

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: _____

Lead Agency: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Project Location: _____

*City**County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project consists of the periodic application of copper and acrolein as aquatic herbicides to the irrigation and stormwater canals and ditches of the District for weed control and preventative algae maintenance as part of an aquatic pesticide application plan (APAP). The presence of emergent plants, floating or submersed plants, and/or algae in the distribution system reduces the volume of water that can be delivered and decreases the ability to accurately control water deliverables. The growth causes maintenance issues for farmers when it clogs pumps, filters, and other irrigation equipment which would discourage the use of surface water, thereby increasing demand on groundwater supplies, which is inconsistent with water conservation efforts. Without the ability to control the plant and algae growth in canals and pipelines, irrigation methods that support water conservation are less feasible.

Using a preventative maintenance approach, the District would target weeds as early as possible in their lifecycle on a routine basis, thereby requiring lower concentrations of herbicide to be applied. The seasonal exception would cover intermittent, periodic discharges that would occur any time between the months of March and October during the irrigation season. These discharges would last no longer than a period of several hours out of each 14 to 21-day interval in an irrigation season, approximately six months on average. The aquatic herbicides would be applied strictly at the head/beginning of various existing irrigation and stormwater canals at strategic locations that maximize the distance from each potential natural river/slough/creek receiving point and minimize impacts on receiving waters by promoting a dilution and settling process. District Qualified Applicators would introduce the aquatic herbicides to just waterways under the District's control at a quantity at or below the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved label prescribed usage and in accordance with regulations of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), the Division of Occupational Safety and Health of California (Cal/OSHA), the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), and the local Agricultural Commissioner. From a District tank trailer temporarily parked alongside the canal, the aquatic herbicides would be applied to the open canal using a tube placed beneath the water surface to prevent splash.

Chapter 4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been formulated based upon the findings of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Submission for State Implementation Plan Section 5.3 Exception for Use of Copper and Acrolein to Control Weeds in Irrigation and Stormwater Canals and Ditches (Project) for Chowchilla Water District. The MMRP lists mitigation measures recommended in the IS/MND for the Project and identifies monitoring and reporting requirements.

Table 4-1 presents the mitigation measures identified for the proposed Project. Each mitigation measure is numbered with a symbol indicating the topical section to which it pertains, a hyphen, and the impact number. For example, AIR-2 would be the second mitigation measure identified in the Air Quality analysis of the IS/MND.

The first column of **Table 4-1** identifies the mitigation measure. The second column, entitled “When Monitoring is to Occur,” identifies the time the mitigation measure should be initiated. The third column, “Frequency of Monitoring,” identifies the frequency of the monitoring of the mitigation measure. The fourth column, “Agency Responsible for Monitoring,” names the party ultimately responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented. The last columns will be used by the District to ensure that individual mitigation measures have been complied with and monitored.

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program					
Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
Biological Resources					
Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Nesting Birds					
If feasible, the project will be implemented outside of the avian nesting season, typically defined as February 1 to August 31.	Prior to construction	During construction	Chowchilla Water District		
Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Pre-Construction Survey					
If construction is to occur between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys for active migratory bird nests within 14 days prior to the start of construction. If there is a lapse in construction of 14 days or more, preconstruction surveys would need to be repeated. Should any active nests be discovered in or near proposed construction zones, the biologist will identify a suitable construction-free buffer around the nest. This buffer will be identified on the ground with flagging or fencing and will be maintained until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged and are capable of foraging independently.	Prior to construction	During construction	Chowchilla Water District		
Hazards and Hazardous Materials/Hydrology and Water Quality					
Mitigation Measure HAZ-1/HYD-1					
Copper application will be in measured amounts, in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and registered product label requirements specifying applications rates and requirements.	Upon every application	As needed	Chowchilla Water District		
Mitigation Measure HAZ-2/HYD-2					
The chemical will be applied as far as possible upstream from potential points of discharge into streams and rivers.	Upon every application	As needed	Chowchilla Water District		
Mitigation Measure HAZ-3/HYD-3					
Authority personnel shall conduct monitoring of water quality levels in accordance with monitoring and reporting requirements of the NPDES Permit, which shall be reported to the State Water Resources Control Board and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.	24 hours before application, within 24 hours after application, and up to 7 days after application	As needed	Chowchilla Water District		