

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

**July 22, 2022**

**LEAD AGENCY:** Mendocino County Department of Transportation  
340 Lake Mendocino Drive  
Ukiah, CA 95482

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mr. James Linderman, Sr. Environmental Compliance Specialist  
Phone: 707-234-2819 Email: lindermanj@mendocinocounty.org

**PROJECT TITLE:** Wilderness Lodge Road over Dutch Charlie Creek Bridge Replacement Project

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The Wilderness Lodge Road Bridge at Dutch Charlie Creek is in unincorporated Mendocino County approximately nine air miles east of the community of Laytonville.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The Project replaces Bridge 10C0073 on Wilderness Lodge Road Bridge over Dutch Charlie Creek. The existing single-span approximately 40-foot long structure is comprised of two railroad flatcars with a timber deck. Wilderness Lodge Road is classified as a 'Local' road as per the Caltrans Functional Classification System and has Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of approximately 150 vehicles per day, which classifies it as a low volume road (ADT<400).

The existing bridge, constructed in 1969, is structurally deficient, has a sufficiency rating of 49.6, and is eligible for replacement under the FHWA Bridge Program (HBP) administered by Caltrans. The roadway approaches to the bridge consist of two 9 to 12-foot lanes with no shoulders. The existing bridge crosses the creek on a perpendicular alignment. The existing bridge does not support two lanes of legal loads and is currently weight restricted to a single through lane. The existing structure provides insufficient freeboard for the 50-year and 100-year flood events. Construction of a longer bridge span will reduce the channel constriction and will reduce the water surface elevations in and around the new bridge. The Project does not increase the capacity of Wilderness Lodge Road. Construction is planned for 2023 or later and will take approximately 5-6 months to complete.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the County has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration, pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for the above-described project.

The project is not listed on the Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List as set forth in Government Code Section 65962.5.

**PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD:** A **30-day** public review period for the Mitigated Negative Declaration will commence on **July 26, 2022** and end on **August 25, 2022** for interested individuals and public agencies to submit written comments on the document. Any written comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received at the above address within the public review period. Copies of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study are available for review at the Mendocino County Office at the above address and online at: <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/environmental-documents>.

**PUBLIC MEETING:** This matter has been set for the County Board of Supervisors on **October 4, 2022**.