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Glenn County Road 305 Bridge Replacement Project, Bridge No. 11C-0091, Federal Aid No. BRLO-5911(056)

May 22, 2026

ADDENDUM #1
to
REVISED INITIAL STUDY, ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST,
AND MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
for
County Road 305 over Watson Creek Bridge Replacement Project,
Bridge No. 11C-0091, Federal Aid No. BRLO-5911(056)

To Whom it May Concern,

The purpose of this addendum is to document that new mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project. The County of Glenn Public Works Agency (County) received comments from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) in response to the 2023 Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the above referenced project. The County completed an update to the project's Natural Environment Study (NES) in order to fully address CDFW's comments and incorporated these updates into the revised IS/MND.

As a result of the updated NES, The California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) has requested that conservation measures for northwestern pond turtle be incorporated into the project as a "show of good faith, to further the protection and recovery of the species, and in anticipation of any future listings". In response to the request made by CalTrans, the County has revised the 2026 NES update to include northwestern pond turtle as one of the considered species.

The County has determined that there has been no new information that has been identified that would result in a significant impact on the environment that was not discussed in the previous IS/MND. Given the absence of typical habitat and the low likelihood of northwestern pond turtle being present in the project area even temporarily, the County would not consider the project as having a significant impact on northwestern pond turtle. It is also noted that the species was not included in the CDFW comments to the 2023 IS/MND or in the original NES report that was approved by Caltrans in 2021.

The County has determined that the potential impact to the Western Pond Turtle is less than significant and the measures being incorporated into the project even further reduce the potential for any impacts. No compensatory mitigations measures are proposed with this addendum.

This addendum to the IS/MND shall be attached to the adopted IS/MND and the county Board of Supervisor's shall consider the addendum #1 with the adopted IS/MND prior to making a decision on the project (CEQA Guidelines 15164).



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Northwestern Pond Turtle

Northwestern pond turtles generally inhabit streams, ponds, lakes and permanent and seasonal wetlands. They also require basking sites, such as partially submerged logs, rocks, mats of floating vegetation, and open mud banks. This species requires terrestrial habitat to nest and lay their eggs. Mating takes place mostly in spring and sometimes in the fall. Nesting occurs between late May and middle of July. The female turtle finds a suitable site to lay her eggs in an upland area with dryer soils and sparse vegetation. Once the eggs are laid, the female covers the hole with dry soil then wet soil on top while they incubate for 90 to 130 days (USFWS 2026b).

Northwestern pond turtle is proposed for federal listing as threatened. The April 2021 NES is updated to include the following information for northwestern pond turtle.

SURVEY RESULTS

The project area is located along a relatively narrow reach of Watson Creek that is characterized by a rocky substrate and subject to scouring flows during high flow events. Typical habitat conditions for northwestern pond turtle including still or slow-moving aquatic habitat with emergent logs, mats of floating vegetation, and other basking sites is not present within the project area. As such, there is a low potential for the species to be present within the project area. However, the project area is within the range of the species and the species could be present in the project area when habitat conditions are suitable, or during movements between habitat locations. There are no CNDDDB-reported occurrences of northwestern pond turtle in the 9-quadrangle search area (CDFW 2026a).

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Given that the project area lacks the typical habitat conditions associated with northwestern pond turtle, there is a low potential for the species to be present and to be affected by the project. However, if northwestern pond turtles were present in the project area during construction, the species could be affected by the project. Potential effects could include temporary impediments to dispersal along the stream channel or injury or mortality of individual turtles.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES

In addition to the conservation measures provided in Chapter 1 of the NES, the following measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for adverse effects on northwestern pond turtle.

AMM NWPT-1 To avoid impacts on northwestern pond turtle, a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey of the aquatic and upland habitats within the project area. The survey will be conducted no more than 24 hours prior to onset of construction. If a pond turtle is spotted within an active work area, a qualified biologist will be contacted, and work activities will immediately cease within 100 feet of the turtle. Work will not recommence until the turtle has left



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the project area on its own volition. In addition, if pond turtle nests are detected within or adjacent to the project area, a qualified biologist will mark the nests with high-visibility flagging or fencing and establish a 25-foot no-disturbance buffer around each nest to prevent disturbance until hatching occurs or the biologist determines the nest is no longer at risk.

AMM NWPT-2To prevent the inadvertent entrapment of northwestern pond turtle, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 3 inches wide and 1 foot deep will be inspected for pond turtles then covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials. If it is not practicable to cover an excavation, one or more escape ramps constructed of earthen fill or wood \geq 6 inches wide will be installed. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they must be thoroughly inspected for trapped pond turtles.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION MEASURES

The project would result in a negligible impact on breeding and dispersal habitat for northwestern pond turtle; therefore, compensatory mitigation is not proposed.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

With implementation of avoidance and minimization measures, the project would not result in cumulatively considerable adverse effects on northwestern pond turtle.