

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This section summarizes the characteristics of the draft Tuolumne County General Plan Update, project alternatives, and the project's environmental impacts.

PROJECT SYNOPSIS

Project Proponent

County of Tuolumne
2 South Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370-4618

General Plan Synopsis

The proposed project is a comprehensive update to the Tuolumne County General Plan (hereinafter referred to as the "General Plan Update"). The General Plan Update, which updates the 1996 General Plan, establishes the community's vision for the development of Tuolumne County through the year 2040 and will serve as the fundamental land use policy document for the County. The General Plan Update consists of two components: the Countywide General Plan and Community Plans, which relate to the communities of Jamestown, Columbia, East Sonora, Tuolumne, and Mountain Springs. The General Plan Update includes goals, policies and implementation programs to guide the development of Tuolumne County through the year 2040.

Since 2007, the County of Tuolumne has been participating in Tuolumne Tomorrow, a Regional Blueprint planning process for directing future growth and enhancing the quality of life in the County over the next few decades. Through this coordinated effort, the City of Sonora, Tuolumne County, the Tuolumne County Transportation Council, and community members developed Guiding Principles for growth and development, and studied the potential effects of the likely land use development pattern and possible alternative growth scenarios on the transportation system, housing, local economy, quality of life, natural resources, and the environment. As a result of this effort, the Distinctive Communities Growth Scenario was selected and adopted by the Board of Supervisors in August 2012 as the preferred growth scenario for Tuolumne County. The General Plan Update has been formulated to reflect this preferred growth scenario.

The General Plan Update is intended to function as a policy document to guide land use decisions within Tuolumne County's planning area through the year 2040. As discussed above, Tuolumne County's General Plan Update has been formulated to reflect the preferred growth scenario (the Distinctive Communities Growth Scenario of the Tuolumne Tomorrow Blueprint). Based on the general philosophy and input from the community and County decision makers, the General Plan Update includes the following overall objectives:

- The County will be prepared and able to accommodate the projected growth, while at the same time, it will adhere to policies that define where and how development will occur; and,



- Each community will contain a well-defined, cohesive, and compact community built around an appropriately-scaled urban core and community gathering places. The size of each community will be based on a locally defined urban development boundary area as well as a defined community boundary; and,
- The County will balance the development with appropriate conservation of the County's natural and cultural resources.

Individual General Plan elements include specific goals, policies and implementation programs. The proposed project includes the update of the seven mandatory General Plan elements. Government Code Section 65302 requires a General Plan to have both a Conservation Element and an Open Space Element, but also authorizes these elements to be combined. Due to the similar themes of these elements, they have been combined in the proposed General Plan Update as the Natural Resources Element to minimize redundancy. The mandatory elements included in the General Plan Update are as follows:

- Land Use Element
- Circulation Element
- Housing Element
- Natural Resources Element
- Noise Element
- Safety Element

In addition to the mandatory elements discussed above, the comprehensive update of Tuolumne County's General Plan includes the following optional elements:

- Public Facilities and Services Element
- Recreation Element
- Cultural Resources Management Element
- Economic Development Element
- Agricultural Resources Element
- Air Quality Element
- Community Identity Element

Furthermore, two new optional elements are included as part of the General Plan Update, which are as follows:

- Water Resources Element
- Healthy Communities Element

Finally, there are plans for five of Tuolumne County's individual communities, which include:

- Jamestown Community Plan
- Columbia Community Plan
- East Sonora Community Plan
- Tuolumne Community Plan
- Mountain Springs Community Plan



SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE EIR

The following issues are evaluated in the Draft EIR:

- *Aesthetics*
- *Agricultural and Forestry Resources*
- *Air Quality*
- *Biological Resources*
- *Cultural Resources*
- *Geology/Soils*
- *Hazards & Hazardous Materials*
- *Hydrology/Water Quality*
- *Land Use/Planning*
- *Noise*
- *Population/Housing*
- *Public Services*
- *Recreation*
- *Transportation and Circulation*
- *Utilities/Service Systems*

ALTERNATIVES

As required by CEQA, this section evaluates a range of alternatives to the proposed project. Alternatives analyzed in Section 6.0 include the following growth scenarios identified through the Tuolumne Tomorrow Regional Blueprint process:

- *Alternative 1: No Project (Recent Trends, Existing)*
- *Alternative 2: Public Services*
- *Alternative 3: Recent Trends, Proposed*

Each of the alternatives discussed in Section 6.0 are summarized below.

- *The **No Project** alternative is a “business-as-usual” scenario based on current land use designations within the existing County General Plan (1996). It assumes no change in market demand for housing types and would continue the existing pattern of suburban development in which Low Density Residential is the primary housing choice. This scenario would require dependency on automobiles for many parts of Tuolumne County because walkable communities, defined as a 5-minute walk (1/4 mile) between home and the core of a community, shopping, jobs, recreation, community facilities and transit, would exist only within community cores. For greenhouse gas emissions, the No Project alternative assumes that the County would continue to apply countywide reduction targets for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and project-level thresholds for discretionary entitlements from the Tuolumne County Regional Blueprint Greenhouse Gas Study (adopted in January 2012).*
- *The **Public Services** alternative would allocate new development at higher densities in locations closer to multiple public services, such as major transportation corridors, transit lines, public water and sewer, and parks. This scenario would focus growth based on the general availability of public infrastructure and services, without necessarily distinguishing communities as rural or urban. Development would continue to grow within defined communities; however, in contrast to the Distinctive Communities Growth Scenario that guides the proposed General Plan Update, development also would radiate outward along a select number of arterials, major collectors, and transit corridors where public water and sewer exist. This radial development would create linear communities containing a mix of multi-family housing, townhouses, neighborhood commercial, and traditional neighborhoods. This scenario would result in some dependency on automobiles for residents residing beyond*



transit corridors and community cores. The amount of Mixed-Use land uses would increase by placing these uses in close proximity to transit stations and community cores, thereby increasing walkability in these areas. The proposed policies and implementation programs in the General Plan Update would still apply to this alternative, with the exception of ones that are narrowly tailored to the proposed Distinctive Communities Growth Scenario.

- *The **Recent Trends, Proposed** alternative represents an intermediate land-use scenario with a density in-between the conditions in the year 2010 (prior to the adoption of the Tuolumne Tomorrow Regional Blueprint and the adoption of the Distinctive Communities Growth Scenario) and the Distinctive Communities scenario. This scenario would generally continue the existing pattern of development, in which Low Density Residential is the primary type of residential development. This scenario would require auto dependency for many parts of Tuolumne County, because walkable communities, defined as a 5-minute walk (1/4 mile) between home and the core of a community, shopping, jobs, recreation, community facilities and transit, would exist only within community cores. But this alternative would promote more density near existing communities, somewhat similar to the proposed General Plan Update, but not to the same level as the General Plan Update. Thus while this alternative would have some similar goals and policies for land use as the proposed General Plan Update, it would also maintain some of the existing development trends similar to conditions prior to the year 2010 (when the Tuolumne Tomorrow Regional Blueprint was adopted). The proposed policies and implementation programs in the General Plan Update would still apply to this alternative, with the exception of ones that are narrowly tailored to the proposed Distinctive Communities Growth Scenario.*

AREAS OF KNOWN CONTROVERSY

Based on the comments received by County staff, some concerns have been expressed regarding the General Plan Update. Areas of concern include the following: Agricultural Resources, specifically related to agri-tourism and land use/zoning changes; Biological resources related to conversion of oak woodlands; and, Water use/water supply related to future growth and potential drought impacts. Impacts related to these issue areas are addressed in this EIR. Section 4.2, *Agricultural Resources*, addresses issues related to conversion of agricultural lands, land use and zoning changes for existing agricultural properties, and related to impacts associated with agri-tourism. Section 4.4, *Biological Resources*, addresses issues related to oak woodland conversion. And Sections 4.9, *Hydrology and Water Quality*, and 4.16, *Utilities and Service Systems*, discuss the existing water supplies in Tuolumne County and the potential impacts to water supply as a result of the potential growth in the County through the year 2040.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Table ES-1 includes a brief description of the environmental issues relative to the proposed project, the identified environmental impacts, proposed mitigation measures, and residual impacts. Impacts are categorized by classes. Class I impacts are defined as significant, unavoidable adverse impacts which require a statement of overriding considerations to be issued per Section 15093 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* if the project is approved. Class II impacts are significant adverse impacts that can be feasibly mitigated to less than significant levels and which require findings to be made under Section 15091 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Class III impacts are considered less than significant impacts, and Class IV impacts are beneficial or neutral.



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
AESTHETICS		
<p>Impact AES-1 The General Plan Update would facilitate development visible from locally designated scenic routes; however, it would minimize impacts to scenic vistas by channeling development to existing urban communities. Proposed policies also would protect scenic vistas along locally designated scenic routes. No officially designated State Scenic Highways occur in Tuolumne County. Therefore, impacts to scenic routes and vistas would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>No significant impacts are identified, so no mitigation measures are required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact AES-2 The General Plan Update would promote dense growth near existing community nodes and encourage infill development, which would minimize changes to the County's predominantly rural character. Proposed policies also would protect the visual character of communities with historic buildings. Therefore, impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>No significant impacts are identified, so no mitigation measures are required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact AES-3 The General Plan Update would facilitate development that would introduce new sources of light and glare, which would increase overall ambient night-time light and daytime glare from building materials. Although proposed dark sky standards for the communities of Tuolumne and Jamestown would minimize light spillover and glare in those planning areas, the General Plan Update does not include standards for light and glare in other unincorporated areas. Impacts to existing development would be Class II, <i>significant but mitigable</i>.</p>	<p>The following measure shall be incorporated as a county-wide General Plan policy in the updated Community Identity Element to reduce light and glare impacts to less than significant levels:</p> <p>AES-3 Policy 13.C.12: Minimize Light and Glare. Preserve the existing nighttime environment by limiting the illumination of areas surrounding new development. New lighting that is part of residential, commercial, industrial, or recreational development shall be oriented away from off-site sensitive uses, and should be hooded, shielded, and located to direct light pools downward and prevent glare.</p>	<p>Implementation of the proposed policy would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.</p>
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES		
<p>Impact AG-1 The General Plan Update is intended to centralize urban development within communities and avoid disruption to agricultural lands. Although 4,509 acres of Agricultural land would be redesignated to other land uses, the majority of this area is already developed with residential uses. Proposed policies also would conserve agricultural resources.</p>	<p>No measures are available to mitigate the loss of agricultural lands, as the potential loss of Important Farmland cannot be quantified.</p>	<p>Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>



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<p>However, new development may result in conversion of Important Farmland. Impacts would be Class I, <i>significant and unavoidable</i>.</p>		
<p>Impact AG-2 Although the General Plan Update would redesignate 1,194 acres of timberland, this land would remain in timber production under the Public land use designation. Proposed policies also would protect timber resources from urban development. Impacts from the rezoning or loss of timber land would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>No significant impacts were identified.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact AG-3 Future development under the General Plan Update could conflict with Williamson Act contracts on some properties. Impacts would be Class I, <i>significant and unavoidable</i>.</p>	<p>Under the proposed land use plan that would allow urban development within communities and rural residential development in surrounding areas, no mitigation is available to prevent the potential loss of Williamson Act contracts.</p>	<p>Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>
<p>Impact AG-4 The General Plan Update would alter the present land use pattern in portions of the County and may result in incompatibilities where urban and agricultural uses would directly abut each other. The proposed allowance of commercial events on agricultural land also may result in incompatibilities with nearby agricultural operations. However, land use conflicts would be reduced through the separation of potentially conflicting land uses, proposed policies, the review process for Conditional Use Permits, and application of the County's Right to Farm Ordinance. Therefore, impacts that would occur from urban development and commercial events would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>No significant impacts were identified.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
AIR QUALITY		
<p>Impact AQ-1 Construction activities associated with future development envisioned by the General Plan Update would have the potential to result in temporary adverse impacts on air quality in Tuolumne County. Impacts would be Class II, <i>significant but mitigable</i>.</p>	<p>Temporary construction impacts associated with development envisioned by the General Plan would be reduced through implementation of AQ-1.</p> <p>AQ-1: Air Quality Element Policies and Actions for Construction Emissions. The following implementation program should be added to the General Plan's Air Quality Element:</p> <p>Implementation Program 12.A.m: The following shall be adhered to during project construction to reduce air quality impacts:</p>	<p>Impact would be less than significant with implementation of mitigation measure AQ-1.</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposed soils shall be watered as needed to control wind borne dust. • Exposed piles of dirt, sand, gravel, or other construction debris shall be enclosed, covered and/or watered as needed to control wind borne dust. • Vehicle trackout shall be minimized through the use of rubble strips and wheel washers for all trucks and equipment leaving the site. • Sweep streets once a day if visible soil materials are carried to adjacent streets (recommend water sweepers with reclaimed water) • On-site vehicle speed shall be limited to 15 miles per hour on unpaved surfaces. • Loads on all haul/dump trucks shall be covered securely or at least two feet of freeboard shall be maintained on trucks hauling loads. • Construction equipment shall be maintained and tuned at the interval recommended by the manufacturers to minimize exhaust emissions. • Equipment idling shall be kept to a minimum when equipment is not in use. • Construction equipment shall be in compliance with the California Air Resources Board off-road and portable equipment diesel particulate matter regulations. <p>Alternative construction-related air quality measures may be adopted by the decision-making body after considering a project-specific air quality analysis prepared by a qualified consultant.</p>	
<p>Impact AQ-2 Implementation of the General Plan Update would result in an overall reduction of on-road vehicle emissions when compared to baseline conditions and would not result in an increase in emissions as compared to the 'No Project' scenario. Therefore, long-term operational impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact AQ-3 The General Plan Update would facilitate residential development in proximity to local roadways and other potential sources of toxic air pollutants, which may increase exposure of sensitive receptors to hazardous air pollutants that may cause health risks and odors that may be a nuisance. Local roadways within Tuolumne County</p>	<p>Potential impacts to sensitive receptors associated with development envisioned by the General Plan Update would be reduced through implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-2.</p> <p>AQ-2: Air Quality Element Policies and Implementation Programs for Sensitive Receptors. The following implementation programs should be added to Policy 12.A.1 of</p>	<p>Mitigation measure AQ-2 would assure that sensitive receptors would not be exposed to substantial pollutant concentrations through a variety of measures that would feasibly avoid or minimize exposure to public health impacts as identified in the CARB Air Quality and</p>



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<p>have low traffic volumes and would not represent a significant source of hazardous pollutants. In addition, implementation of the General Plan Update would not result in a regional increase in toxic air emissions when compared to the 'No Project' scenario. However, siting of new sensitive receptors within close proximity to toxic emissions generating facilities may occur as a result of development facilitated by the General Plan Update. Impacts would be Class II, <i>significant but mitigable</i>.</p>	<p>the General Plan Update Air Quality Element:</p> <p>Implementation Program 12.A.n: Do not locate new urban residential development projects and projects categorized as sensitive receptors (e.g., hospitals, convalescent homes and schools) within 500 feet from industrial sites and/or sites that may emit toxic or hazardous pollutants. If a 500 foot buffer is not feasible, compliance with Implementation Program 12.A.o shall be required. Implementation Program 12.A.n is no longer applicable once buffer zones are established per Implementation Program 12.A.j and 12.A.k.</p> <p>Implementation Program 12.A.o: The following measures (as appropriate and feasible) shall be incorporated into any project building design for residential, school and other sensitive uses located within 500 feet of toxic emissions generating facilities (e.g., distribution centers, dry cleaning facilities, gas stations, etc.) and other sources of diesel particulate matter and other known carcinogens. The project applicant shall retain a qualified consultant to prepare a health risk assessment in accordance with CARB and the Office of Environmental Health and Hazard Assessment requirements to determine the exposure of project residents/occupants/users to stationary air quality pollutants prior to issuance of a demolition, grading, or building permit. The health risk assessment shall be submitted to the County for review and approval. The County shall implement any approved health risk assessment recommendations to a level which would not result in exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Implementation Program 12.A.o is no longer applicable once buffer zones are established per Implementation Program 12.A.j and 12.A.k.</p>	<p>Land Use Handbook (June 2005). With the implementation of the above mitigation, impacts related to potential health risks would be less than significant.</p>
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES		
<p>Impact BIO-1 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update may result in impacts to special status plant and animal species. However, the proposed General Plan Update's policies and implementation programs would reduce potential impacts of General Plan buildout. This impact would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>



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<p>Impact BIO-2 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update may result in impacts to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This impact would be Class II, <i>significant but mitigable</i>.</p>	<p>The following mitigation measures are recommended to reduce impacts to riparian habitats and other sensitive plant communities.</p> <p>BIO-2(a) Revision to Proposed Implementation Program 4.J.g. The following implementation program included in the Tuolumne County General Plan Update shall be revised as follows (additions to the implementation program are shown in <u>underline</u>):</p> <p>4.J.g Mitigate Impacts Consistent with State and Federal Law</p> <p>Require development that is subject to a discretionary entitlement from the County and to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to evaluate potential impacts to biological resources and mitigate significant impacts for the following or as otherwise required by State or Federal law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threatened and Endangered plant and animal species listed by the Federal Endangered Species Act. • Rare, Threatened and Endangered plant and animal species listed by the California Endangered Species Act. • Other special status species including, but not limited to, Federal candidate species for listing, State candidate species for listing, California Fully Protected Species, California Species of Special Concern, State designated Birds of Prey (subject to Section 3503.5 of the Fish and Game Code), birds subject to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, plant species listed by the California Native Plant Society as Rank 1 or 2, bald eagles and golden eagles. • <u>Riparian habitats and other vegetation alliances with State ranks of S1-S3 that would be considered sensitive.</u> • Wetlands under either Federal or State jurisdiction. • Oak woodlands, except as provided in Implementation Program 4.J.h. <p>BIO-2(b) Revision of Implementation Program 4.J.h. The following implementation program included in the Tuolumne County</p>	<p>Implementation of mitigation measure BIO-2(a) and BIO-2(b) in combination with the existing Oak Woodlands Conservation Fund established by the County and Chapter 9.24 - Premature Removal Of Native Oak Trees, of the County of Tuolumne Ordinance Code and in addition to the proposed General Plan policies and implementation programs would reduce impacts associated with build-out of the General Plan Update to riparian habitats and other sensitive communities, such as oak woodlands as discussed above. With the suggested revisions to Implementation Measure 4.J.h as required by Mitigation Measure BIO-2(b), the total potential conversion of oak woodland habitat on private lands in the County would be reduced from approximately 2,606 acres to approximately 553 acres. Thus, the total potential conversion of oak woodlands would be reduced to approximately 0.53% of the total oak woodlands countywide on private land. Therefore, because the potential conversion of oak woodlands would be less than 1%, impacts to riparian habitats and other sensitive communities would be reduced to a less than significant level with implementation of the above mitigation measure.</p>



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	<p>General Plan Update shall be revised as follows.</p> <p>4.J.h Significance for Oak Woodland Conversion. Where oak woodlands occur, evaluate on a project-by-project basis under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the conversion of oak woodlands as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak woodland conversion on parcels two acres or smaller in area or and that are designated for urban land uses is not considered a significant impact. • Oak woodland conversion on parcels larger than two acres in area where the oak woodland would be reduced by less than the following percentages is not considered a significant impact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parcel size greater than 2 acres up to 10 acres = 50% • Parcel size greater than 10 acres up to 20 acres = 25% • Parcel size greater than 20 acres = 5 acres or 10%, whichever is greater • Oak woodland conversion on parcels larger than two acres in area or not designated for urban land uses may be considered to not be a significant impact if so determined by the decision making body after considering an analysis prepared by a biologist, botanist, arborist or registered professional forester on the County's list of approved environmental consultants. <u>The evaluation should take into account, but is not limited to, the following:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <u>The number of acres to be converted</u> o <u>Regional context</u> o <u>Quality/Condition</u> o <u>Structure</u> o <u>Rarity</u> 	
<p>Impact BIO-3 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update may result in impacts to federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. This impact would be Class III,</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>



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<p><i>less than significant.</i></p> <p>Impact BIO-4 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update may interfere substantially with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established resident or migratory wildlife corridors. Class II, <i>significant but mitigable.</i></p>	<p>BIO-4(a) Revision to Proposed Implementation Program 4.J.g. The following implementation program included in the <i>Tuolumne County General Plan Update</i> shall be revised [<u>underlined</u>] as follows in addition to BIO-2 [<u>indicated in <u>double underline</u></u>] above:</p> <p>4.J.g Mitigate Impacts Consistent with State and Federal Law</p> <p>Require development that is subject to a discretionary entitlement from the County and to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to evaluate potential impacts to biological resources and mitigate significant impacts for the following or as otherwise required by State or Federal law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threatened and Endangered plant and animal species listed by the Federal Endangered Species Act. • Rare, Threatened and Endangered plant and animal species listed by the California Endangered Species Act. • Other special status species including, but not limited to, Federal candidate species for listing, State candidate species for listing, California Fully Protected Species, California Species of Special Concern, State designated Birds of Prey (subject to Section 3503.5 of the Fish and Game Code), birds subject to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, plant species listed by the California Native Plant Society as Rank 1 or 2, bald eagles and golden eagles. • <u>Riparian habitats and other vegetation alliances with State ranks of S1-S3 that would be considered sensitive.</u> • Wetlands under either Federal or State jurisdiction. • Oak woodlands, except as provided in Implementation Program 4.J.h. 	<p>Implementation of the proposed General Plan policies and implementation programs as well as proposed mitigation measures BIO-4(a) and BIO-4(b) would reduce impacts of General Plan build-out to wildlife movement and corridors. Therefore, impacts to wildlife movement would be less than significant with implementation of the above mitigation measure.</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or established resident or migratory wildlife corridors.</u> <p>BIO-4(b) New Implementation Program to Address Wildlife Movement. The following implementation program shall be added to the General Plan Update's Natural Resources Element:</p> <p>4.J.r Encourage Development to be compatible with wildlife movement. The County should work with applicants to encourage preservation or enhancement of upland habitat for wildlife species to the maximum extent feasible on parcels slated for development containing suitable habitat (e.g. areas used for foraging, breeding, dispersal, etc.). Habitat preservation and enhancement should be encouraged throughout the county in a way that promotes regional connectivity. The County should work with applicants to encourage development to be compatible with wildlife movement such as designing non-security type fencing or lighting to minimize interference with wildlife movement.</p>	
<p>Impact BIO-5 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. This is a Class III, <i>less than significant</i>, impact.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact BIO-6 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. There are no local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans in Tuolumne County that would conflict with the General Plan Update. Therefore, there would be no impact.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>



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CULTURAL RESOURCES		
<p>Impact CR-1 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update could adversely affect identified and previously unidentified historic, archaeological, and paleontological resources, as well as human remains. The General Plan Update includes policies to protect historic and archaeological resources on a case-by-case basis, and adherence to State regulations would preserve human remains unearthed during construction. However, paleontological resources would require additional protections. Impacts on cultural resources would be Class II, <i>significant but mitigable</i>.</p>	<p>Mitigation Measure CR-1 is required to minimize impacts to paleontological resources and human remains.</p> <p>CR-1 Paleontological Resources. Implementation Program 9.C.I, as follows, shall be added to the Cultural Resources Management Element of the Tuolumne County General Plan:</p> <p>9.C.I Protect Paleontological Resources</p> <p>If determined necessary by the Planning Director, the developer of a project site shall be responsible for investigating the site to determine the existence and extent of paleontological resources. A qualified paleontologist approved by the County shall perform this investigation, consisting of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A walk-over site survey; 2. A review of publications and reports on the geology or paleontology of the area; 3. Analysis of all available soils information; and 4. Evaluation of the relationship of the project site to known or potential fossil-producing areas identified in available records. <p>The paleontologist shall submit to the County a written report describing findings and making recommendations to minimize impacts on any identified resources. This report shall be considered as part of the CEQA review process and, if appropriate, its recommendations shall be included as mitigation measures and conditions of approval for the project. Provision shall be made for the deposit of scientifically valuable paleontological materials which are removed from the site with responsible public or private institutions. Title 14 of the Tuolumne County Ordinance Code shall be amended to incorporate this program to protect paleontological resources.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant with implementation of proposed policies to protect historic and archaeological resources and Mitigation Measure CR-1 to minimize potential adverse effects from development on paleontological resources.</p>
GEOLOGY		
<p>Impact GEO-1 The General Plan Update would result in development subject to future seismic events that could produce ground shaking, fault rupture, and ground failure within Tuolumne County that could damage</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>



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structures and/or create adverse health and safety effects. However, with implementation of draft General Plan policies and required building codes, impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .		
Impact GEO-2 Future seismic events could result in liquefaction of soils in portions of the County. Development in these areas facilitated by the General Plan Update could be subject to liquefaction and subsidence. However, the risk and danger of liquefaction and subsidence occurring within the County is considered to be minimal. With implementation of proposed General Plan policies, impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact GEO-3 The General Plan Update would result in development subject to landslide hazard and risk. Landslides have the potential to damage and destroy structures, roadways and other improvements as well as to deflect and block drainage channels, causing further damage and erosion. However, with implementation of proposed General Plan policies, impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact GEO-4 The General Plan Update would potentially result in development on expansive soils. Expansive soil conditions could result in foundation and building distress problems and cracking of concrete slabs. However, implementation of draft General Plan Safety Element policies and applicable provisions of the Tuolumne County Ordinance Code would reduce impacts relating to soil expansion to a Class III, <i>less than significant</i> , level.	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact GEO-5 The General Plan Update would result in development that would require grading, which would potentially contribute to unstable slopes and therefore cause soil erosion. However, compliance with applicable policies of the proposed Safety Element and applicable codes of the Tuolumne County Ordinance Code would ensure that impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE		
Impact GHG-1 Construction activities associated with future development envisioned by the General Plan Update would generate temporary short-term GHG emissions. Impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact GHG-2 Implementing the General Plan Update would decrease GHG emissions compared to both the 2015 baseline and 'No Project' scenario. Impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact GHG-3 Implementing the General Plan Update would be consistent with the goals of applicable GHG reduction plans and policies, including the adopted Tuolumne County Regional Blueprint Greenhouse Gas Study, as well as AB 32. Impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS		
Impact HAZ-1 Potential development that could be facilitated by the General Plan Update near known hazardous material users, construction in areas with existing hazardous materials, or accidental releases of hazardous materials during transportation could expose individuals to health risks due to soil/groundwater contamination or emission of hazardous materials into the air. However, compliance with federal, state, and local regulations would reduce impacts. This is a Class III, <i>less than significant impact</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact HAZ-2 Development consistent with the proposed General Plan Update would introduce residential land uses into areas designated as Moderate or High Wildland Fire Hazard areas. However, compliance with General Plan policies and state and local regulations would ensure Class III, <i>less than significant, impacts</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact HAZ-3 Public and private airports in Tuolumne County could create safety hazards for nearby development. Careful land use planning in accordance with proposed General Plan policies and continued coordination with the Tuolumne	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan would ensure impacts are Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .		
Impact HAZ-4 Potential development under the General Plan Update will not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. <i>No Impact</i> (Class IV) would result.	No mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY		
Impact HWQ-1 Some areas within the County adjacent to waterbodies are located within the 100-year flood zone. These areas are generally not designated for urban development in the proposed General Plan Update and no additional people or structures would be exposed to flood risk as a result of the plan. In addition, with implementation of General Plan policies, impacts related to flooding would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact HWQ-2 Portions of the County are located within an identified dam inundation hazard. There is potential to expose people and structures to associated dam inundation hazards. However, the proposed General Plan Update would not facilitate development in dam inundation areas. Therefore, impacts related to dam inundation would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact HWQ-3 Development facilitated by the proposed General Plan Update would incrementally increase the amount of impervious surfaces within the County, resulting in an increase in watershed runoff which could degrade water quality. In addition, point and non-point sources of contamination could affect surface and groundwater quality. However, compliance with existing regulations and implementation of proposed General Plan policies would result in Class III, <i>less than significant</i> , impacts.	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
LAND USE AND PLANNING		
Impact LU-1 The General Plan Update would be consistent with the Tuolumne Tomorrow Regional Blueprint. Impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
Impact LU-2 The General Plan Update would be consistent with the Tuolumne County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). Impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact LU-3 Development under the General Plan Update would not physically divide any established communities. Instead, policies and land use changes under the General Plan Update would facilitate and direct growth and expansion of existing communities in an efficient and orderly manner. Impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
NOISE		
Impact N-1 The General Plan Update would facilitate construction of future residences and other noise-sensitive land uses in close proximity to existing transportation noise sources that would be exposed to noise levels exceeding the maximum allowable range. However, implementation of noise attenuation features for new development, as required by General Plan policies, would reduce impacts to a Class III, <i>less than significant</i> , level.	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact N-2 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would increase traffic and associated noise levels along area highways and roadways in Tuolumne County, thereby exposing existing land uses to increased traffic noise. At General Plan buildout, receptors along county roadways could experience noise level increases that exceed thresholds. However, implementation of draft General Plan policies would reduce impacts to a Class III, <i>less than significant</i> , level.	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact N-3 Construction of individual projects facilitated by the General Plan Update could produce noise levels ranging from 58 to 75 dBA at 50 feet from the source in addition to vibration potentially affecting adjacent land uses. Such noise and vibration could cause temporary disturbance to nearby receptors. These impacts would be a Class II, <i>significant but mitigable</i> , impact.	The following suggested policies are recommended as a mitigation measure for noise impacts from development related to the General Plan Update. N-1 Construction Noise and Vibration. The County shall include the following policies and programs in its Noise Element to address applicable projects that result in construction noise and vibration impacts. Project-specific environmental impacts may require these mitigation measures be revised or expanded in response to site-specific conditions:	With adherence to the General Plan Update's Noise Element including Implementation Programs 5.A.a and 5.A.b, along with addition of Policy 5.A.7 and Implementation Programs 5.A.f-5.A.j as described in Mitigation N-1, impacts relating to temporary construction activity would be less than significant after mitigation.



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
	<p>Policy 5.A.7 The County shall ensure that construction activity and temporary construction impacts do not expose existing noise-sensitive land uses to noise levels that exceed standards shown in General Plan Noise Element Figures 5.2, 5.3, or 5.5 to the extent feasible.</p> <p>Implementation Program 5.A.f The County shall ensure that, where residences or other noise sensitive uses are located within 800 feet of construction sites, appropriate measures shall be implemented to ensure consistency with noise ordinance requirements relating to construction. Specific techniques may include, but are not limited to, restrictions on construction timing, use of sound blankets on construction equipment, and the use of temporary walls and noise barriers to block and deflect noise.</p> <p>Implementation Program 5.A.g If a particular project within 800 feet of sensitive receptors requires pile driving, the County shall require the use of pile drilling techniques instead, where feasible. This shall be accomplished through the placement of conditions on the project during its individual environmental review.</p> <p>Implementation Program 5.A.h The County shall ensure that equipment and trucks used for project construction utilize the best available noise control techniques (including mufflers, use of intake silencers, ducts, engine enclosures and acoustically attenuating shields or shrouds).</p> <p>Implementation Program 5.A.i The County shall ensure that impact equipment (e.g., jack hammers, pavement breakers, and rock drills) used for project construction be hydraulically or electrical powered wherever feasible to avoid noise associated with compressed air exhaust from pneumatically powered tools. Where use of pneumatically powered tools is unavoidable, the use of an exhaust muffler on the compressed air exhaust is recommended to lower noise levels from the exhaust by up to about 10 dBA. When feasible, external jackets on the impact equipment should also be incorporated to achieve a further reduction of 5 dBA. Whenever feasible, use quieter procedures, such as drilling rather</p>	



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
	than impact equipment operation. Implementation Program 5.A.j Locate stationary noise sources as far from sensitive receptors as possible. Stationary noise sources that must be located near existing receptors will be adequately muffled.	
Impact N-4 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update could result in exposure of existing and future residences and other noise-sensitive land uses to air-traffic-related noise levels exceeding the “acceptable” range and noise standards as listed in the Tuolumne County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). However, implementation of policies in the General Plan to enforce noise standards for new development would reduce impacts to a Class III, <i>less than significant</i> , level.	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact N-5 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update could potentially result in exposure of future residences and other noise-sensitive land uses to noise impacts generated from operational stationary noise sources, especially from mining, timberland production, sawmills, and agricultural operations. However, implementation of policies in the General Plan to enforce noise standards for new development would reduce impacts to a Class III, <i>less than significant</i> , level.	Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact N-6 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update could result in exposure of future residences and other noise-sensitive land uses to railroad-related noise and vibration levels exceeding the “acceptable” range and noise standards. Implementation of policies in the General Plan to enforce noise standards for new development would generally reduce impacts. However, impacts related to railroad-related noise and vibration levels would be a Class II, <i>significant but mitigable</i> , level.	Mitigation Measure N-2 is required to reduce impacts related to railroad noise and vibration on sensitive land uses. N-2 Railroad Noise and Vibration. Policy 5.A.8, as follows, shall be added to the Noise Element of the Tuolumne County General Plan: Policy 5.A.8 The County shall ensure that, where new residences or other noise sensitive uses would be located adjacent to existing or new railroad tracks that would be in use, such as the Sierra Railroad, appropriate measures shall be implemented to ensure such residences would be located at least 100 feet away from the railroad track centerline.	With adherence to General Plan Update Noise Element Policy 5.A.1, in addition to Mitigation Measure N-2 which would add Policy 5.A.8 to the Noise Element, impacts relating to railroad noise and vibration would be less than significant after mitigation.
POPULATION AND HOUSING		
Impact PH-1 The General Plan Update would facilitate the	The following suggested policies are recommended as a mitigation measure for	Implementation of recommended measures



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
<p>development of new housing in accordance with state and local housing requirements. However, future development projects could displace residents temporarily during construction activities if redevelopment of existing residential structures occurs. Impacts would be Class II, <i>significant but mitigable</i>.</p>	<p>development related to the General Plan Update.</p> <p>PH-1 Temporary Residence or Business Displacement. The County shall include the following policies and programs in its Land Use Element to address applicable projects that result in temporary resident displacement. Project-specific environmental impacts may require these mitigation measures be revised or expanded in response to site-specific conditions:</p> <p>Policy 1.A.14 The County shall establish criteria for projects that may have the potential to displace residences or businesses to minimize impacts.</p> <p>Program 1.A.q The County shall assure that for projects with the potential to displace residences or businesses, project-specific environmental reviews consider alternative alignments and developments that avoid or minimize impacts to nearby residences and businesses.</p> <p>Program 1.A.r Where project-specific reviews identify displacement or relocation impacts that are unavoidable, the County should ensure that all applicable local, state, and federal relocation programs are used to assist eligible persons to relocate. In addition, the County shall review the proposed construction schedules to ensure that adequate time is provided to allow affected businesses to find and relocate to other sites.</p> <p>Program 1.A.s For projects that could result in temporary lane closures or access blockage during construction, a temporary access plan should be implemented to ensure continued access to affected cyclists, businesses, and homes. Appropriate signs and safe access shall be guaranteed during project construction to ensure that businesses remain open.</p>	<p>would mitigate impacts relating to temporary disturbance or displacement of residences or businesses.</p>
<p>Impact PH-2 Implementation of the General Plan Update would facilitate new residential development in Tuolumne County, which would accommodate an increase in the population to approximately 63,243 by the year 2040, which is the population</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
<p>growth projection adopted by the Tuolumne County Transportation Council based on consideration of the General Plan and RTP update. Because implementation of the General Plan Update would result in population growth consistent with regional population projections, impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>		
PUBLIC SERVICES		
<p>Impact PS-1 Development facilitated by the proposed General Plan Update would increase demand for fire protection service; however, new or expanded facilities would not be required. Review of subsequent development by the Fire Department pursuant to existing County development review practices, the required provision of emergency access and payment of impact mitigation fees would ensure that potential impacts are Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact PS-2 Development facilitated by the proposed General Plan Update would increase demand for law enforcement service, but would not result in the need to construct new law enforcement facilities. Impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact PS-3 Development that would be accommodated by the General Plan Update could increase student enrollment. However, the payment of State-mandated school impact fees is deemed full mitigation by the State of California. Therefore, impacts to schools would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact PS-4 Development that would be accommodated by the General Plan Update would increase demand for other public services, such as library and county services. The provision and payment of the County Services Impact Mitigation Fee would ensure that all service-providing functions of County government agencies are adequate and potential impacts are Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
RECREATION		
<p>Impact REC-1 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would increase the County's population and exacerbate an existing shortage in recreational facilities. Although policies and implementation programs in the General Plan Update would contribute to the development of additional parkland, the supply would not be sufficient to meet the County's goal of 30 acres of recreational facilities per 1,000 residents. Impacts from the overuse and deterioration of existing park and recreational facilities would be Class I, <i>significant and unavoidable</i>.</p>	<p>Mitigation to ensure that the County attains its goal of 30 acres of recreational facilities per 1,000 residents is not feasible. California Government Code §66477(a)(2) prevents the County from raising its requirements for dedication of parkland or in-lieu fees to a level greater than that necessary to provide five acres per 1,000 residents. Although the County could provide additional parkland through grants and direct acquisition, the General Plan Update does not propose specific park and recreation projects to meet remaining public demand. It may not be feasible for the County to provide the bulk of parkland to meet its goal of 30 acres per 1,000 residents.</p>	<p>The County is not currently attaining its goal of 30 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, and the General Plan Update would not necessarily resolve this shortfall. Furthermore, mitigation to ensure the attainment of the County's goal may not be feasible. Therefore, new development under the General Plan Update could result in overuse and deterioration of existing park and recreational facilities. Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>
<p>Impact REC-2 While the General Plan Update does not propose specific park and recreation improvements, it would support the creation of a regional park in East Sonora and recreational facilities to serve the Jamestown community. The implementation of these parks and recreation facilities and others associated with new residential developments could result in environmental impacts related to traffic, noise, and aesthetics on surrounding uses. From a programmatic perspective relative to the General Plan Update, this would be a Class III, <i>less than significant</i>, impact.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant; therefore, no mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION		
<p>Impact TC-1 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would generate vehicle trips that would result in deficiencies to the local circulation system based on a threshold of LOS "D." Roadway improvements planned in the proposed Regional Transportation Plan are intended to address projected deficiencies for roadway segments within the County. However, after identified improvements are implemented, two roadways will still have an LOS of less than "D." Impacts are Class I, <i>significant and unavoidable</i>.</p>	<p>Implementation of the following mitigation measures would reduce level of service impacts.</p> <p>TC-1(a) Roadway 5 – Widen the Segment to Four Lanes. Widen the segment segment of SR 108 between SR 49 (Stockton Road) and South Washington Street/Lime Kiln Road to four lanes in order to improve conditions to LOS C.</p> <p>TC-1(b) Roadway 31 - Construct the Western Bypass. Construct the Western Bypass which would extend from SR 108/49 (south of Jamestown) to Rawhide Road in order to reduce traffic on the segment of SR 49 between Stockton Road and Dodge Street. In addition, another feasible improvement</p>	<p>Impacts at the five roadways segments would be less than significant with the implementation of mitigation measures TC-1(a) through TC-1(c). However, these improvements may not be feasible due to physical constraints, financial reasons, or jurisdictional control (as these roadways segments and improvements may be outside of the County's direct control and subject to City of Sonora or Caltrans approval and implementation). In addition, these mitigation measures may have</p>



**Table ES-1
 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
	<p>measure is to improve alternative modes of transportation along Roadway 31, such as transit service or bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.</p> <p>TC-1(c) Roadway 52, Roadway 69 and Roadway 116 - Construct the North-South Connector Phase 2. Construct the North-South Connector Phase 2 which would extend Fir Drive from Mono Way to the Greenley Road Extension, in order to reduce traffic on the segment of Mono Way west of Sanguinetti Road, the segment of Greenley Road between Cabezut Road/Morning Star Road and Delnero Drive, and the segment of South Washington Street between Restano Way and Church Street.</p> <p>Another feasible improvement measure is to improve alternative modes of transportation along Roadway 52 and Roadway 116, such as transit service or bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. In addition, for Roadway 69, one additional feasible improvement measure is to construct the Cabezut Road Extension from the Fir Drive Road Extension to Phoenix Lake Road, which may reduce volumes on this segment of Greenley Road.</p>	<p>secondary environmental impacts (construction impacts related to air quality, noise, temporary closure of roads or pedestrian routes, biological and cultural resources) that would need to be analyzed further on a project level analysis. While impacts to all other roadway segments would be less than significant with the incorporation of planned roadway improvements, without the implementation of mitigation, impacts to roadways would be significant and unavoidable.</p>
<p>Impact TC-2 Buildout of the General Plan Update would incrementally increase traffic volumes at intersections in Tuolumne County. Intersection improvements planned in the proposed General Plan Update are intended to address the preponderance of projected deficiencies for intersections within the County. However, following implementation of planned improvements, four intersections would continue to operate at an LOS of less than “D” in 2040. Therefore, impacts at these intersections are Class I, <i>significant and unavoidable</i>.</p>	<p>Implementation of the following mitigation measures would reduce impacts at the four identified intersections.</p> <p>TC-2(a) Installation of a traffic signal or a roundabout at SR 49 (N Washington Street)/SR 49 & N Washington Street/Columbia Way. A traffic signal shall be installed at the intersection of SR 49 (N Washington Street)/SR 49 & N Washington Street/Columbia Way. If a traffic signal is not feasible or proposed, a roundabout shall be installed at the intersection in order to improve conditions.</p> <p>TC-2(b) Construction of a southbound right turn pocket at South Washington Street/SR 49 (South Washington Street) and SR 49 (Stockton Road) intersection. A right turn pocket shall be constructed for southbound traffic at the South Washington Street/SR 49 (South Washington Street) and SR 49 (Stockton Road) intersection. If this is not feasible due to physical constraints, construction of the Western Bypass, which would extend from SR 108/49 (south of Jamestown) to Rawhide Road, may reduce traffic on this segment of SR 49.</p>	<p>Impacts at the four intersections would be less than significant with the implementation of mitigation measures TC-2(a), TC-2(b), TC-2(c), and TC-2(d) and all other intersections would have less than significant impacts with the incorporation of planned intersection improvements. However, these mitigations may not be possible due to physical constraints, financial reasons, or jurisdictional control (as these intersections and improvements may be outside of the County’s direct control and subject to either City of Sonora or Caltrans approval and implementation). In addition, these mitigation measures may have secondary environmental impacts (construction impacts related to air quality, noise, temporary closure of roads or</p>



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 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
	<p>TC-2(c) Installation of a traffic signal or conversion of westbound approaches to right-turn-only at intersection of South Washington Street/Church Street. A traffic signal shall be installed at the intersection of South Washington Street and Church Street. If this is not feasible due to the proximity of another signalized intersection, then the westbound Church Street approach shall be converted to right-turn-only during peak hours. The eastbound approach is currently restricted to right-turn-only during peak hours.</p> <p>TC-2(d) Construction of a two-way left-turn median or installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Tuolumne Road at Soulsbyville Road. A two-way left-turn median shall be installed on Tuolumne Road at Soulsbyville Road, to allow southbound left movement to have two-stage gap-acceptance. An alternative would be to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Tuolumne Road and Soulsbyville Road.</p>	<p>pedestrian routes) that would need to be analyzed further on a project level analysis. Without the incorporation of the stated mitigation measures, impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>
<p>Impact TC-3 The General Plan Update would not accommodate design features that would create significant traffic hazards. While potential new development along highly traveled thoroughfares and in existing community plan areas may incrementally increase hazards for pedestrians and bicyclists, implementation of proposed policies relating to traffic calming and improving walkability and bikeability would reduce such impacts to a Class III, <i>less than significant</i>, level.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>
<p>Impact TC-4 Buildout of the General Plan would not incrementally increase the use of available public transit resources. The existing transit system is not projected to be significantly impacted. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities have planned improvements that would be completed in phases by the year 2030. Build-out of the General Plan Update would not have a significant impact on the existing pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure or the planned pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. Impacts relating to the need to provide alternative transportation are Class III, <i>less than significant</i>.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.</p>



**Table ES-1
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 Significance After Mitigation**

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
Impact TC-5 The General Plan Update would not accommodate design features that would hinder emergency access. Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would be required to provide adequate emergency access. Impacts to emergency access would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	None required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact TC-6 Total vehicle miles traveled (VMT) on highways and roadways in 2040 would increase when compared to existing (2015) baseline conditions. However, implementation of the General Plan Update would reduce overall VMT in 2040 when compared to 2040 baseline conditions without the General Plan Update. Impacts related to total highway and roadway vehicle miles traveled would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	None required.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS		
Impact U-1 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would result in an increase in water demand. However, it is projected that water supplies would remain adequate during multi-year droughts. Existing drought contingency plans and proposed policies would further ensure that new development is served by adequate water supplies. Therefore, impacts related to water supply would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	No significant impacts were identified.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact U-2 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would increase wastewater generation above existing conditions. However, existing wastewater treatment facilities have adequate capacity to accommodate new development, and proposed policies in the General Plan Update would reduce potential impacts. Therefore, impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .	No significant impacts were identified.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.
Impact U-3 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would incrementally increase the amount of impervious surfaces within the County, which could result in increased stormwater runoff and the need for additional stormwater infrastructure. However, the County's existing Water Quality Plan and policies and implementation programs in the	No significant impacts were identified.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.



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 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and
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Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance After Mitigation
General Plan Update would reduce potential impacts. Therefore, impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> .		
Impact U-4 Development facilitated by the General Plan Update would result in an overall increase in the amount of solid waste generated. However, existing landfills would adequately serve development throughout the planning horizon of the General Plan Update, and policies in the Natural Resources Element would further reduce solid waste. Therefore, impacts would be Class III, <i>less than significant</i> impact.	No significant impacts were identified.	Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

