AMENDED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION/INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

Project Title: Amended Tentative Parcel Map #2860; Plasse Family Trust

Lead Agency Name and

Address:

Amador County Planning Department 810 Court Street, Jackson, CA 95642

Contact Person/Phone

Number:

Chuck Beatty, Planning Director

209-223-6380

Project Location: 31009 Plasse Road, Kirkwood, CA, approximately 0.6 miles

east of CA Highway 88 in the Silver Lake community (APN

026-040-069).

Project Sponsor's Name and

Address:

Maurice J. Plasse and Carletta J. Plasse, Trustees of the

Plasse Family Trust

PO Box 261, Jackson, CA 95642

General Plan Designation(s): O-R, Open Space – Recreation

Zoning:

"R1A," Single-family Residential & Agricultural

Description of project: (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation.) The project involves the division of 62.2± acres into two parcels of 20+/- acres, 22.22+/- acres, and a 20+/- acre remainder, in conjunction with a request for a variance from County Code Section 17.28.060, Easements, to allow parcel lines to be offset from existing easements. The project was previously approved as three parcels of 18.82+, 18.82+, and 24.58+ acres.

Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings:

The project is located between CA Highway 88 and the southwestern edge of Silver Lake, adjacent to Plasse's Resort. Terrain ranges from flat where the northeastern project boundary abuts the full-pond elevation of Silver Lake at 7,300' MSL to 18% slopes along the project's western boundary at 7,430' MSL. The property is traversed by 2,000 feet +/- of Plasse Road and 1,200 feet +/- of West Lake Road, both of which are publicly maintained. Current structures include a season cabin.

Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)

Project Name: Parcel Map #2860; Plasse Family Trust	INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION
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ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

	he environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, as ndicated by the checklist and corresponding discussion on the following pages.							
	Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources		Air Quality			
	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology / Soils			
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials		Hydrology / Water Quality			
	Land Use / Planning		Mineral Resources		Noise			
	Population / Housing		Public Services		Recreation			
	Transportation / Traffic		Utilities / Service Systems		Mandatory Findings of Significance			
	RMINATION: (To be comp							
			ject COULD NOT have a signi I ON will be prepared	fican	t effect on the environment,			
\boxtimes	and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared. I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.							
	I find that the proposed ENVIRONMENTAL IMPA	•	ject MAY have a significant e PORT is required.	ffect	on the environment, and an			
	I find that the proposed significant unless mitigo adequately analyzed i has been addressed b	d pro ated' n an y mit NVIR	ject MAY have a "potentially impact on the environment, earlier document pursuant to gation measures based on the onmental impact report is	but c app e ea				
I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.								
Signo	ature – Name			Date)			

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c) (3) (D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

Chapter 1. AESTHETICS – Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? 				
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				\boxtimes
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				

Scenic Vistas: There are significant viewsheds of the Eldorado National Forest visible from the Highway 88 Scenic Highway Corridor, Thunder Mountain, and Silver Lake. The most significant view of the project site is from the adjoining shoreline of Silver Lake. Existing views would not be significantly obstructed by the project or its development potential due to the requirements outlined in County Code for building setbacks and height limitations in the zoning district. The impact is **less than significant.**

Scenic Resources within a Scenic Highway: The project is not located within a designated or eligible State Scenic Highway corridor; therefore, there is **no impact.**

Visual Character: The project would not substantially degrade the visual character or quality of the site or its surroundings. The potential development under the existing General Plan and zoning codes would permit the development of five additional single-family dwellings. The impact to visual character will be **less than significant.**

Light and Glare: Although there will be the potential for increase in outdoor lighting from potential the new structures and appurtenances, this increase is not anticipated to be substantial. Impacts due to light and glare are **less than significant.**

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County Planning Department.

Chapter 2. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES – In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the CA Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the CA Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				\boxtimes
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in PRC §12220(g)), timberland (as defined in PRC §4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code § 51104(g))?				
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to nonforest use?				\boxtimes

Conversion of farmland: The proposed project is not located in an area designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance as defined by the California department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. The project will not involve the conversion of farmland to other uses. Therefore, there is **no impact** to farmland.

Conflict with a Williamson Act contract: The proposed project is not located on land zoned for agriculture or under a Williamson Act contract. There is **no impact**.

Conflict with zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land: No forest or timber land zoning has been established on the project site (zoned "R1A, Single-family residential & Agricultural). The potential land uses for the project will not conflict with or cause rezoning of surrounding forested land. There is **no impact**.

Loss conversion of forest land: Approximately 25% of the project site is wooded. Due to the limited development potential of the project (5 additional detached dwellings on 62 acres) and ample cleared area for construction, existing forest land is not anticipated to be affected. Therefore, the **impact is less than significant.**

Loss or conversion of farmland, to non-agricultural use: The project would not involve other changes that could result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use beyond those activities which are currently allowed by the General Plan and existing zoning. There is **no impact.**

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County Important Farmland Map 2014; Amador County General Plan; Planning Department; California Department of Conservation, Division of Farmland Mapping and Monitoring.

Chapter 3. AIR QUALITY – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? 				\boxtimes
 b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? 				\boxtimes
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?				
 d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? 				
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				\boxtimes

Air Quality Plan: Amador County does not have an air quality plan. There is no impact.

Air Quality Standards: The project will not cause a violation of an air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing air quality violation. Conditions to control fugitive dust emissions may be imposed at the time any building permits are issued. Outdoor fires ignited on the property must comply with the rules and regulations of the Amador Air District. All air contaminants that may be generated by activities on this property must comply with the Rules and Regulations of the Amador Air District. There is **no impact**.

Increase in Criteria Pollutant: Amador County is a Non-attainment area for the State of California's 1-Hour Ozone Standard (0.09 ppm) and the US EPA's 8-Hour Ozone Standard (0.08 ppm). Construction activities and fires occurring on this property would be of short duration. No net cumulative increase in ozone precursor emissions is expected from this action. All air contaminants generated by activities on this property must comply with the Rules and Regulations of the Amador Air District. There is **no impact**.

Sensitive Receptors: Substantial air pollutant concentrations will not be generated by construction activities on this property related to this project. This project will not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. There is **no impact**.

Objectionable Odors: Substantial quantities of objectionable odor should not be generated by the current activities on the property, or by the uses allowed under the requested Use Permit. All air contaminants generated by activities on this property must comply with the Rules and Regulations of the Air District. There is **no impact**.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador Planning Department.

Chapter 4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CA Dept. of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the CA Dept. of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			\boxtimes	
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on 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?				
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				\boxtimes

Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Species: A review of Exhibit 4.4-4, Special-Status Species Occurrences, from the Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016) indicates there are occurrences of the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog approximately 3,500 feet (.06 miles) northeast of the project site. There are no documented occurrences of candidate, sensitive, or special status species, indicated on the project site. Due to the lack of habitat for these species on the property, it is unlikely that either would be found on this project site. The impact to Candidate, Sensitive, and Special Status Species is less than significant.

Riparian Habitat and other Sensitive Natural Communities: The project site is not located within a designated Flood Hazard Area as shown on the effective FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map, and there are no perennial or seasonal streams on site. The project is not located in an area that has been identified to include sensitive natural communities in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations. The impact is expected to be **less than significant**.

Federally Protected Wetlands: There are no federally protected wetlands located on this project site or in close proximity of this project. There is **no impact**.

Movement of Fish and Wildlife: The project is a 62-acre site that includes approximately 15 acres of wooded area. While the tree canopy may provide food and shelter for migratory birds, the limited potential development of the site will not significantly impact the movement of native resident or migratory fish or wildlife or their corridors and nursery sites. The impact is **less than significant**.

Biological Resource Policies and Natural Community Conservation Plan: The project does not conflict with the policies for protection of biological resources included in the Amador County General Plan. There is **no impact**.

Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan: Amador County does not have an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans. There is **no impact**.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County General Plan and Municipal Codes; Planning Department; and Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016).

Chapter 5. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5? 		\boxtimes		
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?		\boxtimes		
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?		\boxtimes		
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		\boxtimes		

Historical and Archaeological Resources: A review of Exhibit 4.5-2, Cultural Resource Sensitivity, of the Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016) indicates the site is in an area identified as having high cultural resource sensitivity. It is anticipated implementation of the project and potential development densities would not affect historical resources. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure 5.1, below, would reduce any potential impacts to unknown resources to less than significant. Therefore, the impact is **less than significant with mitigation incorporated**.

Paleontological Resources and Geological Features: There are no known unique paleontological or geological resources associated with this project site. It is anticipated implementation of the project would not affect paleontological or geological resources. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure 5.1, below, will reduce any potential impacts to unknown resources to less than significant. Therefore, the impact is less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Human Remains: This site is not a known burial site or formal cemetery. In the event of an accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, California State Health and Safety Code § 7050.5 dictates all work shall stop in the vicinity of the find and the Amador County Coroner shall be contacted immediately. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission who shall notify, pursuant to PRC § 5097.98, the person believed to be the most likely descendant. The most likely descendant shall work with the contractor to develop a program for re-internment of the human remains and any associated artifacts. Additional work shall not take place within the immediate vicinity of the find until the identified appropriate actions have been implemented. Per Mitigation Measure 5.1, below, the impact is reduced to a **less than significant level with mitigation incorporated.**

Mitigation:

Mitigation Measure 5.1 - Prior to issuance of a demolition or building permit, the applicant shall provide a statement, for the review and approval of the Planning Department, that if historic, archaeological, and/or paleontological resources are encountered during site grading or other site work, all such work shall be halted immediately within the area of discovery and the

developer shall immediately notify the Planning Department of the discovery. In such case, the developer shall, at their expense, retain the services of a qualified archaeologist for the purpose of recording, protecting, or curating the discovery as appropriate. The archaeologist shall be required to submit to the Planning Department for review and approval a report of the findings and method of curation or protection of the resources. Further grading or site work within the area of discovery shall not be allowed until the preceding steps have been taken.

Source: Planning Department; Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016).

Chapter 6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving: 				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			\boxtimes	
iv)Landslides?				
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				
c) Be located on a geological unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?			\boxtimes	

Risk of Loss Injury or Death due to Geologic Hazards: Pursuant to Division 2, Chapter 7.5, Section 2622 of the Public Resources Code (Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act), the California Geological Survey has determined there are no sufficiently active, or well defined faults or areas subject to strong ground shaking, liquefaction, landslides, or other ground failure in Amador County as to constitute a potential hazard to structures from surface faulting or fault creep. Additionally, Figure 4H of the California Geological Survey's Index to Official Maps of Earthquake Fault Zones does not include the project site as an area with known geologic faults. The impact is considered **less than significant**.

Soil Erosion and Loss of Topsoil: Any grading activity moving more than 50 CY of soil will require a grading permit. Grading Permits are reviewed and approved by the County in accordance with Ordinance 1619 (County Code 15.40), and conditions/requirements are applied to minimize potential erosion. The issuance of a grading permit, along with implementation of Erosion Control requirements, will minimize potential erosion resulting to a **less than significant impact**.

Potential Subsidence or Liquefaction: As indicated above, the California Geological Survey has determined there are no sufficiently active or well-defined faults or areas subject to strong ground shaking, liquefaction, landslides, or other ground failure in Amador County as to constitute a potential hazard to structures from surface faulting or fault creep. Therefore, the impact **is less than significant**.

Expansive Soils: The project is not located in an area identified as having a high shrink-swell potential as displayed in Exhibit 4.6-2, Soil Limitations, in the Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016). Therefore, the impact is **less than significant**.

Soils Capable of Sewage Disposal: On-site wastewater treatment systems have been designed and installed on each and every proposed parcel. **The impact is less than significant.**

Mitigation: None required.

Sources: Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016); Amador County Planning Department; Amador County Environmental Health Department; California Geological Survey's Index to Official Maps of Earthquake Fault Zones.

 \boxtimes

Chapter 7. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? 				
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or				

Discussion:

Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Greenhouse gas emissions include carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, and nitrogen trifluoride. The most common form of greenhouse gas emissions from this project would be CO2 emissions from vehicles traveling to and from the site, and limited emissions from equipment on site during development and construction. The project has the potential to increase vehicle trips associated with potential future development of five detached dwellings. This impact is not expected to contribute significantly to greenhouse gas levels within Amador County. The impact is **less than significant**.

Plans and Policies for Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Amador County does not currently have any adopted thresholds of significance, plans, or policies regarding greenhouse gases. New structures that may be built in the future will be required to meet CCR Title 24, Part 6, Building Energy Efficiency Standards, and would therefore be consistent with the Assembly Bill 32 Scoping Plan. Based on these facts, there will be a **less than significant impact** resulting from this project, to any plans and/or policies regulating Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Mitigation: None required.

Sources: Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016).

regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the

emissions of greenhouse gases?

Chapter 8. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? 				
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			\boxtimes	
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				\boxtimes
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				\boxtimes
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				\boxtimes
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
 h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands? 				

Hazardous Materials Transport and Handling: The project does not significantly increase risk to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. **The impact is less than significant.**

Hazardous Materials Upset and Release: The project does not significantly increase the risk of accident or upset conditions resulting in the release of hazardous materials into the environment. **The impact is less than significant.**

Hazardous Emissions and Acutely Hazardous Materials Near Schools: The project is not likely to emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous, acutely hazardous materials, substances or

wastes nor is the project located within one quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. **There is no impact.**

Hazardous Materials Sites: The project is not located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. **There is no impact.**

Hazards and Airports (Public and Private): The project is not located within two miles of an airport or an area covered by an Airport Land Use Plan. There is **no impact**.

Emergency Response Plan and Emergency Evacuation Plan: Amador County does not have an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan; therefore, there is **no impact.**

Wildland Fire Hazards: According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection the project is located in the State Responsibility Area for wildland fire protection and is within the Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Any future construction is required to comply with the Wildland-Urban Interface Building Codes (adopted by reference by Amador County in Chapter 15.04 of County Codes). Therefore, the impact is **less than significant**.

Mitigation: None required.

Sources: Amador County Environmental Health Department and Planning Department; California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; Amador County Code.

	Chapter 9. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	 a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? 				
	b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate or pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?			\boxtimes	
	c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?			\boxtimes	
	d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?			\boxtimes	
	e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?			\boxtimes	
	f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				\boxtimes
	g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				\boxtimes
	h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				
	i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				
l	i) Inundation by seighe trungmi or mudflow?				

Water Quality Standards and Waste Discharge Requirements: The project will not be subject to waste discharge requirements and is unlikely to significantly contribute to a violation of water quality standards. The impact is less than significant.

Groundwater Supplies: The project is unlikely to significantly impact groundwater supplies via extraction or the creation of extensive hard surfaces which pose a barrier to recharge. **The impact is less than significant.**

Erosion/Siltation: The project will not alter the course of surface water drainage patterns of the area, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site. The impact is **less than significant**.

Flooding: The onsite drainage patterns and impervious surface area will not be altered such that the volume or velocity of surface water runoff results in flooding on-or off-site. The impact is **less than significant.**

Storm water system capacity/Polluted runoff: The existing stormwater system consists of natural overland flow and no planned stormwater drainage systems are proposed for the site. The project area consists of exposed granite, and a mix of wooded and meadow areas and the potential development at the current zoning and general plan densities will not provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The impact is **less than significant**.

Water quality: The project will have **no impact** on the quality of surface water or ground water supplies or resources, as indicated above.

Flood Hazard: The project site is located in Zone X, an area outside of the 500 year flood plain as identified in the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map dated May 20, 2010. There is **no impact**.

Dam/Levee Failure: There are no dams or levels near the project are that could pose risk to property damage and personal injury from failure. There is **no impact**.

Seiche/tsunami/mudflow: The project site could be affected by seiche in the event of an earthquake. However, the California Geological Survey's Index to Official Maps of Earthquake Fault Zones does not include the project site as an area with known geologic faults. Therefore, the impact is considered **less than significant**.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County Department of Transportation and Public Works; Environmental Health Department; and Planning Department.

Chapter 10. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?				\boxtimes
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			\boxtimes	
 c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? 				

Divide an Established Community: Any future construction will be located within the applicable building setbacks for the area and will not encroach into or disrupt any established roadways, walkways, trails, streams, or drainage areas, and will not cause a physical division of an established community. There is **no impact**.

General Plan and Zoning Consistency: The General Plan designation for the area is O-R, (Open Space-Recreation), and is zoned "R1A," Single Family Residential and Agricultural. These land use classifications would permit five additional detached dwellings. The project does not propose development or construction that exceeds those limitations. The impact is **less than significant**.

Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan: Amador County does not have an adopted habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan; therefore, there is **no impact**.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County Code, Title 19 (Zoning); Amador County General Plan; Planning Department, Environmental Health Department.

Chapter 11. MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use?				

Loss of Availability of Mineral Resources and Mineral Resource Recovery Sites: Review of Exhibit 4.6-4 (Mineral Resource Zones) in the Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016) indicates this project area is not located within a known or identified mineral resource zone. It can be reasonably concluded that current and proposed on-site land uses (primarily open space, forest, and agricultural) will not result in any additional impacts to mineral resources. There is **no impact**.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County General Plan Final EIR (July, 2016).

Chapter 12. NOISE – Would the project cause:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			\boxtimes	
 b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? 				
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?			\boxtimes	
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				

Noise Levels in Excess of Standards: The project's ultimate build-out of five additional single-family dwellings would create noise levels within the expected standards for the area. There impact is less than significant.

Groundborne vibrations and noise levels: The project will not increase groundborne vibrations or noise levels; therefore, there is **no impact**.

Substantial Permanent Increase in Noise Levels: The project densities and uses are consistent with the applicable zoning and general plan designations. The use of the property for additional single family and second family dwellings would have a **less than significant** increase in permanent noise levels.

Substantial Temporary or Periodic Increase in Ambient Noise Levels: There is the potential, during construction of potential future dwellings, for noise levels to increase temporarily. However, this increase is anticipated and considered to be a **less than significant impact.**

Noise Levels and Public and Private Airports/Airstrips: The project is not located within an Airport Land Use Plan area or within two miles of a public or private airport. There is **no impact**.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Planning Department; Amador County General Plan; Westover Field Airport Land Use Plan.

Chapter 13. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?			\boxtimes	
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				
 c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? 				

Induce Substantial Population Growth: The potential residential development that could result from the project is consistent with the general plan density for the site, and there is no need for an expansion of infrastructure that could induce significant population growth. For these reasons, the impact is considered **less than significant**.

Displace Existing Housing or People: The project will not result in the displacement of existing housing or people; therefore, there is **no impact**.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County General Plan; Planning Department.

Chapter 14. PUBLIC SERVICES – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?				
Police protection?				
Schools?			\boxtimes	
Parks?				
Other public facilities?			\boxtimes	

Fire Protection: The Amador Fire Protection District has reviewed this project and has determined that no new or altered fire facilities are required. In order to mitigate the impact on fire protection services to a **less than significant level**, **Mitigation Measure 14.1**, **below**, **is required**.

Police Protection: The project's maximum development potential includes three additional single family dwellings and one additional attached second family dwelling. The Amador County Facility Fee is collected at the time any dwelling is constructed to help offset the impacts new dwellings have on police facilities. Therefore, the impact is **less than significant**.

Schools: Implementation of the project will not cause a significant increase in the number of students attending a school within the Amador County Unified School District. Impacts on schools are mitigated by the payment of mandatory school impact fees at the time dwelling is constructed. Therefore, the impact is **less than significant**.

Parks: No new or improved parks are required as a result of this project. Impacts to recreational facilities are mitigated by the payment of the County's Recreation Impact Fee collected at the time any dwelling is constructed. The impact is anticipated to be **less than significant**.

Other Public Facilities: The project is consistent with the General Plan and the project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on public facilities. Impact fees in addition to those outlined above may apply at to future construction. The impact is **less than significant**.

Mitigation Measure 14.1 – To mitigate the impact on fire protection services, in accordance with Amador County Ordinance No. 1640, the project proponent shall participate in the annexation to the County's Community Facilities District No. 2006-1 (Fire Protection Services).

Source: Amador County Code; Planning Department; Amador Fire Protection District; Amador County Sheriff's Department.

Chapter 15. RECREATION – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
d) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?			\boxtimes	

Increased Use of Parks & Construction or Expansion of Recreation Facilities: The project is consistent with the General Plan and is not anticipated to have a significant impact on recreation facilities. No new or improved parks are planned or required as a result of this project. The impact is anticipated to be less than significant.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County Planning Department, Amador County General Plan.

Chapter 16. TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?				
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				\boxtimes
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			\boxtimes	
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				

Measurement of Circulation System effectiveness: The effectiveness of the County circulation element is measured by a project's impact to the Level Of Service (LOS) criteria adopted for roadways and transportation methods within Amador County. The project's impacts to LOS are discussed below. There is **no impact** to the effectiveness of the County's circulation system.

Level of Service Standards: The LOS Standard criteria as established in the General Plan Circulation Element is the established congestion management program in effect for the County of Amador. While creation of two additional parcels allowed by current zoning would have a **less than significant impact** on Average Daily Traffic volumes for Plasse Road and West Lake Road.

Change in Air Traffic Patterns: There are no nearby airports or established air traffic patterns. There is **no impact**.

Hazards due to Design Features / Incompatible Uses: The project proposes to access Plasse Road and West Lake Road through new encroachments for future construction. No new road design features are proposed or anticipated. New encroachments will have to comply with effective design and construction requirements at the time of application. The impact is **Less Than Significant**.

Emergency Access: Compliance with standard residential driveway encroachment requirements will result in the project having **no impact** on the adequacy of access for emergency vehicles or the adequacy of emergency ingress or egress to or from the resulting parcels.

Public Transit, Bicycle, Pedestrian Facilities: Due to the limited nature of this project, the project does not conflict with the adopted policies and programs for public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities. There is **no impact**.

Mitigation: None required.

Source: Amador County Department of Transportation and Public Works; Amador County Code.

Chapter 17. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? 				
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental effects?			\boxtimes	
c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				
e) Result in determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				\boxtimes
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statues and regulations related to solid waste?			\boxtimes	

Exceed Wastewater Treatment Requirements: The project will not be served by a wastewater system subject to waste discharge requirements issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. There is **no impact.**

Stormwater Drainage Facilities Impacts: Potential development resulting from the project is not anticipated to create a significant amount of storm water runoff adversely impacting drainage systems. The existing stormwater system consists of natural overland flow and no planned stormwater drainage systems are proposed or required for the project. There is **no impact**.

Sufficient Water Supplies Available: The project proposes to be served by the Plasse Homestead Homeowners Association public water system. Improvements to that water system may be required in order to extend service to each and every parcel. Prior to recordation of any final map, the subdivider shall provide the Amador County Environmental Health Department a will serve letter from that purveyor for domestic water service to all resultant parcels. This potential impact is less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Construction of New Water or Wastewater Treatment Facilities: The project may result in the construction of pipeline extensions or other improvements to the existing public water system. Such construction is expected to be relatively limited in scope. The impact is less than significant.

Wastewater Treatment Provider Capacity: The project will not be served by a wastewater treatment provider. **There is no impact.**

Landfill Capacity: Amador County meets its mandated capacity requirements through waste hauler contracts. Provided the project utilizes the Amador County franchise waste hauler, permitted waste disposal capacity is achieved. Kiefer landfill has is expected to approach capacity between the years 2035 - 2060. The franchise hauler also contracts with Lockwood Landfill in Nevada to provide backup capacity. **The impact is less than significant.**

Compliance with Solid Waste Statutes and Regulations: The project is unlikely to generate problematic volumes or types of solid waste. The impact is less than significant.

Mitigation:

Mitigation Measure 17.1 - Prior to recordation of any final map, the subdivider shall provide the Amador County Environmental Health Department a will-serve letter from the applicable purveyor for domestic water service to all resultant parcels.

Chapter 18. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively are considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?			\boxtimes	
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				

NOTE: If there are significant environmental impacts which cannot be mitigated and no feasible project alternatives are available, then complete the mandatory findings of significance and attach to this initial study as an appendix. This is the first step for starting the environmental impact report (EIR) process.

Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation:

POTENTIAL DEGRADATON OF THE QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT:

Based on the analysis contained in this Initial Study, impacts to Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forest Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Recreation, and Transportation would result in a less than significant impact on the environment.

Impacts to Cultural Resources could be significant unless mitigated. Therefore, Mitigation Measure 5.1 is required of the project.

Impacts to Public Services could be significant unless mitigated. Therefore, Mitigation Measure 14.1 is required of the project.

Impacts to Public Utilities and Services could be significant unless mitigated. Therefore, Mitigation Measure 17.1 is required of the project.

Therefore, the project will not degrade the quality of the environment and no habitat, wildlife populations, and plant and animal communities would be impacted. All environmental topics are either considered to have "No Impact," "Less Than Significant Impact," or "Less than Significant Impacts With Mitigation Incorporated."

CUMULATIVELY CONSIDERABLE IMPACTS:

Based on the analysis in this Initial Study Checklist, the project is consistent with the County's General Plan land use projections. The land use and density has been considered in the overall County growth. The analysis demonstrated that the project is in compliance with all applicable state and local regulations. In addition, the project would not produce impacts which, considered with the effects of other past, present, and probable future projects, would be cumulatively considerable because potential adverse environmental impacts were determined to be less than significant with the implementation of mitigation measures identified in the checklist.

SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS ON HUMAN BEINGS:

As discussed in Chapters 1 through 17 of this Initial Study, the project would not expose persons to substantial adverse impacts related to aesthetics, agricultural and forest resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards or hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, or public utilities and services. The effects to these environmental issues were identified to have no impact, a less than significant impact, or a less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated. Therefore, the project does not have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

SOURCE: Chapters 1 through 17 of this Initial Study.

REFERENCES

California Air Resources Board; Amador County Air District Rules and Regulations; California Department of Conservation; California Geologic Survey: Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones; California Department of Conservation, Division of Farmland Mapping and Monitoring; State Department of Mines & Geology; Amador County General Plan; Amador County General Plan Update Biological and Cultural Working Papers; Amador County GIS; Amador County Zoning Map; Amador County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; Amador County Municipal Codes; Amador County Soil Survey; National Cooperative Soil Survey; Amador County General Plan Flnal EIR (July, 2016); and Commenting Department and Agencies. All documents cited herein are available in the public domain, and are hereby incorporated by reference as though set forth in full.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 21083, 21083.05, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 65088.4, Gov. Code; Sections 21080, 21083.05, 21095, Pub. Resources Code; Eureka Citizens for Responsible Govt. v. City of Eureka (2007) 147 Cal. Appl. 4th 357; Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency (2004) 116 Cal. App. 4th at 1109; San Franciscans Upholding the Downtown Plan v. city and County of San Francisco (2002) 102 Cal. App. 4th 656.