

**Mono County  
Community Development Department**

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**FILED**

AUG 21 2013

INYO CO. CLERK  
KAMMI FOOTE, CLERK

DEPUTY

Date: August 21, 2013  
To: Interested individuals  
From: Gerry Le Francois, Principal Planner  
Re: Rock Creek Road Improvement Project - Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY and INTENT TO ADOPT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mono County Community Development Department, as lead agency under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and supporting Initial Study for Rock Creek Road Improvement Project and is providing public notice.

**Project Title:** Rock Creek Road Improvement Project

**Project Location:** US Highway 395 and Rock Creek Road, 9.1 miles from its junction with US 395 south to the end of the road near Rock Creek Pack Station. The project is in Mono and Inyo counties.

**Project Description:** The project consists of the rehabilitation, restoration and resurfacing with the addition of a bicycle climbing lane approximately 9.1 miles of FH 89/Rock Creek Road, from its junction with US 395 south to the end of the road near Rock Creek Pack Station. The project will be funded through the Federal Lands Access Program with a local matching grant. Construction will occur over two construction seasons and is scheduled for 2015-16. Access to recreational uses along the length of the road would remain open during construction, although traffic delays and temporary road closures could occur.

Rock Creek Road provides access to Rock Creek Lake, 12 Inyo National Forest campgrounds, two privately owned and operated lodges, a privately owned pack station, recreational areas, and three trailheads. The pavement condition of the segment of Rock Creek Road proposed for rehabilitation is "failed"; rehabilitation is necessary to prevent further deterioration of the road surface.

The road is a two-lane paved roadway with paved widths varying from 22 to 24 feet and variable-width unpaved shoulders, along with multiple unpaved pull-offs and intersecting roadways. The proposed improvements would follow the existing road and would include the following:

- Widening the existing roadway to include two 11-foot travel lanes, a 4-foot wide striped bike lane along the southbound (uphill) travel lane, and 1-foot paved shoulders for a total paved width of 28 feet;
- Rehabilitation or removal of existing pull-outs;
- Extension of existing culverts to accommodate a wider roadway and replacement of older or damaged culverts; and
- Upgrading regulatory/warning signs to meet current standards.

There will be a 30-day public review period. Any comments concerning the findings of the proposed Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration must be submitted in writing and received by Mono County no later than 5 p.m. on **Sept. 25, 2013**. Comments received will be considered by Mono County prior to certification of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and action on the proposed project. Mono County

will adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration on September 30, 2013. The Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and related documents can be viewed online at: <http://monocounty.ca.gov/lrc/page/resources> and scroll down to supporting documents or by visiting the Community Development Department offices in Mammoth Lakes or Bridgeport.

For additional information, comments and/or concerns, contact Gerry Le Francois at 760-924-1810 or at [glefrancois@mono.ca.gov](mailto:glefrancois@mono.ca.gov).