



JOHN A. MEYER
Vice Chancellor

OFFICE OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING
ONE SHIELDS AVENUE
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8678

April 11, 2007

State of California
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

**NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Project Title: Quail Ridge Reserve Road Connector

Project Location: Quail Ridge Reserve south of Lake Berryessa and north of Highway 128. Township 8 North, Range 3 West, Section 36. Mt Diablo Base.

County: Napa

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 2100 et seq.), the CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 Code of Regulations Section 1500 et seq.), and the University of California Procedures for the Implementation of CEQA, a Draft Initial Study for the above-named project was prepared (please see enclosure). The document identifies and evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. The university proposes to prepare a Negative Declaration for the project.

Project Description

Quail Ridge Reserve (Reserve) comprises about 2,000 acres in Napa County, approximately 65 miles northeast of San Francisco and 40 miles west of Sacramento on the south shore of Berryessa Reservoir. The Reserve is one of 35 reserves administered by the University of California Natural Reserve System (NRS). Established in 1991 with 600 acres of land, the Reserve has since been expanded to nearly 2,000 acres. It lies on a peninsula formed by the creation of the Berryessa Reservoir. Due to its isolation it retains many elements of the native flora of this region and is available for teaching and research uses through the NRS.

The Reserve is a patchwork of parcels under varied ownership, including the UC Regents, the Quail Ridge Wilderness Conservancy (QRWC), the US Bureau of Reclamation, the US Bureau of Land Management, and the California Department of Fish and Game. It is managed by UC Davis NRS, and the Napa Valley Land Trust holds conservation easements on many of the properties. The peninsula also includes privately owned parcels that are not part of the Reserve.

The NRS proposes to construct a dirt connector road 12 feet wide and approximately 1,500 feet long. It would connect two existing roads to improve site access at the Reserve. The Reserve is accessed from

Highway 128 on two deeded easement roads, one on the eastern and one on the western edge of the property.

The proposed connector road would allow reserve personnel to drive to properties in the northwest portion of the reserve, which are currently inaccessible by vehicle. Access to the northwest portion of the reserve was previously allowed across land that did not include an access easement and access permission through this land is no longer available.

Environmental Review and Comment

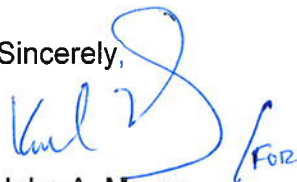
The Draft Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration for the proposed project will be circulated for public and agency review from April 11, 2007 to May 11, 2007. Copies of the document are available during normal operating hours at the UC Davis Office of Resource Management and Planning, 376 Mrak Hall on the UC Davis campus; at Reserves in Shields Library on the UC Davis campus; the Napa County Main Library 580 Coombs Street in Napa, and online at <http://www.ormp.ucdavis.edu/environreview/>. Copies of reference materials for the Draft Initial Study are available in Davis by contacting Matt Dulcich in the UC Davis Office of Resource Management and Planning at (530) 752-9597 or by email medulcich@ucdavis.edu.

Comments on this document must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 11, 2007. They can be e-mailed to environreview@ucdavis.edu or sent to:

John A. Meyer
Vice Chancellor - Resource Management and Planning
University of California
One Shields Avenue
376 Mrak Hall
Davis, CA 95616

If you have any questions about the project, please contact Sid England, UC Davis Director of Environmental Planning, at (530) 752-2432.

Sincerely,



John A. Meyer
Vice Chancellor
Office of Resource Management and Planning

Enclosures: 15 copies of the Draft Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration
1 Notice of Completion and Environmental Document Transmittal Form

c: Notice of Intent, Notice of Completion and Environmental Document Transmittal Form,
and Draft Initial Study sent to addresses on the attached list

Form A

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

SCH # _____

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, PO Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 916/445-0613

Project Title: Quail Ridge Reserve Road Connector

Lead Agency: University of California Contact Person: Sid England
Street Address: Office of Resource Management and Planning, UC Davis Phone: (530) 752-2432
City: Davis Zip: 95616 County: Yolo

Project Location:

County: Napa City/Nearest Community: Napa
Cross Streets: Highway 128 near Wragg Canyon Road Zip Code: Total Acres: 0.4
Assessor's Parcel No. NA Section: 36 Twp. 8N Range: 3E Base: Mt. Diablo
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: Highway 128 Waterways: Lake Berryessa
Airports: Railways: Schools:

Document Type:

CEQA: [] NOP [] Supplement/Subsequent EIR NEPA: [] NOI Other: [] Joint Document
[] Early Cons (Prior SCH No.) [] EA [] Final Document
[x] Neg Dec [] Other [] Draft EIS [] Other
[] Draft EIR [] 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.) [x] Other Project Approval

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
[x] Transportation: Type 1,500 foot connector road
[] Mining: Mineral
[] Power: Type Watts
[] Waste Treatment: Type
[] Hazardous Waste: Type
[] Other:

Funding (approx.): Federal \$ -- State \$ -- Total \$ 15,000

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

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

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Natural Resource Teaching and Research

Project Description:

See attached public notice.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Form A, continued

KEY
S = Document sent by lead agency
X = Document sent by SCH
 ✓ = Suggested distribution

Resources Agency

- ___ Boating & Waterways
- ___ Coastal Commission
- ___ Coastal Conservancy
- ___ Colorado River Board
- _SX_ Conservation
- _SX_ Fish & Game
- ___ Forestry & Fire Protection
- _SX_ Office of Historic Preservation
- ___ Parks & Recreation
- ___ Reclamation Board
- ___ S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission
- _SX_ Water Resources (DWR)

Business, Transportation & Housing

- ___ Aeronautics
- ___ California Highway Patrol
- _SX_ CALTRANS District # 4
- ___ Department of Transportation Planning (headquarters)
- ___ Housing & Community Development

Food & Agriculture

Health & Welfare

___ Health Services _____

State & Consumer Services

- ___ General Services
- ___ OLA (Schools)

Environmental Protection Agency

- _SX_ Air Resources Board
- ___ California Waste Management Board
- ___ SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
- ___ SWRCB: Delta Unit
- ___ SWRCB: Water Quality
- ___ SWRCB: Water Rights
- _SX_ Regional WQCB # _____ (___ Bay Area _____)

Youth & Adult Corrections

___ Corrections

Independent Commissions & Offices

- ___ Energy Commission
- ___ Native American Heritage Commission
- ___ Public Utilities Commission
- ___ Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
- ___ State Lands Commission
- ___ Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

SX Other ___ Bay Area AQMD _____

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

Starting Date April 11, 2007

Ending Date May 11, 2007

Signature 

Date 4/10/07

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Applicant: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____

For SCH Use Only:

Date Received at SCH _____

Date Review Starts _____

Date to Agencies _____

Date to SCH _____

Clearance Date _____

Notes:

Chuck Armor
Acting Regional Manager
Department of Fish and Game Bay Delta Region
7329 Silverado Trail
Napa, CA 94558

Bruce Wolfe, Executive Officer
San Francisco Bay
Regional Water Quality Control Board
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

Napa County Planning Office
County Administration Building
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, CA 94559

Environmental Services
Department of Fish and Game
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Wayne White
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
2800 Cottage Way #W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1888

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

Jim Hockenberry
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Clean Water Programs
P.O. Box 944212
Sacramento, CA 94244-2120

Peter Venturini
Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Greg Martinelli
Water Conservation Supervisor
Department of Fish and Game Bay Delta Region
PO Box 47
Yountville, CA 94599

The Honorable Lois Wolk
California State Assembly
State Capital
Sacramento, CA 95814

Michael J. Bocchicchio
Asst. Vice President – Facilities Administration
University of California, Office of the President
1111 Franklin Street 6th Floor #6201
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

James E. Holst
Office of the General Counsel of The Regents
University of California
300 Lakeside Drive, 7th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-3550

Phil Zeniner
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95801

State of California
Native American Heritage Commission
915 Capitol Mall, Room 364
Sacramento, CA 95814

Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2828

Craig Stowers
Department of Fish and Game
7400 Hendon Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758

Rosanne Taylor
Department of Conservation
801 K Street, MS-24-02
Sacramento, CA 95814

Bijan Sartipi
Caltrans District 4
PO Box 23660
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

State of California
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

(15 copies)

Napa County Clerk
Carithers Building
900 Coombs Street, Room 116
Napa, CA 94559

Hans Kreuzberg
Office of Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Sue O'Leary
Permitting and Inspection Branch, MS #15
California Integrated Waste Management Board
1001 I Street
PO Box 4025
Sacramento, California 95812-4025

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE UC DAVIS QUAIL RIDGE RESERVE ROAD CONNECTOR

Proposed Project

Quail Ridge Reserve (Reserve) comprises about 2,000 acres in Napa County, approximately 65 miles northeast of San Francisco and 40 miles west of Sacramento on the south shore of Berryessa Reservoir. The Reserve is one of 35 reserves administered by the University of California Natural Reserve System (NRS). Established in 1991 with 600 acres of land, the Reserve has since been expanded to nearly 2,000 acres. It lies on a peninsula formed by the creation of the Berryessa Reservoir. Due to its isolation it retains many elements of the native flora of this region and is available for teaching and research uses through the NRS.

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The proposed road would connect a road along the central ridge of the Reserve, with the eastern easement road. The 1,500 foot route follows a rocky ridge through chamise chaparral. No removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees would occur. The route will not exceed 20% slope. The connector road would be used infrequently (approximately one time per week) but is considered critical to the management of the Reserve to allow reserve access for checking site conditions and research projects.

Project Objectives

The proposed project would provide access to an area that is currently inaccessible by vehicle. Objectives of the project include:

- The opportunity to patrol portions of the reserve to prevent illegal hunting and access.
- Maintenance and improvement of the existing easement road that is currently inaccessible to the University and emergency egress for people at the Quail Ridge Reserve.
- Access for teaching and research use to the northwest portion of the Quail Ridge Reserve.

Environmental Review

The Draft Initial Study for the proposed UC Davis Quail Ridge Road Extension was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), state and University of California guidelines for implementation of CEQA. Based on the analysis presented in the Draft Initial Study, it has been determined that there is no substantial evidence that the project may

have a significant effect on the environment. Based on the analysis in the Initial Study, the campus has determined that a Negative Declaration will be prepared for this project.

Public Review and Comment

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376 Mrak Hall
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