

# TRINITY COUNTY HYAMPOM ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, PM 6.8-8.3

---

---

## *Draft* *Environmental Impact Report*

March 31, 2003

*Prepared for:*  
**Trinity County**  
**Department of Transportation**

*Prepared by:*  
**Trinity County**  
**Department of Transportation &**  
**Hughes Environmental Consultants**

# **TRINITY COUNTY HYAMPOM ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, PM 6.8-8.3**

---

---

## ***Draft Environmental Impact Report***

**March 31, 2003**

*Prepared for:*  
**Trinity County  
Department of Transportation  
P. O. Box 2490  
Weaverville, CA 96093  
(530) 623-1365  
Fax: (530) 623-5312**

*Prepared by:*  
**Trinity County Department of Transportation and  
Hughes Environmental Consultants  
1909 Capitol Avenue, Suite 304  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 551-1700  
Fax: (916) 551-1703**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

## TRINITY COUNTY HYAMPOM ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, PM 6.8-8.3

### DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

|        |  |      |
|--------|--|------|
| 1.0    | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....  | 1-1  |
| 1.1    | Introduction .....   | 1-1  |
| 1.2    | Areas of Controversy and Issues to be Resolved .....           | 1-2  |
| 1.3    | Alternatives to the Proposed Project .....                     | 1-4  |
| 1.4    | Organizations and Persons Consulted .....                      | 1-5  |
| 1.5    | Summary of Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures ..... | 1-6  |
| 2.0    | INTRODUCTION.....  | 2-1  |
| 2.1    | Purpose of the EIR.....  | 2-1  |
| 2.2    | Environmental Review Process.....                              | 2-2  |
| 2.3    | Terminology Used in the EIR.....                               | 2-4  |
| 2.4    | EIR Organization.....  | 2-5  |
| 2.5    | Intended Uses of this EIR.....                                 | 2-6  |
| 2.6    | Related Environmental Review and Consultations .....           | 2-7  |
| 2.7    | Related Environmental Documents.....                           | 2-9  |
| 3.0    | PROJECT DESCRIPTION .....                                      | 3-1  |
| 3.1    | Overview .....   | 3-1  |
| 3.2    | Project Location.....  | 3-1  |
| 3.3    | Project Background .....                                       | 3-2  |
| 3.4    | Project Objectives.....  | 3-4  |
| 3.5    | Alternatives to the Proposed Project .....                     | 3-4  |
| 3.6    | Proposed Project.....  | 3-5  |
| 3.6.1  | Project Components .....                                       | 3-5  |
| 3.6.2  | Right of Way .....   | 3-6  |
| 3.6.3  | Construction Methods .....                                     | 3-6  |
| 3.6.4  | Construction Specifications.....                               | 3-6  |
| 3.6.5  | Construction Schedule.....                                     | 3-7  |
| 3.6.6  | Road Closures.....   | 3-7  |
| 3.6.7  | Construction Staging Areas.....                                | 3-7  |
| 3.6.8  | Construction Equipment and Vehicles .....                      | 3-8  |
| 3.6.9  | Disposal of Excavated Material.....                            | 3-8  |
| 3.6.10 | Other Construction Waste .....                                 | 3-8  |
| 3.6.11 | Bridge Widening .....  | 3-9  |
| 3.6.12 | Concrete Handling.....   | 3-9  |
| 3.6.13 | Bridge Sanding and Painting .....                              | 3-10 |
| 3.6.14 | Bridge Construction .....                                      | 3-11 |
| 3.6.15 | Retaining Walls and Rock Slope Protection .....                | 3-12 |

|        |   |        |
|--------|---|--------|
| 3.6.16 | Travel Corridor.....                                    | 3-12   |
| 3.6.17 | Pollution Prevention.....                               | 3-12   |
| 3.6.18 | Erosion Control.....                                    | 3-15   |
| 3.6.19 | Winterization.....                                      | 3-16   |
| 4.0    | ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS.....                             | 4.1-1  |
| 4.1    | Introduction to the Environmental Analysis.....         | 4.1-1  |
| 4.1.1  | Cumulative Impacts.....                                 | 4.1-2  |
| 4.1.2  | Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures Sections..... | 4.1-4  |
| 4.2    | Geology, Soils, and Seismicity.....                     | 4.2-1  |
| 4.2.1  | Environmental Setting.....                              | 4.2-1  |
| 4.2.2  | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies.....   | 4.2-2  |
| 4.2.3  | Significance Criteria.....                              | 4.2-4  |
| 4.2.4  | Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....                    | 4.2.5  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.2.5  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.2.7  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.2.8  |
| 4.3    | Hydrology/Water Quality.....                            | 4.3-1  |
| 4.3.1  | Environmental Setting.....                              | 4.3-1  |
| 4.3.2  | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies.....   | 4.3-4  |
| 4.3.3  | Significance Criteria.....                              | 4.3-7  |
| 4.3.4  | Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....                    | 4.3-8  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.3-8  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.3-10 |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.3-12 |
| 4.4    | Hazards, Hazardous Waste and Materials.....             | 4.4-1  |
| 4.4.1  | Environmental Setting.....                              | 4.4-1  |
| 4.4.2  | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies.....   | 4.4-3  |
| 4.4.3  | Significance Criteria.....                              | 4.4-4  |
| 4.4.4  | Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....                    | 4.4-5  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.4-5  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.4-5  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.4-10 |
| 4.5    | Air Quality.....  | 4.5-1  |
| 4.5.1  | Environmental Setting.....                              | 4.5-1  |
| 4.5.2  | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies.....   | 4.5-6  |
| 4.5.3  | Significance Criteria.....                              | 4.5-6  |
| 4.5.4  | Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....                    | 4.5-7  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.5-7  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.5-7  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.5-9  |
| 4.6    | Noise.....  | 4.6-1  |
| 4.6.1  | Environmental Setting.....                              | 4.6-1  |
| 4.6.2  | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies.....   | 4.6-4  |
| 4.6.3  | Significance Criteria.....                              | 4.6-5  |
| 4.6.4  | Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....                    | 4.6-5  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.6-5  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....          | 4.6-5  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.6-7  |

|        |  |         |
|--------|--|---------|
| 4.7    | Biological Resources .....                             | 4.7-1   |
| 4.7.1  | Environmental Setting .....                            | 4.7-1   |
| 4.7.2  | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies ..... | 4.7-27  |
| 4.7.3  | Significance Criteria .....                            | 4.7-31  |
| 4.7.4  | Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....                  | 4.7-32  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.7-32  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.7-36  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....        | 4.7-52  |
| 4.8    | Cultural Resources.....                                | 4.8-1   |
| 4.8.1  | Environmental Setting .....                            | 4.8-1   |
| 4.8.2  | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies ..... | 4.8-7   |
| 4.8.3  | Significance Criteria.....                             | 4.8-9   |
| 4.8.4  | Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....                  | 4.8-12  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.8-12  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.8-13  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....        | 4.8-13  |
| 4.9    | Land Use and Recreation.....                           | 4.9-1   |
| 4.9.1  | Environmental Setting .....                            | 4.9-1   |
| 4.9.2  | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies ..... | 4.9-2   |
| 4.9.3  | Significance Criteria.....                             | 4.9-9   |
| 4.9.4  | Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....                  | 4.9-9   |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.9-9   |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.9-10  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....        | 4.9-11  |
| 4.10   | Public Services, Utilities and Energy .....            | 4.10-1  |
| 4.10.1 | Environmental Setting .....                            | 4.10-1  |
| 4.10.2 | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies ..... | 4.10-3  |
| 4.10.3 | Significance Criteria .....                            | 4.10-6  |
| 4.10.4 | Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....                   | 4.10-7  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.10-7  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.10-8  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....        | 4.10-11 |
| 4.11   | Traffic and Circulation .....                          | 4.11-1  |
| 4.11.1 | Environmental Setting .....                            | 4.11-1  |
| 4.11.2 | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies ..... | 4.11-2  |
| 4.11.3 | Significance Criteria.....                             | 4.11-7  |
| 4.11.4 | Impacts and Mitigation Measures .....                  | 4.11-8  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.11-8  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.11-8  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....        | 4.11-9  |
| 4.12   | Visual Resources .....                                 | 4.12-1  |
| 4.12.1 | Environmental Setting .....                            | 4.12-1  |
| 4.12.2 | Planning Document Goals, Objectives and Policies.....  | 4.12-3  |
| 4.12.3 | Significance Criteria .....                            | 4.12-6  |
| 4.12.4 | Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....                   | 4.12-7  |
|        | Permanent Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.12-7  |
|        | Temporary Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....         | 4.12-8  |
|        | Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures.....        | 4.12-8  |

|     |   |      |
|-----|---|------|
| 5.0 | ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS .....                           | 5-1  |
| 5.1 | Introduction .....                                    | 5-1  |
| 5.2 | Alternative A: No-Project Alternative.....            | 5-1  |
| 5.3 | Alternative B: New Roadway Alignment.....             | 5-5  |
| 5.4 | Alternative C: Increased Design Speed.....            | 5-8  |
| 5.5 | Environmentally Superior Alternative.....             | 5-11 |
| 6.0 | GROWTH INDUCING IMPACTS .....                         | 6-1  |
| 6.1 | Introduction .....                                    | 6-1  |
| 6.2 | Development and Growth Trends of Trinity County ..... | 6-1  |
| 6.3 | Trends in Hyampom and Hayfork .....                   | 6-2  |
| 6.4 | Growth Inducing Effects .....                         | 6-3  |
| 7.0 | OTHER STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS .....                  | 7-1  |
| 7.1 | Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts .....         | 7-1  |
| 7.2 | Significant Irreversible Environmental Effects .....  | 7-1  |
| 8.0 | DOCUMENT PREPARERS.....                               | 8-1  |
| 9.0 | BIBLIOGRAPHY .....                                    | 9-1  |

## List of Tables

---

|       |   |        |
|-------|---|--------|
| 4.5-1 | Federal and State Ambient Air Quality Standards.....                                | 4.5-1  |
| 4.6-1 | Typical A-Weighted Maximum Sound Levels of Common Noise Sources .....               | 4.6-1  |
| 4.6-2 | Construction Equipment Noise .....  | 4.6-6  |
| 4.7-1 | Vegetative Communities in the Project Area.....                                     | 4.7-4  |
| 4.7-2 | Estimated Numbers of Trees Per Acre of Community Type within the Project Area ..... | 4.7-6  |
| 4.7-3 | Special-Status Species Potentially Present Within the Project Area.....             | 4.7-8  |
| 4.7-4 | Impacts to Vegetative Communities within the Project Area .....                     | 4.7-32 |
| 4.9-1 | Historical Population and Growth Rates, Trinity County .....                        | 4.9-1  |
| 5-1   | Comparative Impacts of Alternatives.....  | 5-12   |
| 6.2-1 | Trinity County Population Projections By Age .....                                  | 6-1    |

## List of Figures—In Appendix A

---

1. PROJECT LOCATION
2. PROJECT SITE
3. AREA OF IMPACTS
4. HABITATS WITHIN THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY LIMITS
5. WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

## **Appendices**

---

|            |                                       |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Appendix A | Figures                               |
| Appendix B | Notice of Preparation and Comments    |
| Appendix C | Agency Correspondence                 |
| Appendix D | Trinity Bristlesnail Mitigation Plan  |
| Appendix E | Species Observed During Field Surveys |

## APPENDIX A

### FIGURES

- 1 PROJECT LOCATION
- 2 PROJECT SITE
- 3 AREA OF IMPACTS
- 4 HABITATS WITHIN THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY LIMITS
- 5 WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

APPENDIX B

NOTICE OF PREPARATION  
AND  
COMMENTS RECEIVED

APPENDIX C

AGENCY  
CORRESPONDENCE

APPENDIX D

CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION PLAN  
FOR THE  
TRINITY BRISTLESNAIL

APPENDIX E  
SPECIES OBSERVED  
DURING  
FIELD SURVEYS