# Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

*Mail to:* State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
*For Hand Delivery/Street Address:* 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**SCH #** 2020029038

**Project Title:** Edwards Crossing Bridge Replacement Project

Lead Agency: Nevada County | Contact Person: Patrick Perkins
Mailing Address: 950 Maidu Ave, Suite 170 | Phone: 530-265-1411
City: Nevada City | Zip: 95959 | County: Nevada

**Project Location:** County: Nevada | City/Nearest Community: Nevada City
Cross Streets: N Bloomfield-Graniteville Rd and Rock Creek Rd | Zip Code: 95959
Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 39 ° 19 ′ 48.50 ″ N / -120 ° 59 ′ 3.52 ″ W Total Acres: 18.44
Assessor's Parcel No.: Multiple | Section: 16, 17, 20, 21 | Twp.: 17N | Range: 9E | Base:
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: 20 | Waterways: South Yuba River
Airports: N/A | Railways: N/A | Schools: N/A

**Document Type:**

CEQA: ☐ NOP ☒ Draft EIR | NEPA: ☐ NOI | Other: ☐ Joint Document
☐ Early Cons ☐ Supplement/Subsequent EIR | ☐ EA | ☐ Final Document
☐ Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) | ☐ Draft EIS | ☐ Other:
☐ Mit Neg Dec Other: | ☐ FONSI

**Local Action Type:**

☐ General Plan Update ☐ Specific Plan ☐ Rezone ☐ Annexation
☐ General Plan Amendment ☐ Master Plan ☐ Prezone ☐ Redevelopment
☐ General Plan Element ☐ Planned Unit Development ☐ Use Permit ☐ Coastal Permit
☐ Community Plan ☐ Site Plan ☐ Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) ☒ Other: Transportation

**Development Type:**

☐ Residential: Units Acres
☐ Office: Sq.ft. Acres Employees
☐ Commercial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees
☐ Industrial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees
☐ Educational:
☐ Recreational:
☐ Water Facilities: Type MGD
☒ Transportation: Type Bridge Replacement
☐ Mining: Mineral
☐ Power: Type MW
☐ Waste Treatment: Type MGD
☐ Hazardous Waste: Type
☐ Other:

**Project Issues Discussed in Document:**

☒ Aesthetic/Visual ☐ Fiscal ☒ Recreation/Parks ☒ Vegetation
☒ Agricultural Land ☒ Flood Plain/Flooding ☐ Schools/Universities ☒ Water Quality
☒ Air Quality ☒ Forest Land/Fire Hazard ☐ Septic Systems ☒ Water Supply/Groundwater
☒ Archeological/Historical ☒ Geologic/Seismic ☐ Sewer Capacity ☒ Wetland/Riparian
☒ Biological Resources ☒ Minerals ☒ Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading ☐ Growth Inducement
☐ Coastal Zone ☒ Noise ☐ Solid Waste ☒ Land Use
☐ Drainage/Absorption ☒ Population/Housing Balance ☒ Toxic/Hazardous ☒ Cumulative Effects
☐ Economic/Jobs ☒ Public Services/Facilities ☒ Traffic/Circulation ☐ Other:

**Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:**

Open Space

**Project Description:** *(please use a separate page if necessary)*

See attached page

*Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.*

## Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with and "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | Air Resources Board | X | Office of Historic Preservation |
| | Boating & Waterways, Department of | | Office of Public School Construction |
| | California Emergency Management Agency | | Parks & Recreation, Department of |
| | California Highway Patrol | | Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| X | Caltrans District # 3 | | Public Utilities Commission |
| | Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | X | Regional WQCB # 5 |
| | Caltrans Planning | | Resources Agency |
| | Central Valley Flood Protection Board | | Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of |
| | Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy | | S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. |
| | Coastal Commission | | San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| | Colorado River Board | | San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| | Conservation, Department of | | Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy |
| | Corrections, Department of | | State Lands Commission |
| | Delta Protection Commission | | SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| | Education, Department of | | SWRCB: Water Quality |
| | Energy Commission | | SWRCB: Water Rights |
| X | Fish & Game Region # 2 | | Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| | Food & Agriculture, Department of | | Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| X | Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of | X | Water Resources, Department of |
| | General Services, Department of | | |
| | Health Services, Department of | X | Other: Bureau of Land Management, Region 10 |
| | Housing & Community Development | | Other: |
| X | Native American Heritage Commission | | |

**Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)**

Starting Date September 29, 2023 Ending Date November 14, 2023

**Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):**

Consulting Firm: Dokken Engineering
Address: 110 Blue Ravine Road, Suite 200
City/State/Zip: Folsom, CA 95630
Contact: Amy Bakker
Phone: 916-858-0642

Applicant: Nevada County Department of Public Works
Address: 950 Maidu Ave, Suite 170
City/State/Zip: Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: 530-265-1411

**Signature of Lead Agency Representative:** Patrick Perkins **Date:** 9/28/23

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

# Project Description

## Edwards Crossing Bridge (a.k.a. North Bloomfield Road Bridge) Replacement Project over the South Yuba River

The County of Nevada (County) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to construct a new 2-lane bridge to replace the existing Edwards Crossing Bridge over the South Yuba River. The existing Edwards Crossing Bridge that crosses the South Yuba River on North Bloomfield-Graniteville Road has been determined to be structurally deficient and is insufficient for emergency vehicle use. Therefore, a new bridge is planned to be constructed. Two proposed bridge locations for the river crossing will be evaluated. There is a need for the new river crossing to provide access for emergency vehicles and serve as an evacuation route during wildland fires. One of the alternatives would construct a new, 200-foot bridge 60 feet upstream from the existing bridge and would not change the current route to and from the bridge. The second alternative would build a new, 500-foot bridge 1,000 feet upstream at a higher elevation and eliminate the tight hairpin turn in the approach roadway on the south side of the river. The exact location of staging will be determined during final design in coordination with the contractor.

The following are common to both alternatives:

- The Bridge will contain two (2) 10-foot travel lanes with 2-foot shoulders or shoulder widths that meet AASHTO standards.
- Bridge will be 28 feet wide with 24 feet curb face-to-curb face.
- Bridge railing will be steel type: California ST-75.
- The existing bridge will remain in place for pedestrian use and historic preservation. It will be blocked from vehicle use with bollards.
- The existing bridge will receive minor rehabilitation including painting, railing repairs and north abutment stabilization against erosion, to ensure it remains in a serviceable condition.
- Staging areas and parking impacts during construction will be addressed during the project along with environmental factors affected by this project.
- The existing bridge will remain in service during construction of the new bridge, with the rehabilitation work occurring after the new bridge is complete.
- Temporarily eliminate approximately 15 spaces on the south side of the river for contractor staging of equipment and materials.
- Recreational use directly under the new bridge during construction will not be allowed.

Further detail regarding each alternative is described below.

The project will construct a new 2-lane bridge at one of the two upstream locations.

**Alternative 1: New Bridge 60 feet upstream**

Construct a 200-foot single span bridge supported on concrete seat type abutments. This location will require accessing the bridge by navigating the existing hairpin turn and steep roadway on the south side of the river, which restricts access for larger emergency vehicles. This single-span bridge would be above the normal high-water river level to avoid impacts to

river hydraulics and minimize environmental issues associated with bridge construction. A detailed list of the description includes:

- Constructing a new 200-foot single span bridge across the river approximately 60 feet upstream of the existing bridge
- Construct new concrete seat-type abutments to support the bridge on either side of the river. The abutments will also support curved retaining walls to support the approach roadway to the new bridge.
- Expansion of the parking lot to the north side of the existing bridge to create more space for contractor staging of materials and equipment
- Permanently reconfigure the parking lot to accommodate the roadway for the new bridge location
- Erecting a temporary trestle across the river to support construction of the new concrete bridge.
- Approach roadways with a 90-foot radius curve to accommodate 2-axle emergency vehicles and pickups with short trailers.

**Alternative 2: New Bridge 1,000 feet upstream**

Construct a 500-foot concrete arch bridge with spandrel columns from the arch to the deck. The 360-foot arch span and geometric shape of the canyon at this location allows the bridge arches or piers to be located outside the water during construction. More detail of this alternative is as follows:

- Constructing a new 500-foot concrete arch bridge with spandrel columns from the arch to the deck. The arch is the 360-foot main span over the river, with approach spans of approximately 70 to 75 feet on each side of the arch.
- The concrete bridge deck will be approximately 170 feet above the river and will be constructed as cast-in-place concrete or precast concrete voided slab units.
- Realignment of North Bloomfield-Graniteville Road to provide emergency ingress/egress access approximately 1000 feet upstream of the existing bridge.
- Construct a new intersection of North Bloomfield-Graniteville Road and south side parking lot access road.
- Construct a new intersection of North Bloomfield-Graniteville Road and the north access road for maintenance to the north side of the existing bridge.
- New bridge will be constructed without obstructing access to the existing bridge (except for a few required closures).
- A temporary access road will be required on the north side of the canyon and a temporary trestle across the river is planned to get materials and equipment across the river for construction of the arch foundation at Pier 2.
- As part of the temporary access road connection to the existing roadway on the north side of the canyon, create space for southbound vehicles to turn from the existing roadway onto the temporary access road. Retain this expanded turn area for permanent turn-around use by maintenance and emergency vehicles.
- The trestle and temporary access roads will be removed and restored. The temporary access road restoration will leave it as a trail for walking/hiking purposes.

**Alternative 3: No-Build Alternative**

This alternative would not build a replacement bridge upstream from the existing, structurally deficient bridge.

Purpose

The existing Edwards Crossing bridge was constructed in 1904 and rehabilitated in 1989. The purpose of the project is to construct a new bridge to carry vehicular traffic traveling along North Bloomfield-Graniteville Road over the South Yuba River while allowing the historic bridge to remain in use for pedestrian access to heavily used recreation areas along the South Yuba River.

Need

The bridge's structure, deck geometry, and roadway alignment are all rated as deficient, requiring a high priority of replacement. In addition, the existing bridge is restricted to a 4-ton weight capacity, precluding use by emergency vehicles. The project is needed to improve public safety and improve emergency service response times in the area.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2027 and will last approximately 2 years.