

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

PROPOSED FEE-TO-TRUST POTTER VALLEY ER14 14.7-ACRE FEE-TO-TRUST PROJECT EA AND FONSI

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Pacific Regional Office, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA), dated February 2022, for the transfer of three parcels (APNs 171-200-13, 171-200-15, and 171-210-12) comprised of approximately 14.7 acres of tribally owned land into federal trust status for the Potter Valley Tribe (Tribe) for future development of a hardware/camp retail store (Proposed Action). The proposed fee-to-trust property is in unincorporated Mendocino County along Eel River Road, four miles north of the town of Potter Valley and adjacent to the Eel River. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide increased long-term socioeconomic security and self-determination for the Tribe through land acquisition and economic development. The Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative were evaluated in the EA.

Based on the analysis and impacts in the EA, any input received during this public review period, and the entire administrative record, the BIA will decide whether to reach a Finding of No Significance Impact (FONSI), direct further work on the EA, or initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. A draft, unsigned FONSI has been prepared and is available for review along with the EA.

The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review on the internet on the BIA NEPA Tracker website: <https://bianepatracker2.doi.gov/> (Search: TR-4314b-P5 J51 537T Eel River FTT) and at <https://www.qfirst.net/environmentalScienceAndReviews.html>. Copies of the EA and unsigned FONSI are also available for public review at the Mendocino County Library, 105 N. Main St., Ukiah, CA. No further action will be taken on the environmental process for at least 30 days after the publication of this notice. For more information, please contact Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825, telephone (916) 978-6165. Written comments should be mailed to Amy Dutschke, Regional Director, at the above address.