



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Mother Lode Field Office

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



**Cosumnes River Preserve
Galt, Sacramento County, CA**

January 2015

EA Number: CA-180-15-01

Proposed Action: Cosumnes River Preserve Boardwalk Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project

Location:

The proposed action area is located within the Cosumnes River Preserve (Preserve), which lies between the cities of Elk Grove and Galt, in southeastern Sacramento County, California (Figure 1). The Preserve stretches along the Cosumnes River from its confluence with the Mokelumne River near Interstate-5 and the San Joaquin County line, extending up river past California State Highway 99 and Dillard Road towards the town of Wilton, California. The Preserve also includes Staten Island (in San Joaquin County), the McCormack-Williamson Tract, and several private farms and ranches that are protected under conservation easements.

The proposed action area is wholly contained within the BLM's Lost Slough Wetland Unit, located on the west side of Franklin Boulevard, south of Twin Cities Road, approximately 5 miles west of the City of Galt, California. The site is located within the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ in the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 21, T 5 N, R 5 E, of the MDM on the 7.5-minute Bruceville, CA USGS quadrangle. The latitude and longitude of the approximate center of the proposed action area are 38°16'11.23" North and 121°26'32.51" West (Figure 2).

Cosumnes River Preserve Project Vicinity

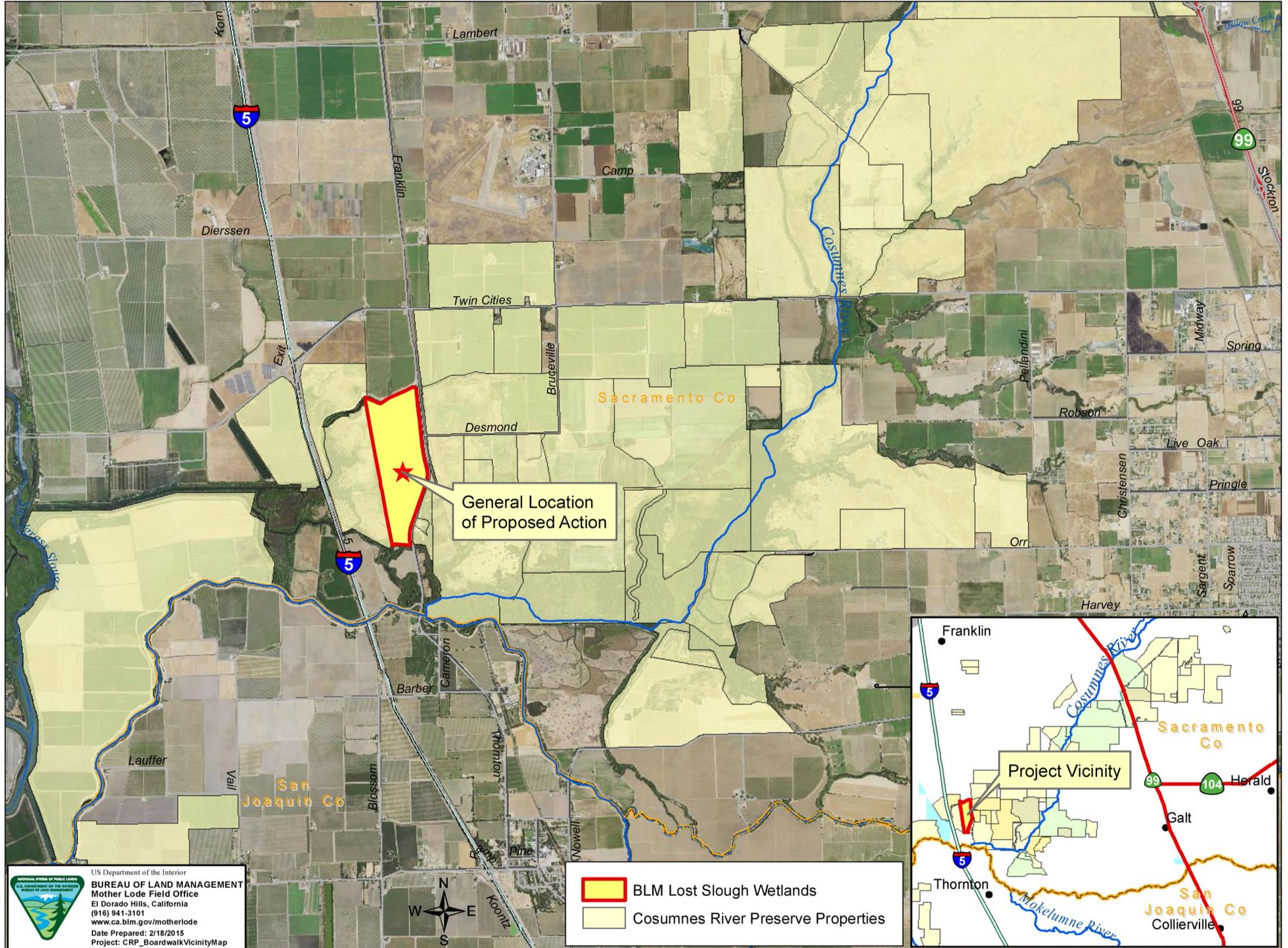


Figure 1. General Location of Proposed Action

1:62,500

1 inch = 5,208 feet

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 Date Prepared: 2/18/2015
 Project: CRP_BoardwalkVicinityMap

Proposed Action Area Map

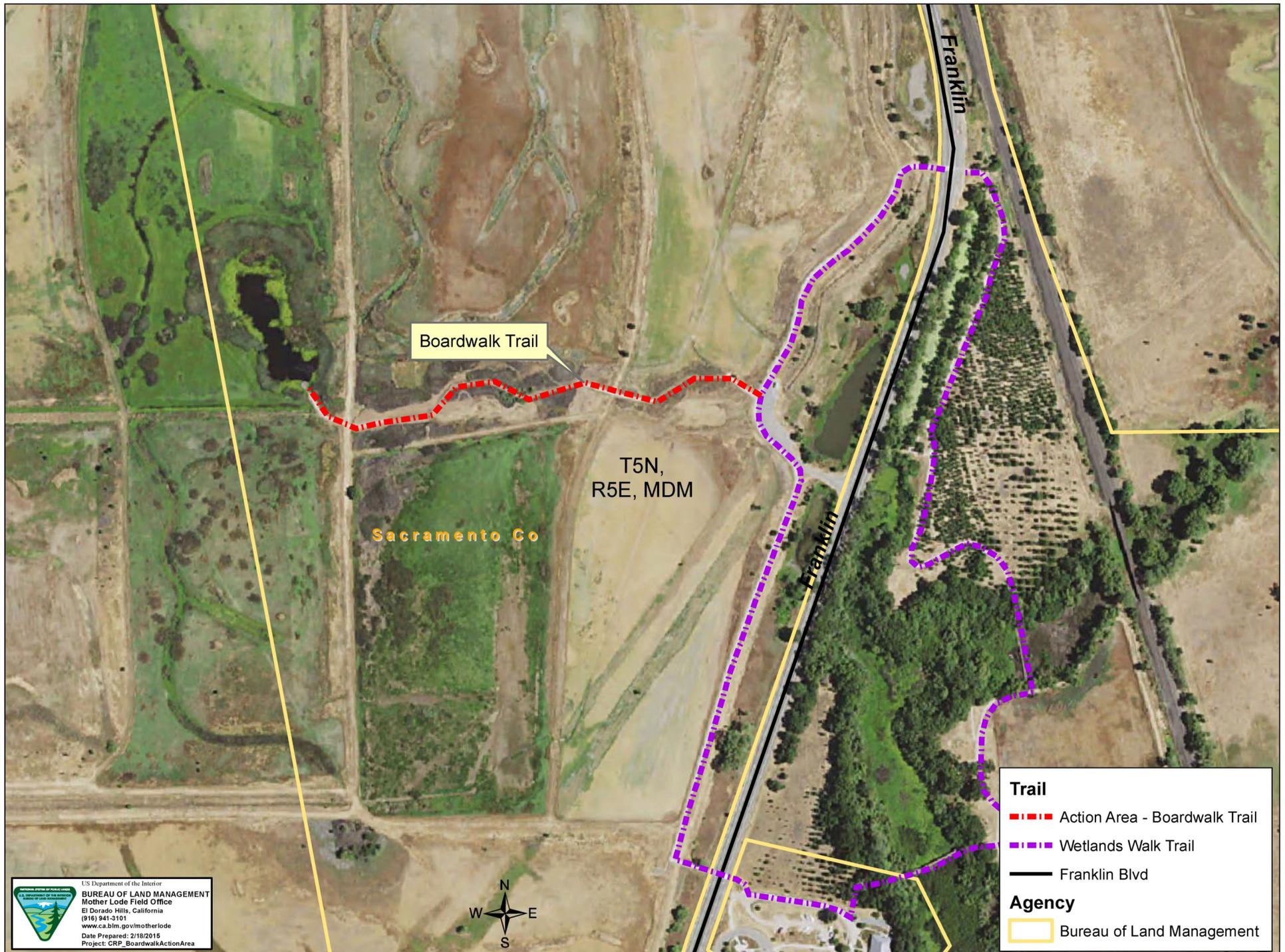


Figure 2. Proposed Action Area

1:4,000

1 inch = 333 feet

Boardwalk Replacement Project Design Plan

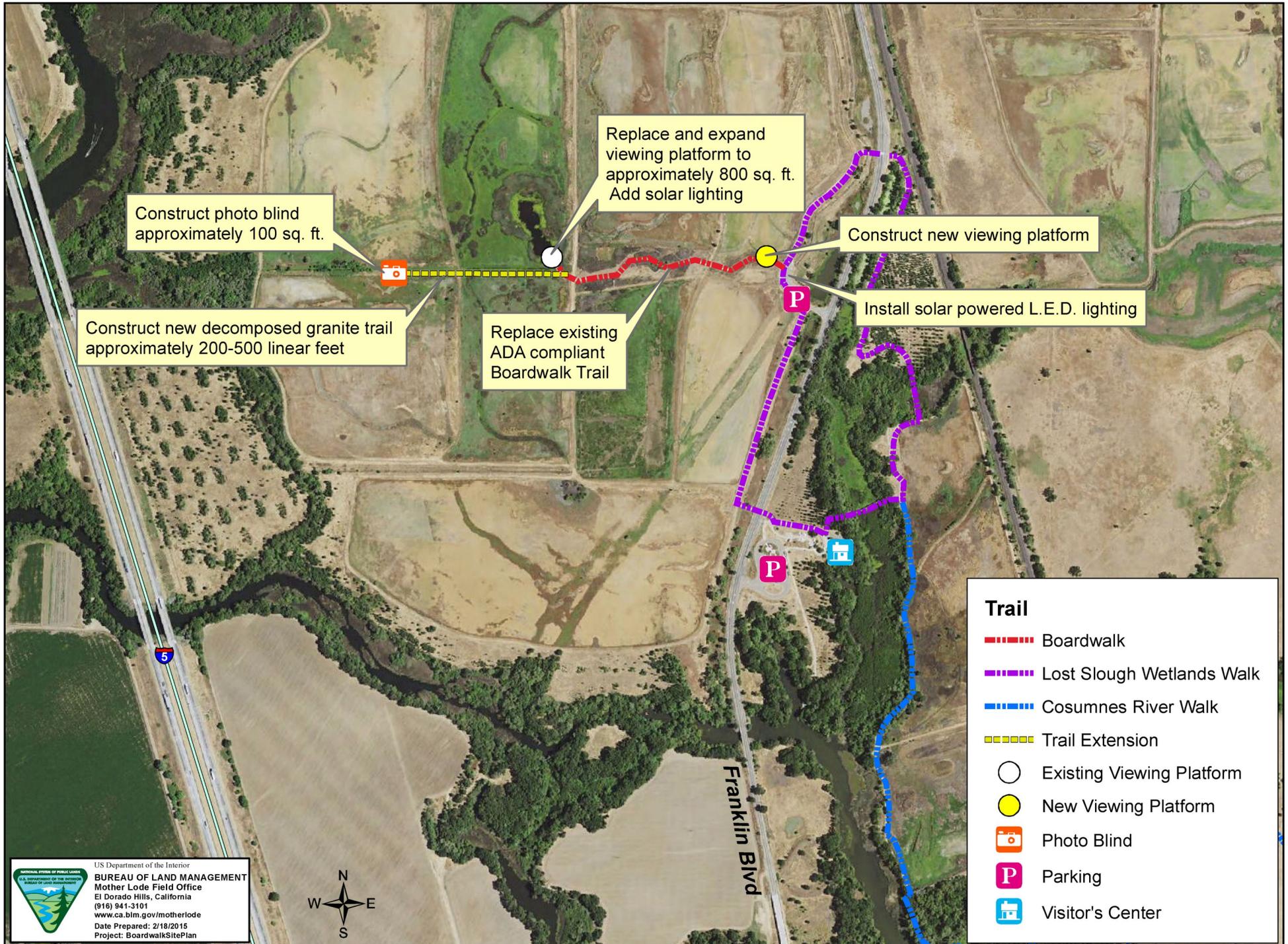


Figure 3. Project Design Plan/Features

1:10,000

1 inch = 833 feet

1.0 Purpose of and Need for Action

1.1 Need for Action

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is one of seven land-owning partners at the 50,000-acre Cosumnes River Preserve (Preserve). The Preserve is a collaborative partnership between federal, state and local agencies, as well as non-profit conservation organizations and private farming and ranching cooperators. In 1995 the BLM, in coordination with the other participating partners, installed a combination wooden and concrete boardwalk trail (boardwalk). This trail was an extension of the Wetland Walk Trail System. The boardwalk extends westward from a parking area off of Franklin Boulevard through the Lost Slough wetland complex (Figure 2). Over time the boardwalk has degraded due to visitor use and normal weathering and aging of the lumber. In recent years this portion of the trail has been closed on several occasions due to potential visitor/staff safety hazards. Since the original installation, the Preserve staff and volunteers have maintained the Boardwalk and have repaired issues that may either present a safety hazard, or reduce the visitor recreational experience (raised nails/screws, damaged/missing boards, increased vegetation *etc.*). However, the degradation of this section of the Preserve's trail system has now reached a level at which it is no longer safe for continued visitor use, or is no longer cost commensurate for staff and volunteers to maintain.

The boardwalk is distinct because it extends through a series of seasonally managed wetland ponds, instead of around the perimeter as with the rest of the Wetland and River Walk Trail system. This provides visitors, educators, and students with a unique perspective and a more interactive viewing experience. According to data gathered in 2014 over a 187-day period, this section of the trail saw 23,883 visitors, split almost equally between weekdays and weekends. This data indicates that permanent closure of this section of the Boardwalk due to safety hazards could negatively impact Preserve visitation, and may impact the BLM's ability to meet the multi-use mandate regarding public lands.

1.2 Conformance with Applicable Land Use Plans

The proposed action is consistent with the BLM's February 2008 Sierra Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision where it states that the goal of the recreation program is to ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreational opportunities while protecting other resources and uses. The proposed action is also consistent with the March 2008 Cosumnes River Preserve Final Management Plan which includes a commitment to provide a wide range of wildlife-compatible recreational activities for the general public.

2.0 Proposed Action and Alternatives

2.1 Proposed Action

The proposed action would include the removal and replacement of the current wooden boardwalk as well as any areas of damaged concrete along this portion of the trail system. The proposed action would also include the removal and reconstruction of the current viewing platform at the western end of the trail (Figure 3). This platform would be expanded in size from approximately 400 sq ft. to approximately 800 sq ft. to accommodate increased visitor use and K-12 students that participate in the Preserve's Environmental Education Program. Also, the newly remodeled viewing platform would be constructed with a roof, solar lighting, and seating areas to accommodate up to 25-30 visitors or students in a variety of weather conditions.

The BLM also proposes to add a new viewing platform to the boardwalk trail. The new viewing platform will be approximately 400 sq ft. in size. The new platform may require the construction of a trail spur. If so, the spur would extend from the concrete area adjacent to the boardwalk parking lot (Figure 3) approximately 20-30 yards to the NW ending at the new platform. The new platform will be designed to minimize land and wildlife disturbance while allowing visitors an additional wildlife viewing opportunity. It will be the primary location for the Preserve's "Ducks in Scopes" outreach program during the winter migratory waterfowl season. In the future the two viewing platforms could be raised to a height of approximately 8-12 feet (above ground/water level) to allow for a more expansive view of the Lost Slough wetland complex.

Additionally the BLM proposes to increase signage/education boards along the trail, reconstruct the existing benches and potentially add new bench locations along the trail, install solar lighting in select areas for increased security of visitors and staff, and install crash pipes around the boardwalk parking lot vault toilet area to keep vehicles from impacting that facility.

Under the proposed action the Preserve will contract with a construction company through the standard competitive bidding process to remove and replace the existing boardwalk and viewing platform. The replacement materials, depending on cost, may be either wood, composite, or recycled composite decking. The contracted company would also replace any areas of damaged concrete. Areas deemed safe for continued long-term use will be left in their current condition. The contracted company would also be required to perform minor excavations to create the new spur trails for the photo blind and new viewing platform. The expansion of the existing viewing platform, the construction of a new viewing platform, and the photo blind would require new support posts to be installed in order to support the new structures. If composite decking material is selected for the boardwalk, it may be necessary to add or modify the joist and support structures under the existing wooden areas to support the new materials. No further excavations would be required and no further land disturbance would be necessary for this action, aside from that of foot and small equipment traffic on the surface in and around the action area. Construction would take place during an approximate thirty day period between June, 1st and September, 1st, 2015, after the surrounding managed wetland ponds have been drawn down. The boardwalk would be closed for the duration of the proposed action, and reopened upon completion.

2.2 Project Design Features

- No species of plant, fish or wildlife would be collected, harassed, killed, injured, or otherwise disturbed during the replacement and construction of the new boardwalk trail. All work would be completed during months when the wetlands are seasonally dry to avoid any impacts on resident or migratory species.
- The trail and viewing platforms will be ADA compliant in design. Though the new viewing platforms would remain at ground/water level during this phase, this action would feature designs which allow for the platforms to be raised in the future to a height of 8-12 feet to provide an enhanced visitor viewing experience. In order to accommodate this feature the length, width, and grade of the trail would be considered to allow for this future action/adjustment while remaining in ADA compliance. If undertaken, additional NEPA analysis may be required in the future for this portion of the work.
- The two new viewing platforms would require support posts, joists and other foundation work. The size and depth of these holes, along with the span between posts and joists would be determined by the contractor to ensure structural integrity and compliance with all applicable building/trail codes. All posts, joists and other support structures would be secured in concrete

which would be mixed on site and/or brought in via a commercial concrete service. Concrete would be fully cured before any water was pumped into the wetlands. The new boardwalk trail would be constructed using either composite or wood decking materials that limit the possibility of contaminants entering the wetland ecosystem.

- Solar powered lighting would be installed in areas deemed necessary in order to enhance visitor experience and safety (*e.g.*, at the terminal viewing platform, the boardwalk vault toilet, parking lot, etc.).
- Contractors and Preserve employees/volunteers associated with the proposed action would be required to stage all equipment, materials, *etc.* in pre-determined locations within the proposed action area. All trash would be removed at the end of each work day.

Site Preparation

Minimal additional site preparation would be required for the proposed action. A small buffer area on each side of the boardwalk trail of approximately 3-5ft. is already present and is maintained as part of the routine trail work at the Preserve. This area would allow for the removal and replacement of the current boardwalk with minimal need for any additional vegetation removal or ground disturbance. The new trail spur leading to the eastern viewing platform (and the future photo blind) (Figure 3) will require minimal earthmoving since the area is already flat and sparsely vegetated. An approximately six-foot width of vegetation may be disturbed to accommodate a six-foot wide ADA compliant concrete or decomposed granite trail. Any removed soil or vegetation would be used within the wetland unit for various repairs to loafing islands, levees, or roads.

2.3 No Action

Under the no action alternative, the BLM would leave the boardwalk trail in its current degraded condition until it is deemed completely unsafe for visitor and student use. At that time the trail would be permanently closed, depriving visitors and students of a unique wildlife viewing experience, and preventing the BLM from meeting its multi-use mandate for public lands.

2.4 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis

The BLM did not consider any other alternatives in detailed analysis.

3.0 Affected Environment

This section describes the physical, biological, social, and economic resources in the action area and the potential environmental effects of the no action and the proposed action alternatives. When necessary, mitigation measures are also proposed to avoid or reduce any effects to less than significant.

The following critical elements have been considered in this environmental assessment, and unless specifically mentioned later in this EA, have been determined to be unaffected by the proposed action: prime/unique farmlands, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness, traffic, climate change, and environmental justice.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Area of Critical of Environmental Concern (ACEC) are special management areas designated by the BLM to protect significant historic, cultural, or scenic values; fish and wildlife resources; natural process or systems; and/or natural hazards that:

- have more than locally significant qualities which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource;
- have qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change;
- has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of the Federal Land Management and Practices Act (FLMPA);
- has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety and public welfare; and/or
- poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.

The proposed action area falls within the 2,035-acre Cosumnes River Preserve ACEC. Relevant and important values include the existence or potential for restoration of (1) valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) riparian forest; (2) seasonal wetlands; (3) oak (*Quercus spp.*) savannah; (4) agricultural lands that provide habitat for sandhill cranes (*Grus canadensis*) and a buffer for the Preserve.

Noise

The Lost Slough Unit receives frequent visitor, staff, and volunteer use throughout the year. Noise associated with vehicles, heavy equipment, and handheld power equipment (hedge trimmers, weed trimmers, chainsaws *etc.*) is common during daylight hours within the Unit. Noise related to vehicle and farm/agricultural equipment traffic is also common on Franklin Blvd., which borders the Lost Slough Unit to the east, and on Interstate 5, which borders the Unit to the west.

Vegetation

The wetland portion of the Lost Slough Unit is dominated by tule (*Schoenoplectus spp.*), cattails (*Typha spp.*), cocklebur (*Xanthium spp.*) and other wetland species. Monocultures of the non-native yellow water primrose (*Ludwigia hexapetala*) have become established in some portions of individual wetland ponds. The upland areas are dominated by native and non-native grasses including wild oat (*Avena fatua*), and foxtail (*Bromus spp.*) along with various native and non-native herbaceous plants. Trees and shrubs include valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), willows (*Salix spp.*), and coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*).

Wildlife

Several species that commonly occur at the Lost Slough Unit are not specifically managed as part of the Preserve's overall management strategy. However, these species benefit from habitat that is created, restored or preserved as part of the Preserve's projects and continued management. These species include mink (*Mustela vison*), California vole (*Microtus californicus*), beaver (*Castor canadensis*), and valley garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis fitchi*) among many others.

Migratory Birds

Migratory birds and their habitats are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), as amended (16 U.S.C 703 *et seq.*). Several migratory birds, including waterfowl, shorebirds, song birds, vultures, and raptors are commonly found around and within the Lost Slough Unit. Many of these species are included in the Preserve's active management strategy. These species include Northern pintail (*Anas acuta*), American coot (*Fulica americana*), Sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis*), and Long-billed dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) among many others. Songbirds and raptors have the potential to utilize tree and shrub habitat, and waterbirds utilize the wetland habitat located within the action area during the winter wet season.

Special Status Species

Certain special-status species and their habitats are protected by Federal, State, and local laws and agency regulations. The Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C § 1531 *et seq.*) provides legal protection for plant and animal species in danger of extinction. This act is administered by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries). In addition to formal lists of endangered and threatened species, the BLM maintains a list of taxa that are BLM designated Sensitive Species.

Special-status species are those that meet any of the following criteria:

- Listed or candidate for listing under ESA.
- Plants or animals designated by the BLM as Sensitive Species.
- Nesting bird species and active nests of birds listed under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
- Species of concern that have the potential to occur in the action area due to suitable or marginal habitat existence for those species, as identified by USFWS.

Each species on the list was evaluated for its potential to occur within the action areas. Species that are not found in the land cover types present in the action area, or whose known range falls outside the action area were eliminated from further consideration. Those special-status species that are known to occur or have the potential to occur within the action area are further evaluated in this document.

Special Status Vegetation

No special-status plant species are known to occur in the proposed action area.

Special Status Wildlife

Five special-status wildlife species were identified as having the potential to occur, or are known to occur, in the proposed action area (Table 1).

Table 1. Special status species.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Known Occurrence	USFWS/NOAA Fisheries	BLM SENSITIVE SPECIES LIST
		or Potential to Occur		
Valley Longhorn Elderberry Beetle	<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	Elderberry shrubs are typically common in riparian habitat; there are no occurrences within the action area.	Threatened	
Tricolored Blackbird (TCB)	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	Known to historically nest on the Preserve. Currently they are migratory only; Several wetland ponds are actively managed for TCB habitat but there have been no sightings of the species within the action area.		Sensitive Species
Swainson's Hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Known to occur seasonally in and around the action area.		Sensitive Species
Greater Sandhill Crane	<i>Grus canadensis tabida</i>	Known to occur during the winter/wet season and have been documented within the action area.		Sensitive Species
Giant Garter Snake	<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	Known to occur on the Preserve, however the closest occurrence is ~5 miles from the Lost Slough Unit.	Threatened	

Recreation

The BLM manages scattered public lands in the foothills of the central Sierra Nevada as well as within the Central Valley, including at the Cosumnes River Preserve. Portions of the Preserve are available for public use and provide excellent recreational opportunities such as wildlife viewing, boating/paddling, hiking, fishing, and hunting. The trail system provides educational opportunities for local schools, universities, guided hike and wildlife viewing opportunities for various organizations, and numerous recreational opportunities for the general public. Recent data from a 16 month period between October 2012 and January 2014 shows over 80,000 unique visitors to the Preserve trail system, including over 29,000 unique visitors to the boardwalk section of the trail.

The Preserve Recreation Program has been designed to:

- Promote interest in the recreational activities available to visitors, schools, universities, and various organizations at the Preserve;
- Promote compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Minimize or eliminate conflict with fish, wildlife, and plant population goals or objectives as outlined in the Preserve's March 2008 Final Management Plan;
- Minimize conflicts with other compatible wildlife-dependent recreation;
- Minimize conflicts with neighboring landowners;
- Promote natural resources stewardship and conservation;
- Provide reliable and reasonable opportunities to experience wildlife and the variety of ecosystems present at the Preserve.

The Lost Slough Unit contains multiple parcels which are divided among two landowning partners at the Preserve. However, the areas where the new trail construction and replacement will take place occur entirely on lands owned by the BLM, with the exception of the photo blind and associated trail extension. The photo blind would be located on land owned by Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU), but managed by the BLM under contract and financial contribution from DU.

Visual Resources

As set forth in the Preserve Management Plan, the BLM manages the Wetland Walk Trail, including the boardwalk section, in accordance with class II visual resource management (VRM) standards (as defined by the BLM visual resource management classification system established in 1992). The objective of class II is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Cultural Resources

The Lost Slough Wetland Unit, including the proposed action area or area of potential effects (APE), was intensively inventoried for cultural resources by a BLM archaeologist in 1992 for the Krans wetland development, now called Lost Slough Wetland Unit. This unit is considered to be intensively inventoried for cultural resources. No cultural resources have been identified within the proposed action area. More recently in 2013 and 2015, a BLM archaeologist has reviewed the proposed action. The review included a cultural resources records search, limited fieldwork, and Native American tribal consultation. The 1992 inventory appears to be adequate. No resources have been identified.

4.0 Environmental Effects

As stated in Section 3.0, Affected Environment, the following critical elements have been considered in this environmental assessment and have been determined to be unaffected by the proposed action: prime/unique farmlands, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness, traffic, climate change, and environmental justice.

4.1 Impacts of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

The proposed action would not significantly impact floodplains, wetlands and riparian zones, and the relevant and important values for which the area was designated an ACEC. This is a facility replacement project with minimal alterations to the existing structure.

Noise

Sounds relating to construction activities can be expected as a result of the proposed action. The expected noise would be limited to an approximate 30 day period during the spring/summer of 2015 during normal work hours. At this time of the year the seasonally managed wetland ponds would be dry and limited staff/visitor activity would be expected in the proposed action area. Additionally the proposed action involves activities that occur routinely in this area of the Preserve as part of the normal land management duties. As such, no significant noise impact would result from the proposed action.

Vegetation

The Lost Slough Wetland Complex experiences moderate to high levels of human presence throughout the year as a result of visitor activity and staff/volunteer duties. The proposed action would add limited activity to this unit for a brief period during the spring/summer season. No special status plant species have ever been found during any botanical survey within the action area. The Project Design Features in Section 2.2 place requirements on construction workers to stay within the boundaries of the proposed action area. As such, no significant impact on vegetation is expected as a result of this action.

Wildlife

The Lost Slough Wetland Complex experiences moderate to high levels of human presence throughout the year as a result of visitor activity and staff/volunteer duties. Wildlife in this area are accustomed to this level of activity and the proposed action would add limited activity to these units for a period of 30 days or less during daylight hours. As the action would take place in the spring/summer season when the seasonal wetland units are dry, no significant impact to wildlife is expected as a result of this action.

Migratory Birds

As this action will be brief in execution (approximately 30 days for completion) and will take place during the spring/summer dry season, no significant impact to migratory birds per the MBTA would occur as a result of this action. There are no known Swainson's hawk nesting areas near the proposed action areas because there are no trees large enough to support such nests within the managed wetland ponds.

Special Status Species

Valley elderberry longhorn beetle

No elderberry shrubs (*Sambucus, spp.*) occur within the action area. As the species is typically found only in and around host plants, no adverse effects to this species would result from this action.

Tricolored blackbird

Tricolor blackbirds historically occurred on the Preserve; a nesting colony existed until approximately 10 years ago, roughly 2 miles east of the proposed action area in the Preserve's "Barn Pond" wetland unit. Though the Preserve is currently managing some ponds to create nesting habitat for the tricolored blackbird near the proposed action area, surveys conducted by Preserve biologists and Audubon-California biologists have yet to find any evidence of colonization by the birds to date.

Swainson's hawk

The Swainson's hawk is a known summer resident of the Preserve and the surrounding areas. The presence of suitable habitat in the proposed action area indicates that the hawk could be present, disperse, forage, and nest at or near the proposed action area. However, there have been no documented nesting sites on these units and, though the Lost Slough Unit contains suitable foraging habitat, the limited area and short duration of the proposed action is expected to have no significant effects on foraging opportunities for this species.

Greater sandhill crane

The greater sandhill crane is a winter resident of the Preserve, and has been known to utilize the Lost Slough as a roost and forage site. Throughout the winter/wet season it is not uncommon to see cranes gathering within the action area. However, as the greater sandhill crane is exclusively a winter/wet season migratory resident of the Preserve (including the proposed action area), and the proposed action would occur during the spring spring/summer season, no significant impact is expected for this species.

Giant garter snake

In the 25-year history of the Preserve, there have been no documented sightings of giant garter snakes within the proposed action area. In fact, there have been no documented sightings, scientific or anecdotally, of giant garter snakes in the lower Preserve (*e.g.*, below Twin Cities Road). However, the presence of suitable habitat and the proximity of the proposed action area to a known sub-population of giant garter snakes indicate that giant garter snakes could disperse, forage, and breed at or near the proposed action area if suitable hibernaculum habitat was available (*i.e.*, upland habitat above flood inundation levels). Due to the Project Design Features described in Section 2.2 and the timing of the proposed action, no significant impact is expected for the giant garter snake.

Recreation

The replacement of the boardwalk and expansion of the Preserve's Trail system is in accordance with the superseding 10-year Cosumnes River Preserve Management Plan. The original boardwalk trail was installed in 1995 to provide additional recreational opportunities to the public and this new action seeks to continue to expand upon that effort. The proposed action builds on the past successes of the trail system, providing new recreational opportunities on BLM-owned public lands. No other recreational activities, outside of those stipulated in this assessment take place within the action area at any time of the year. As such, the proposed action would not interfere with, but would instead enhance recreational activities available to the public at the Preserve.

Visual Resources

The proposed action would not significantly impact visual resources. Moderate to high levels of human activity are common on the trail system and within the Lost Slough Unit as part of visitor, student,

volunteer, and management activities. The BLM manages the area in accordance with VRM class II standards, which is to retain the existing character of the landscape; the limited activity within the action area, resulting from the proposed action, would not interfere with the BLM meeting those standards.

Cultural Resources

The proposed action's area of potential effects (APE) has been studied by a BLM archaeologist to determine whether significant cultural resources would be affected, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The APE was intensively inventoried by a BLM archaeologist in 1992 (for the initial development of the Lost Slough Wetland Unit), with additional reviews in 2013 and 2015 that included record searches, limited field inventory (in 2013), and Native American consultation. No cultural resources would be affected.

4.2 Impacts of the No Action Alternative

The No Action alternative would result in the eventual closure of the Boardwalk Trail due to visitor, volunteer, and staff safety concerns. Visitors would be deprived of a unique wildlife viewing experience and the BLM would fail to meet a portion of the multi-use mandate for public lands. Closure of this popular section of the Wetland Walk Trail could be expected to result in decreased visitation to this area of the Preserve. BLM operations would continue as normal on these Units in accordance with the existing Preserve Management Plan.

4.3 Cumulative Impacts

NEPA regulations require that an Environmental Assessment discuss proposed action impacts that, when combined with the impacts from other actions, could result in cumulative effects (40 CFR 1508.25). Cumulative impacts may result from individually minor, but collectively significant, effects of several projects over a period of time.

There are no long-term site-specific adverse impacts expected from the proposed action for ACEC, prime/unique farmlands, floodplains, invasive and nonnative weeds, cultural resources and Native American concerns, threatened or endangered species, water quality, and wetlands and riparian zones.

The Preserve partners, including the BLM, participate in regular trail maintenance and enhancement projects. The majority of these projects involve minor repairs due to normal degradation and weathering. No minor or major negative cumulative impacts are expected from the proposed action because it will be implemented in an area which already exists as part of the Preserve Trail system.

The beneficial impacts of this action include an enhanced visitor experience, enhanced educational opportunities for teachers and students, and a safer trail which would require less staff effort to maintain. Cumulatively, other ongoing and future trail restoration and enhancement projects would have beneficial impacts by increasing recreational and educational opportunities at the Preserve.

5.0 Agencies and Persons Consulted

Sacramento County Parks and Recreation was consulted regarding the proposed action.

5.1 Authors

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Harry McQuillen, BLM Preserve Manager-Cosumnes River Preserve
Mariah Garr, BLM Wetlands Manager-Cosumnes River Preserve
Mark Ackerman, BLM Wildlife Biologist-Cosumnes River Preserve
James Barnes, BLM Archaeologist-Mother Lode Field Office

5.2 BLM Interdisciplinary Team/Reviewers:

<i>/s/ James Barnes</i>	<i>2/12/15</i>
Cultural Resources specialist	Date
<i>/s/ Mariah Brumbaugh</i>	<i>1/30/2015</i>
Preserve wetlands manager	Date
<i>/s/ Jeff Horn</i>	<i>2/11/15</i>
Outdoor recreation planner/VRM specialists	Date
<i>/s/ Sara Sweat</i>	<i>2/9/2015</i>
Botanist	Date
<i>/s/ Beth Brenneman</i>	<i>2/13/15</i>
NEPA coordinator	Date
<i>/s/ Mark Ackerman</i>	<i>1/30/2015</i>
Wildlife biologist	Date

5.3 Availability of Document and Comment Procedures

This EA will be posted on Mother Lode Field Office's website (www.blm.gov/ca/motherlode) under NEPA and will be available for a 15-day public review period. The EA is also available by mail upon request during this 15-day public review period. Comments should be sent to Beth Brenneman at Bureau of Land Management, Mother Lode Field Office, 5152 Hillsdale Circle, El Dorado, CA, 95762, or emailed to bbrennem@blm.gov.

6.0. References

- Bureau of Land Management (BLM), 2008. Sierra Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision. February 2008. Available from:
http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/folsom/rmp_index_page.html
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM), 2010. Special Status Animals in California, Including BLM Designated Sensitive Species. Available from:
<http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/pa/wildlife.Par.13499.File.dat/BLM%20Sensitive%20Animal%20Update%20SEP2006.pdf>
- Cosumnes River Preserve (CRP). 2013. Cosumnes River Preserve Website. Available from:
<http://www.cosumnes.org/>.
- Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544, 87 Stat. 884), as amended -- Public Law 93-205, approved December 28, 1973, repealed the Endangered Species Conservation Act of December 5, 1969 (P.L. 91-135, 83 Stat. 275). The 1969 Act had amended the Endangered Species Preservation Act of October 15, 1966 (P.L. 89-669, 80 Stat. 926).
- Kleinschmidt. 2008. Cosumnes River Preserve Management Plan, Final. March 2008. Prepared for Cosumnes River Preserve. Available from: <http://www.cosumnes.org/about-the-preserve/>.
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (16 U.S.C. 703-712; Ch. 128; July 13, 1918; 40 Stat. 755) as amended by: Chapter 634; June 20, 1936; 49 Stat. 1556; P.L. 86-732; September 8, 1960; 74 Stat. 866; P.L. 90-578; October 17, 1968; 82 Stat. 1118; P.L. 91-135; December 5, 1969; 83 Stat. 282; P.L. 93-300; June 1, 1974; 88 Stat. 190; P.L. 95-616; November 8, 1978; 92 Stat. 3111; P.L. 99-645; November 10, 1986; 100 Stat. 3590 and P.L. 105-312; October 30, 1998; 112 Stat. 2956. Available from: <http://www.fws.gov/laws/lawsdigest/migtrea.html>