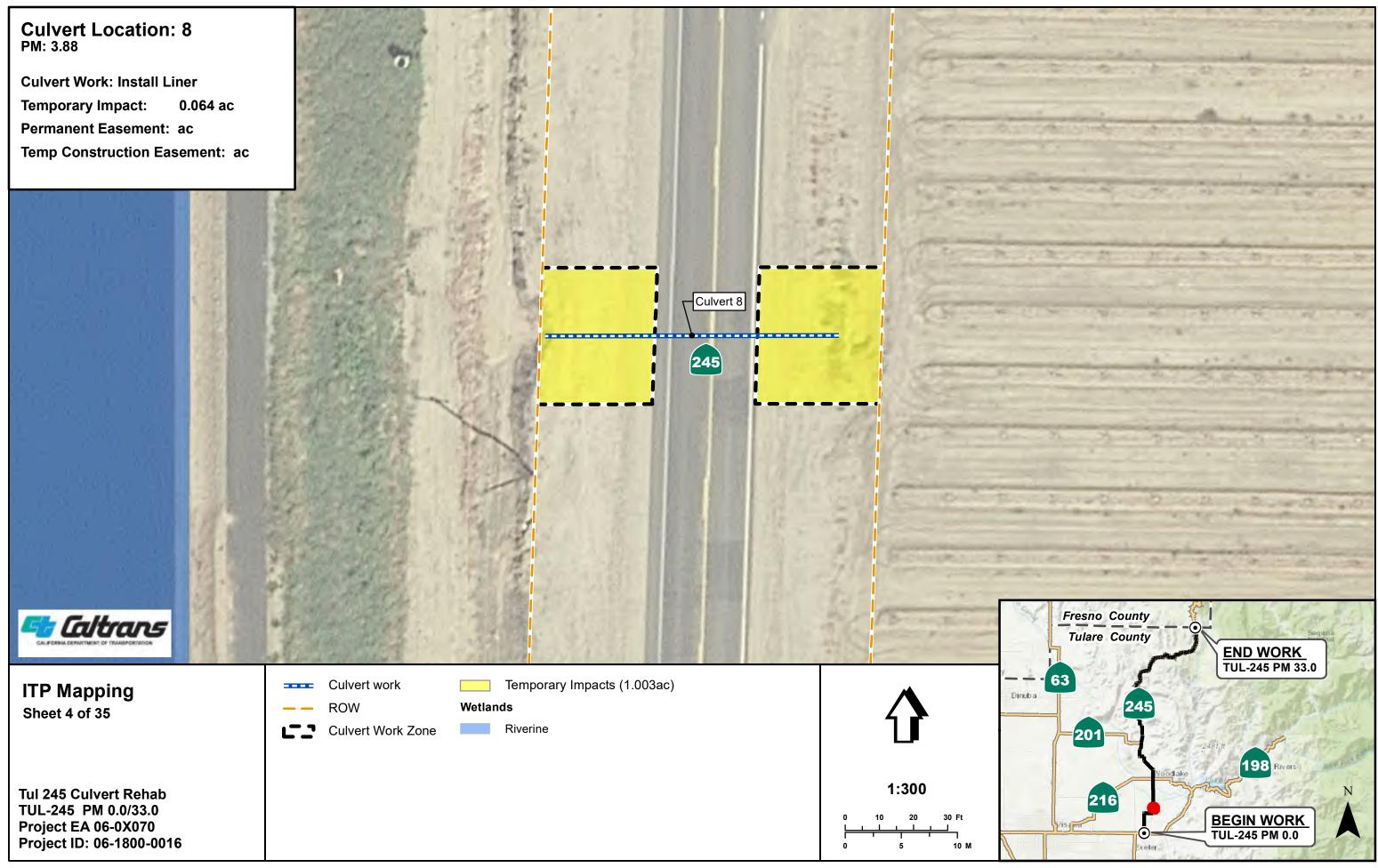


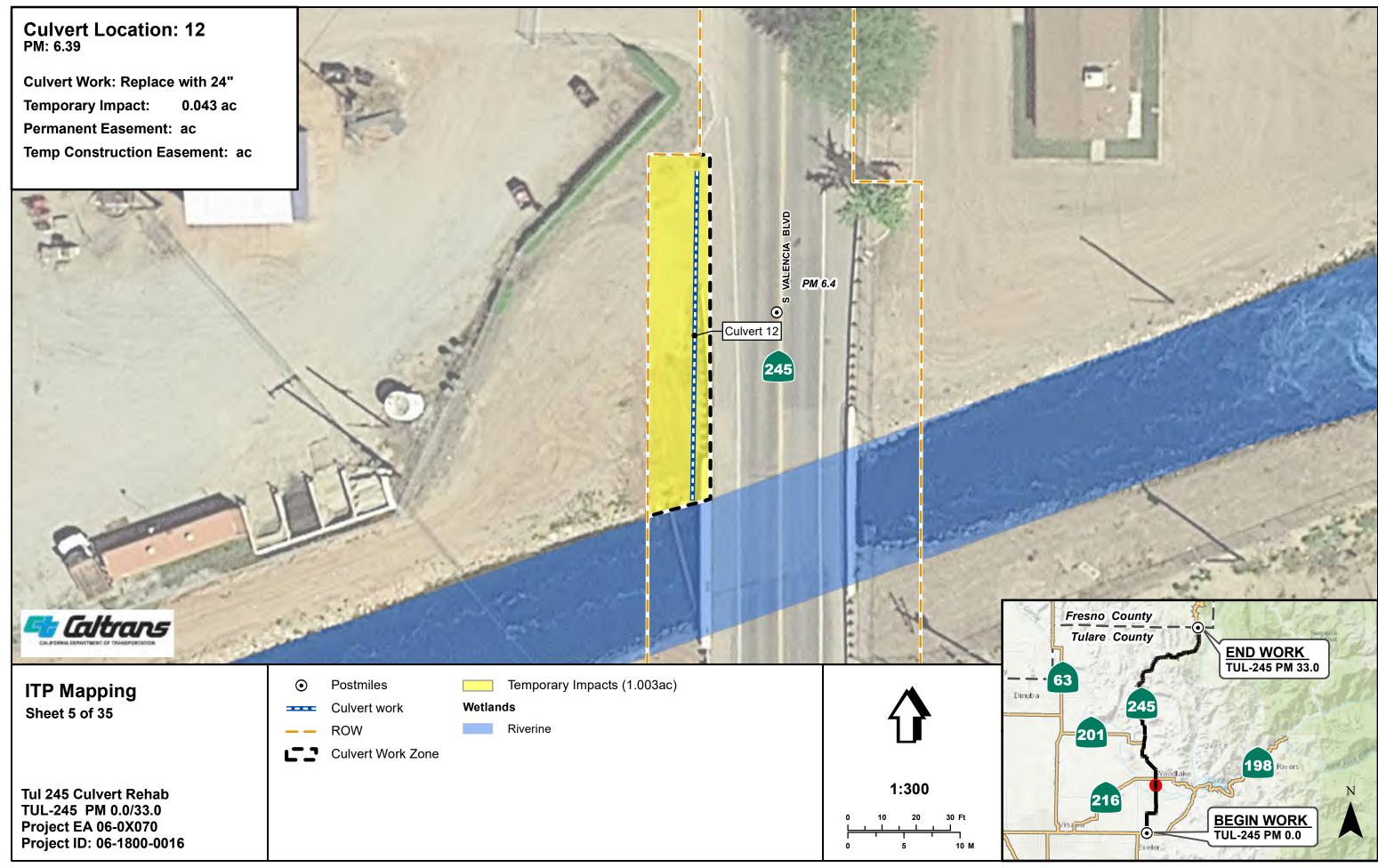


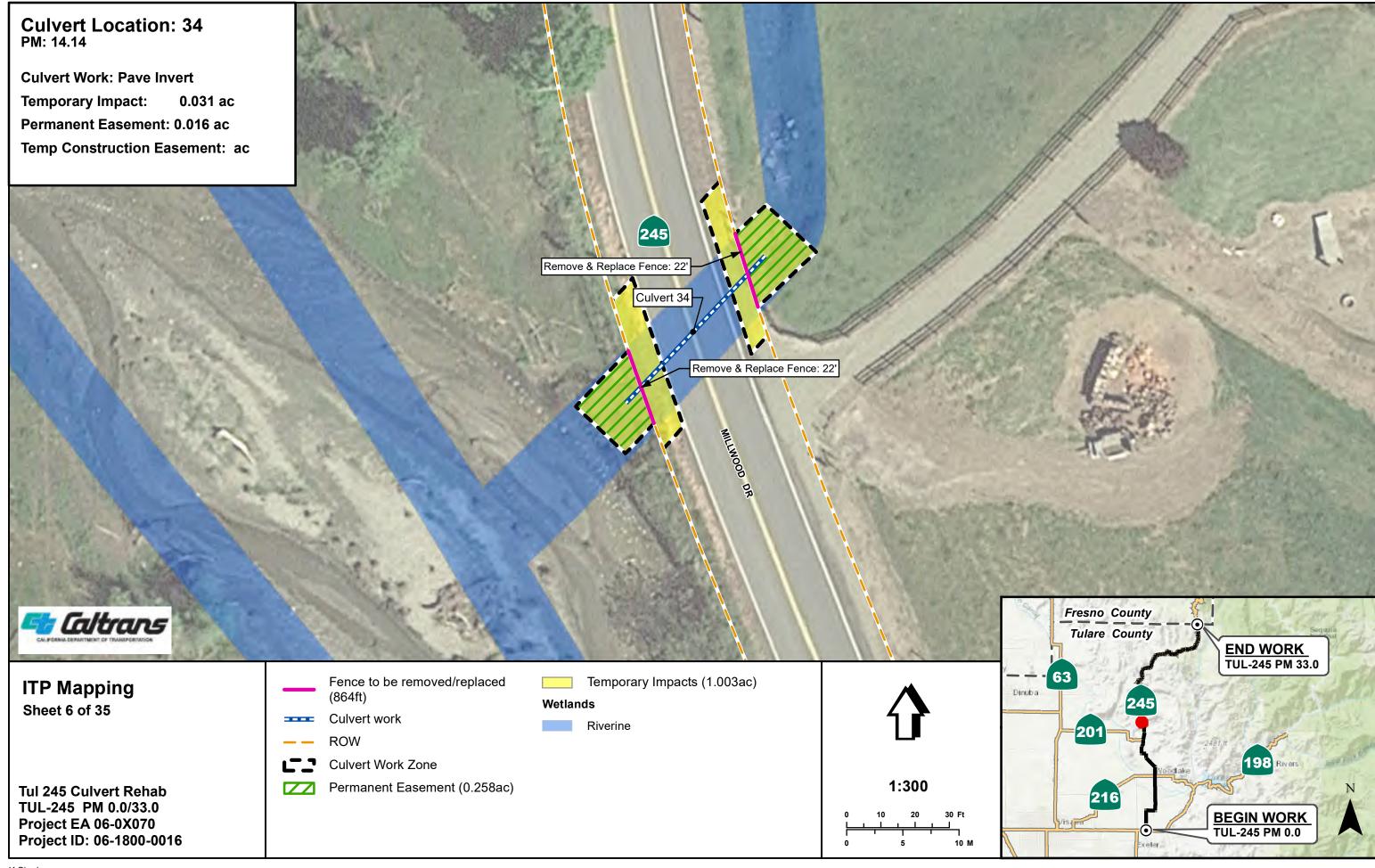


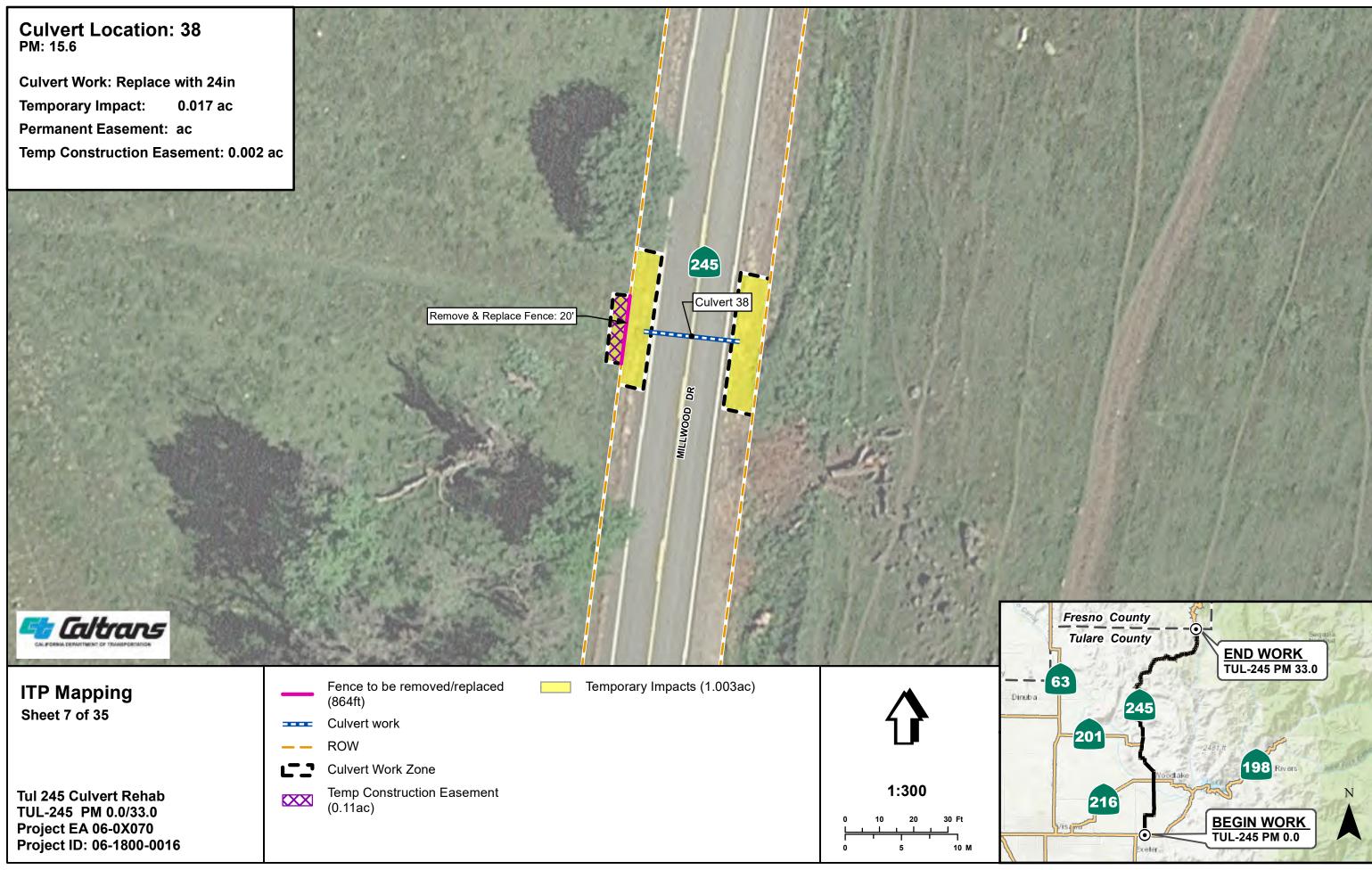


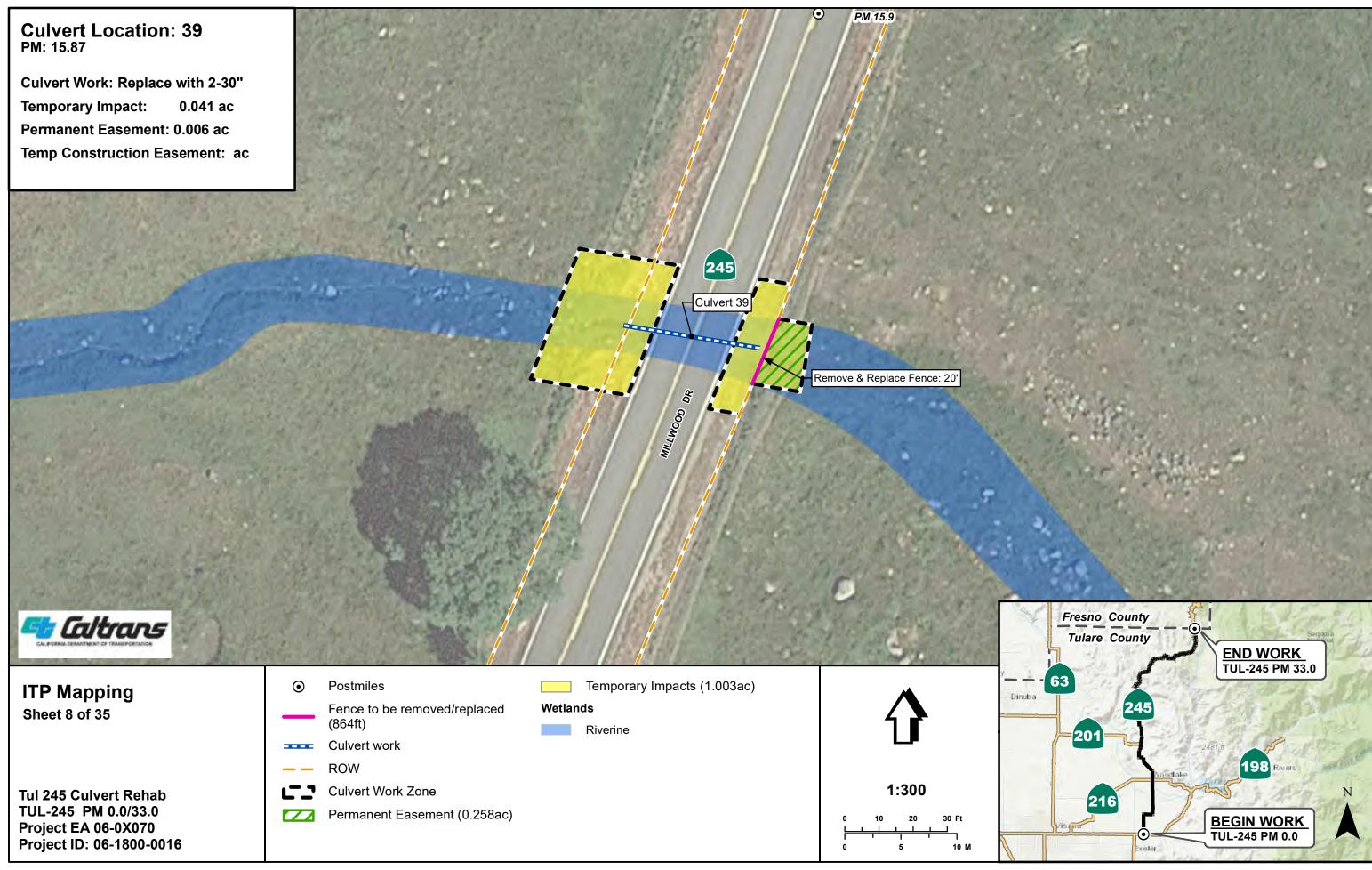


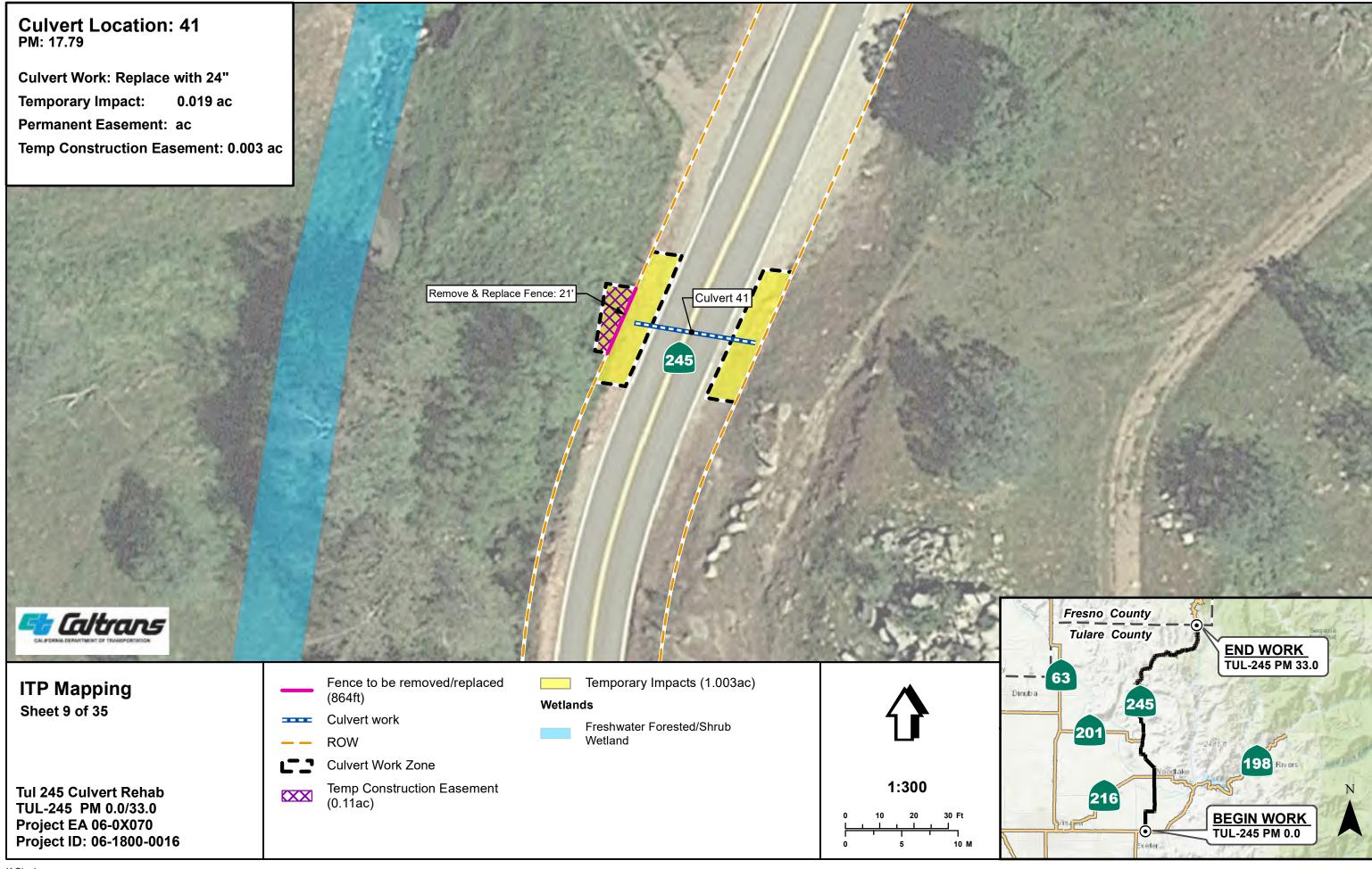


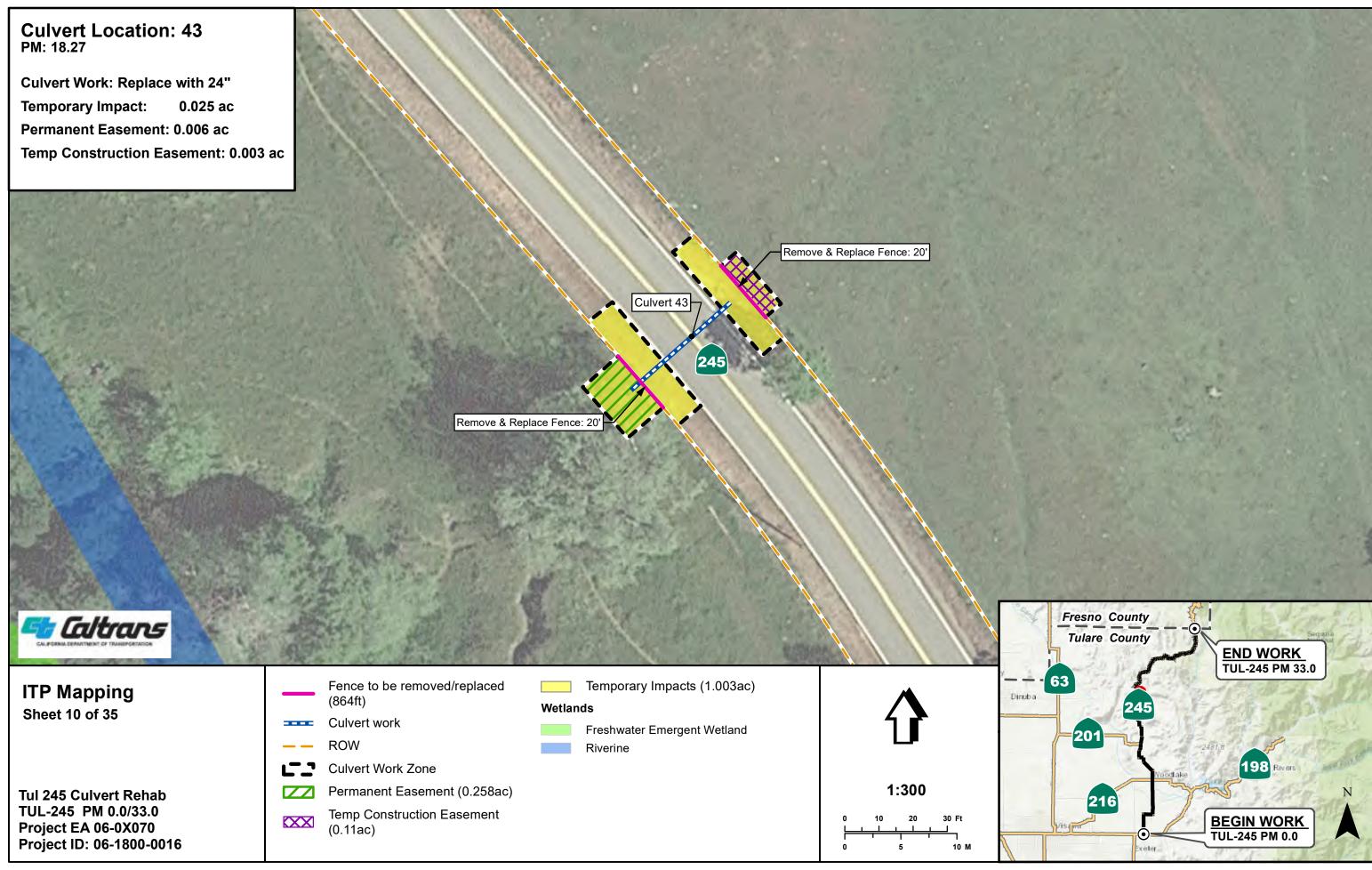


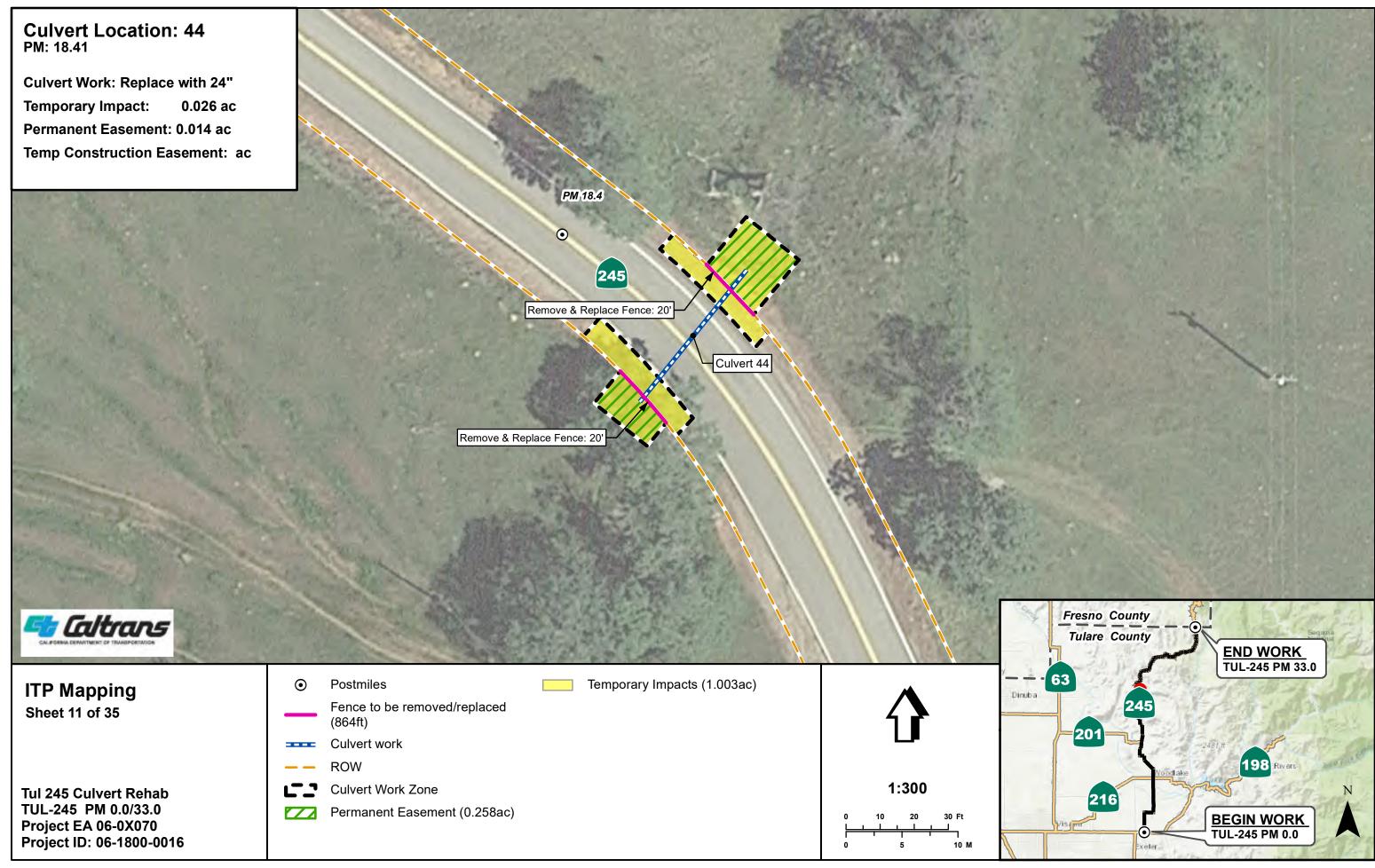


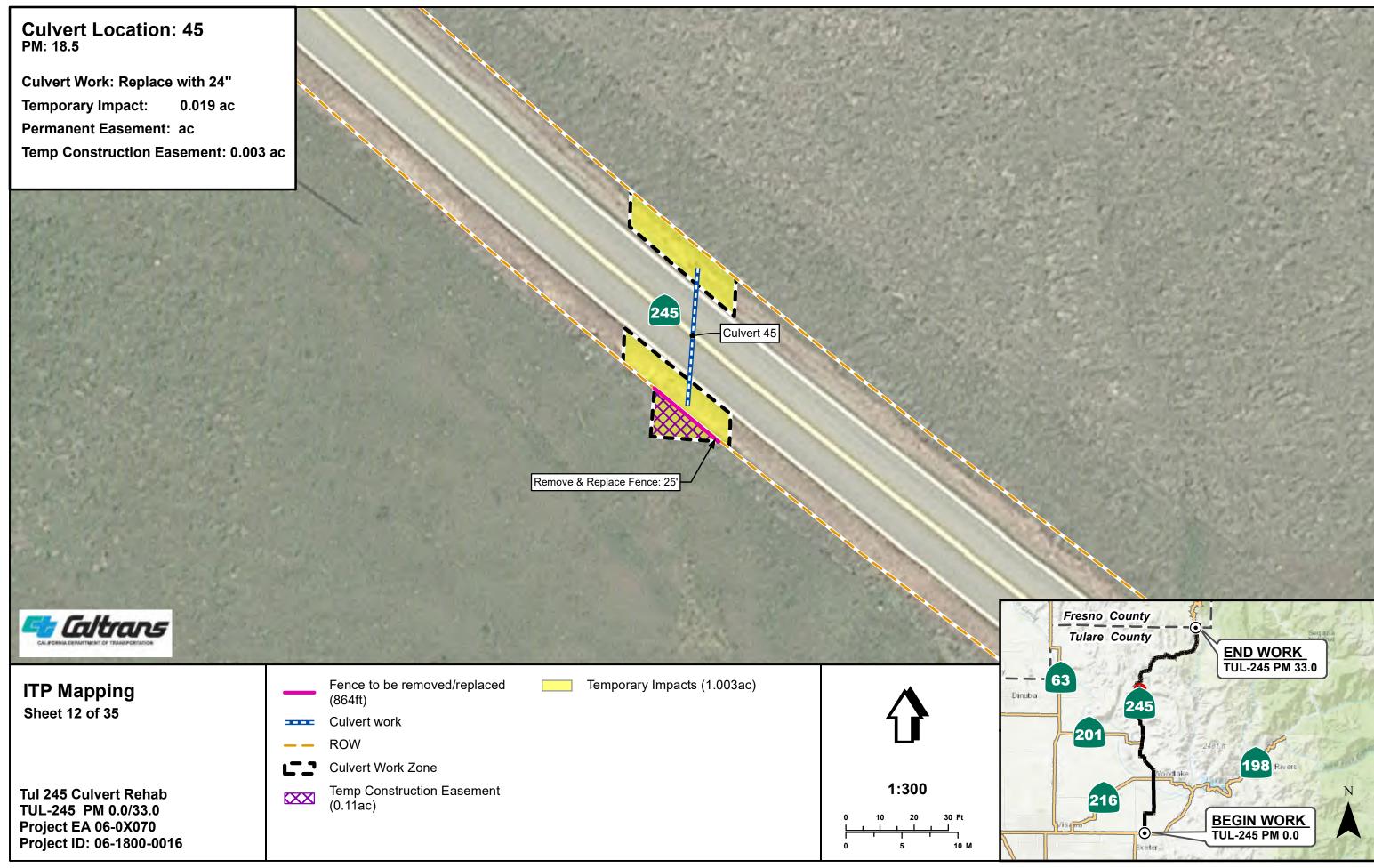


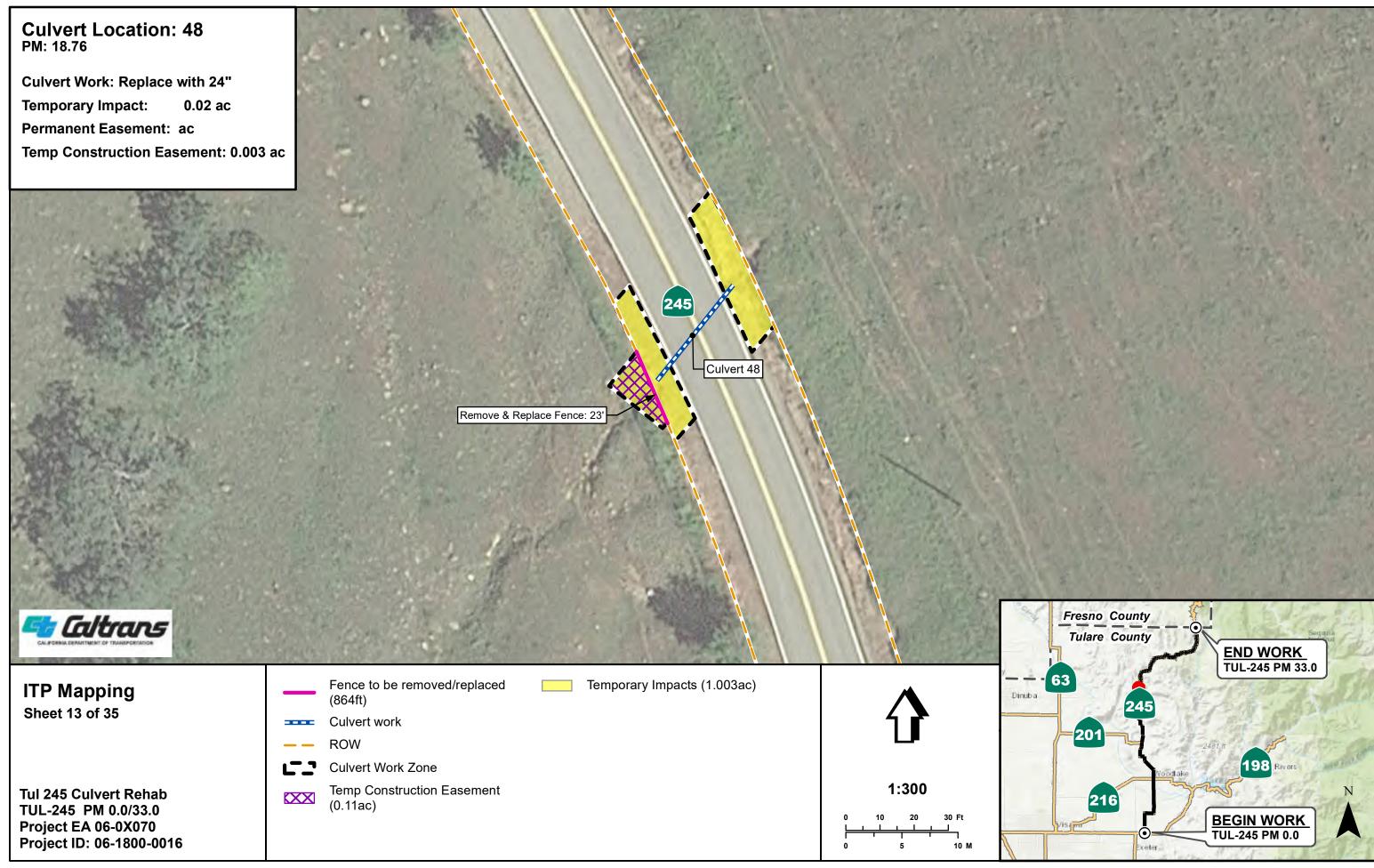






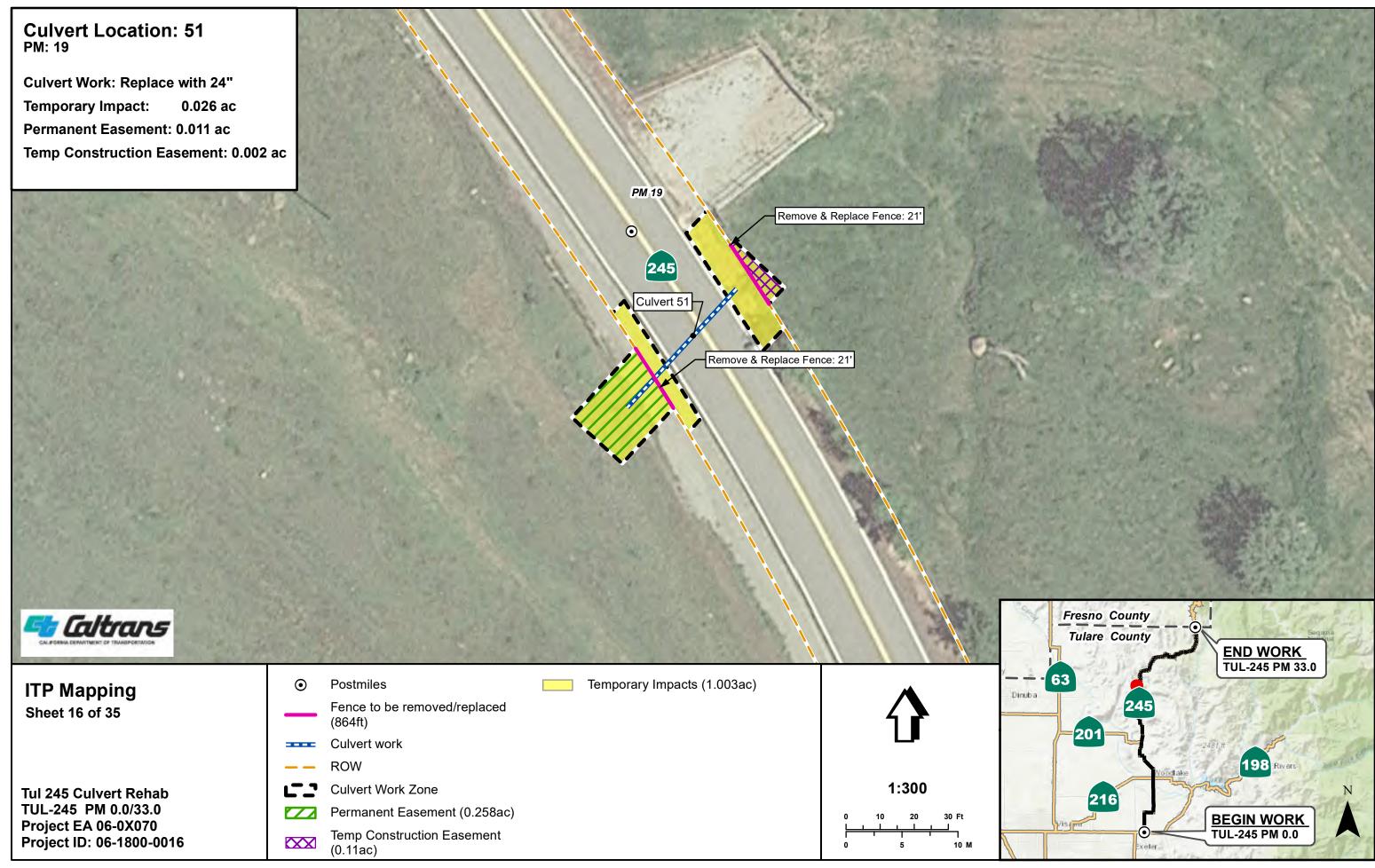


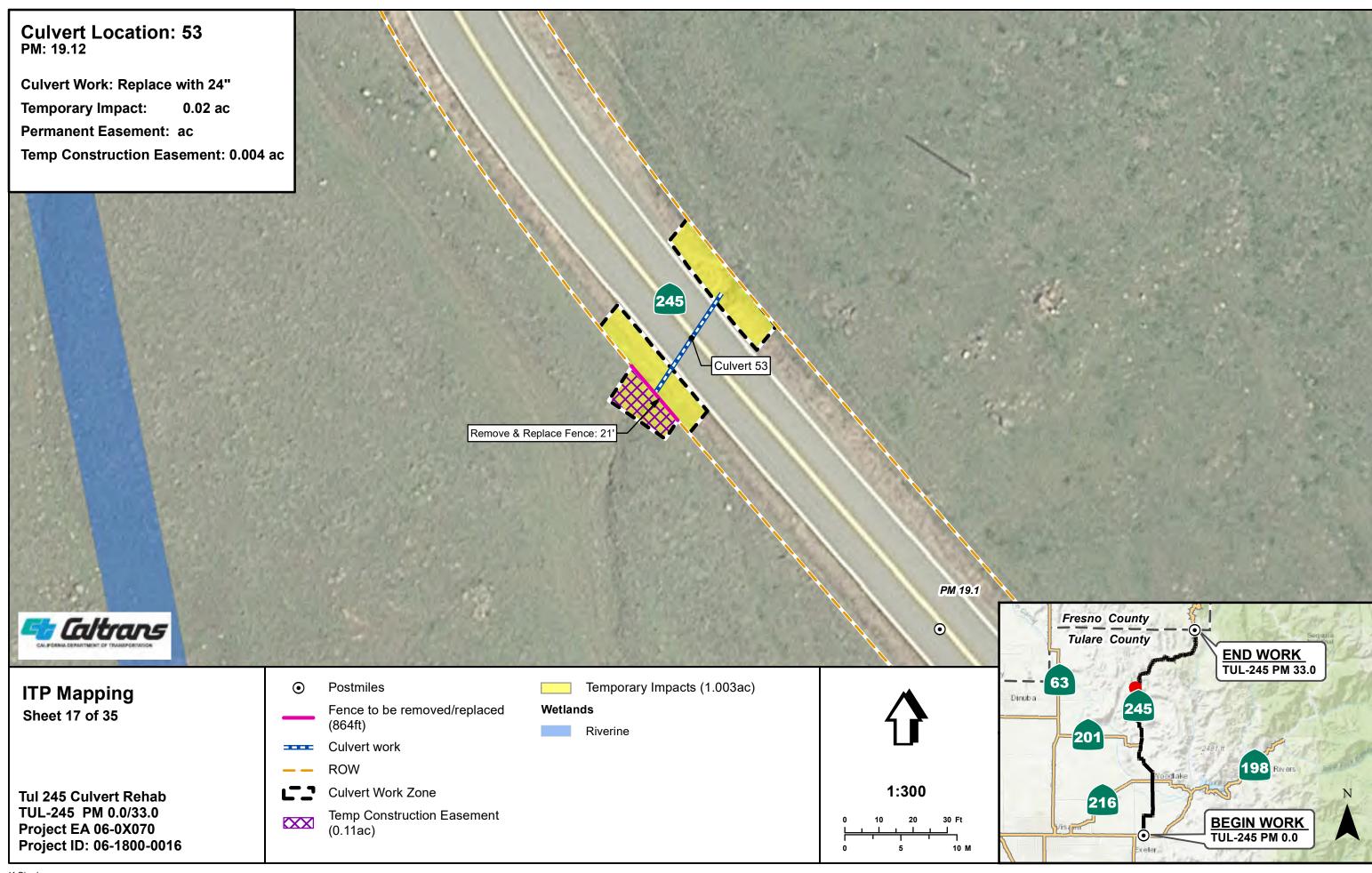


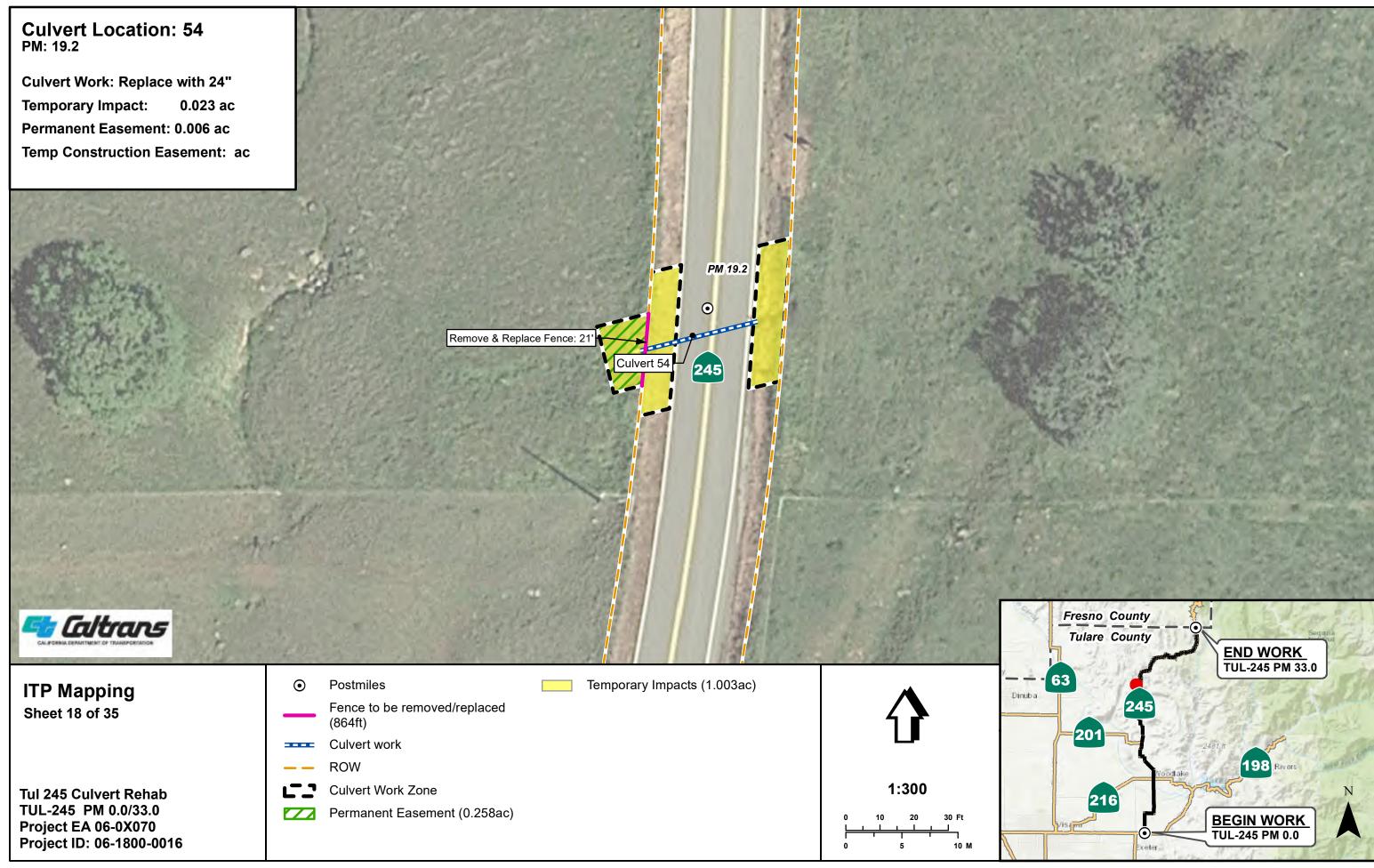


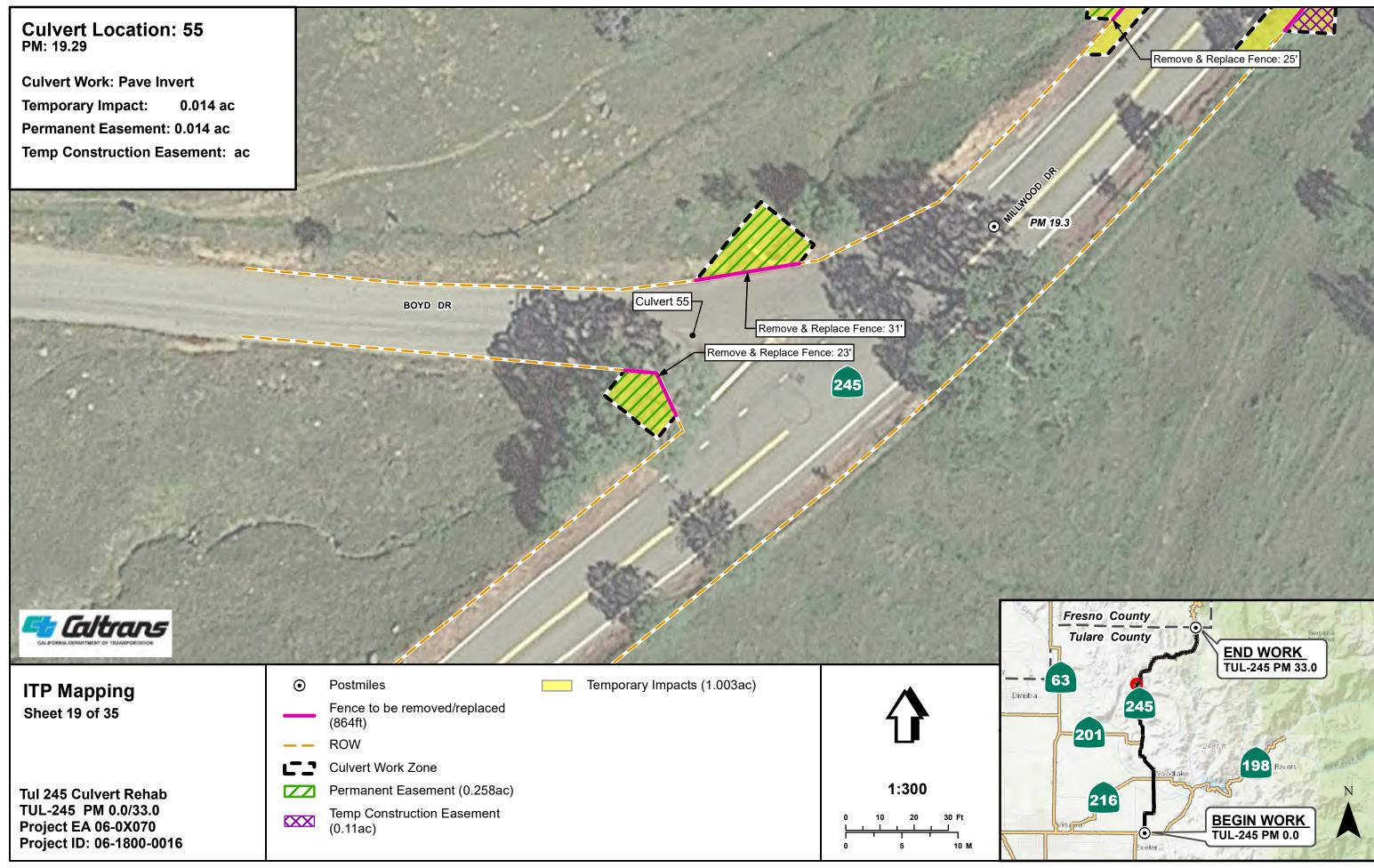


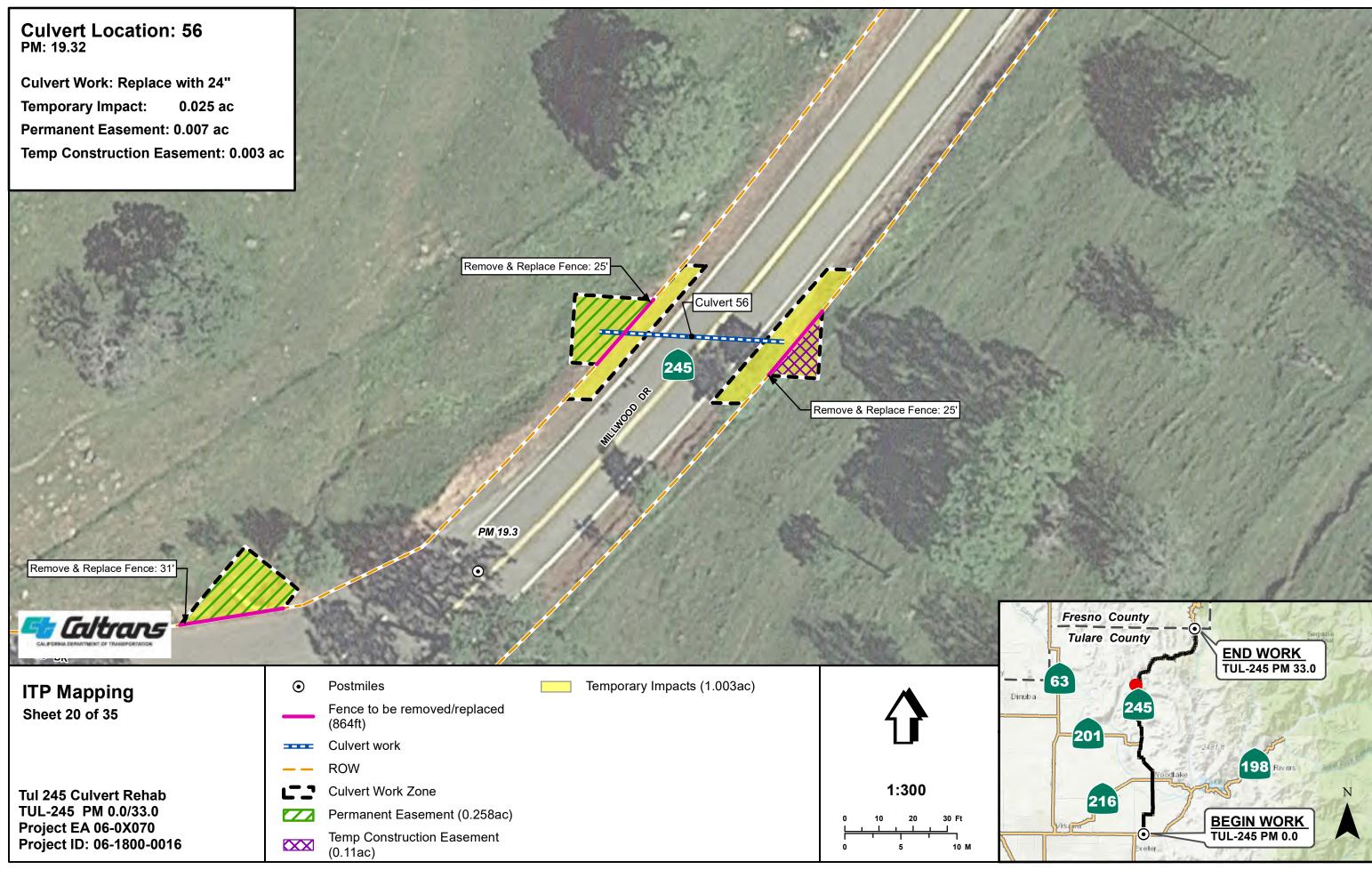




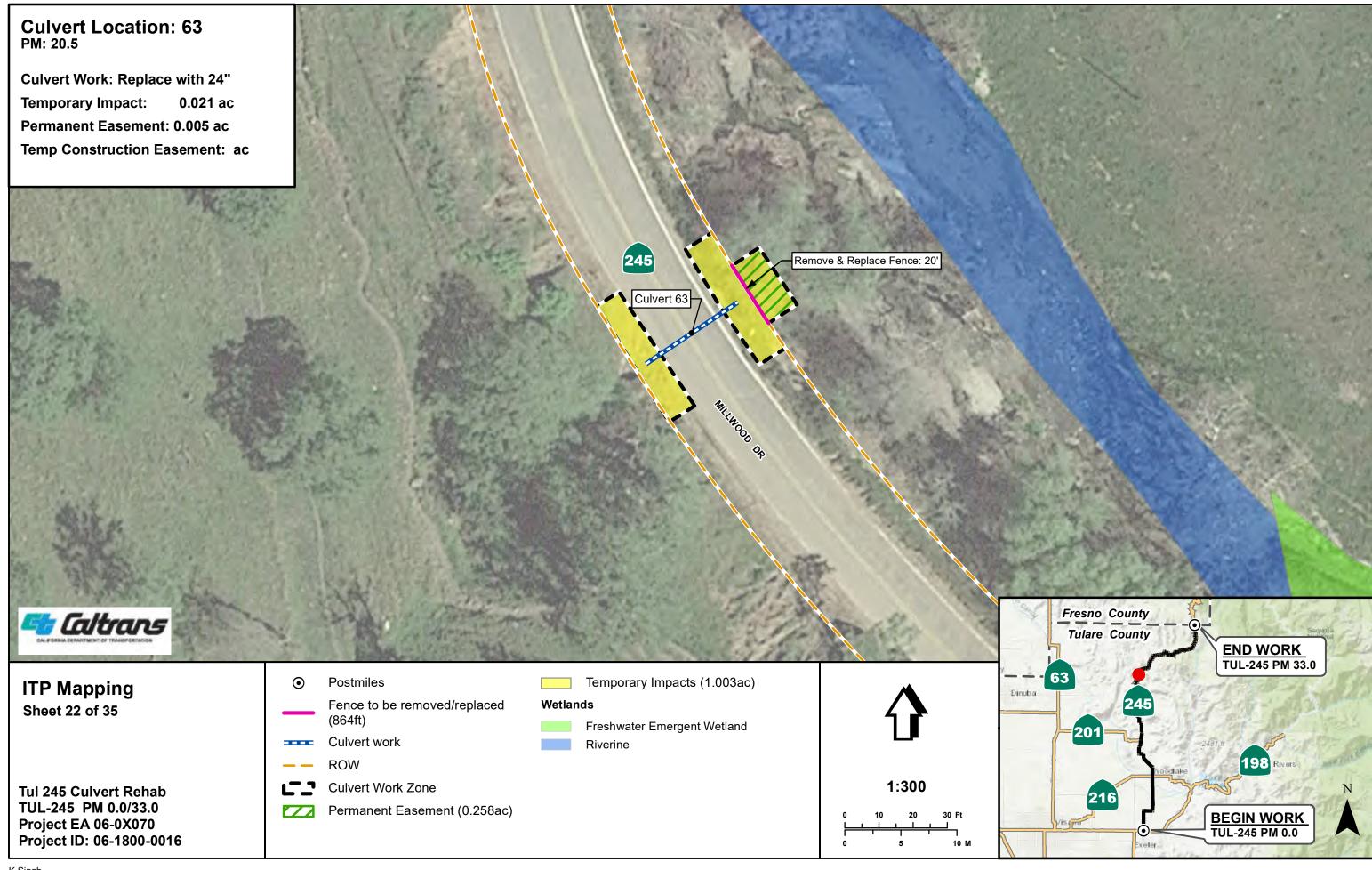


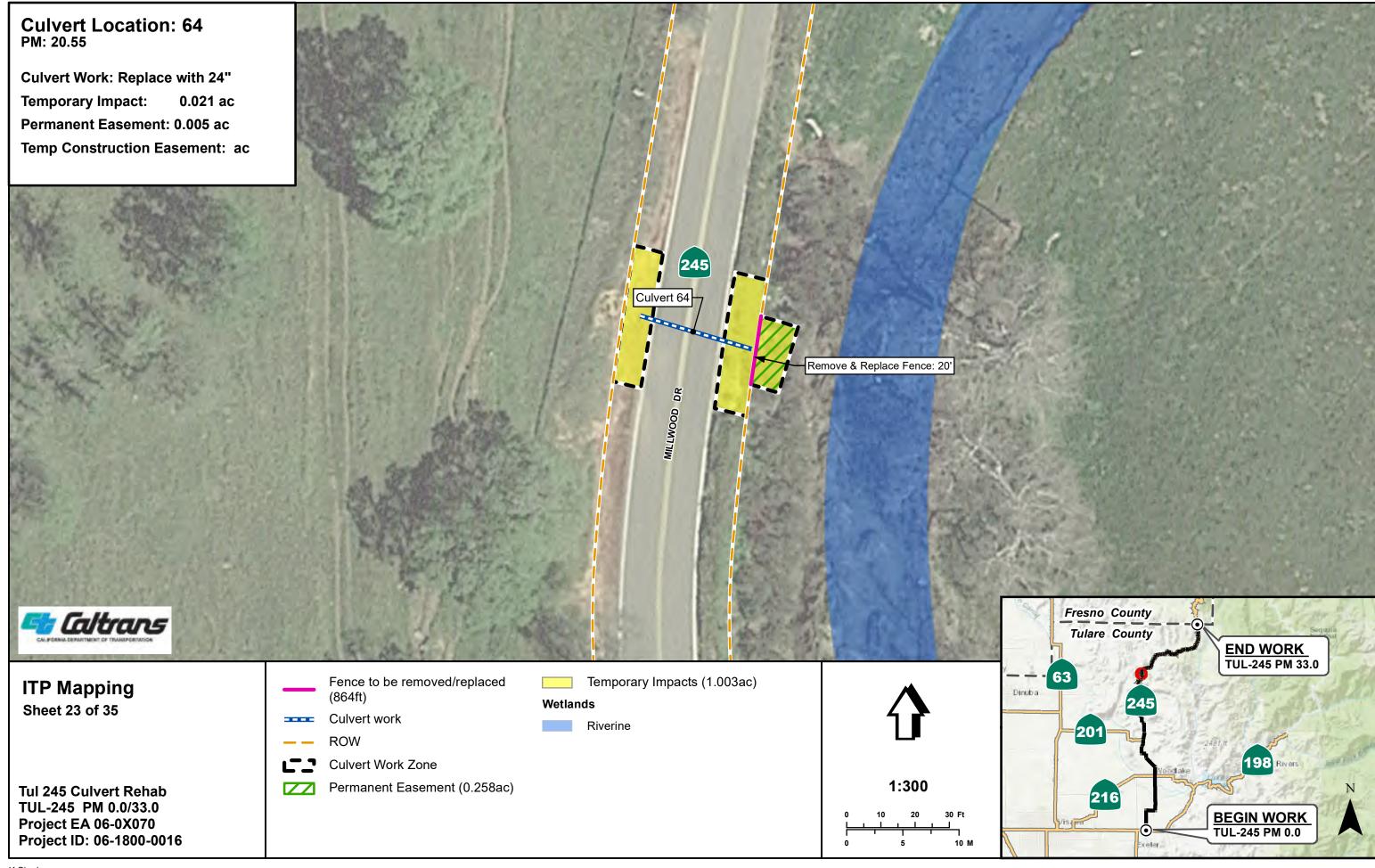


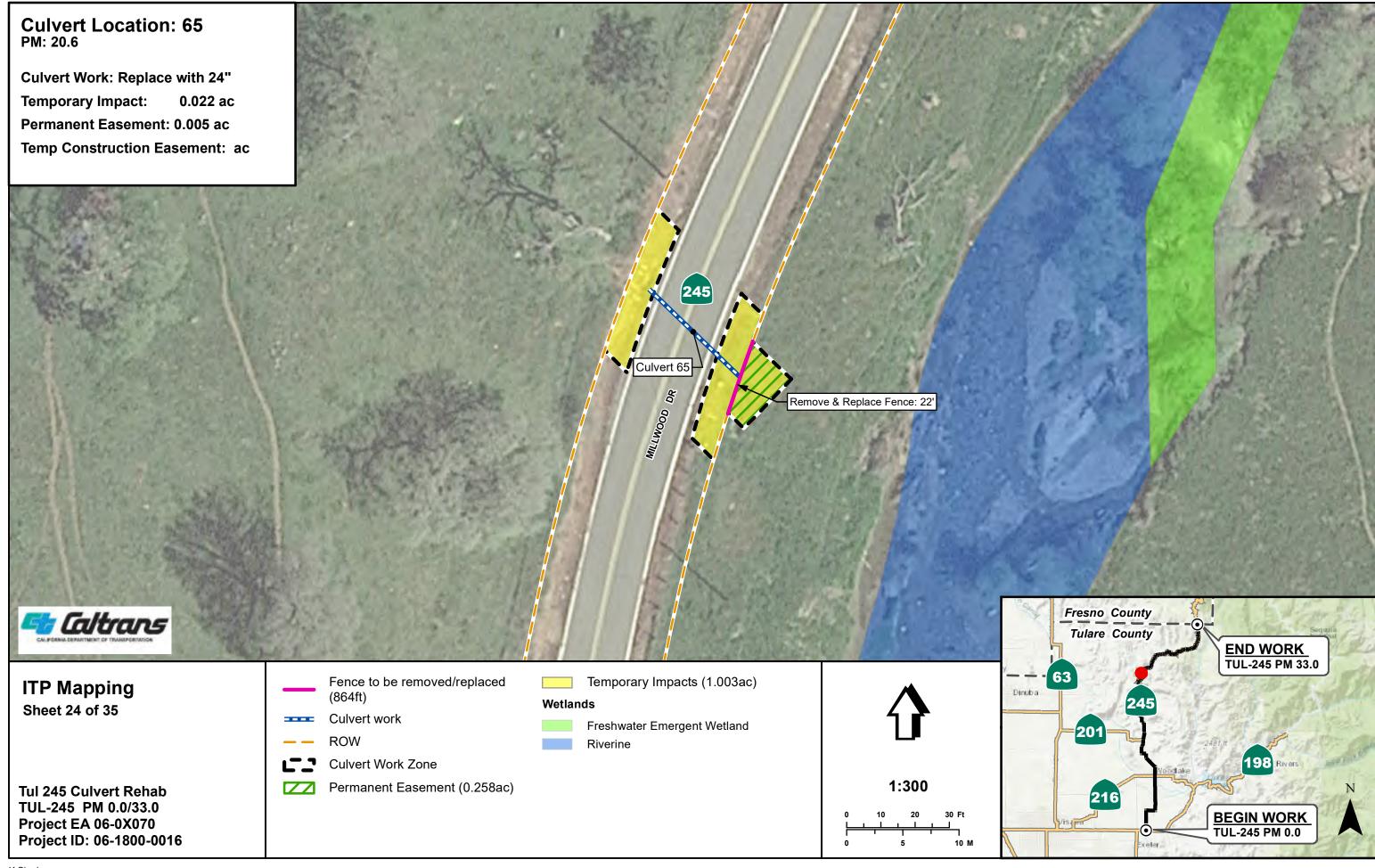


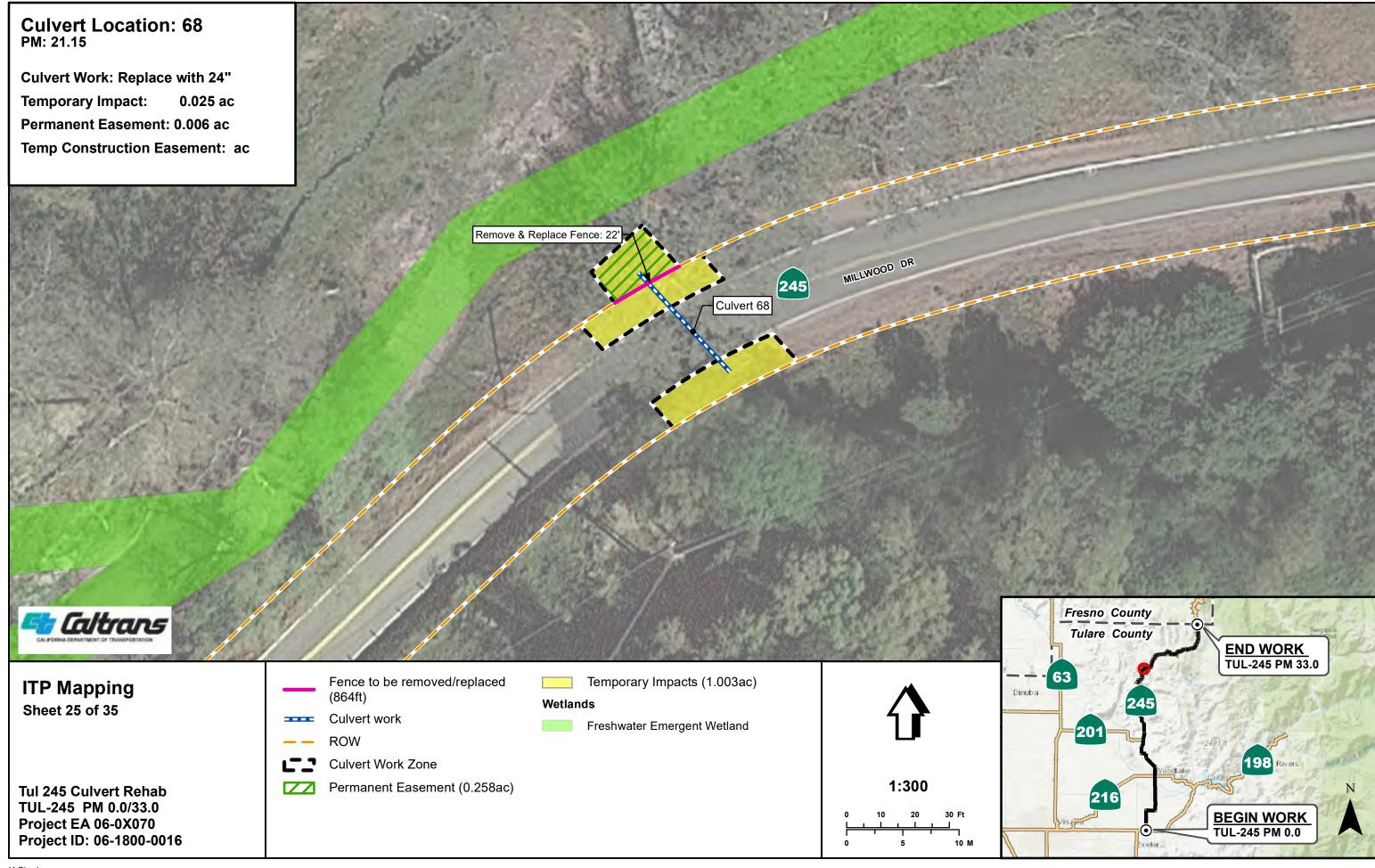


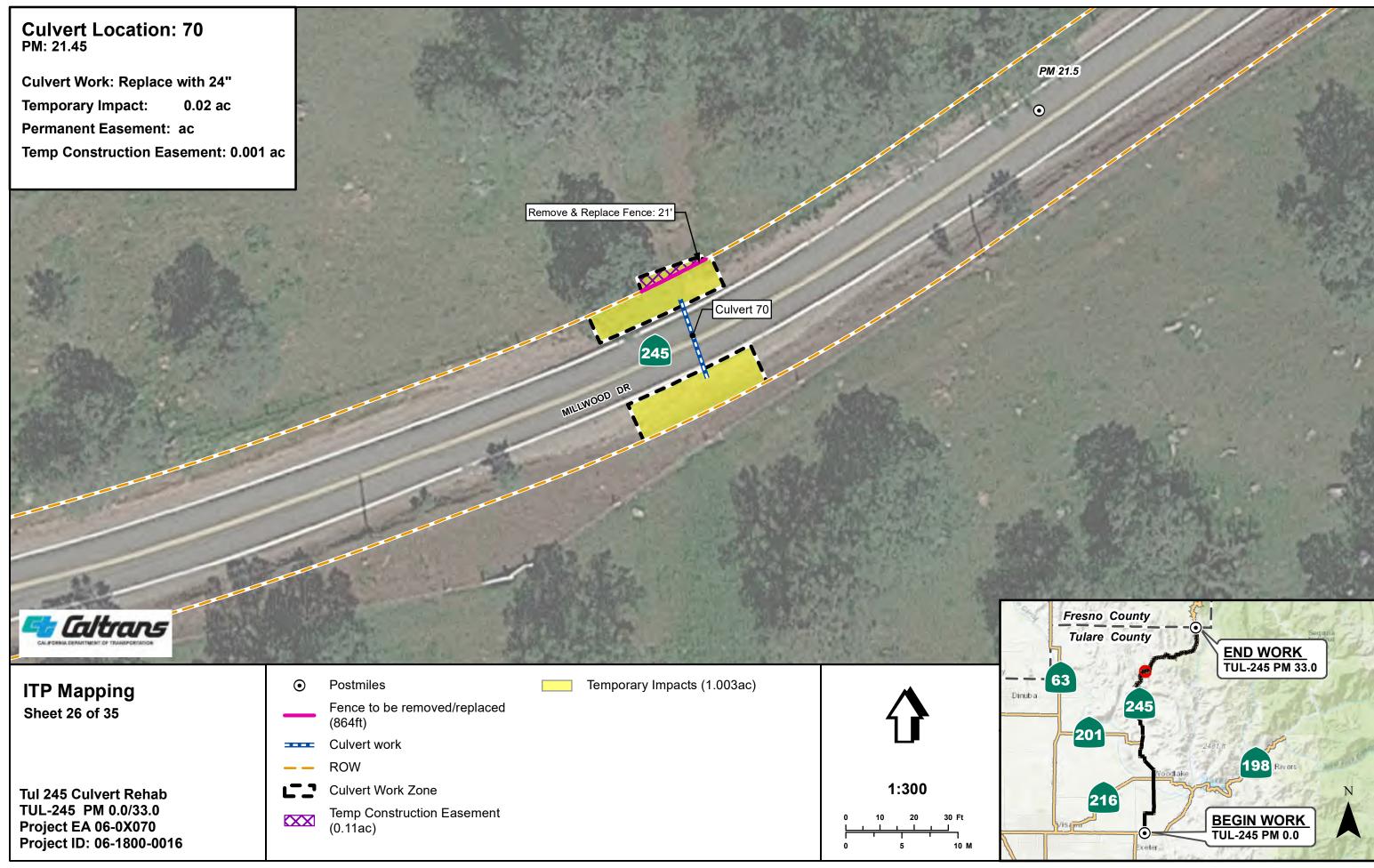


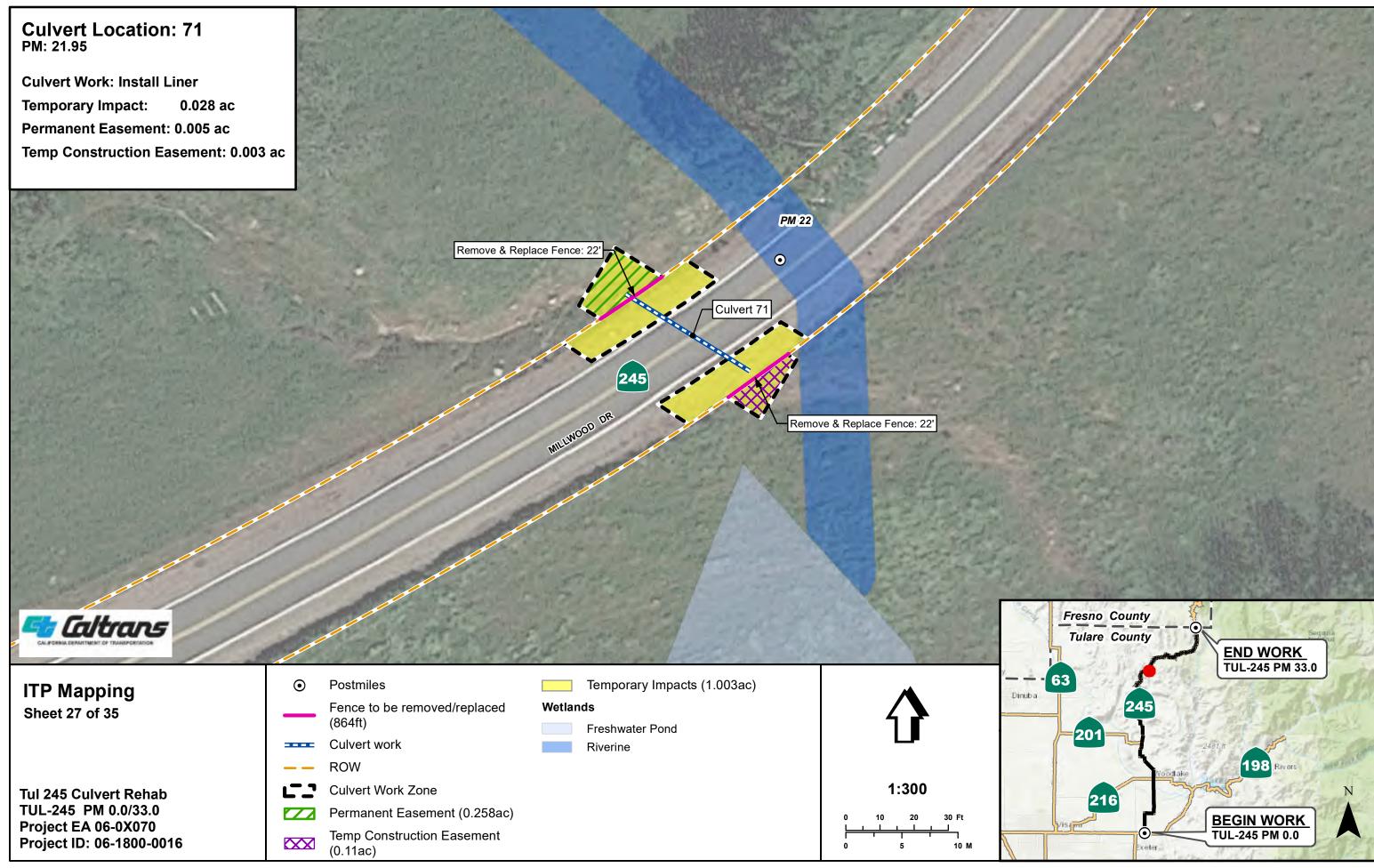


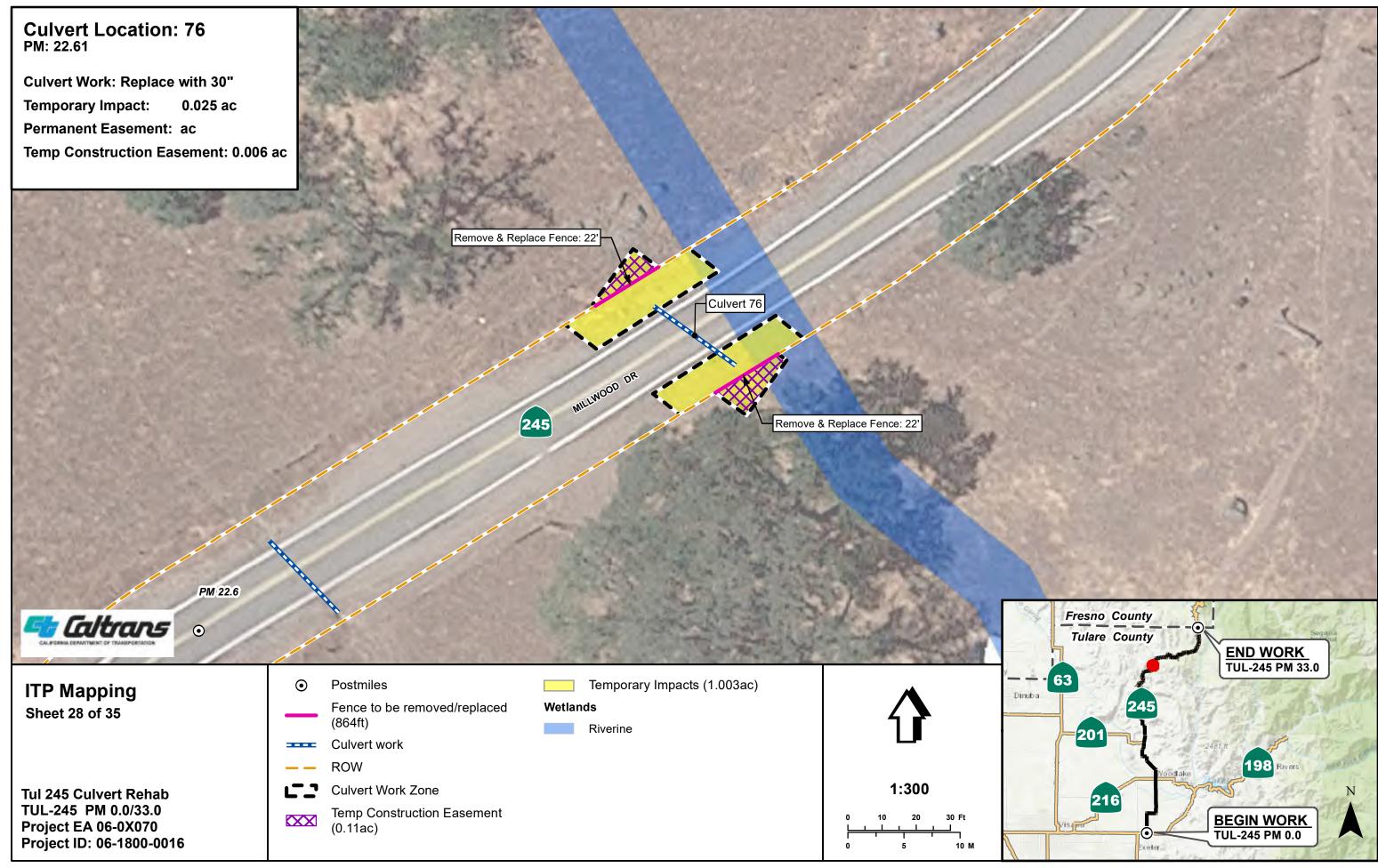


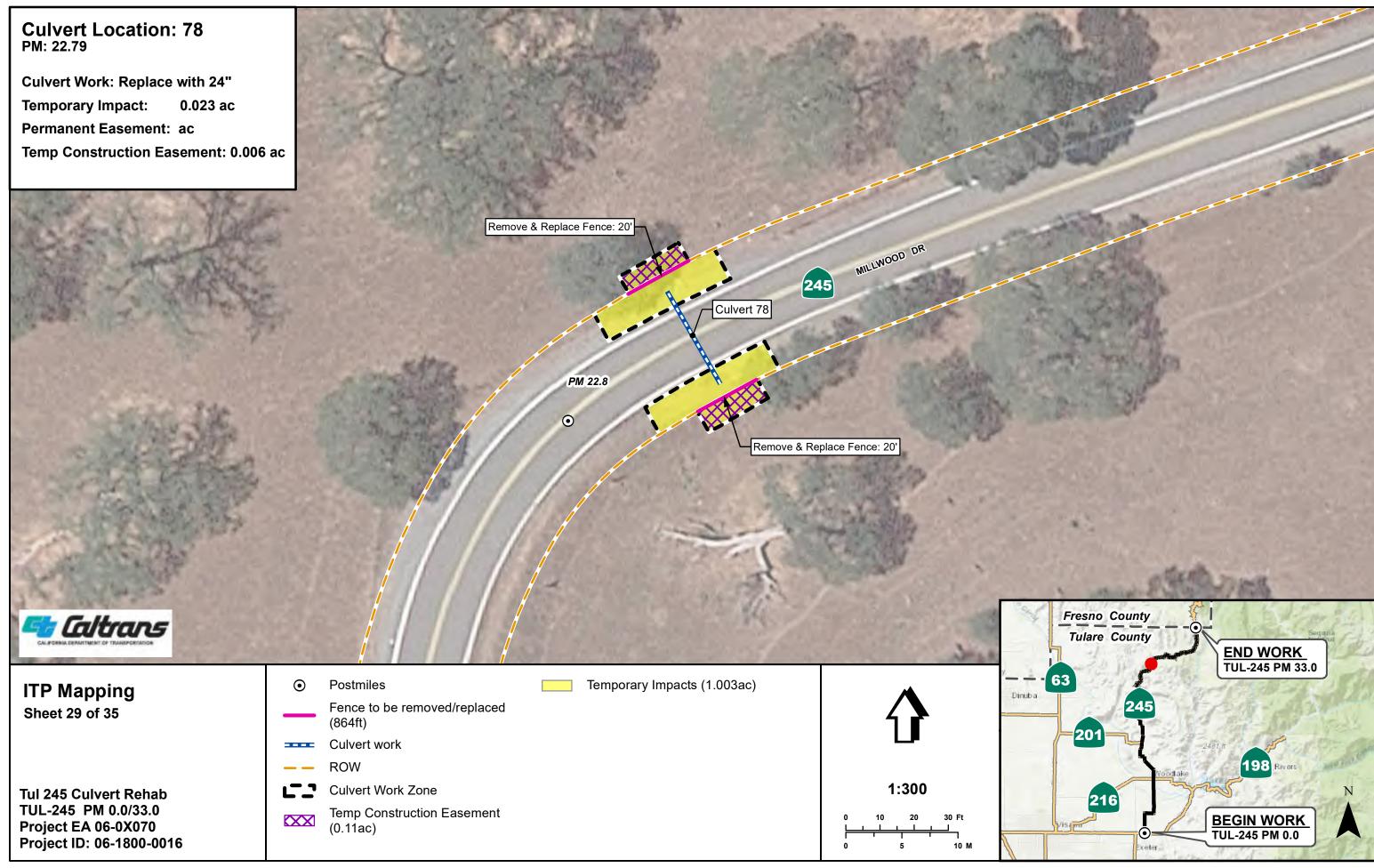


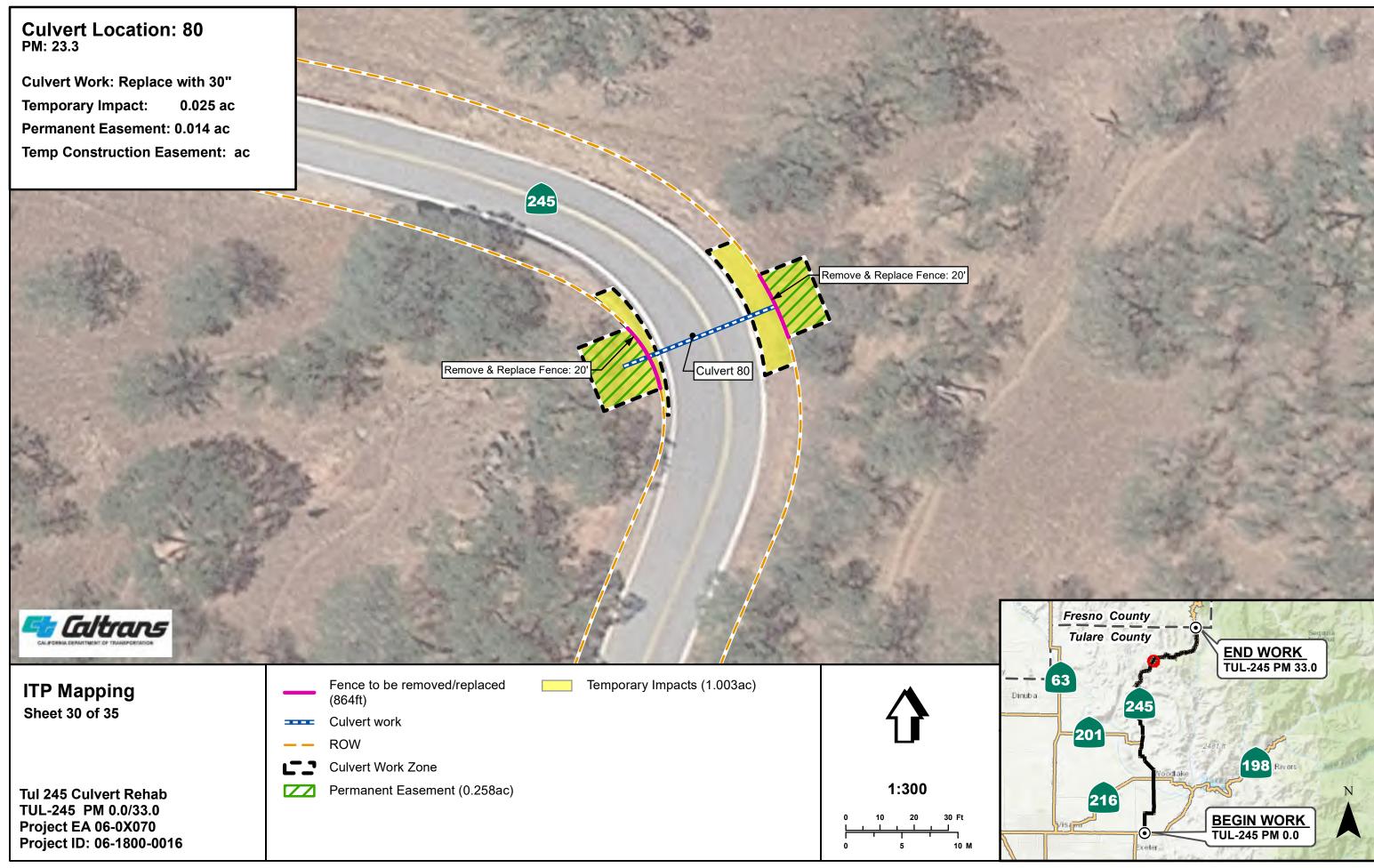


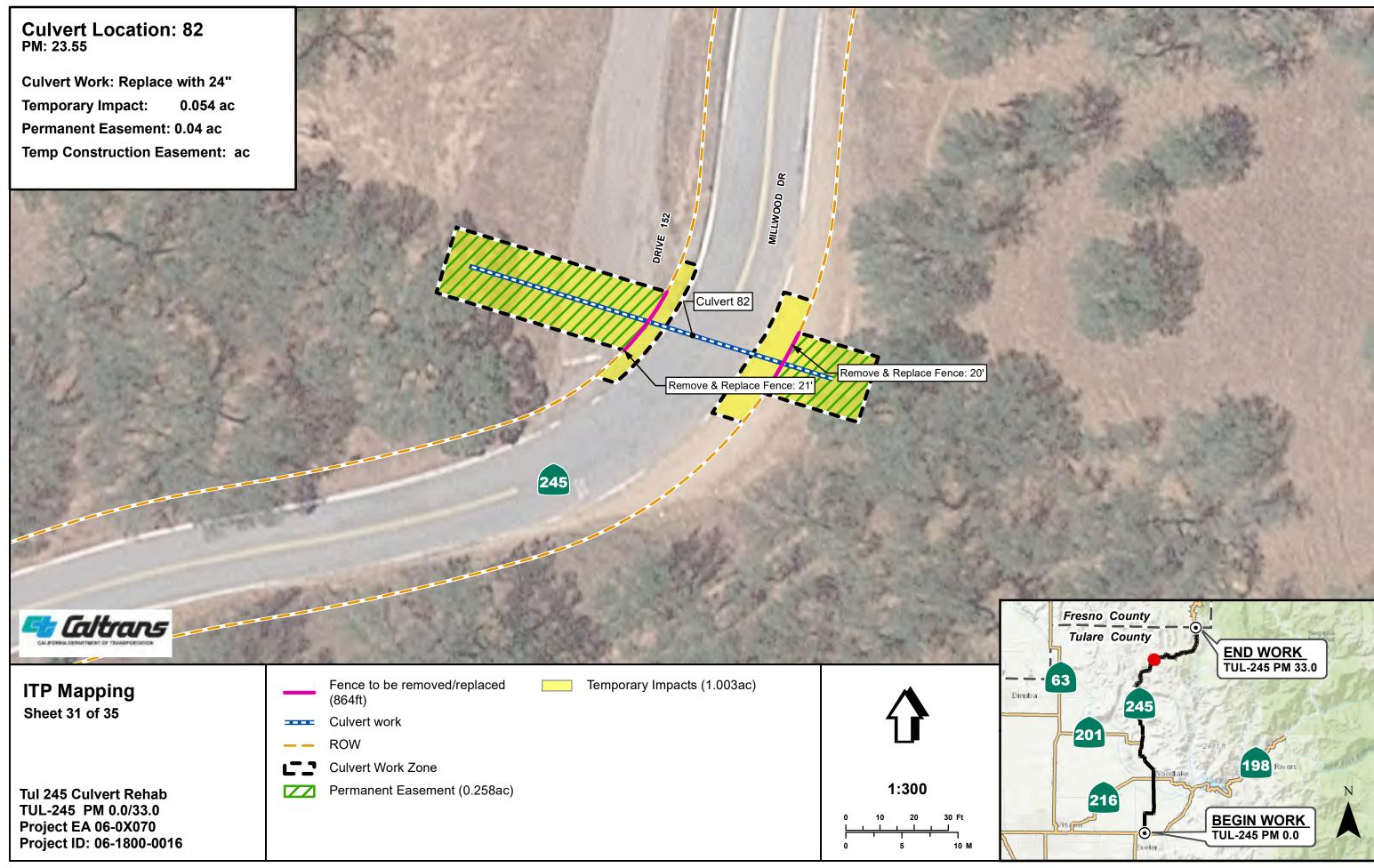


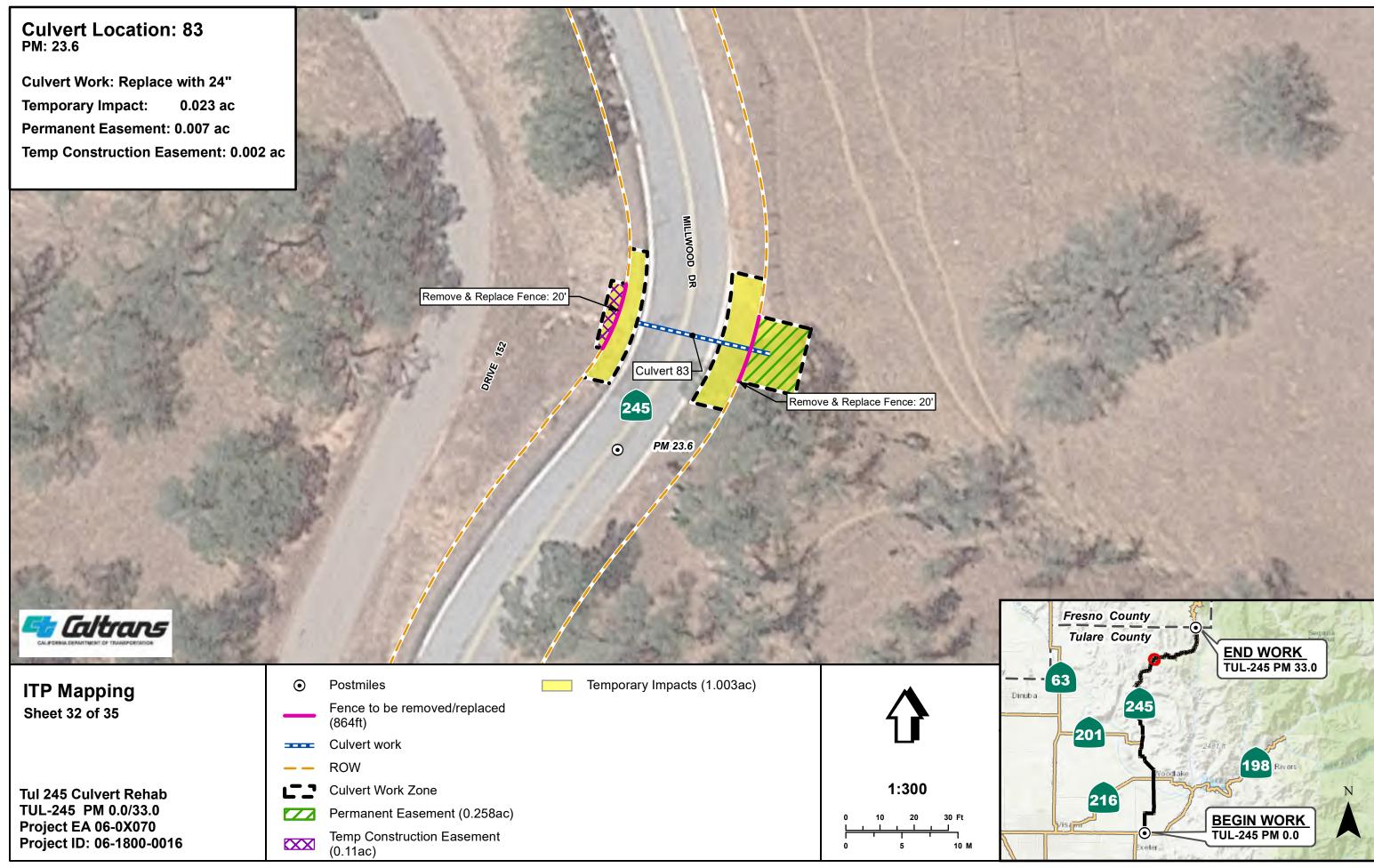


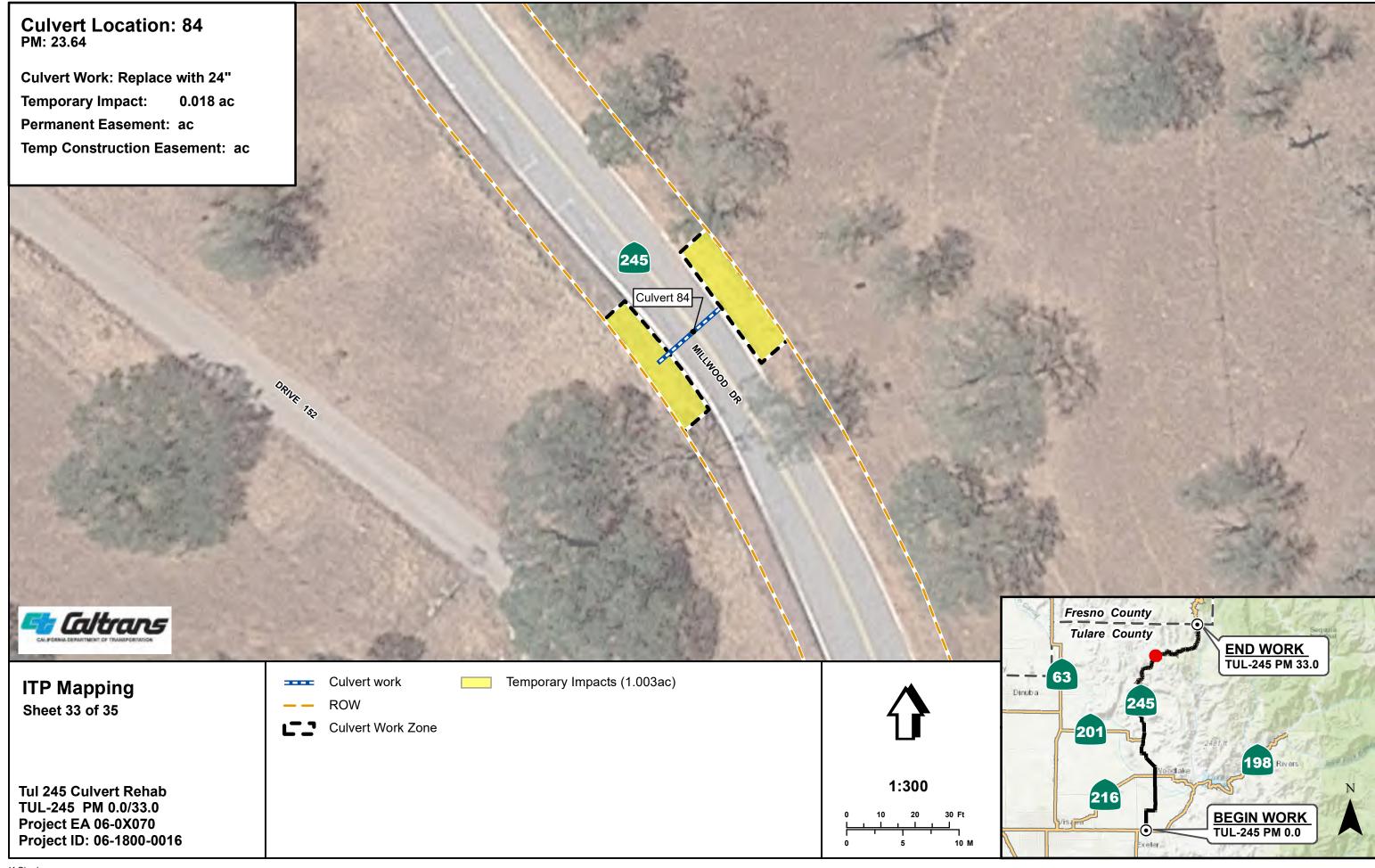


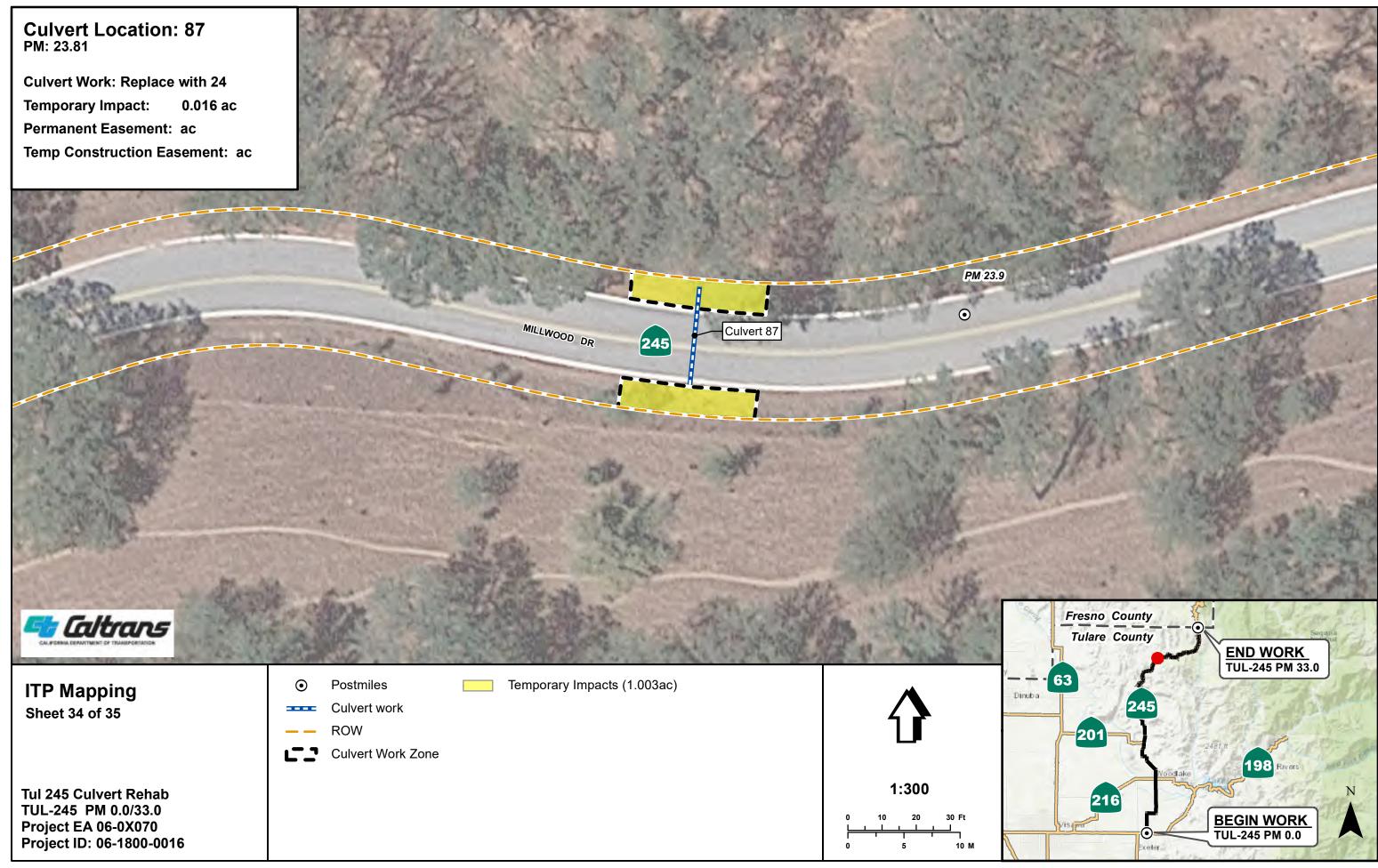


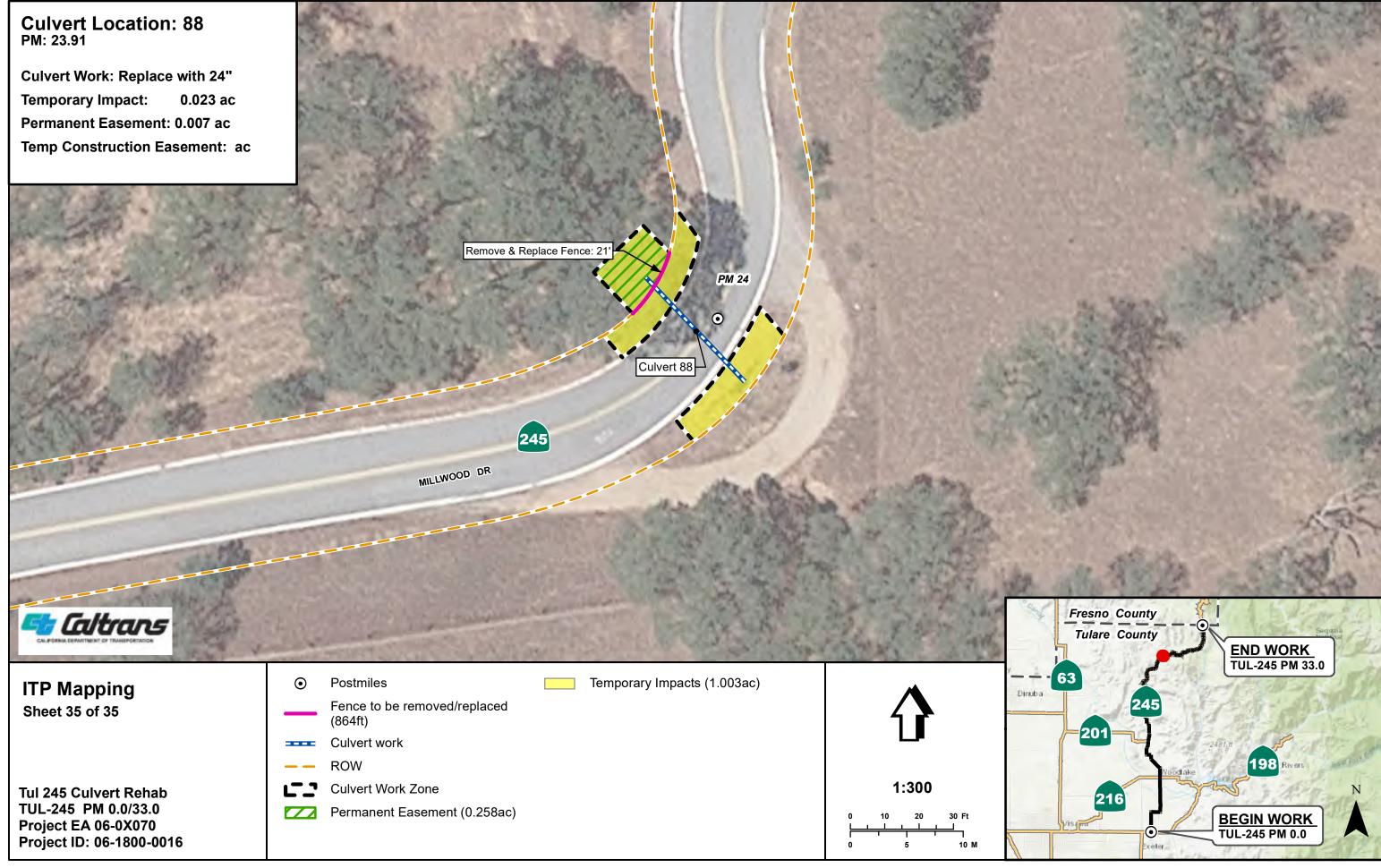














State Highway

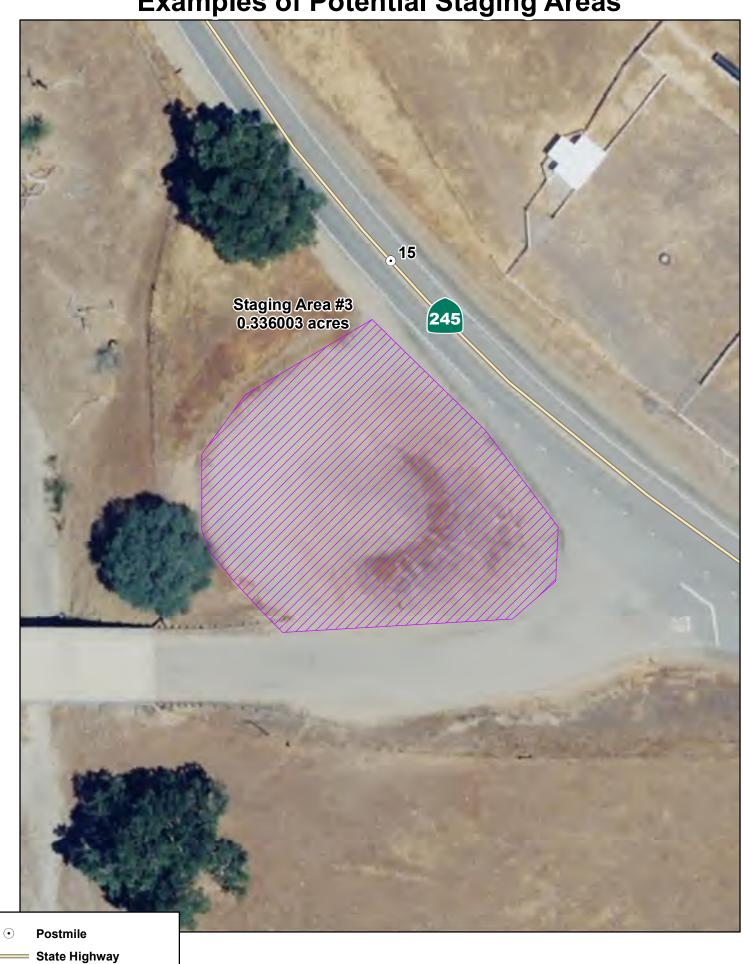
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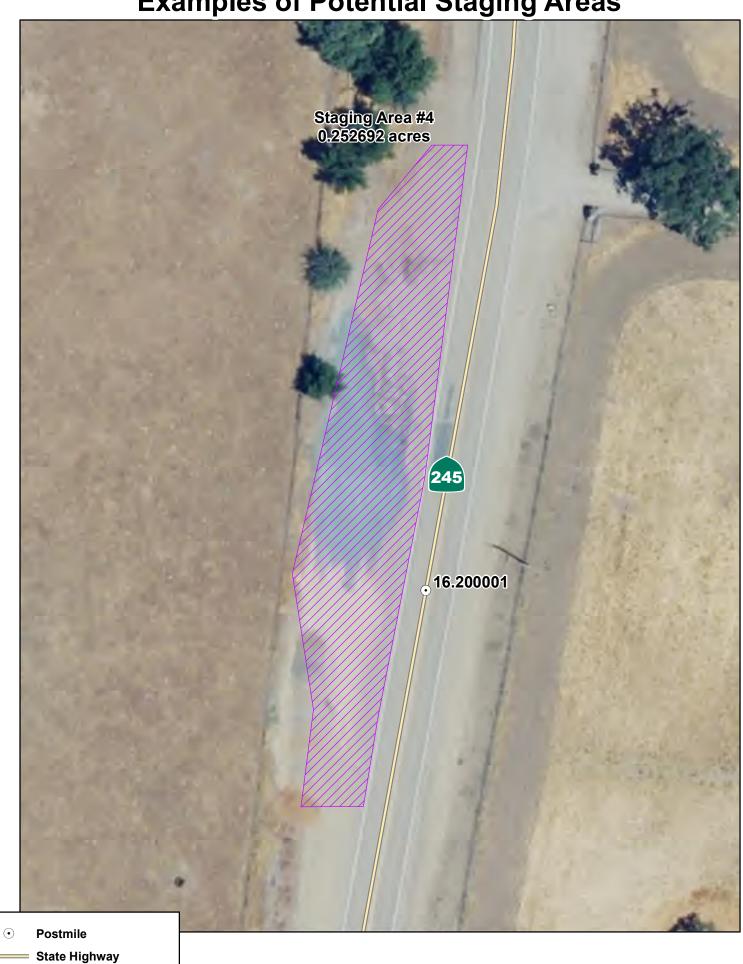
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Potential Staging Area

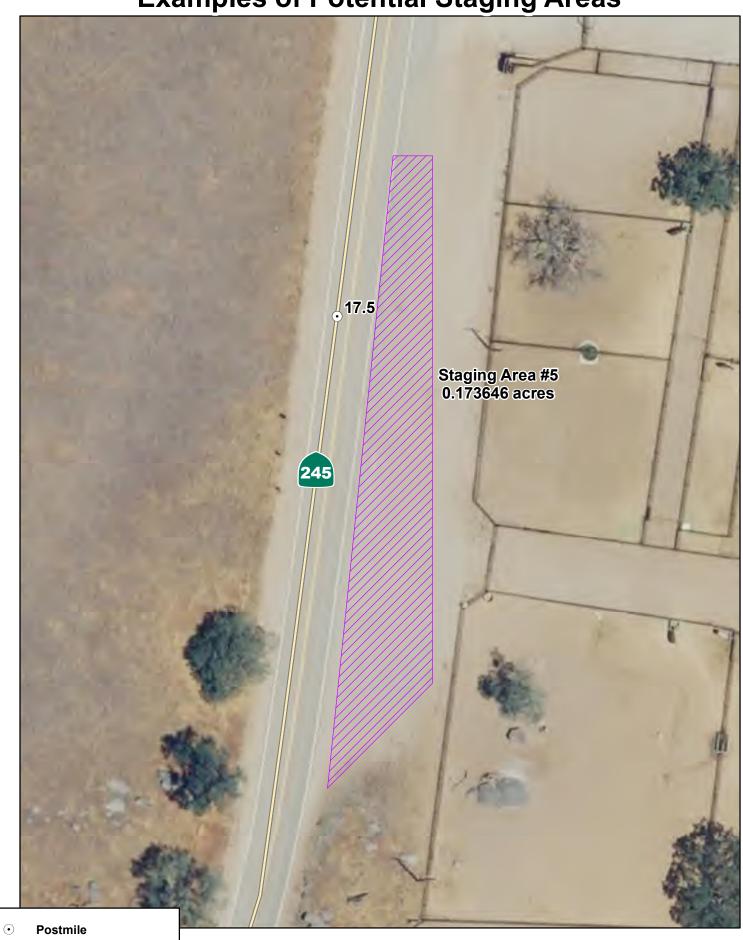


Potential Staging Area



State Highway

Potential Staging Area



Attachment 1

Attachment 1

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP) CALIFORNIA ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

INCIDENTAL TAKE PERMIT NO. 2081-2024-064-04

PERMITTEE: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

PROJECT: TULARE 245 CULVERT REHABILITATION

PROJECT (06-0X070)

PURPOSE OF THE MMRP

The purpose of the MMRP is to ensure that the impact minimization and mitigation measures required by the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the above-referenced Project are properly implemented, and thereby to ensure compliance with section 2081(b) of the Fish and Game Code and section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code. A table summarizing the mitigation measures required by CDFW is attached. This table is a tool for use in monitoring and reporting on implementation of mitigation measures, but the descriptions in the table do not supersede the mitigation measures set forth in the California Incidental Take Permit (ITP) and in attachments to the ITP, and the omission of a permit requirement from the attached table does not relieve the Permittee of the obligation to ensure the requirement is performed.

OBLIGATIONS OF PERMITTEE

Mitigation measures must be implemented within the time periods indicated in the table that appears below. Permittee has the primary responsibility for monitoring compliance with all mitigation measures and for reporting to CDFW on the progress in implementing those measures. These monitoring and reporting requirements are set forth in the ITP itself and are summarized at the front of the attached table.

VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE, EFFECTIVENESS

CDFW may, at its sole discretion, verify compliance with any mitigation measure or independently assess the effectiveness of any mitigation measure.

TABLE OF MITIGATION MEASURES

The following items are identified for each mitigation measure: Mitigation Measure, Source, Implementation Schedule, Responsible Party, and Status/Date/Initials. The Mitigation Measure column summarizes the mitigation requirements of the ITP. The Source column identifies the ITP condition that sets forth the mitigation measure. The Implementation Schedule column shows the date or phase when each mitigation measure will be implemented. The Responsible Party column identifies the person or agency that is primarily responsible for implementing the mitigation measure. The Status/Date/Initials column shall be completed by the Permittee during preparation of each Status Report and the Final Mitigation Report, and must identify the implementation status of each mitigation measure, the date that status was determined, and the initials of the person determining the status.

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
BEFORE DISTURBING SOIL OR VEGETATION					
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.	ITP Condition # 5.1	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities/ Entire Project	Permittee	
2	Designated Biologist(s), Biological Monitor(s). Permittee shall submit to CDFW in writing the name, qualifications, business address, and contact information of the Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) using the Biologist Resume Form (Attachment 2) or another format containing the same information at least 30 days before starting Covered Activities. The Permittee may request approval of Designated Biologist(s) to monitor and handle specific Covered Species covered by this ITP. The Designated Monitor(s) may assist the Designated Biologist(s) in compliance monitoring under the direct supervision of the Designated Biologist(s) and as specified in the Compliance Monitoring Condition of Approval. Permittee shall ensure that the Designated Biologist(s) are knowledgeable in the biology and natural history of the Covered Species for which approval is being sought, and have experience with surveying, collecting and handling the Covered Species, excavating small mammal burrows for the Covered Species, enforcing no-disturbance buffers, and monitoring construction activities under an ITP for the Covered Species. Permittee shall ensure that the Designated Monitor(s) are knowledgeable and experienced in the biology and natural history of the Covered Species. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) 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(s) and Designated Monitor(s) in writing, if the Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s) must be changed.	ITP Condition # 5.2	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
3	Education Program. Permittee shall conduct an education program for all persons employed or otherwise working in the Project Area before they are authorized to perform any work. The program shall consist of a presentation from the Designated Biologist(s) for the Covered Species included in this ITP, 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.	ITP Condition # 5.4	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities	Permittee	
4	<u>Trash Abatement</u> . 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, ideally at daily intervals but at least once a week, to avoid attracting opportunistic predators such as ravens, coyotes, and feral dogs.	ITP Condition # 5.6	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	
5	Delineation of Work Area Boundaries. Before starting Covered Activities within each discrete part of the Project Area, including parking, staging, and equipment storage areas (Work Area), Permittee shall clearly delineate the boundaries of the Work Area. The boundary of the Work Area location shall be delineated with stakes, fencing, and/or flags and shall be maintained with signage until the completion of Covered Activities in that area.	ITP Condition # 5.7	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities/ Entire Project	Permittee	
6	Notification Before Commencement. The Designated Representative shall notify CDFW at least 14 calendar days before starting Covered Activities and at least 14 days before recommencing after any suspension of construction for more than 30 days, and shall document compliance with all pre-Project Conditions of Approval before starting Covered Activities.	ITP Condition # 6.1	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	
7	<u>Pre-Activity Survey Reports.</u> Prior to starting Covered Activities at each Work Area, Permittee shall prepare and submit to CDFW the results of pre-activity surveys and maps (according to the <u>Pre-Activity Clearance Surveys</u> and <u>Flag and Map Burrows and Crevices</u> Conditions of Approval).	ITP Condition # 6.3	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
8	Compliance Monitoring. A Designated Biologist shall be on-site at each Work Area for the duration of the day until Burrows and Crevice Excavation. Condition of Approval and initial grading activities are complete at that Work Area. Thereafter, Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s) shall conduct compliance inspections at least twice per week during all Covered Activities. During Covered Activities, at least one Designated Biologist shall be available to respond to the Project Area within one hour of being contacted to address all Covered Species needs and any other issues that may arise during implementation of this ITP. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) 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) document Covered Activities observed (5) ensure that signs, stakes, and fencing are intact; and (6) that that Covered Activities are only occurring in the Project Area. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall prepare daily written observation, inspection records, and photographic documentation summarizing oversight activities and compliance inspections, observations of all Covered Species and their sign, survey results, and monitoring activities required by this ITP. Daily written observations, inspection records, and photographic documentation shall be provided to CDFW upon request.	ITP Condition # 6.4	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	
9	Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan. The Designated Biologist(s) shall prepare a Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan and submit it to CDFW for review and approval a minimum of 30 days prior to starting Covered Activities (including vehicle and equipment parking and staging). The Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan shall include, but not be limited to: detailed survey, capture, handling, and relocation methods; identification of suitable relocation areas; required frequency and duration of compliance monitoring as per the Compliance Monitoring Condition of Approval; identification of a wildlife rehabilitation center or veterinary facility that will accept and is capable of treating injured CTS; and measures to be coordinated with the Covered Species Mortality and Reduction Plan. Covered Activities (including vehicle and equipment parking and staging) may not proceed until the Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan has been approved in writing by CDFW. Designated Monitor(s) are prohibited from capturing and handling CTS unless specifically approved in writing by CDFW and under the direct supervision of the Designated Biologist(s). Any proposed changes to the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan shall be submitted in writing to CDFW and approved by CDFW in writing prior to implementation of any proposed Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan modifications.	ITP Condition #6.6	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
10	Pre-activity Clearance Surveys. No more than 14 days prior to starting Covered Activities at each Work Area (including staging areas), the Designated Biologist(s) shall survey the Work Area and a 50-foot buffer for CTS individuals and burrows and crevices suitable for CTS occupancy. Designated Monitor(s) may assist with pre-activity surveys when accompanied by Designated Biologist(s). Surveys shall be repeated if there has been a break in Covered Activities by more than 30 days to search for new burrows and crevices suitable for CTS occupancy. These surveys shall provide 100 percent visual coverage (including burrow and crevice openings) of the Project Work Area and a 50-foot buffer zone around the Work Area. If any life stages (adults, metamorphs, eggs, or larvae) of CTS are found within the Project Area and avoidance is not possible, the Designated Biologist(s) shall capture and relocate the CTS according to the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan.	ITP Condition # 7.8	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	
11	Flag and Map Burrows and Crevices. During pre-activity clearance surveys, the Designated Biologist(s) or approved Designated Monitor(s) shall map all accessible animal burrows and crevices suitable for CTS occupancy and flag those for avoidance or excavation, according to the Burrow and Crevice Avoidance and Burrow and Crevice Excavation Conditions of Approval. For purposes of this ITP, "accessible" is defined as within the Project Area and safe for workers to access given slope considerations. Accessible burrows and crevices located within the Project Area that are also within 1,844 feet of known or potential breeding habitat (includes seasonal ponds, stock or otherwise human-created and managed ponds, and potential pools in streams) shall be distinctively flagged and mapped for burrow/crevice excavation. The mapped locations of all animal burrow and crevices suitable for CTS occupancy shall be submitted with the Pre-Activity Clearance Survey Reports.	ITP Condition #7.9	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	
12	Burrow and Crevice Avoidance. The Permittee shall establish a no-disturbance buffer of 50 feet or greater around potential CTS burrows and crevices identified and/or flagged according to the Pre-Activity Clearance Surveys and Flag and Map Burrows and Crevices Conditions of Approval, when they can be avoided from ground disturbing or other Covered Activities that could crush or entomb CTS. The boundary of the no-disturbance areas shall be mapped and clearly marked in the field using signs, stakes or posts with highly visible rope, or high visibility fencing that shall be removed upon completion of Covered Activities in each Work Area. The Permittee shall provide the no-disturbance maps with the Pre-Activity Clearance Survey Reports.	ITP Condition #7.10	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
13	Burrow and Crevice Excavation. The Permittee shall establish a no-disturbance buffer of 50 feet or greater around potential CTS burrows and crevices identified and/or flagged according to the Pre-Activity Clearance Surveys and Flag and Map Burrows and Crevices Conditions of Approval, when they can be avoided from ground disturbing or other Covered Activities that could crush or entomb CTS. The boundary of the no-disturbance areas shall be mapped and clearly marked in the field using signs, stakes or posts with highly visible rope, or high visibility fencing that shall be removed upon completion of Covered Activities in each Work Area. The Permittee shall provide the no-disturbance maps with the Pre-Activity Clearance Survey Reports.	ITP Condition #7.11	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	
14	Fieldwork Code of Practice. To ensure that the Designated Biologist(s) does not convey disease between the Project Area and areas outside the Project Area, the fieldwork code of practice developed by the Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force Fieldwork Code of Practice (see Attachment 3) shall be always followed. The Designated Biologist(s) may substitute a bleach solution (0.5 to 1.0 cup of bleach to 1.0 gallon of water) for the ethanol solution. The Designated Biologist(s) shall ensure that all traces of the disinfectant are removed before entering the next aquatic habitat.	ITP Condition #7.13	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities / Entire Project	Permittee	
15	Covered Species Credits. Permittee shall purchase Covered Species credits to complete compensatory mitigation obligations. Permittee shall purchase 1.103 acres of Covered Species credits, identified as California tiger salamander upland credits, from a CDFW-approved mitigation or conservation bank prior to initiating Covered Activities and shall submit to CDFW a copy of the Bill of Sale(s) and Payment Receipt. Prior to purchase of Covered Species credits, Permittee shall obtain CDFW approval to ensure the mitigation or conservation bank is appropriate to compensate for the impacts of the Project.	ITP Condition #8.1	Before commencing ground- or vegetation-disturbing activities	Permittee	
16	Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) Authority. To ensure compliance with the Conditions of Approval of this ITP, the Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall immediately stop any activity that does not comply with this ITP and/or order any reasonable measure to avoid the unauthorized take of an individual of the Covered Species. Permittee shall provide unfettered access to the Project Area and otherwise facilitate Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) in the performance of their duties. If the Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s) is unable to comply with the ITP, then they shall notify the CDFW Representative immediately. Permittee shall not enter into any agreement or contract of any kind, including but not limited to non-disclosure agreements and confidentiality agreements, with its contractors and/or the Designated Biologist(s) that prohibit or impede open communication with CDFW, including but not limited to providing CDFW staff with the results of any surveys, reports, or studies or notifying CDFW of any non-compliance or take. Failure to notify CDFW of any noncompliance, take, injury or damage of a Covered Species because of such agreement or contract may result in CDFW taking actions to prevent or remedy a violation of this ITP.	ITP Condition # 5.3	Entire Project	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
17	Construction Monitoring Documentation. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall maintain construction-monitoring documentation on-site in either hard copy or digital format throughout the construction period, which 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 documentation is available for review at the Project Area upon request by CDFW.	ITP Condition # 5.5	Entire Project	Permittee	
18	Project Access. Project-related personnel shall access the Project Area for any Covered Activities using existing routes and shall not cross Covered Species' habitat outside of, or on route to the Project Area. Permittee shall restrict Project-related vehicle traffic to established roads, staging areas, and parking areas as per the Staging Areas Condition of Approval. Permittee shall ensure that vehicle speeds do not exceed 15 miles per hour to avoid Covered Species on or traversing the roads. If Permittee determines construction of routes for travel is necessary outside of the Project Area, the Designated Representative shall contact CDFW for written approval before conducting such an activity. CDFW may require an amendment to this ITP, among other reasons, if additional take of Covered Species will occur because of the project modification.	ITP Condition # 5.8	Entire Project	Permittee	
19	Staging Areas. Permittee shall confine all Project-related parking, storage areas, laydown sites, equipment storage, and any other surface-disturbing activities to the areas within the Project Area described in the Project Description. If Permittee determines parking, storage, laydown, or staging areas 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.	ITP Condition # 5.9	Entire Project	Permittee	
20	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.	ITP Condition # 5.10	Entire Project	Permittee	
21	<u>CDFW Access</u> . 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.	ITP Condition # 5.11	Entire Project	Permittee	
22	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.	ITP Condition # 5.12	Entire Project	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
23	<u>Wildfire Avoidance</u> . Permittee or Permittee's contractors shall minimize the potential for human-caused wildfires by carrying water or fire extinguishers and shovels in all Project-related vehicles and equipment. The use of shields, protective mats, or use of other fire preventative methods shall be used during grinding and welding to minimize the potential for fire. Personnel shall be trained regarding the fire hazard for wildlife as part of the worker education program described in the <u>Education Program</u> Condition of Approval.	ITP Condition # 5.13	Entire Project	Permittee	
24	Notification of Non-compliance. The Designated Representative, Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall immediately notify CDFW if 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 periods indicated in this ITP and/or the MMRP. The Designated Representative shall follow up within 24 hours with a written report to CDFW describing, in detail, any non-compliance with this ITP and suggested measures to remedy the situation.	ITP Condition # 6.2	Entire Project	Permittee	
25	Covered Species Observations and Notification. During all Covered Activities, workers shall inform a Designated Biologist if an individual of CTS is observed in the Project Area. All work in the vicinity of the observed Covered Species, which could injure or kill the animal, shall cease immediately until the Covered Species moves from the Project Area of its own accord or until the Designated Biologist(s) have relocated the Covered Species following the CDFW-approved relocation plan (as per the Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan Condition of Approval). Permittee shall report other observations of live/non-injured CTS within five business days of discovery of a Covered Species within the Project Area to the Regional Representative and Regional Office identified in the Monthly Compliance Reports Condition of Approval.	ITP Condition # 6.5	Entire Project	Permittee	
	The Designated Biologist(s) shall maintain a record of Covered Species handled and all documented observations of Covered Species. This information shall include for each individual of Covered Species: (1) date, time, and location (Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates and maps) and capture/removal and/or observation as well as release, as applicable; (2) the name of the party that identified the Covered Species; (3) circumstances of the observation; (3) the general condition and health, noting all visible conditions including gait and behavior, ectoparasites, injuries, etc.; (4) any diagnostic markings, sex, age (juvenile or adult); (5) actions undertaken; (6) habitat description; and (7) ambient temperature when handled and released or observed. The Designated Biologist(s) shall also submit this information to CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) as per the CNDDB Observations Condition of Approval. The relocation summary shall be included with in the next applicable Monthly Compliance and Annual Status report, and the Final Mitigation Report.				

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
26	Monthly Compliance Reports. The Designated Representative or Designated Biologist(s) shall compile the observation and inspection records identified in the Compliance Monitoring Condition of Approval; CTS no-disturbance buffer maps according to the Burrow and Crevice Avoidance Condition of Approval; and a copy of the MMRP table with notes showing the current implementation status of each mitigation measure into a Monthly Compliance Report and for CDFW. Monthly 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 by the 7 th calendar day following the reporting month. At the time of this ITP's approval, the CDFW Regional Representative is Adam Thompson (Grant.Piepkorn@wildlife.ca.gov), the Regional Office email is RRR.R4@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.	ITP Condition # 6.7	Entire Project	Permittee	
27	Annual Status Reports. Permittee shall provide CDFW with an Annual Status Report no later than January 31 of every year beginning with issuance of this ITP and continuing until CDFW accepts the Final Mitigation Report. Each Annual Status Report shall include, at a minimum: (1) a summary of all Monthly Compliance Reports for that year identified in the Monthly Compliance Reports Condition of Approval; (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) a summary of all compliance monitoring and surveys associated with ground-disturbing Project activities for the reporting period all available information about Project-related incidental take of 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. Annual Status Reports shall be submitted via email to the entities identified in the Monthly Compliance Reports Condition of Approval.	ITP Condition # 6.8	Entire Project	Permittee	
28	CNDDB Observations. The Designated Biologist(s) shall submit all observations of Covered Species to CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) within 60 calendar days of the observation and the Designated Biologist(s) shall include copies of the submitted forms with the next applicable Annual Status Report	ITP Condition # 6.9	Entire Project	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
29	Notification of Take or Injury. Permittee shall immediately notify the Designated Biologist(s) if a CTS is taken or injured by a Project-related activity, or if a CTS is otherwise found dead or injured within the vicinity of the Project. If a CTS is injured, the Designated Biologist(s) shall take the injured animal(s) to a CDFW-approved facility according to the Covered Species Injury Condition of Approval. The Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Representative shall provide initial notification to CDFW by calling the Regional Office at (559) 243-4005 and the CDFW Regional Representative. The initial notification to CDFW shall include information regarding the location, species, and number of animals taken or injured and the ITP Number. Permittee shall adhere to the Covered Species Injury Condition of Approval, as applicable. Following initial notification, the 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, photograph(s), if possible, explanation as to the cause of take or injury, proposed measures to minimize risks of additional mortality or injury, and any other pertinent information. The written report shall be submitted via email to the Regional Representative and Regional Office identified in the Monthly Compliance Reports Condition of Approval. If an individual of the Covered Species is found deceased, the Designated Biologist(s) shall immediately collect, bag, and freeze the carcass and consult with the CDFW Designated Representative to determine if submittal of the carcass to a laboratory is warranted.	ITP Condition # 6.11	Entire Project	Permittee	
30	Open Excavation Inspection. Workers shall inspect all open holes, sumps, and trenches at the beginning and end of each day for trapped animals. Workers shall either cover all trenches greater than 6-inches deep, holes, sumps, and other excavations with sidewalls steeper than a 1:1 (45 degree) slope when workers or equipment are not actively working in the excavation or ensure that excavations have an escape ramp of earth or a non-slip material with a less than 1:1 (45 degree) slope. Coverings shall be comprised of hardware cloth or similar that restricts animals such as CTS from digging or squeezing under and becoming entrapped. The Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s) shall inspect excavation coverings to ensure compliance and shall thoroughly inspect all trenches, holes, sumps, and other excavations for CTS (or other animals) before they are backfilled. If any worker discovers that a CTS has become trapped, Permittee shall cease all Project-related activities in the vicinity and notify the Designated Biologist(s) immediately. Project workers, Designated Biologist(s), and Designated Monitor(s) shall provide the opportunity for the animal to escape unimpeded out of the Work Area before allowing work to continue. Alternatively, if the CTS will not leave the Work Area unimpeded, the Designated Biologist(s) have captured and relocated the individual(s) as per the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan).	ITP Condition # 7.1	Entire Project	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
31	Materials, Vehicle and Equipment Inspection. Workers shall thoroughly inspect all conduits with a diameter of one inch or greater, vehicles and other equipment that are stored for one or more overnight periods for CTS before the object is subsequently moved, buried, or capped. If a CTS is present, Permittee shall cease all Project-related activities in the vicinity, notify the Designated Biologist(s) or Designated Monitor(s), and wait for the individual(s) to move unimpeded out of the Project Area. Alternatively, if the CTS will not leave the Project Area unimpeded, the Designated Biologist(s) shall capture and relocate the animal as per the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan.	ITP Condition # 7.2	Entire Project	Permittee	
32	<u>Dust Control.</u> Permittee shall not apply dust suppressant, surfactant, soil binders, or stabilizer products that may be harmful to Covered Species. Permittee shall obtain written approval from CDFW before applying any dust suppressant (other than water), surfactant, soil binders, stabilizer products, hydro-mulch, or hydroseed. Permittee shall provide all available documentation of each product's safety or hazards to wildlife to CDFW with any such request for approval.	ITP Condition # 7.3	Entire Project	Permittee	
33	Erosion Control Materials. Permittee shall prohibit use of erosion control materials that are potentially harmful to Covered Species and other species, such as monofilament netting, photodegradable mesh (erosion control matting), soil binders, stabilizer products, hydro-mulch, or hydroseed in potential Covered Species' habitat unless otherwise approved by CDFW in writing prior to implementation. Requests for such erosion control materials shall include an impact assessment on Covered Species.	ITP Condition # 7.4	Entire Project	Permittee	
34	<u>Vegetation Management.</u> Permittee shall minimize disturbance or removal of vegetation to the amount necessary to complete Covered Activities. As feasible, vegetation shall be trimmed with hand tools to no lower than 4-inches above the ground surface, to the extent necessary to gain access to Work Areas.	ITP Condition # 7.5	Entire Project	Permittee	
35	Herbicide Use. Permittee shall not use herbicides at any time during Project Activities (including plant establishment) unless the Designated Biologist(s) or an approved Designated Monitor(s) surveys the application area and determines that Covered Species are not present. Permittee shall ensure that all herbicide use (mixing, application, and clean-up) is done by a licensed applicator in accordance with all applicable State, federal, and local regulations. Permittee shall only apply herbicide sprays via ground application when wind speed measures less than three miles per hour. Permittee shall ensure that great care is taken to avoid herbicide outside the boundaries of the Project Area. All herbicide sprays utilized within the Project Area shall contain a dye to prevent overspray.	ITP Condition # 7.6	Entire Project	Permittee	
36	<u>Soil Stockpiles</u> . Permittee shall ensure that soil stockpiles are placed where soil shall not pass into potential CTS breeding habitat, or into any "waters of the state," including streams that traverse the Project Area, in accordance with Fish and Game Code section 5650. Permittee shall appropriately protect stockpiles to prevent soil erosion.	ITP Condition # 7.7	Entire Project	Permittee	

	Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Status / Date / Initials
37	Precipitation. The Permittee shall monitor the National Weather Service 72-hour forecast for the Work Areas. If a significant rainfall event (defined as 70% or greater chance of over 1/4-inch of rainfall is predicted within a 24-hour period), or if rainfall commences during Covered Activities, Permittee shall cease all Covered Activities in all Work Areas where the Covered Species Exclusion Fencing Condition of Approval has not yet been completed. Work at these locations may resume 24 hours after the rain ceases and a significant rainfall event is not predicted in the 72-hour forecast. The Designated Biologist(s) and Designated Monitor(s) shall survey for CTS at those Work Area locations before Covered Activities resume, and the Designated Biologist(s) shall capture and relocate any that are discovered during the surveys, according to the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan.	ITP Condition # 7.12	Entire Project	Permittee	
38	Covered Species Injury. If a CTS is injured as a result of Project-related activities, the Designated Biologist(s) shall immediately take it to a CDFW approved wildlife rehabilitation or veterinary facility according to the CDFW-approved Covered Species Mortality Reduction and Relocation Plan. Permittee shall bear any costs associated with the care or treatment of such injured or damaged Covered Species. The Permittee shall notify CDFW of the injury as described in the Notification of Take or Injury Condition of Approval.	ITP Condition # 7.14	Entire Project	Permittee	
PO	ST-CONSTRUCTION				
39	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(s) shall prepare the Final Mitigation Report which shall include, at a minimum: (1) a summary of all Monthly Compliance Reports and all Annual Status Reports; (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 all Covered Species; and (8) any other pertinent information.	ITP Condition # 6.10	Post-construction	Permittee	

Attachment 2

LSA Agreement/ITP Number(s):



Department of Fish and Wildlife

BIOLOGIST RESUME COVER SHEET

SUBMIT EACH RESUME AS A SEPARATE DOCUMENT

Number of Resumes Included in Transmittal:	
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Name	Requested Role(s) ¹	Species/Resource(s)

¹ Requested roles correspond to the biological staffing requirements indicated in the Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement or California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit (ITP). Roles may include a "Qualified Biologist" or "Designated Biologist" with the necessary experience to survey for special status species, or a "Biological Monitor" with the necessary experience to monitor construction activities for special status species. An individual may request more than one role.

Project Name: LSA Agreement/ITP Number(s):



This form requests information about the qualifications of the Qualified Biologist, Designated Biologist and Biological Monitor specified in California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permits (ITP) and Lake or Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreements issued by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

Completing this form will ensure the receipt of adequate information and expedite CDFW review of qualifications.

Name:		Title:	
Company Name &		Phone:	
Address:		Email:	
SECTION II. EDUCATION			
College/University & Degree T Related to Natural Resource S	• •		
Other Relevant Workshops & Training:			
SECTION III. ROLE(S) AND PI	ERMIT REQUI	WENTS	
Requested Role(s):			
Relevant LSA Agreement Measures or ITP Conditions ² :			

This section summarizes experience by special status species and other resource. Use one row for each species or other resource where surveys or special protections are required in the CESA ITP or LSA Agreement for which biologist approval is requested. 3 If more space is needed, add rows to this table. Provide details in Section 5.

Species or Resource	Number of Field Seasons & Hours, Life Stages Observed Provide project details in Section 5	Life History Knowledge Describe formal workshops & training with dates, or informal training details	CDFW SCP, MOU, & USFWS 10a1a Authorization Number & Authorized Activities This form does not fulfill SCP, MOU, & USFWS 10a1a reporting requirements	
Insert Species or Resource 1	Field seasons: Hours: Life Stages:			Issued to: Expiration: Agency contact:
Insert Species or Resource 2	Field seasons: Hours: Life Stages:			Issued to: Expiration: Agency contact:
Insert Species or Resource 3	Field seasons: Hours: Life Stages:			Issued to: Expiration: Agency contact:

² List all measures and conditions from the LSA Agreement or ITP requiring biological staff (i.e., Qualified Biologist, Designated Biologist, or Biological Monitor).

³ Often LSA Agreements/ITPs require surveys and other protections for multiple species and other resources. Include only those for which the biologist has experience and is requesting approval.

Project Name: LSA Agreement/ITP Number(s):

SECTION V. SPECIES AND RESOURCE EXPERIENCE – DETAILS

This section details experience from the <u>three</u> most recent and relevant projects for each species and resource identified in Section 4. If more space is needed, attach additional pages in the same table format (i.e., copy/paste format).

	Project Start & End Dates:	
	Role(s) ⁴ :	
	Construction Monitoring ⁶ :	Days: Activities:
Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB ⁷ (Y/N):	Company Name, Professional Reference Name, Phone, Email:	
	Project Start & End Dates:	
	Role(s):	
	Construction Monitoring:	Days: Activities:
Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N):	Company Name, Professional Reference Name, Phone, Email:	
	Project Start & End Dates:	
	Role(s):	
	Construction Monitoring:	Days: Activities:
	Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB ⁷ (Y/N): Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to	End Dates: Role(s)4: Construction Monitoring6: Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB7 (Y/N): Project Start & End Dates: Role(s): Construction Monitoring: Company Name, Project Start & End Dates: Role(s): Construction Monitoring: Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N): Project Start & End Dates: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N): Project Start & End Dates: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N): Construction Name, Phone, Email: Project Start & End Dates: Role(s): Construction

⁴ Insert the role as described in the associated LSA Agreement, ITP or other agency permit. If these permits were not issued, describe the role based on the duties, e.g., "lead biologist with handling authorization" or "biological monitor."

⁵ For example, pre-construction survey or description of the protocol or guideline followed.

⁶ Include the number of days and describe the types of activities monitored (e.g., heavy equipment operation).

⁷ CNDDB is the abbreviation for California Natural Diversity Database.

Project Name: LSA Agreement/ITP Number(s):

Species Life Stages Observed & Handled, Number of Each:	Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N):	Company Name, Professional Reference Name, Phone, Email:	
If <u>not</u> reported to CNDDB, why:			
CDFW and Other Agency Email:			
Additional Information:			

B. Species or Resource:			
Project 1 Name & Location:		Project Start & End Dates:	
LSA Agreement, ITP, or Other Agency Permit Number:		Role(s):	
Survey Type(s):		Construction Monitoring:	Days: Activities:
Species Life Stages Observed & Handled, Number of Each:	Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N):	Company Name, Professional Reference Name, Phone, Email:	
If <u>not</u> reported to CNDDB, why:			
CDFW and Other Agency Email:			
Project 2 Name & Location:		Project Start & End Dates:	
LSA Agreement, ITP, or Other Agency Permit Number:		Role(s):	
Survey Type(s):		Construction Monitoring:	Days: Activities:
Species Life Stages Observed & Handled, Number of Each:	Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N):	Company Name, Professional Reference Name, Phone, Email:	
If <u>not</u> reported to CNDDB, why:			
CDFW and Other Agency Email:			
Project 3 Name & Location:		Project Start & End Dates:	
LSA Agreement, ITP, or Other Agency Permit Number:		Role(s):	
Survey Type(s):		Construction Monitoring:	Days: Activities:

Project Name: LSA Agreement/ITP Number(s):

Re	Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N):	Name, Phone, Email:	
If <u>not</u> reported to CNDDB, why:			
CDFW and Other Agency Email:			
Additional Information:			

C. Species or Resource:			
Project 1 Name & Location:		Project Start & End Dates:	
LSA Agreement, ITP, or Other Agency Permit Number:		Role(s):	
Survey Type(s):		Construction Monitoring:	Days: Activities:
Species Life Stages Observed & Handled, Number of Each:	Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N):	Company Name, Professional Reference Name, Phone, Email:	
If <u>not</u> reported to CNDDB, why:			
CDFW and Other Agency Email:			
Project 2 Name & Location:		Project Start & End Dates:	
LSA Agreement, ITP, or Other Agency Permit Number:		Role(s):	
Survey Type(s):		Construction Monitoring:	Days: Activities:
Species Life Stages Observed & Handled, Number of Each:	Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N):	Company Name, Professional Reference Name, Phone, Email:	
If <u>not</u> reported to CNDDB, why:			
CDFW and Other Agency Email:			
Project 3 Name & Location:		Project Start & End Dates:	
LSA Agreement, ITP, or Other Agency Permit Number:		Role(s):	
Survey Type(s):		Construction Monitoring:	Days: Activities:

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Project Name: LSA Agreement/ITP Number(s):

Species Life Stages Observed & Handled, Number of Each:	Life Stage: Number Observed: Number Handled: Reported to CNDDB (Y/N):	Company Name, Professional Reference Name, Phone, Email:	
If <u>not</u> reported to CNDDB, why:			
CDFW and Other Agency Email:			
Additional Information:			

Attachment 3

Attachment 3

The Declining Amphibian Task Force Fieldwork Code of Practice

A code of practice, prepared by the Declining Amphibian Task Force (DAPTF) to provide guidelines for use by anyone conducting field work at amphibian breeding sites or in other aquatic habitats. Observations of diseased and parasite-infected amphibians are now being frequently reported from sites all over the world. This has given rise to concerns that releasing amphibians following a period of captivity, during which time they can pick up unapparent infections of novel disease agents, may cause an increased risk of mortality in wild populations. Amphibian pathogens and parasites can also be carried in a variety of ways between habitats on the hands, footwear, or equipment of fieldworkers, which can spread them to novel localities containing species which have had little or no prior contact with such pathogens or parasites. Such occurrences may be implicated in some instances where amphibian populations have declined. Therefore, it is vitally important for those involved in amphibian research (and other wetland/pond studies including those on fish, invertebrates and plants) to take steps to minimize the spread of disease and parasites between study sites.

- Remove mud, snails, algae, and other debris from nets, traps, boots, vehicle tires and all other surfaces. Rinse cleaned items with sterilized (e.g. boiled or treated) water before leaving each study site.
- 2. Boots, nets, traps, etc., should then be scrubbed with 70% ethanol solution (or sodium hypochlorite 3 to 6%) and rinsed clean with sterilized water between study sites. Avoid cleaning equipment in the immediate vicinity of a pond or wetland.
- 3. In remote locations, clean all equipment as described above upon return to the lab or "base camp". Elsewhere, when washing machine facilities are available, remove nets from poles and wash with bleach on a "delicates" cycle, contained in a protective mesh laundry bag.
- 4. When working at sites with known or suspected disease problems, or when sampling populations of rare or isolates species, wear disposable gloves and change them between handling each animal. Dedicate sets of nets, boots, traps, and other equipment to each site being visited. Clean and store them separately and the end of each field day.
- 5. When amphibians are collected, ensure the separation of animals from different sites and take great care to avoid indirect contact between them (e.g. via handling, reuse of containers) or with other captive animals. Isolation from un-sterilized plants or soils which have been taken from other sites is also essential. Always use disinfected/disposable husbandry equipment.
- Examine collected amphibians for the presence of diseases and parasites soon after capture. Prior to their release or the release of any progeny, amphibians should be quarantined for a period and thoroughly screened for the presence of any potential disease agents.
- Used cleaning materials (liquids, etc.) should be disposed of safely and if necessary taken back to the lab for proper disposal. Used disposable gloves should be retained for safe disposal in sealed bags.