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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve Comprehensive Use and Management Plan

Lead Agency: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen)

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Project Location: Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve, Unincorporated San Mateo County

City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Midpen has prepared the Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve Comprehensive Use and Management Plan which would serve as the overarching guiding document for ecologically sensitive public access, restoration, and land management for the Preserve. Midpen has developed the Plan and integrated existing District-wide policies and planning frameworks (such as the existing Preserve Use and Management Plans, the Vision Plan, and Resource Management Policies) into a comprehensive planning document for Purisima. The Plan provides long-term management guidance on focus areas pertaining to natural resources; historic, cultural, and tribal cultural resources; aesthetic resources; public access; and operations and maintenance. The proposed Plan would be implemented through a series of future projects led by Midpen and/or through partnerships and agreements with other organizations. The Plan identifies six specific, near-term projects to be implemented over the next 5 years. The near-term projects include the Highway 35 Multiuse Trail Crossing and Parking Expansion Project, the Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail Project, the Verde Parking Area Project, the North Trail Project, the Purisima Multimodal Access and Transportation Demand Management Project, and the Irish Ridge Habitat Restoration Project. These projects are anticipated to provide enhanced public access and recreation opportunities and improve the ecosystem within the Preserve.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

An Initial Study (IS) has been prepared to assess the proposed near-term projects included in the Plan for potential effects on the environment and the significance of those effects. Based on the IS findings, Midpen has determined that the proposed near-term projects would not have any significant effects on the environment once mitigation measures are implemented. With the inclusion of revisions to the project directed by the mitigation measures, all potentially significant effects on the environment would be reduced to a less-than-significant level. Mitigation is required to reduce potentially significant impacts related to biological resources, cultural resources, tribal cultural resources, and paleontological resources, to less-than-significant levels. Mitigation measures involve avoidance and minimization measures specific to sensitive habitats, wetlands, wildlife, and special-status species, and protocols on what to do in the event of discovering archaeological, paleontological, or tribal cultural resources.

See the Initial Study for details on each of the mitigation measures.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Through the public engagement process, Midpen has received public comments expressing concerns about traffic and pedestrian safety along Highway 35, including at the proposed Highway 35 Multi-use Crossing and Parking Expansion Project. Residents have also shared their broad concerns with regional traffic safety, including speeding and existing roadway conditions along State Routes 35 and 84, with multiple agencies including Caltrans, California Highway Patrol, the County of San Mateo and other local and state agencies. Public comments sent to an extensive coalition of federal, state and local agencies, including Midpen, have also emphasized the importance of prioritizing the implementation of the Highway 35 crossing to help improve pedestrian safety in this portion of the highway corridor.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

San Mateo County
Caltrans (District 4)
CDFW (Bay Delta Region 3)
California Coastal Commission
Bay Area Air District
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
US Army Corps of Engineers
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Calfire