Exhibit A

FINAL INITIAL STUDY/ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

(State Clearinghouse #2026090488)

for the

NORTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT SECLINE BEACH ENHANCEMENT PROJECT



Prepared for
North Tahoe Public Utility District
P.O. Box 139
Tahoe Vista, CA 96148

Prepared by
Hauge Brueck & Associates
www.haugebrueck.com

October 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 SUMMARY AND FINDINGS 1

2.0 APPROVAL OF THE IS/MND 6

3.0 RESPONSE TO COMMENTS 7

4.0 TEXT MODIFICATIONS TO THE INITIAL STUDY 12

ATTACHMENT A MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

1.0 SUMMARY AND FINDINGS

Project: NTPUD Secline Beach Enhancement Project (SCH# 2026090488)

Lead Agency: North Tahoe Public Utility District

Project Description

A September 2026 Draft Initial Study (IS) was prepared to address the potential environmental effects of the North Tahoe Public Utility District (NTPUD or District) Secline Beach Enhancement Project (Project), located at the south end of Secline Street next to the District's sewer lift station in Kings Beach, California. An Initial Study is a preliminary environmental analysis that is used by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency as a basis for determining whether an EIR, a Mitigated Negative Declaration, or a Negative Declaration is required for a project under CEQA guidelines. The IS was prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, Cal. Pub. Res. Code §21000 et seq. The NTPUD is the CEQA lead agency for this Project. This IS evaluates the potential for the Project to adversely affect the physical environment, and is an informational document that provides NTPUD, other public agencies, interested parties and the public with an objective assessment of the potential environmental impacts that could result from project implementation.

The Project proposes a suite of amenities, access, and pedestrian/bike circulation improvements to Secline Beach, with a primary objective of retaining the existing character of the beach while providing enhanced facilities for beachgoers. These improvements are included in the TRPA Environmental Improvement Program as project number 03.01.02.0139 (Secline Beach Enhancement Project). Another objective is to establish permanent restroom facilities (including waste disposal and drinking water) for Secline beach users as documented in the Lahontan Regional Board's Stipulated Order R6-2025-0020. All improvements have been designed with Griff Creek 100-year flood projections in consideration. Since the NTPUD does not currently own each of the three parcels within the Secline Beach project area, two Concepts have been developed for analysis in this environmental document. Concept A places most of the proposed amenities (including the restroom facilities) on the CTC parcel (central parcel west of Secline Street) in order to preserve existing beach space on the NTPUD parcel and to avoid further encroachment into the Lake Tahoe backshore area. Concept B places the restroom facilities on the NTPUD parcel, in case the proposed land exchange with the CTC is not approved. While CTC Board approval would still be needed for proposed improvements on the CTC parcel under Concept B, construction of the restroom facility on the NTPUD parcel would not require CTC approval and could be implemented without CTC Board approval if necessary to meet timelines agreed upon by Lahontan and NTPUD.

Finding

The September 2026 IS/Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was prepared to assess the project's potential effects on the environment and the significance of those effects. Based on the completion of the IS/MND, it has been determined that the proposed project would not have significant effects on the natural environment after implementation of mitigation measures. This conclusion is supported by the following findings:

1. The proposed project would have no effects, no impact, or less-than-significant impacts related to agricultural and forest resources, mineral and natural resources, energy, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, geology and soils, hazards/ hazardous materials/risk of upset/human health, land use and planning, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic and circulation, and utilities/service systems.

2. Mitigation is required to avoid or reduce potentially significant impacts related to aesthetics, wildfire, hydrology and water quality, biological resources, cultural resources, tribal cultural resources and mandatory findings of significance.

The following mitigation measures have been incorporated in the Project by the NTPUD to avoid or minimize environmental impacts. Implementation of these mitigation measures would avoid or reduce the environmental impacts of the Project to a less-than-significant level. Each of these measures is included in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment A).

VIS-1: Concept B Restroom Design Elements

a) The restroom structure shall include design elements to reduce visual deviation with the existing landscape and better blend the structure with the existing background.

b) The accessible walkway railing shall have a low profile using horizontal cabling instead of larger steel tubing.

c) Existing pine trees (4) in the vicinity of the restroom structure shall be protected during construction and considered in final design plans to ensure they are not impacted by changes to contours, infiltration, etc.

d) Other trees outside of the restroom facility footprint on the NTPUD parcel (APN 090-073-001) shall be retained to maintain screening from Lake Tahoe viewpoints.

BIO-1: Pre-Construction Avian Survey

The NTPUD shall retain a qualified biologist, as determined by TRPA or CDFW, to conduct a pre-construction survey of the project area to include a 100-foot buffer, as access is available, to locate active bird nests, identify measures to protect the nests, and locate any other special status species. The pre-construction survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the implementation of construction activities (including staging and equipment storage). Any special status species identified during the surveys shall not be disturbed unless under the direction provided by a qualified biologist. If an active nest is found during construction, disturbance should not occur until young have fledged or under the direction provided by a qualified biologist.

BIO-2: Pre-Construction Tahoe Yellow Cress Survey

To avoid potential impacts to TYC, a focused botanical survey should be conducted before construction disturbance and during the appropriate flowering/identification period where suitable shoreline habitat occurs. The survey should be conducted between June 15 and Sept 30 before construction within the mapped backshore and suitable habitat. If TYC is present during the survey, an avoidance plan shall be prepared with TRPA coordination to avoid impacts to stems and populations.

BIO-3: Section 404/401 Permit Compliance

Prior to construction, NTPUD shall conduct appropriate studies to determine the presence or absence of federal or state protected aquatic resources. Should aquatic resources be identified within the boundaries of proposed shared-use trail bridge construction, NTPUD shall apply for and obtain a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 CWA permit for proposed impacts to a water of the U.S., including applicable permits from the state of California, including a Section 401 permit from the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and California Department of Fish and Game Code Section 1602 (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement), if applicable. These permit applications establish appropriate

mitigation measures that protect against long-term significant impacts to waters of the U.S., waters of the State, and their associated habitats.

CULT-1: Consult with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and Relocate Trail Alignment(s) to Avoid Recorded Cultural Resource.

NTPUD Consultation with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California on October 23, 2026 (site visit with Billyhawk Enos) determined that site P-31-001601 (Isolated bedrock mortar milling feature) is a tribal cultural resource, and considered a protected Tribal Cultural Resource to the Washoe Tribe.

As such, efforts outlined below will mitigate impacts to the feature and from potential discovery of unknown resources.

- To protect the integrity of the identified bedrock mortar (BRM) feature located within the APE, the project will be redesigned to avoid direct impact to the feature. For Concept A, the western most restroom facility access pathway intersection with the shared-use trail alignment will be relocated approximately 10 feet further to the west – or a distance determined necessary through tribal consultation to avoid direct impact to the BRM feature from construction grading or trail paving. For Concept B, the shared-use trail alignment will be relocated further west and south to avoid direct impact to the BRM feature from construction grading or trail paving.

- Prior to project operation, the NTPUD shall develop and install an interpretive panel(s) nearby the location of BRM feature P-31-001601 to convey information about the cultural, historical, and/or archaeological context of the project area. The interpretive panel(s) shall be designed in consultation with the Washoe Tribe. Panel content shall acknowledge the Washoe Tribe's history and affirm the park as part of the Tribe's ancestral and present-day homelands. The location, design, and installation of the interpretive panel(s) shall be coordinated with the NTPUD and Washoe Tribe to ensure protection and respectful interpretation of tribal cultural resources and raise awareness through the inclusion of the proper Washoe place name.

- Prior to the start of facility construction, NTPUD shall provide the Washoe Tribe with advanced notice of construction operations (at least one month prior) so that a tribal cultural specialist may work with the NTPUD to fence the feature to create a buffer of at least 5 feet during construction. The temporary fencing may be removed after adjacent site construction has been completed, and once permanent protection measures (e.g., burying the feature) are in place. Details for the protection measures shall be included in the final civil plans for the Project. No track-mounted or heavy-wheeled vehicles will be allowed within the fenced protection area.

- The NTPUD shall contact the Washoe Tribe at least one month prior to project ground-disturbing activities to retain the services of the Washoe Tribe, or its designee, for tribal monitoring during ground-disturbing activities. The duration of the construction schedule and tribal monitoring shall be determined at this time. The NTPUD shall then contact the Washoe Cultural Monitor a minimum of 7 days before beginning earthwork or other ground-disturbing activities. The tribal monitor will be invited to be present on-site during all construction phases that involve ground-disturbing activities, including tree removal, boring, excavation, drilling, and trenching. In the event the tribal monitor does not report to the job site at the scheduled time after receiving proper notice, activities may proceed without monitoring, and construction workers shall comply with TCR-1c if any potential resources are observed.

  Should the tribal monitor be present the NTPUD may request copies of complete daily monitoring logs from the Tribal Historical Preservation Office that provide details on each day's activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials that were identified. However, it will be at the discretion of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office to

determine what information related to cultural materials from the daily logs may be shared. The on-site monitoring shall end when the site grading and excavation activities are completed or when the Washoe Tribe has indicated, in writing, that the remaining construction has a low potential for affecting Tribal cultural resources.

- Prior to the start of ground disturbing activities, the NTPUD will give the tribal monitor an opportunity to train construction personnel to identify potential cultural resources and how to protect those resources until they can be inspected by the tribal cultural specialist/tribal monitor.

- During ground-disturbing construction activities, if any suspected tribal cultural resources or resources of cultural significance to the Washoe Tribe, including but not limited to features, anthropogenic/cultural soils, cultural belongings or objects (artifacts), shell, bone, shaped stones or bone, or ash/charcoal deposits are discovered by any person during construction activities including ground disturbing activities, all work shall pause immediately within 100 feet of the find, or an agreed-upon distance based on the project area and nature of the find. Work shall cease in and within the immediate vicinity of the find regardless of whether the construction is being actively monitored by a tribal monitor, cultural resources specialist, or professional archaeologist who meets the secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications. The NTPUD shall implement measures deemed necessary by the Washoe Tribe for the protection of the tribal cultural resource, with preservation in place being the preferred treatment. The contractor shall not resume work in the area of the discovery until directed to do so by the NTPUD, in coordination with the Washoe Tribe, but in no case shall the construction be halted for more than 5 consecutive days.

- If the tribal monitor has not reported to the job site, the construction manager shall photo-document ground disturbing activities in the vicinity of the isolated bedrock feature before, during, and at the conclusion of earth moving activities, and the photos will be retained in the project record.

HYDRO-1: Document Changes to, and Protect Structures from Flood Flows

Mitigation measures to protect the project and adjacent parcels from flood flows may include elevating structures to be above the published base flood elevation, floodproofing structures within the floodplain, and/or providing required flood vents within the proposed restroom facility to ensure that hydrostatic forces are equalized across a structure located within the regulated floodplain.

Mitigation measures documenting changes to flood flows are regulated through the Placer County Flood Control District and FEMA. Within a regulated floodway FEMA requires that a no-rise certification be prepared by a licensed professional engineer documenting that the proposed project will cause a 0.00-foot increase in base flood elevations during a 100-year event. This requirement is typically implemented through review by the Placer County Flood Control District. Within a regulated floodplain, development is less restrictive. However, any development that adjusts the established floodplain and/or base flood elevations is required to formally revise published flood maps though a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) which is prepared and reviewed by FEMA during the design phase. Following construction, a formal Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) would be issued to acknowledge changes to the floodplain resulting from the project. The purpose of this review is to understand any potential upstream or downstream flood affects resulting from encroachments within the floodway and/or floodplain.

Project Contact

Questions or comments regarding this MND may be addressed to:

Nathan Chorey, P.E.
North Tahoe Public Utility District
P.O. Box 139
Tahoe Vista, CA 96148
Phone: (530) 546-4212
Email: nchorey@ntpud.org

2.0 APPROVAL OF THE IS/MND

Certification by Those Responsible for Preparation of this Document. The North Tahoe Public Utility District has been responsible for the preparation of this Mitigated Negative Declaration and the incorporated Initial Study (September 2026). I believe this document meets the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act, is an accurate description of the proposed project, and that the lead agency has the means and commitment to implement the regulatory compliance measures/mitigation measures that will assure the project does not have any significant, adverse effects on the environment. I recommend approval of this document.

Jonathan Chorey 10/28/26

Nathan Chorey, P.E. Engineering Manager Date
North Tahoe Public Utility District

Approval of the Project by the Lead Agency. Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act, the North Tahoe Public Utility District Board of Directors has independently reviewed and analyzed the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project and finds that the IS/MND for the Project reflect the independent judgment of the North Tahoe Public Utility District. The lead agency finds that the project design features and mitigation measures will be implemented as stated in the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

I hereby approve this project.

Bradley A. Johnson, General Manager/CEO 11/03/2026
North Tahoe Public Utility District Date

3.0 RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Draft IS was circulated for public review and comment between September 11, 2026 and October 13, 2026. A Notice of Intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration was sent to state agencies and persons and organizations expressing interest in the project. Copies of the Draft IS and Project plan documents are available at NTPUD offices during normal business hours, as well as online on the NTPUD Project website.

Comments in the form of letters were received from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan) on the Draft IS. The following pages provide a formal response to the comments contained within each letter. A list of those who offered comments is provided below:

Though written comments were not provided on the Project during public circulation of the Draft IS, the Washoe Tribe reached out to the NTPUD and Conservancy to request consultation under California Assembly Bill (AB) 52. Efforts to set up a meeting and complete the consultation before the release of the CEQA Draft IS were unsuccessful. However, in order to complete the requested consultation, a site visit was scheduled with Washoe Tribal staff at Secline Beach on October 23, 2026 to review Project enhancement facility locations, a known cultural resource site, and proposed mitigation measures to protect tribal cultural resources. Following the meeting, Washoe Tribal staff (BillyHawk Enos, email dated October 28, 2026) provided changes to the cultural resources mitigation (CULT-1) included in the Initial Study. The changes are outlined in chapter 4.0 of this document and also included in the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (Attachment A).

Written Comments Received

1. David Smith, California Department of Transportation – October 13, 2026
2. Adam Henriques, California Water Boards, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board – October 13, 2026

Written Comments and Responses

Each unique comment is copied below, followed by a response to the full comment. Each individual comment is identified by commenter and assigned a numerical number corresponding to the order the comment was made.

1. David Smith, California Department of Transportation

Comment 1-1:
Highway Operations: Placer County has a maintenance agreement with Caltrans to seasonally place several in-roadway bollard pedestrian signs at several marked crosswalks from Tahoe City to Kings Beach along SR 28. A recent investigation at the Secline Street crosswalk showed it would qualify for such enhancements. Caltrans would like to open discussions with Placer County to add the Secline location to this agreement and perhaps others. Caltrans recommends adding sidewalk along the eastern side of Secline Street from SR 28 to the beach, with included pedestrian ramps at Brockway Vista Drive, and a pedestrian ramp at the sidewalk where the new shared use path exits to Secline Street.

Response 1-1:
Thank you for sharing information on Caltrans' work to enhance pedestrian circulation in the Project vicinity along SR 28. The pedestrian improvements requested along Secline Street between SR 28 and Brockway Vista drive are located outside of the Secline Beach enhancement Project area. Further, the NTPUD does not believe that requested improvements to pedestrian access are warranted along Secline Street as a result of Project implementation – the County recently made sidewalk improvements along the west side of Secline Street and the Project does not include improvements that would increase current visitation. However, NTPUD acknowledges the benefits of enhancing facilities for pedestrian access from the highway. As such, the Project includes the proposed shared-use trail to connect SR 28 and Secline Street to improve pedestrian and bicycle access for future users to the beach.

Comment 1-2:
Right of Way Engineering: The Right of Way (ROW) maps have been attached, in this section that will tie to pedestrian walkway to SR 28, Caltrans State ROW along this stretch is top back of curb, sidewalk relinquished to County of place, if further mapping is needed contact District 3 ROW Map counter at: d3rwmaprequest@dot.ca.gov. The plan sets should clearly delineate state ROW lines. Caltrans ROW, Centerline and width should be labeled on the plans, along with bearings and distances.

Response 1-2:
Comment noted. As mentioned in response to comment 2-1, NTPUD does not believe that requested improvements to pedestrian access are warranted along Secline Street based on impacts identified from construction of the proposed beach enhancements.

Comment 1-3:
Encroachment Permits: Any project or work, including access modification and drainage work, that takes place along or within the State's ROW requires an encroachment permit issued by Caltrans. To apply, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, and five sets of plans clearly indicating State ROW must be submitted to Encroachment Permits Offices.

Response 1-3:
Comment noted. No improvements are proposed within state ROW.

2. Adam Henriques, California Water Boards, Lahontan Regional Water Control Board

Comment 2-1:
NTPUD may need a Basin Plan prohibition exemption from the Water Board if the Project proposes work within surface waters, 100-year floodplains, or Stream Environmental Zones of the Lake Tahoe Hydrologic Unit. The final IS/MND, or subsequent permit applications, should include specific information to support the Water Board's development of Basin Plan prohibition exemption findings. Basin Plan prohibition exemptions, and findings necessary to grant exemptions, are issued in Water Board permits.

Response 2-1:
The environmental document includes analysis to support the Water Board's development of Basin Plan prohibition exemption findings for recreational land coverage and disturbance within stream environment zones (SEZ) and 100 year floodplain boundaries. Sections of the Initial Study/Initial Environmental Checklist that provide analysis to support the required findings include:

- Analysis for impacts to mapped SEZ (TRPA IEC question 1a) begins on page 3-64. This analysis provides the basis for findings needed to support prohibition exemptions for

recreational land coverage relocation within SEZs. It also includes findings related to exemptions from general SEZ disturbance prohibitions for shared-use trail projects that meet certain criteria (see page 3-68).

- Analysis for the Lahontan Basin Plan prohibitions on development within SEZ and floodplain begins on page 3-69.
- Analysis for TRPA findings required to permit recreational development within the 100-year floodplain is provided under CEQA Initial Study question Xc (and TRPA IEC questions 3c) and begins on page 3-93.

The analysis outlined in the sections referenced above provides the basis for making the findings necessary for upcoming TRPA and Lahontan permitting for the beach enhancement projects. The NTPUD looks forward to working with Lahontan to make the necessary findings for Lahontan permits, while maintaining consistency with the findings that will be required for approval of the TRPA public recreational facilities permit.

Comment 2-2:
Regarding an exemption for any permanent disturbance to Stream Environment Zones and related restoration requirements, the Water Board does not consider the retirement of land coverage as restoration, as proposed in the Draft CEQA Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration and TRPA initial Environmental Checklist at page 3-67. Please engage further with Water Bord staff to discuss mitigation requirements.

Response 2-2:
As a result of Lahontan comments concerning the appropriate mitigation for relocation of TRPA SEZ (land capability class 1b) land coverage within the Secline Beach project area, a meeting was held with TRPA, NTPUD and Lahontan staff to discuss potential changes to mitigation for the proposed land coverage. Prior to the meeting, TRPA staff (Shannon Friedman email dated October 19, 2026) confirmed that the permanent retirement of banked land capability district 1b (SEZ) land coverage is sufficient under TRPA Code of Ordinances (Section 30.5.3.B) to mitigate impacts from relocation of SEZ land coverage for the proposed Secline Beach recreational project. As such, for TRPA permitting purposes, the analysis provided in the IS/IEC for question 3.4.9-7 does not require any change. The permanent retirement of banked SEZ land coverage in the amount of 0.5 square foot for every square foot of relocated land coverage constructed, plus the Project's compliance with TRPA excess land coverage mitigation requirements outlined in Code Section 30.6, sufficiently mitigates the Project's SEZ restoration requirements.

To address Lahontan concerns regarding the adequacy of permanent retirement of banked land coverage to mitigate relocated SEZ land coverage associated with the shared-use trail bridge crossing at Griff Creek, the NTPUD will coordinate with Lahontan during the permitting process (e.g., Construction Stormwater Program or California Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification) to identify opportunities for vegetation enhancement of riparian habitat along the Griff Creek channel. While the Secline Beach enhancement projects would concentrate development outside of the Griff Creek SEZ and SEZ setbacks in other Secline Beach areas that are less sensitive (e.g., lacking riparian habitat or high groundwater), the shared-use trail bridge crossing has potential to impact Griff Creek riparian habitat from shading and direct plant removal for bridge abutments. The Secline Beach Enhancement Project includes a proposal for vegetation management/selective thinning of conifer trees adjacent to the Griff Creek corridor within the Placer County parcel. As part of upcoming Lahontan permitting requirements, NTPUD will work with the County and Lahontan to design the vegetation management project so that the proposed conifer thinning will benefit riparian habitat along the approximately 150-foot-long Griff Creek channel located below the shared-use trail crossing. Removing conifer trees from riparian zones and creek channels reverses conifer encroachment, which restores vital sunlight, revives native deciduous plants like quaking aspen and wet-meadow grasses, lowers wildfire risks, and improves water tables and

habitats for local wildlife. The potential benefits to riparian habitat within the approximately 1,500 square foot Griff Creek riparian channel corridor (150 foot length times approximately 10 foot width) will more than double the potential impacts to riparian habitat at the proposed shared-use trail bridge crossing (12 foot length times 50 foot width). As such, no additional mitigation is required for the proposed Secline Beach Enhancement Project.

Comment 2-3:
Permits Required: The following item provides a description of permit coverage that will be required to implement the Project as proposed in the Draft CEQA Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration and TRPA initial Environmental Checklist.

Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification - The Draft CEQA Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration and TRPA initial Environmental Checklist describes activities that may result in the discharge of waste to Waters of the United States. A Clean Water Act (CWA) section 404 permit issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) may be required if federal jurisdiction applies for such activities. If the Army Corps issues a 404 permit for any Project activities, the Water Board is required to issue a CWA section 401 Water Quality Certification. Information on the 401 Water Quality Certification program in the Lahontan Region may be viewed at the following webpage:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/programs/clean_water_act_401/index.shtml

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento office can be contacted at (916) 557- 5100 for information on CWA section 404 permitting requirements. We encourage you to contact the Army Corps early in the project planning process to determine if a CWA 404 section permit will be required for any of the work planned. If a 404 CWA permit will be required, the Water Board will be required to issue a 401 Water Quality Certification and comply with the California Environmental Quality Act, discussed later in this letter.

If the Army Corps does not issue a CWA section 404 permit and the Project will result in the discharge of waste to waters of state, the project will require coverage under state- issued Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR). Based on Project-specific impacts, Water Board staff will work with you to evaluate eligibility under existing General WDR and Waivers of WDR, or the need for individual WDR.

Lahontan 2024 Timber Waiver (renewed on March 13, 2019) - Project activities in the Lahontan Water Board Region that include timber harvest and vegetation management activities will require coverage under the 2024 Timber Waiver. The 2024 Timber Waiver and all attachments may be found on our website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/programs/waste_discharge_requirements/timber_harvest/timberwaiver.shtml

Please review the 2014 Timber Waiver criteria and conditions while developing specific resource protection measures and design features for the proposed Project. By understanding the 2014 Timber Waiver criteria and conditions, you can tailor your project design features to incorporate those requirements, which will streamline your 2014 Timber Waiver application process. Timber harvest and vegetation management projects ineligible for coverage under the 2014 Timber Waiver must file a Report of Waste Discharge and obtain individual Waste Discharged Requirements.

Please note that the 2014 Timber Waiver uses a watercourse classification system which categorizes watercourses according to their biologic habitat and ability to transport sediment, as defined by the California Code of Regulations, title 14, rather than by flow regime. This watercourse classification determines the necessary buffer zone width for that watercourse (see Attachment B of the 2014 Timber Waiver).

To expedite review of your Timber Waiver application, please clearly indicate in your waiver application maps the classification of all watercourses in the Project area, and the location of proposed operations and pile burning within Waterbody Buffer Zones (WBBZs).

Response 2-3:
Comment noted. The NTPUD agrees that permitting will be required for the Project enhancements. Mitigation is included in the environmental document (BIO-3: Section 404/401 Permit Compliance) to ensure that any protected wetland aquatic resources are properly identified and protected under applicable permitting processes. NTPUD looks forward to working with Lahontan to determine whether the defensible space tree removal proposed for the Placer County parcel, and tree removal required for construction of the other beach enhancements would fall under the 2024 Timber Waiver, or whether a report of waste discharge is required under the Lake Tahoe Basin Construction Stormwater General Permit or other similar regulation.

4.0 TEXT MODIFICATIONS TO THE IS

The following changes to the CEQA Initial Study (IS) dated September 11, 2026 have been made based on agency input and public comment on the IS. Underlined text is new text that has been added to the IS. Text that is shown in ~~strikeout~~ has been removed from the IS.

IS Page 3-53

Required Mitigation: **CULT-1: Consult with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and Relocate Trail Alignment(s) to Avoid Recorded Cultural Resource.**

NTPUD Consultation ~~Prior to construction of the Secline Beach Enhancement Project Shared-Use Path and Concept A pathway from the Shared-Use Path to the restroom facility, NTPUD shall consult~~ with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California on October 23, 2026 (site visit with Billyhawk Enos) determined that~~to establish whether~~ site P-31-001601 (Isolated bedrock mortar milling feature) is a tribal cultural resource~~s, to precisely map its location, and to determine if the site may warrant additional study and recordation. Consultation with the Washoe Tribe will be used to determine if the feature is significant by meeting one of the four criteria established in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources, or if the feature is~~and considered a protected Tribal Cultural Resource to the Washoe Tribe.

~~If the site is determined not to be significant through consultation with the Washoe Tribe, then any physical disturbance to the feature will be considered as having no effect to historical properties or Tribal Cultural Resources, and no further action is required.~~

~~If the known feature is determined to be a protected resource under state, federal or Tribal standards~~As such, efforts outlined below will ~~to~~ mitigate impacts to the feature and from potential discovery of unknown resources ~~will be undertaken~~.

- To protect the integrity of the identified bedrock mortar (BRM) feature located within the APE, the project will be redesigned to avoid direct impact to the feature. For Concept A, the western most restroom facility access pathway intersection with the shared-use trail alignment will be relocated approximately 10 feet further to the west – or a distance determined necessary through tribal consultation to avoid direct impact to the ~~bedrock mortar~~BRM feature from construction grading or trail paving. For Concept B, the shared-use trail alignment will be relocated further west and south to avoid direct impact to the ~~bedrock mortar~~BRM feature from construction grading or trail paving.

- Prior to project operation, the NTPUD shall develop and install an interpretive panel(s) ~~next~~ nearby the location of~~to~~ BRM feature P-31-001601 to convey information about the cultural, historical, and/or archaeological context of the project area. The interpretive panel(s) shall be designed in consultation with the Washoe Tribe. Panel content shall acknowledge the Washoe Tribe's history and affirm the park as part of the Tribe's ancestral and present-day homelands. The location, design, and installation of the interpretive panel(s) shall be coordinated with the NTPUD and Washoe Tribe to ensure protection and respectful interpretation of tribal cultural resources and raise awareness through the inclusion of the proper Washoe ~~language~~place name.

- Prior to the start of facility construction, NTPUD shall provide the Washoe Tribe with advanced notice of construction operations (at least one month prior) so that a tribal cultural specialist ~~will~~ may work with the NTPUD to fence the feature to create a buffer of at least 5 feet during

construction. The temporary fencing may be removed after adjacent site construction has been completed, and once permanent protection measures (e.g., ~~fencing/vegetative buffers~~burying the feature) ~~and interpretive panels~~ are in place. Details for the protection measures shall be included in the final civil plans for the Project. No track-mounted or heavy-wheeled vehicles will be allowed within the fenced protection area.

- The NTPUD shall contact the Washoe Tribe at least one month prior to project ground-disturbing activities to retain the services of the Washoe Tribe, or its designee, for tribal monitoring during ground-disturbing activities. The duration of the construction schedule and tribal monitoring shall be determined at this time. The NTPUD shall then contact the ~~tribal representative~~Washoe Cultural Monitor a minimum of 7 days before beginning earthwork or other ground-disturbing activities. The tribal monitor will be invited to be present on-site during all construction phases that involve ground-disturbing activities, including tree removal, boring, excavation, drilling, and trenching. In the event the tribal monitor does not report to the job site at the scheduled time after receiving proper notice, activities may proceed without monitoring, and construction workers shall comply with TCR-1c if any potential resources are observed.

  Should the tribal monitor be present the NTPUD may request copies of complete daily monitoring logs from the Tribal Historical Preservation Office that provide details on each day's activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials that were identified. However, it will be at the discretion of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office to determine what information related to cultural materials from the daily logs may be shared. The on-site monitoring shall end when the site grading and excavation activities are completed or when the Washoe Tribe has indicated, in writing, that the remaining construction has a low potential for affecting Tribal cultural resources.

- Prior to the start of ground disturbing activities, the NTPUD will give the tribal monitor an opportunity to train construction personnel to identify potential cultural resources and how to protect those resources until they can be inspected by the tribal cultural specialist/tribal monitor.

- During ground-disturbing construction activities, if any suspected tribal cultural resources or resources of cultural significance to the Washoe Tribe, including but not limited to features, anthropogenic/cultural soils, cultural belongings or objects (artifacts), shell, bone, shaped stones or bone, or ash/charcoal deposits are discovered by any person during construction activities including ground disturbing activities, all work shall pause immediately within 100 feet of the find, or an agreed-upon distance based on the project area and nature of the find. Work shall cease in and within the immediate vicinity of the find regardless of whether the construction is being actively monitored by a tribal monitor, cultural resources specialist, or professional archaeologist who meets the secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications. The NTPUD shall implement measures deemed necessary by the Washoe Tribe for the protection of the tribal cultural resource, with preservation in place being the preferred treatment. The contractor shall not resume work in the area of the discovery until directed to do so by the NTPUD, in coordination with the Washoe Tribe, but in no case shall the construction be halted for more than 5 consecutive days.

- If the tribal monitor has not reported to the job site, the construction manager shall photo-document ground disturbing activities in the vicinity of the isolated bedrock feature before, during, and at the conclusion of earth moving activities, and the photos will be retained in the project record.

ATTACHMENT A MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) for the NTPUD Secline Beach Enhancement Project is provided in Table A-1 and prepared in compliance with requirements of California Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 and Section 15097 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. In general, the NTPUD shall be responsible for implementing and monitoring the measures identified below. Table A-1 describes each mitigation measure and identifies the responsible agency, timing, and monitoring requirements.

Table A-1

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Checklist for NTPUD Secline Beach Enhancement Project

Mitigation Measure Description	Monitoring Responsibility	Timing	Monitoring Requirement
VIS-1: Concept B Restroom Design Elements a) The restroom structure shall include design elements to reduce visual deviation with the existing landscape and better blend the structure with the existing background. b) The accessible walkway railing shall have a low profile using horizontal cabling instead of larger steel tubing. c) Existing pine trees (4) in the vicinity of the restroom structure shall be protected during construction and considered in final design plans to ensure they are not impacted by changes to contours, infiltration, etc. d) Other trees outside of the restroom facility footprint on the NTPUD parcel (APN 090-073-001) shall be retained to maintain screening from Lake Tahoe viewpoints.	NTPUD	During Final Plan Development	Comply with recommended design standards during project development and submit plans for permitting agency approval.
BIO-1: Pre-Construction Avian Survey The NTPUD shall retain a qualified biologist, as determined by TRPA or CDFW, to conduct a pre-construction survey of the project area to include a 100-foot buffer, as access is available, to locate active bird nests, identify measures to protect the nests, and locate any other special status species. The pre-construction survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the implementation of construction activities (including staging and equipment storage). Any special status species identified during the surveys shall not be disturbed unless	NTPUD	Up to 14 days prior to initial tree removal or ground disturbance	Complete pre-construction survey to identify and protect any active nests within the construction disturbance zone.

Mitigation Measure Description	Monitoring Responsibility	Timing	Monitoring Requirement
under the direction provided by a qualified biologist. If an active nest is found during construction, disturbance should not occur until young have fledged or under the direction provided by a qualified biologist.			
BIO-2: Pre-Construction Tahoe Yellow Cress Survey To avoid potential impacts to TYC, a focused botanical survey should be conducted before construction disturbance and during the appropriate flowering/identification period where suitable shoreline habitat occurs. The survey should be conducted between June 15 and Sept 30 before construction within the mapped backshore and suitable habitat. If TYC is present during the survey, an avoidance plan shall be prepared with TRPA coordination to avoid impacts to stems and populations.	NTPUD	During the TYC flowing period and prior to construction within suitable habitat area	Complete pre-construction survey to identify and protect any TYC within the construction disturbance zone.
BIO-3: Section 404/401 Permit Compliance Prior to construction, NTPUD shall conduct appropriate studies to determine the presence or absence of federal or state protected aquatic resources. Should aquatic resources be identified within the boundaries of proposed shared-use trail bridge construction, NTPUD shall apply for and obtain a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 CWA permit for proposed impacts to a water of the U.S., including applicable permits from the state of California, including a Section 401 permit from the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and California Department of Fish and Game Code Section 1602 (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement), if applicable. These permit applications establish appropriate mitigation measures that protect against long-term significant impacts to waters of the U.S., waters of the State, and their associated habitats.	NTPUD	Aquatic Survey: Prior to construction within suitable aquatic resource habitat along Griff Creek. Permitting: Prior to construction disturbance for the shared-use trail crossing of Griff Creek	Complete pre-construction survey to identify and protect any federal or state protected aquatic resources within the construction disturbance zone.
CULT-1: Consult with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and Relocate Trail Alignment(s) to Avoid Recorded Cultural Resource. NTPUD Consultation with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California on October 23, 2026 (site visit with Billyhawk Enos) determined that site P-31-001601 (Isolated bedrock mortar milling feature) is a tribal cultural resource, and considered a protected Tribal Cultural Resource to the Washoe Tribe. As such, efforts outlined below will mitigate impacts to the feature and from potential discovery of unknown resources. • To protect the integrity of the identified bedrock mortar (BRM) feature located within the APE, the project will be redesigned to avoid direct impact to the feature.	NTPUD	During Final Plan Development and prior to construction of Concept A shared-use trail	Implement protection measures to avoid physical impacts to identified resources.

Mitigation Measure Description	Monitoring Responsibility	Timing	Monitoring Requirement
For Concept A, the western most restroom facility access pathway intersection with the shared-use trail alignment will be relocated approximately 10 feet further to the west – or a distance determined necessary through tribal consultation to avoid direct impact to the BRM feature from construction grading or trail paving. For Concept B, the shared-use trail alignment will be relocated further west and south to avoid direct impact to the BRM feature from construction grading or trail paving. • Prior to project operation, the NTPUD shall develop and install an interpretive panel(s) nearby the location of BRM feature P-31-001601 to convey information about the cultural, historical, and/or archaeological context of the project area. The interpretive panel(s) shall be designed in consultation with the Washoe Tribe. Panel content shall acknowledge the Washoe Tribe's history and affirm the park as part of the Tribe's ancestral and present-day homelands. The location, design, and installation of the interpretive panel(s) shall be coordinated with the NTPUD and Washoe Tribe to ensure protection and respectful interpretation of tribal cultural resources and raise awareness through the inclusion of the proper Washoe place name. • Prior to the start of facility construction, NTPUD shall provide the Washoe Tribe with advanced notice of construction operations (at least one month prior) so that a tribal cultural specialist may work with the NTPUD to fence the feature to create a buffer of at least 5 feet during construction. The temporary fencing may be removed after adjacent site construction has been completed, and once permanent protection measures (e.g., burying the feature) are in place. Details for the protection measures shall be included in the final civil plans for the Project. No track-mounted or heavy-wheeled vehicles will be allowed within the fenced protection area. • The NTPUD shall contact the Washoe Tribe at least one month prior to project ground-disturbing activities to retain the services of the Washoe Tribe, or its designee, for tribal monitoring during ground-disturbing activities. The duration of the construction schedule and tribal monitoring shall be determined at this time. The NTPUD shall then contact the Washoe Cultural Monitor a minimum of 7 days before beginning earthwork or other ground-disturbing activities. The tribal monitor will be invited to be present on-site during all construction phases that involve ground-disturbing activities, including tree removal, boring, excavation, drilling, and trenching. In the event the tribal monitor does not report to the job site at the scheduled time after receiving proper notice, activities may proceed without monitoring, and construction workers shall comply with TCR-1c if any potential resources are observed.			

Mitigation Measure Description	Monitoring Responsibility	Timing	Monitoring Requirement
Should the tribal monitor be present the NTPUD may request copies of complete daily monitoring logs from the Tribal Historical Preservation Office that provide details on each day's activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials that were identified. However, it will be at the discretion of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office to determine what information related to cultural materials from the daily logs may be shared. The on-site monitoring shall end when the site grading and excavation activities are completed or when the Washoe Tribe has indicated, in writing, that the remaining construction has a low potential for affecting Tribal cultural resources. • Prior to the start of ground disturbing activities, the NTPUD will give the tribal monitor an opportunity to train construction personnel to identify potential cultural resources and how to protect those resources until they can be inspected by the tribal cultural specialist/tribal monitor. • During ground-disturbing construction activities, if any suspected tribal cultural resources or resources of cultural significance to the Washoe Tribe, including but not limited to features, anthropogenic/cultural soils, cultural belongings or objects (artifacts), shell, bone, shaped stones or bone, or ash/charcoal deposits are discovered by any person during construction activities including ground disturbing activities, all work shall pause immediately within 100 feet of the find, or an agreed-upon distance based on the project area and nature of the find. Work shall cease in and within the immediate vicinity of the find regardless of whether the construction is being actively monitored by a tribal monitor, cultural resources specialist, or professional archaeologist who meets the secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications. The NTPUD shall implement measures deemed necessary by the Washoe Tribe for the protection of the tribal cultural resource, with preservation in place being the preferred treatment. The contractor shall not resume work in the area of the discovery until directed to do so by the NTPUD, in coordination with the Washoe Tribe, but in no case shall the construction be halted for more than 5 consecutive days. • If the tribal monitor has not reported to the job site, the construction manager shall photo-document ground disturbing activities in the vicinity of the isolated bedrock feature before, during, and at the conclusion of earth moving activities, and the photos will be retained in the project record.			

Mitigation Measure Description	Monitoring Responsibility	Timing	Monitoring Requirement
HYDRO-1: Document Changes to, and Protect Structures from Flood Flows Mitigation measures to protect the project and adjacent parcels from flood flows may include elevating structures to be above the published base flood elevation, floodproofing structures within the floodplain, and/or providing required flood vents within the proposed restroom facility to ensure that hydrostatic forces are equalized across a structure located within the regulated floodplain. Mitigation measures documenting changes to flood flows are regulated through the Placer County Flood Control District and FEMA. Within a regulated floodway FEMA requires that a no-rise certification be prepared by a licensed professional engineer documenting that the proposed project will cause a 0.00-foot increase in base flood elevations during a 100-year event. This requirement is typically implemented through review by the Placer County Flood Control District. Within a regulated floodplain, development is less restrictive. However, any development that adjusts the established floodplain and/or base flood elevations is required to formally revise published flood maps though a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) which is prepared and reviewed by FEMA during the design phase. Following construction, a formal Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) would be issued to acknowledge changes to the floodplain resulting from the project. The purpose of this review is to understand any potential upstream or downstream flood affects resulting from encroachments within the floodway and/or floodplain.	NTPUD	During Final Plan Development and prior to construction of Concept A shared-use trail	Report to and coordinate with responsible agencies to protect structures from flood flows.