



Meeting: **Joint Reservoir Committee & Authority Board  
Agenda Item 3.1**

**April 21, 2023**

Subject: **Status Briefing on the Final EIR/EIS, Part 3**

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**Requested Action:**

Review and comment on the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIR/EIS), Part 3 status briefing in preparation for approval of the Project.

**Detailed Description/Background:**

This staff report provides the third of the planned briefings on the Final EIR/EIS in preparation for certification of the EIR and Project approval which is anticipated to occur this summer. Additional work to finalize the document and address comments from the Authority, Reclamation, along with the Cooperating and Responsible Agency review is underway. In this segment, we will provide an overview of any refinements to impacts and mitigation measures along with an overview of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations will be covered at the May Joint Reservoir Committee and Authority Board meeting.

**Impacts and Mitigation**

As the CEQA lead agency, the Sites Authority must consider both the direct and indirect impacts of implementing the Project. Impacts are determined by comparison to baseline physical conditions. CEQA impact determinations include:

- No impact – No change.
- Less-than-significant impact – No substantial adverse change.
- Less than significant with mitigation – Implementation of one or more mitigation measures would reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level.
- Significant and unavoidable impact – A potentially substantial adverse change in the physical conditions of the environment would result AND mitigation is not feasible or would not reduce impact to less than significant. In a Statement of Overriding Considerations, the Authority must weight these significant and unavoidable impacts against social, economic, legal, technical, or other beneficial aspects of the Project and identify how the benefits of the Project outweigh these significant and unavoidable adverse environmental impacts. This process and the

Statement of Overriding Considerations will be reviewed at the May Reservoir Committee and Authority Board meeting.

The Final EIR/EIS provides an evaluation of potential environmental impacts for all three alternatives analyzed in 27 resource chapters and associated appendices. After thoroughly and carefully reviewing all of these areas, including considering all of the public comments received, the Project team has determined the final potential impacts that could result from implementation of the Project relative to the baseline physical conditions.

Resource areas with no impacts or less-than-significant impacts (not requiring mitigation) include surface water, fluvial geomorphology, groundwater, minerals, recreation, energy, noise, population and housing, public services and utilities, and public health and environmental hazards. The Project would result in significant impacts to the following resources (see Attachment A). Proposed mitigation would reduce some but not all impacts to less-than-significant levels.

- Surface Water Quality\*
- Vegetation and Wetlands\*
- Wildlife\*
- Aquatic Biological Resources
- Paleontology\*
- Land Use\*
- Agricultural Resources\*
- Traffic\*
- Air Quality\*
- Greenhouse Gases
- Cultural Resources\*
- Tribal Cultural Resources\*
- Visual Resources\*
- Environmental Justice (NEPA-only)

Resources areas where at least one significant and unavoidable impact has been identified are noted with an asterisk (\*). There are sometimes multiple impact determinations in each resource area and it is important to note that not all of the impact determinations in these resource areas are significant and unavoidable. In addition, there are a number of significant and unavoidable impacts that have been identified because of the uncertainty in the ability of mitigation measures to fully reduce the impact to less than significant. Once the Project and its mitigation measures are implemented, we may find that the resulting impact is less than significant.

The Authority and Reclamation anticipate releasing a joint Final EIR/EIS. In this way, no new, different or greater impacts or mitigation measures are expected to be identified in the EIS. However, it should be noted that National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) conclusions are somewhat different than CEQA determinations. Pursuant to NEPA, once the decision to prepare an EIS is made, the magnitude of the effect is evaluated but no further judgment of significance is required. NEPA conclusions for Project impacts can include beneficial effect, no effect, no adverse effect, or adverse effect. All NEPA conclusions are consistent with the CEQA determinations at this time.

### Impact and Mitigation Refinements

Minor changes to the Project that have occurred between the RDEIR/SDEIS and the Final EIR/EIS were presented during the February 2023 Joint Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting. These changes include revised bypass flow requirements on the Sacramento River at Wilkins Slough that would reduce Impacts FISH-2, FISH-3, and FISH-4 to less than significant and eliminate the need for Mitigation Measure FISH-2.1 in the Final EIR/EIS.

Other minor revisions have been made to an additional 14 impact statements in the Final EIR/EIS in response to comments, for clarification purposes, and due to revised modeling. These minor revisions have not resulted in changes to the impact categories (i.e., changed a less than significant with mitigation to significant and unavoidable impact). No new or substantially greater impacts have been identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Similarly, minor changes have been made to the mitigation measures in the Final EIR/EIS in response to comments, for clarification purposes and to add/expand some measures as requested by commentors. No new or substantially different mitigation measures have been identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Although not a mitigation measure, minor changes have been made to some of the Project's Best Management Practices (BMPs). This includes a minor change to BMP-16, Traffic Management Plan, where additional detail was added on prohibiting construction traffic, including commuter traffic, in the community of Maxwell while allowing construction traffic on Old Highway 99 and allowing construction workers to patronize local businesses.

### **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**

Mitigation measures will be proposed, where feasible, to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, or compensate for significant and potentially significant impacts of the Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4). To ensure that the mitigation measures identified in the EIR are implemented, the Authority must adopt a program for monitoring or reporting on the measures it has imposed to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects (CEQA Guidelines Section 15097). A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) is under development and would be adopted at the time of the approval and certification of the EIR. The MMRP will outline the mitigation measures required, timing for implementation and responsible party.

### **Future Meetings**

Additional briefings will be provided in upcoming meetings, as outlined below.

- May 2023, Status Briefing on the Final EIR/EIS, Part 3 (continued) – The May briefing will provide an overview of the Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations.

- Summer 2023, Authority Decision – It is anticipated that the Final EIR will be certified in the July or August Board meeting. At that time, the Board will also need to adopt CEQA Findings and a Statement of Overriding Considerations and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. The Board will then be able to take action on the Project. Additional briefings will be provided leading up to the document certification.

**Prior Authority Board Action:**

March 2023: Receive a status briefing on the Final EIR/EIS, Part 2

February 2023: Receive a status briefing on the Final EIR/EIS, Part 1

**Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:**

The preparation of the Final EIR/EIS, including responses to comments, can be completed within the budgeted funds for this task and within the Amendment 3 work plan total budget.

**Staff Contact:**

Ali Forsythe

**Primary Service Providers:**

ICF, HDR

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Summary of Impacts with CEQA Determinations and Mitigation Measures

Attachment B: Summary of Significant and Unavoidable Impacts

**Attachment A. Summary of Impacts with CEQA Determinations and Mitigation Measures**

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Alternative</b>	<b>CEQA Finding</b>	<b>Mitigation Measure</b>	<b>Finding with Mitigation</b>
<b>Surface Water Quality</b>				
<b>Impact WQ-1:</b> Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface water quality during construction				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure WQ-1.1:</b> Methylmercury Management	SU
<b>Impact WQ-2:</b> Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface water quality during operation				
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure WQ-1.1:</b> Methylmercury Management <b>Mitigation Measure WQ-2.1:</b> Prevent Metal Impacts in Stone Corral Creek Associated with Sites Reservoir Discharge <b>Mitigation Measure WQ-2.2:</b> Prevent Net Detrimental Metal and Pesticide Effects Associated with Moving Colusa Basin Drain Water Through the Yolo Bypass	SU
<b>Vegetation and Wetland Resources</b>				
<b>Impact VEG-1:</b> Substantial adverse effect (i.e., loss or removal), either directly or through habitat modifications, on plant species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure VEG-1.1:</b> Conduct Appropriately Timed Surveys for Special-Status Plant Species Prior to Construction Activities <b>Mitigation Measure VEG-1.2:</b> Establish Activity Exclusion Zones Around Special-Status Plants in Temporary Impact Areas and Compensate for Permanent Impacts on Special-Status Plant Species	LTSM
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure VEG-1.3:</b> Establish Activity Exclusion Zones Around Special-Status Plants Prior to Vegetation Maintenance Activities	LTSM

Impact	Alternative	CEQA Finding	Mitigation Measure	Finding with Mitigation
<b>Impact VEG-2:</b> Substantial adverse effect (i.e., loss or removal) on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service				
Construction	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.1:</b> Conduct Surveys for Sensitive Natural Communities and Oak Woodlands in the Project Area Prior to Construction Activities <b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.2:</b> Avoid and Compensate for Adverse Effects on Sensitive Natural Communities	SU
Operation	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.3:</b> Establish Activity Exclusion Zones Around Sensitive Natural Communities Prior to Vegetation Maintenance Activities	LTSM
<b>Impact VEG-3:</b> Substantial adverse effect (i.e., loss or removal) on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means				
Construction	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.1:</b> Avoid and Minimize Disturbance of Wetlands and Non-Wetland Waters During Construction Activities <b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.2:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Wetlands <b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.3:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Non-Wetland Waters	LTSM
Operation	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.4:</b> Establish Activity Exclusion Zones Around Wetlands and Non-Wetland Waters Prior to Vegetation Maintenance Activities	LTSM
<b>Impact VEG-4:</b> Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting vegetation resources (including wetlands and non-wetland waters), such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance				
Construction	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure VEG-1.2:</b> Establish Activity Exclusion Zones Around Special-Status Plants in Temporary Impact Areas and Compensate for Permanent Impacts on Special-Status Plant Species	SU (oak woodlands)

Impact	Alternative	CEQA Finding	Mitigation Measure	Finding with Mitigation
			<p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.1:</b> Conduct Surveys for Sensitive Natural Communities and Oak Woodlands in the Project Area Prior to Construction Activities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.2:</b> Avoid and Compensate for Adverse Effects on Sensitive Natural Communities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.1:</b> Avoid and Minimize Disturbance of Wetlands and Non-Wetland Waters During Construction Activities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.2:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Wetlands</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.3:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Non-Wetland Waters</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-4.1:</b> Avoid and Minimize Potential Adverse Effects on Oak Woodlands During Construction</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-4.2:</b> Compensate for Adverse Effects on Oak Woodlands</p>	LTSM (all others)
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure VEG-4.3:</b> Establish Activity Exclusion Zones Around Blue Oak Woodlands in Vegetation Maintenance Areas	LTSM
<b>Impact VEG-5:</b> Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.1:</b> Conduct Surveys for Sensitive Natural Communities and Oak Woodlands in the Project Area Prior to Construction Activities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.2:</b> Avoid and Compensate for Adverse Effects on Sensitive Natural Communities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.1:</b> Avoid and Minimize Disturbance of Wetlands and Non-Wetland Waters During Construction Activities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.2:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Wetlands</p>	LTSM

Impact	Alternative	CEQA Finding	Mitigation Measure	Finding with Mitigation
			<p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.3:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Non-Wetland Waters</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-4.1:</b> Avoid and Minimize Potential Adverse Effects on Oak Woodlands</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-4.2:</b> Compensate for Adverse Effects on Oak Woodlands</p>	
<b>Wildlife Resources</b>				
<b>Impact WILD-1:</b> Substantial adverse effect (i.e., loss or removal), either directly or through habitat modifications, on wildlife species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 3	S	<p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.1:</b> Assess Habitat Suitability and Survey Suitable Habitat for Vernal Pool Branchiopods</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.2:</b> Avoid and Minimize Potential Effects on Vernal Pool Branchiopods and Western Spadefoot</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.3:</b> Compensate for Impacts on Occupied Vernal Pool Branchiopod Habitat</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.6:</b> Conduct Surveys for Suitable Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle Habitat</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.7:</b> Fence Elderberry Shrubs to be Protected</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.8:</b> Transplant Permanently Affected Elderberry Shrubs and Compensate for Loss of Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle and its Habitat</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.10:</b> Assess Habitat Suitability and Survey for Presence of Monarch Butterfly Nectar and Larval Host Plants</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.11:</b> Compensate for Loss of Monarch Butterfly Nectar and Larval Host Plants</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.12:</b> Assess Habitat Suitability and Survey for Presence of Crotch Bumble Bee and Western Bumble Bee Food Plants</p>	SU (golden eagle) LTSM (other species)



Impact	Alternative	CEQA Finding	Mitigation Measure	Finding with Mitigation
			<p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.13:</b> Compensate for Loss of Crotch Bumble Bee and Western Bumble Bee Habitat</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.14:</b> Assess Habitat Suitability and Survey Suitable Habitat for Western Spadefoot, California Red-legged Frog, and Western Pond Turtle</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.2:</b> Avoid and Compensate for Adverse Effects on Sensitive Natural Communities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.2:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Wetlands</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.17:</b> Implement California Red-legged Frog Protective Measures</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.18:</b> Compensate for Permanent and Temporary Losses of Occupied California Red-legged Frog Aquatic and Upland Habitats</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.19:</b> Conduct Preconstruction Surveys for Western Pond Turtle and Monitor Initial In-Water Work</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.1:</b> Avoid and Minimize Disturbance of Wetlands and Non-Wetland Waters During Construction Activities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.3:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Non-Wetland Waters</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.20:</b> Implement Protective Measures for Giant Gartersnake</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.21:</b> Compensate for Permanent and Temporary Losses of Giant Gartersnake Aquatic and Upland Habitats</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.22:</b> Conduct Vegetation Removal During the Non-Breeding Season of Nesting Migratory Birds</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.23:</b> Conduct Preconstruction Surveys for Non-Raptor Nesting Migratory Birds and Implement Protective Measures if Found</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.24:</b> Conduct Surveys for Western Burrowing Owl Prior to Construction and Implement Avoidance and Minimization Measures if Found</p>	

Impact	Alternative	CEQA Finding	Mitigation Measure	Finding with Mitigation
			<p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.25:</b> Restore Temporarily Disturbed Habitat and Compensate for the Permanent Loss of Occupied Burrowing Owl Habitat</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.28:</b> Conduct Focused Surveys for Golden Eagle and Bald Eagle and Implement Protective Measures if Found</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.29:</b> Compensate for the Loss of Eagle Nest Trees</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-4.1:</b> Avoid and Minimize Potential Adverse Effects on Oak Woodlands During Construction</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-4.2:</b> Compensate for Adverse Effects on Oak Woodlands</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.30:</b> Conduct Focused Surveys for Nesting Swainson’s Hawk, White-tailed Kite, and Other Raptors Prior to Construction and Implement Protective Measures During Construction</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.31:</b> Compensate for the Permanent Loss of Foraging Habitat for Swainson’s Hawk and White-tailed Kite</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AG-1.1:</b> Purchase Agricultural Conservation Easements to Preserve Regional Important Farmland</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.32:</b> Conduct Surveys and Implement Protection Measures for Special-Status Bat Species Prior to Building/Structure Demolition</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.33:</b> Conduct Surveys and Implement Protection Measures for Special-Status Bat Species Prior to Tree Trimming and Removal</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.34:</b> Compensate for Permanent Impacts on Occupied Roosting Habitat</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.35:</b> Implement Protective Measures to Avoid and Minimize Potential Impacts on American Badger</p>	
	2	S	<p>Same as for Alternative 1, plus:</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.4:</b> Evaluate and Survey Potential Habitat for Antioch Dunes Anthicid and Sacramento Anthicid Beetles and Implement Protective Measures</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.5:</b> Compensate for the Loss of Occupied Antioch Dunes Anthicid and Sacramento Anthicid Beetle Habitat</p>	SU (golden eagle), LTSM (other species)

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Alternative</b>	<b>CEQA Finding</b>	<b>Mitigation Measure</b>	<b>Finding with Mitigation</b>
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.9:</b> Protect Special-Status Invertebrates and Their Host and Food Plants from Herbicide and Pesticide Use <b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.15:</b> Design and Construct Wildlife Crossings for New Roadways at Suitable Locations <b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.16:</b> Monitor and Maintain Wildlife Crossings <b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.26:</b> Protect Special-Status Wildlife from Rodenticide Use <b>Mitigation Measure WILD-1.27:</b> Construct Overhead Power Lines and Associated Equipment Following Suggested Practices to Reduce Bird Collisions with Power Lines	LTSM
<b>Impact WILD-2:</b> Substantial interference with the movement of a native resident or migratory wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impediment of the use of native wildlife nursery sites				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 3	S	Same as for <b>Impact WILD-1</b>	SU
	2	S	Same as for <b>Impact WILD-1</b>	SU
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	Same as for <b>Impact WILD-1</b>	SU
<b>Impact WILD-3:</b> Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting wildlife resources				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 3	S	Same as for <b>Impact WILD-1</b> and <b>WILD-2</b>	LTSM
	2	S	Same as for <b>Impact WILD-1</b> and <b>WILD-2</b>	LTSM
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	Same as for <b>Impacts WILD-1</b> and <b>WILD-2</b>	LTSM
<b>Impact WILD-4:</b> Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-

Impact	Alternative	CEQA Finding	Mitigation Measure	Finding with Mitigation
	1, 3	S	Same as for <b>Impact WILD-1</b>	LTSM
	2	S	Same as for <b>Impact WILD-1</b>	LTSM
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	Same as for <b>Impact WILD-1</b>	LTSM
<b>Aquatic Biological Resources</b>				
<b>Impact FISH-1: Construction effects on special-status fish</b>				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.1:</b> Conduct Surveys for Sensitive Natural Communities and Oak Woodlands in the Project Area Prior to Construction Activities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-2.2:</b> Avoid and Compensate for Adverse Effects on Sensitive Natural Communities</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.2:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Wetlands</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure VEG-3.3:</b> Compensate for Temporary and Permanent Impacts on State- or Federally Protected Non-Wetland Waters</p>	LTSM
<b>Impact FISH-8: Operations effects on delta smelt</b>				
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<p><b>Mitigation Measure FISH-8.1:</b> Prevent Detrimental Dissolved Oxygen and Water Temperature Effects on Fish Associated with Moving Colusa Basin Drain Water Through the Yolo Bypass</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure WQ-2.2:</b> Prevent Net Detrimental Metal and Pesticide Effects Associated with Moving Colusa Basin Drain Water Through the Yolo Bypass</p>	LTSM
<b>Impact FISH-9: Operations effects on longfin smelt</b>				
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure FISH-9.1:</b> Tidal Habitat Restoration for Longfin Smelt	LTSM

Impact	Alternative	CEQA Finding	Mitigation Measure	Finding with Mitigation
<b>Geology and Soils</b>				
<b>Impact GEO-7:</b> Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure GEO-7.1:</b> Retain a Qualified Paleontological Resource Specialist Prior to the Start of Construction <b>Mitigation Measure GEO-7.2:</b> Consultation with the Paleontological Resource Specialist Prior to and During Project Construction <b>Mitigation Measure GEO-7.3:</b> Prepare and Implement a Paleontological Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan <b>Mitigation Measure GEO-7.4:</b> Conduct Monitoring During Project Construction and Prepare Monthly Reports <b>Mitigation Measure GEO-7.5:</b> Ensure Implementation of the Paleontological Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan	SU
	2	S	Same as for Alternative 1	LTSM
<b>Land Use</b>				
<b>Impact LAND-1:</b> Physical division of an established community				
<i>Construction and Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 3	LTS	-	-
	2	S	No feasible mitigation measures identified	SU
<b>Agriculture and Forestry Resources</b>				
<b>Impact AG-1:</b> Conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use.				
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure AG-1.1:</b> Purchase Agricultural Conservation Easements to Preserve Regional Important Farmland	SU
<b>Impact AG-2:</b> Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract				
	No Project	NI	-	-

Impact	Alternative	CEQA Finding	Mitigation Measure	Finding with Mitigation
<i>Construction and Operation</i>	1, 2, 3	S	<p><b>Mitigation Measure AG-1.1:</b> Purchase Agricultural Conservation Easements to Preserve Regional Important Farmland</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AG-2.1:</b> Minimize Impacts on Williamson Act-Contracted Lands, Comply with Government Code Sections 51290–51293, and Coordinate with Landowners and Agricultural Operators</p>	SU
<b>Navigation, Transportation, and Traffic</b>				
<b>Impact TRA-5:</b> Substantially affect school bus travel				
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 3	LTS	-	-
	2	S	No feasible mitigation measures identified	SU
<b>Air Quality</b>				
<b>Impact AQ-1:</b> Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard during construction, or conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-1.1:</b> Zero Emission and/or Near Zero Emission Vehicles and Off-Road Equipment</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-1.2:</b> Offset Construction-Generated Criteria Pollutants in CCAPCD, GCAPCD, and YSAQMD</p>	SU
<b>Impact AQ-2:</b> Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard during operations, or conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan				
<i>Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-2.1:</b> Recreational Boat Emissions Minimization Plan</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-2.2:</b> Offset Operation-Generated Criteria Pollutants in CCAPCD and GCAPCD</p>	SU
<b>Impact AQ-4b:</b> Expose sensitive receptors to localized criteria pollutant emissions				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI	-	-

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Alternative</b>	<b>CEQA Finding</b>	<b>Mitigation Measure</b>	<b>Finding with Mitigation</b>
	1, 2, 3	S	No feasible mitigation measures identified	SU
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>				
<b>Impact GHG-1:</b> Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment or conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases				
<i>Construction and Operation</i>	No Project	NI/NE	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure GHG-1.1:</b> Achieve Net-Zero Emissions Through a GHG Reduction Plan	LTSM
<b>Cultural Resources</b>				
<b>Impact CUL-1:</b> Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historic built resource				
<i>Construction</i>	No Project	NI/NE	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure CUL-1.1:</b> Identify Significant Built Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-1.2:</b> Avoid Significant Built Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-1.3:</b> Protect Significant Built Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-1.4:</b> Significant Historic Built Resources Treatment	SU
<b>Impact CUL-2:</b> Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource				
<i>Construction and Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2.1:</b> Identify Significant Archaeological Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2.2:</b> Avoid Significant Archaeological Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2.3:</b> Protect Significant Archaeological Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2.4:</b> Significant Archaeological Resources Treatment	SU
<b>Impact CUL-3:</b> Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries				
<i>Construction and Operation</i>	No Project	NI	-	-
	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure CUL-3.1:</b> Cemetery Relocation Plan <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-3.2:</b> Avoid, Protect, and Treat Human Burials	SU
<b>Tribal Cultural Resources</b>				

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Alternative</b>	<b>CEQA Finding</b>	<b>Mitigation Measure</b>	<b>Finding with Mitigation</b>
<b>Impact TCR-1:</b> Substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or other local register or that the lead agency has determined to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1.				
	No Project	NI	-	-
<i>Construction and Operation</i>	1, 2, 3	S	<b>Mitigation Measure TCR-1.1:</b> Implement Mitigation Measures Recommended in Public Resources Code Section 21084.3 to Avoid Damaging Effects on Tribal Cultural Resources <b>Mitigation Measure TCR-1.2:</b> Tribal Monitoring <b>Mitigation Measure TCR-1.3:</b> Implement Agreed-Upon Protocol for the Treatment of Human Remains and Cultural Items <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2.1:</b> Identify Significant Archaeological Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2.2:</b> Avoid Significant Archaeological Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2.3:</b> Protect Significant Archaeological Resources <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2.4:</b> Significant Archaeological Resources Treatment <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-3.1:</b> Cemetery Relocation Procedure <b>Mitigation Measure CUL-3.2:</b> Avoid, Protect, and Treat Human Burials	SU
<b>Visual Resources</b>				
<b>Impact VIS-1:</b> Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings				
	No Project	NI	-	-
<i>Construction</i>	1, 2, 3	S	No feasible mitigation measures identified	SU

Notes:

CCAPCD = Colusa County Air Pollution Control District  
GCAPCD = Glenn County Air Pollution Control District  
YSAQMD = Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District  
GHG = greenhouse gas

NI = CEQA determination of no impact  
LTS = CEQA determination of less-than-significant impact  
LTSM = CEQA determination of less than significant with mitigation  
S = CEQA determination of significant impact  
SU = CEQA determination of significant and unavoidable



**Attachment B. Summary of Significant and Unavoidable Impacts**

Chapter and Impact	Alternative	Summary of Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Summary of Mitigation Measures
Surface Water Quality, WQ-1	All	In the short-term (within 1–10 years of initial filling), operational release may cause degradation of water quality by potentially contributing to increases in aqueous and fish tissue methylmercury concentrations in the Colusa Basin Drain, Funks and Stone Corral Creeks, and the north Delta; mitigation is proposed but due to the uncertainty of effectiveness under the Project-specific conditions, this impact has been determined to be significant and unavoidable	Implement methylmercury management as part of the Reservoir Management Plan to minimize reservoir methylmercury production in Sites Reservoir.
Surface Water Quality, WQ-2	All	Operational releases may cause degradation of water quality in the north Delta in dry and critical water years by potentially contributing to increases in aqueous and fish tissue methylmercury concentrations; mitigation is proposed but due to the uncertainty of effectiveness under the Project-specific conditions, this impact has been determined to be significant and unavoidable	Same measure as above
Veg and Wetlands, VEG-2	All	Construction related effects to upland riparian and oak woodlands, primarily in the reservoir inundation area, would be significant and unavoidable even with mitigation because of the long-term loss of upland riparian and oak savanna habitat	Conduct surveys for sensitive natural communities and oak woodland prior to construction activities; avoid and compensate for adverse effects on sensitive natural communities; establish activity exclusion zones around sensitive natural communities prior to vegetation maintenance
Veg and Wetlands, VEG-4	All	Oak woodlands are considered important under the state Oak Woodlands Conservation Act and county general plans, long-term loss of blue oak woodland from construction would conflict with these policies	Same measures as above

<b>Chapter and Impact</b>	<b>Alternative</b>	<b>Summary of Significant and Unavoidable Impact</b>	<b>Summary of Mitigation Measures</b>
Wildlife, WILD-1	All	The removal of mature trees within blue oak woodland, foothill pine, and oak savanna communities would be a long-term impact on golden eagle because of the length of time that would be required for newly planted trees to reach mature size and fully replace the habitat function and habitat value of the removed trees	Conduct focused surveys for Golden Eagle and implement protective measures if found; purchase compensatory mitigation credits for the loss of eagle nest trees
Wildlife, WILD-2	All	Construction and operation of the Sites Reservoir would create a substantial barrier to the movement of native or migratory wildlife species or with established wildlife corridors that would not be fully mitigated	Design and construct wildlife crossings for new roadways; monitor and maintain wildlife crossings
Geology and Soils, GEO-7	1, 3	The use of cement deep soil mixing for construction of TRR-East could destroy paleontological resources. The ground disturbance would be deep, and a paleontological monitor would not be able to observe the disturbance or halt construction	Retain a qualified paleontologist and implement a Paleontological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Plan  At the time of Project approval, TRR-West could replace TRR-East to eliminate this significant and unavoidable impact
Land Use, LAND-1	2	Construction and operation would result in the physical division of the community of Lodoga because the new South Road access route would substantially increase travel time to Maxwell	There is no feasible mitigation available under Alternative 2; it should be noted that the preferred Project (Alternative 3) includes a bridge crossing of the reservoir that would eliminate this impact
Ag and Forestry, AG-1	All	The Project would result in permanent conversion of Important Farmland to nonagricultural uses, mitigation would not replace or restore the acres of Important Farmland permanently converted to nonagricultural uses	Prior to the permanent conversion of Important Farmland, the Authority will enter into an agreement with the California Farmland Conservancy Program to mitigate for the permanent conversion of Important Farmland through purchase of agricultural easements

<b>Chapter and Impact</b>	<b>Alternative</b>	<b>Summary of Significant and Unavoidable Impact</b>	<b>Summary of Mitigation Measures</b>
Ag and Forestry, AG-2	All	Alternative 1 or 3 would remove a total of 13,868 acres from Williamson Act contracts as a result of direct impact, and Alternative 2 would remove a total of 13,340 acres.	Comply with Government Code Sections 51290–51293 with respect to acquiring lands under Williamson Act contract; coordinate with landowners and agricultural operators to sustain existing agricultural operations until the individual agricultural parcels are needed for Project construction
Navigation, Transportation and Traffic, TRA-5	2	The proposed South Road would result in longer travel time to connect the west side of the reservoir with Maxwell, which would substantially affect school bus travel	There are no feasible mitigation measures
Air Quality, AQ-1	All	Construction would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of criteria pollutants for which the region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard and conflict with an applicable air quality plan	Reduce the impact of Project construction emissions from on-road vehicles and off-road equipment through use of zero emission and/or near zero emission vehicles and off-road equipment; enter into MOUs with air districts to reduce impacts through emission offsets
Air Quality, AQ-2	All	Operations would result in emissions that exceed thresholds primarily as a result of recreational boating activity	Develop and implement an emissions reduction plan as part of the Recreation Management Plan
Air Quality, AQ-4b	All	During construction, localized particulate matter emissions would expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of localized criteria pollutants	There are no feasible mitigation measures
Cultural Resources, CUL-1	All	Construction would impact potentially significant built resources, including 18 potentially significant resources that are located in the reservoir inundation area	Mitigation measures include identification, avoidance, protection, and implementation of a significant historic built resources treatment plan

<b>Chapter and Impact</b>	<b>Alternative</b>	<b>Summary of Significant and Unavoidable Impact</b>	<b>Summary of Mitigation Measures</b>
Cultural Resources, CUL-2	All	Construction and operation of the Project would result in impacts on potentially significant archaeological resources by materially altering or destroying them	Mitigation measures include identification, avoidance, protection, and implementation of a significant archaeological resources treatment plan
Cultural Resources, CUL-3	All	Construction of the Project would disturb human remains interred in known cemeteries within the Sites Reservoir inundation area and could disturb other currently unknown human remains	Develop a Cemetery Relocation Plan for relocating two known, dedicated cemeteries located in the inundation area; avoid and protect any human remains encountered during pre-construction, construction, post-construction, operations, and maintenance
Tribal Cultural Resources, TCR-1	All	Cemeteries and habitation sites that are tribal cultural resources would be permanently altered or destroyed by inundation of the reservoir or construction of other facilities	Implement mitigation measures recommended in Public Resources Code Section 21084.3 to avoid, when feasible, damaging effects on Tribal Cultural Resources; implement Tribal monitoring during construction; implement agreed-upon protocol for the treatment of human remains and cultural items
Visual Resources, VIS-1	All	Construction of the reservoir and its associated facilities would substantially degrade the existing visual character and visual quality of the area and adversely affect existing viewers at this location	There are no feasible mitigation measures