

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 11-12, 2009

Reference No.: 2.2b.(1)
Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Jay Norvell
Division Chief
Environmental Analysis

Subject: **DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
ROUTE 101 IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) review and comment at its March 11-12, 2009 Commission meeting on the following Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR):

- 01-Hum-101, PM 1.1/2.2 – Widen and realign Route 101 and construct roadway improvements near Garberville in Humboldt County. (PPNO 0045A, EA 464800)

PROGRAMMING:

This project in Humboldt County will widen, realign and construct roadway improvements on Route 101 from just north of the Mendocino/Humboldt County line to just south of Garberville. The project is not programmed. The project is included in the 2008 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Long Lead Projects list consistent with Commission Resolution G-13. This resolution requires the Department to notify the Commission when project development work is begun on SHOPP projects that are not currently programmed. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$5,500,000. Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2013-14.

ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:

The DEIR identifies two alternatives:

- Alternative 1 - No Build.
- Alternative 2 - This alternative would widen, realign and construct roadway improvements on Route 101 from just north of the Mendocino/Humboldt County line to just south of Garberville to accommodate commercial truck travel.

POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

Potential significant environmental effects identified at this phase of the project include:

- Community Impacts – Introduction of commercial/industrial truck travel in the area.
- Impacts to the root systems of old-growth redwood trees abutting the roadway and within the construction zone.
- State Park resources.

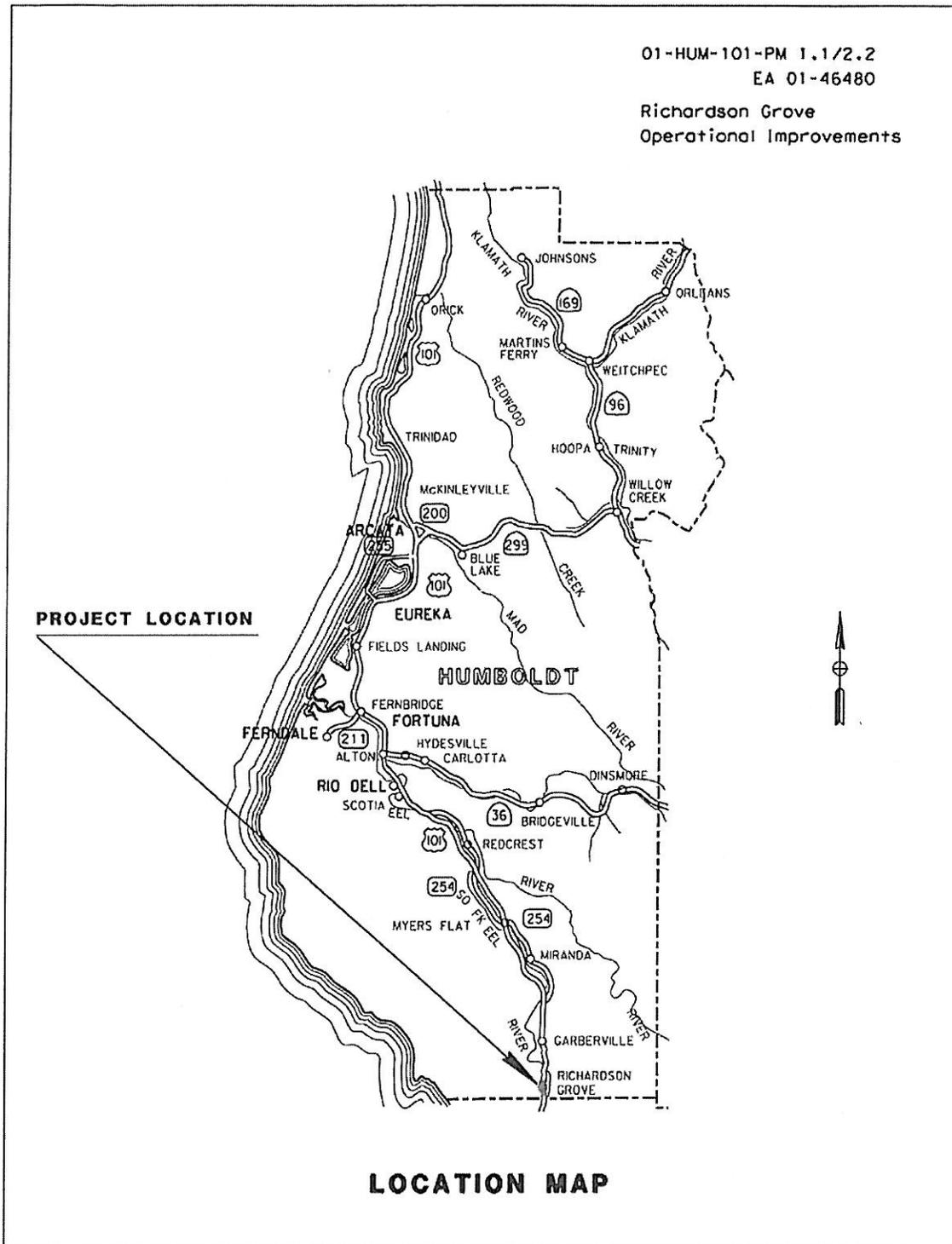
Because the project has potentially significant environmental impacts listed above, an Environmental Impact Report is being prepared.

PROPOSED MEASURES TO MINIMIZE HARM:

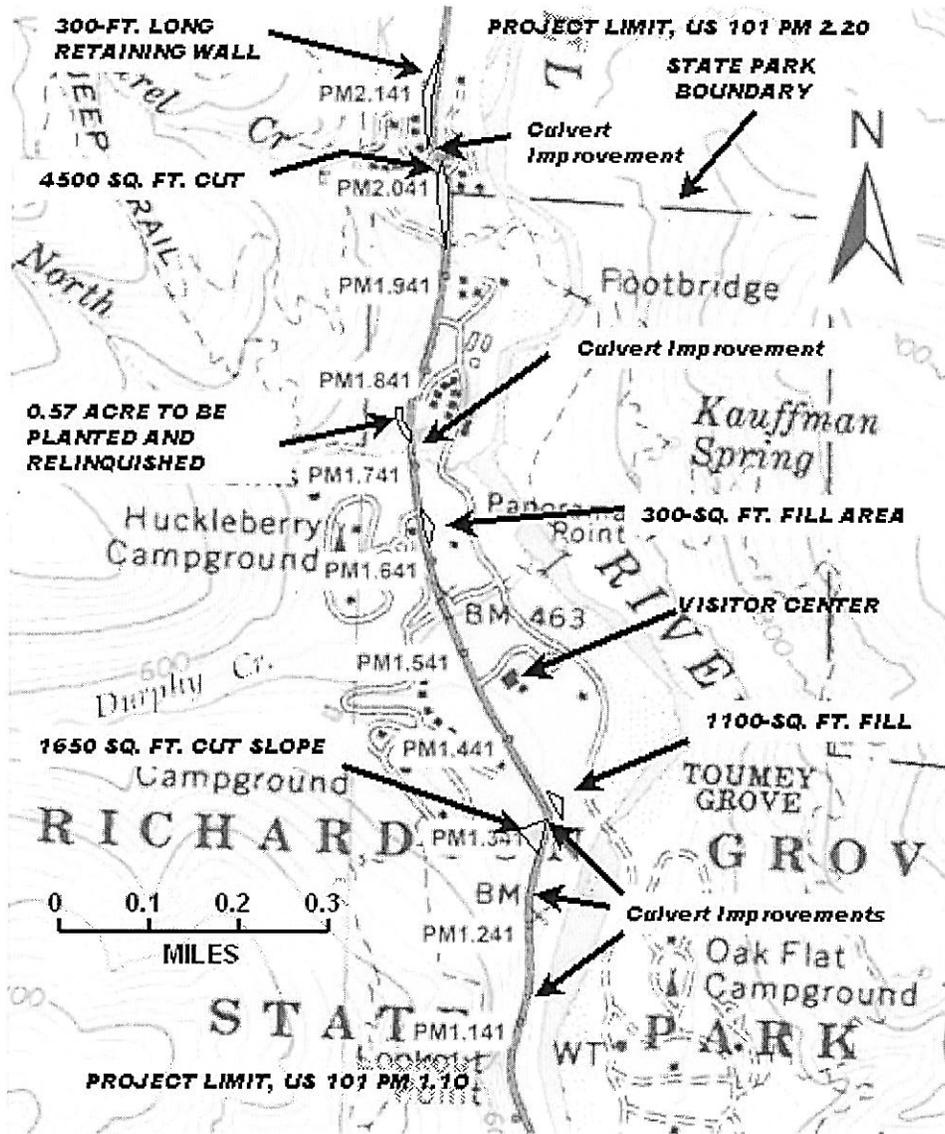
- Coordination with the general public and appropriate public agencies.
- Implement excavation practices to minimize root damage.
- Restorative plantings and invasive plant removal.
- Incorporate engineering design to blend slopes into existing natural areas.
- Minimize construction footprint and implement water quality best management practices.

Attachments - Maps

Figure 1 Project Location Map



Project Features Map



Garberville USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle

T5S, R3E, S 11 & 12