

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT INFORMATION

CONTROL NUMBER: PLER2019-00046

NAME: Sailor Bar Pump Station Replacement Project

LOCATION: The project site is located within the Sailor Bar Recreation Area within the American River Parkway. Access to the site is from the terminus of Olive Avenue approximately ½ mile south of Winding Way in the Fair Oaks community (Plate IS-1).

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER: 246-0170-047 and portion of 246-0260-010

OWNER: Sacramento Area Sewer District

County of Sacramento Regional Parks

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Sailor Bar Pump Station Project consists of replacing an existing sanitary sewer pump station with a new pump station and appurtenant facilities. Site improvements will include demolition and replacement of existing pavement and access road, raising the site above the 100-year floodplain, relocating the existing access road, constructing a new electrical building with staff restroom, and installing a perimeter fence (Plate IS-2). The new pump station will include four new submersible pumps in a 35-ft deep dual wet well, new site piping, new instrumentation, and provisions for future bypass pumping operations. New electrical equipment will be installed in the new electrical building. The existing utility transformer will be replaced with a new unit and relocated. The existing standby generator will be relocated on-site and continue to serve the new pump station facilities. Following completion of the new pump station, the existing pump station will be demolished and existing buried facilities will be abandoned in-place.

Plate IS-1: Vicinity Map

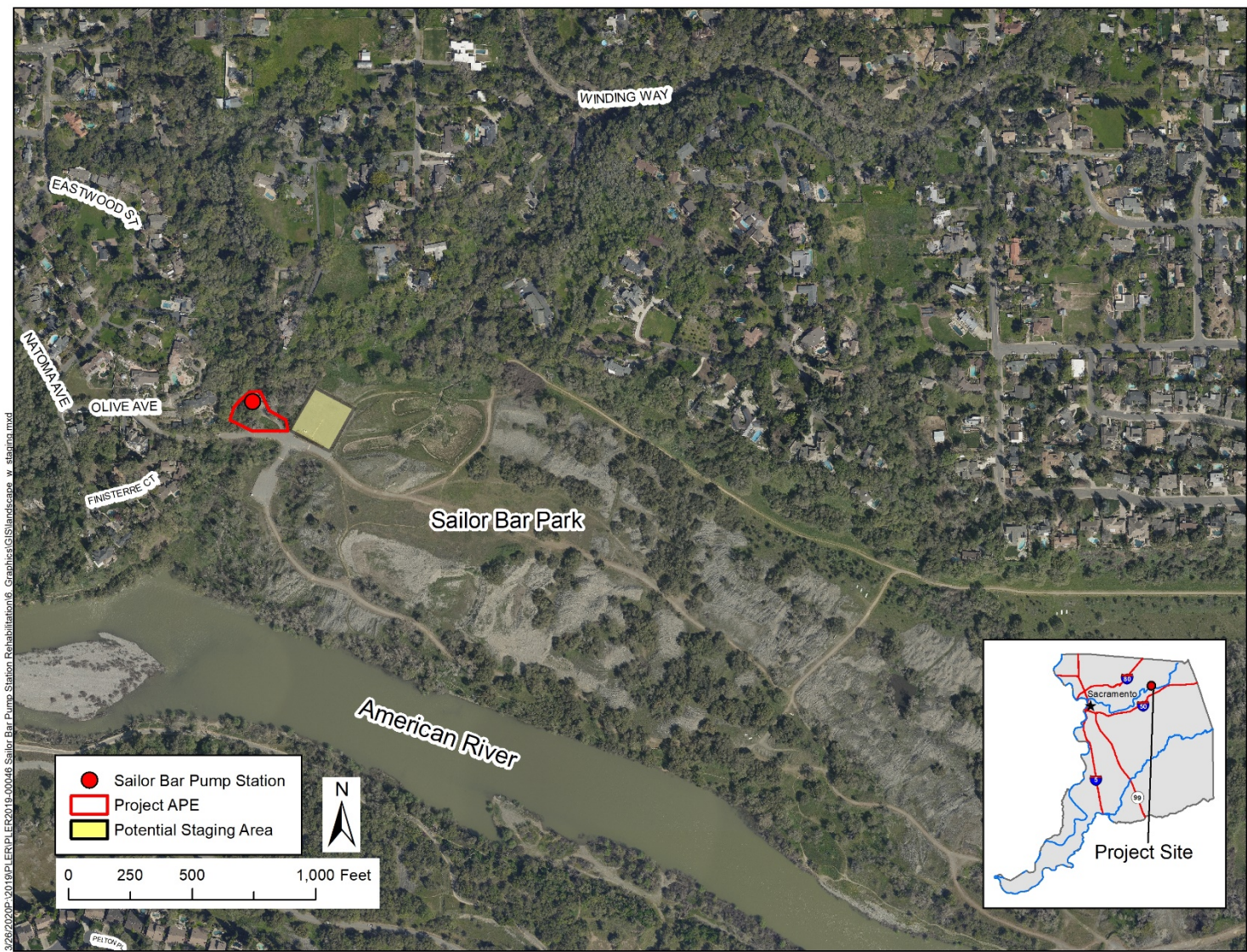
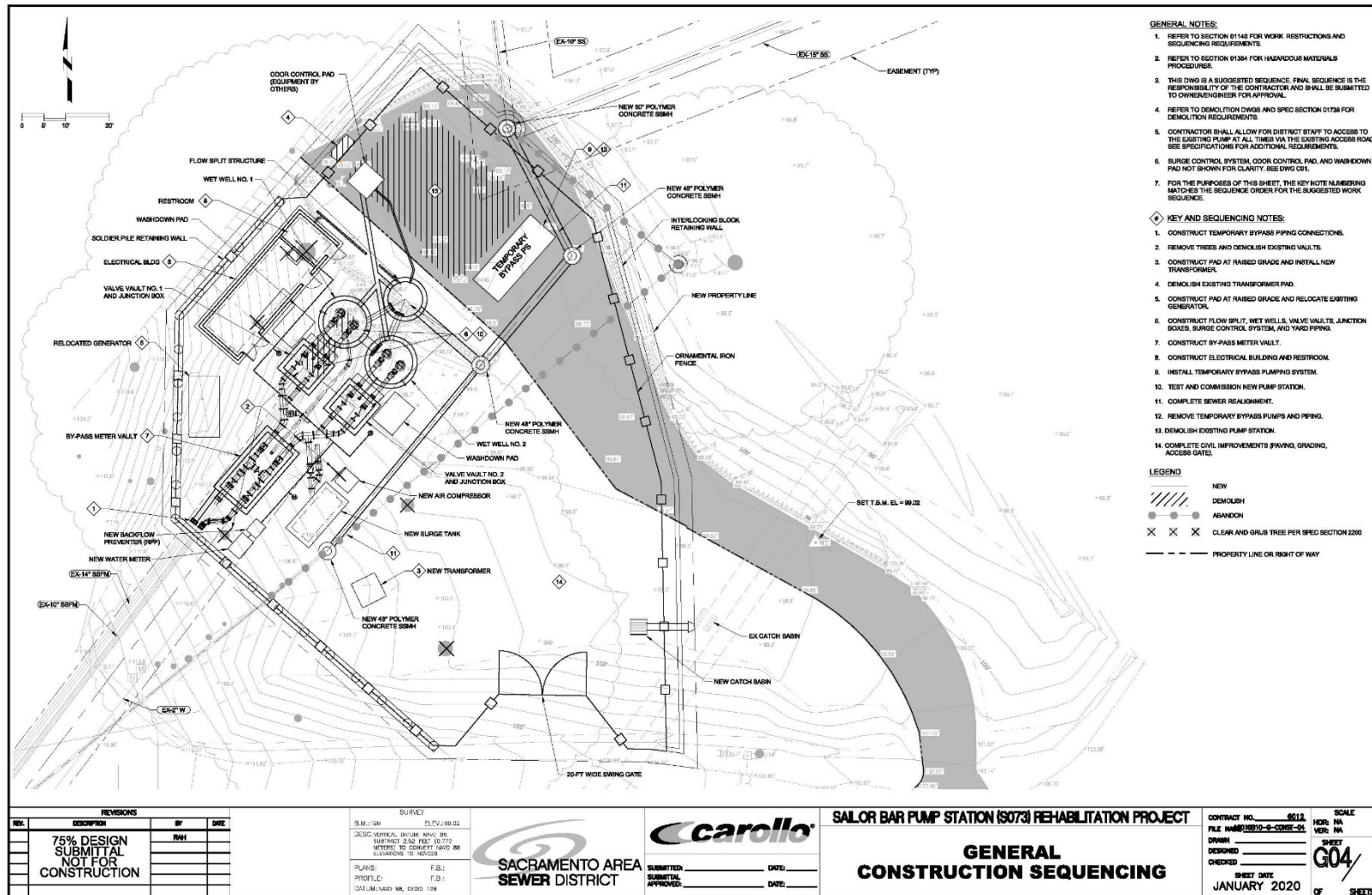


Plate IS-2: Proposed Site Plan (75% Design)



ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project is located in the American River Parkway, specifically within the Sailor Bar Park area. Sailor Bar Park generally is located on the north side of the river, between Olive Drive/Sunrise Boulevard and Illinois Avenue/Hazel Avenue. The existing pump station is located at the terminus of Olive Avenue, just north of the paved parking area. The pump station consists of a paved access road leading to a small concrete electrical building, emergency generator, and underground pumps and pipes.

The natural environment surrounding the pump station consists of large native oak trees and associated understory species, a broad surface wetland, ephemeral drainages and dredge tailings. The project proposes to use the existing gravel/dirt park maintenance roads, which are narrow and lined by native and non-native trees and in some locations, elderberry shrubs.

Single-family estate sized parcels are north and west of the pump station site. The Sailor Bar Park provides recreational uses (primarily fishing) to park patrons and is an area where equestrian riders ride along the park maintenance roads and other trails.

BACKGROUND

The pump station was originally constructed in 1969. The pump station serves the surrounding residential area. Sewer flows are then routed to the regional system interceptor, which are directed to the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in Elk Grove where they are processed.

The pump station has deteriorated over the past 50-years, resulting in various civil, mechanical, electrical, and structural issues with the facility. During large rain events, drainage issues overtop and flood the site. If the flows were to result in a pump and/or generator failure, the existing wet well at the site would fill within two hours, and could potentially result in an overflow of sewage if not resolved. The proposed project would lengthen response time, by adding additional capacity and submersible pumps. Additionally, the project will address flooding issues by raising the facility's elevation above the 100-year floodplain and improving existing drainage facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed an Initial Study Checklist (located at the end of this report). The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The topical discussions that follow are provided only when additional analysis beyond the Checklist is warranted.

LAND USE

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including but not limited to a general plan, specific plan or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The project site is located within the Sailor Bar area of the American River Parkway (Parkway). The parcel and associated facilities are owned by the Sacramento Area Sewer District. The project site is designated as Natural Preserve in the County General Plan Land Use Plan, zone O- Recreation in the County Zoning Code and the Fair Oaks Community Plan.

Development within the Parkway is subject to the American River Parkway Plan 2008 (Parkway Plan). According to the Sailor Bar Area Plan, the existing pump station and proposed expansion area are within the developed recreation area of the Plan. Pursuant to Table 7-3 of the Parkway Plan, public utilities are allowed in all Plan Land Use Designations.

CONCLUSION

The proposed project is consistent with the Plan; impacts associated with land use are ***less than significant***.

AESTHETICS

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Substantially alter existing viewsheds such as scenic highways, corridors or vistas.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was created by Congress in 1968 to preserve certain rivers with outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational values for generations to come. Protection of the river is through voluntary stewardship by landowners and local jurisdictions. The Lower American River is regulated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act as a recreational river. The Parkway Plan contains policies to address aesthetic impacts from new development within the Parkway corridor. Policy 7.20 states that new public utilities or similar public service facilities should be placed underground and the area revegetated with native plantings. If new public utilities or similar public service facilities must be placed above ground, impacts shall be minimized by clustering the facilities with existing facilities and Parkway crossings. Facilities shall be shielded with native trees and shrubbery plantings, and if appropriate, soundproof pump stations, without compromising public safety.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The pump station is nestled against the base of the slope and is generally screened from the residences to the north and west by the existing tree canopy. Tree removals are proposed which may diminish the natural screening of the pump station as you enter Sailor Bar Park from Olive Avenue. Some facilities, such as the like the electrical building and pump vault, with the new addition of an employee restroom will remain above ground; however, the proposed pumps and wells will be underground, consistent with the Plan.

The pump station is not visible from the river and therefore would not impact the viewshed of those along the riverbank. The existing electrical building is painted a tan color and the new building will be painted with similar muted colors to ensure consistency and aesthetic impact are negligible. The associated project will result in a temporary loss of vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the pump station; however, regeneration of vegetation will occur over a relatively short period.

CONCLUSION

The project is consistent with the goals and policies of the Parkway Plan. Aesthetic impacts are ***less than significant***.

PUBLIC SERVICES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Have adequate wastewater treatment and disposal facilities for full buildout of the project.
- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the construction of new water supply or wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or expansion of existing facilities.

SEWER SERVICE & FACILITY CAPACITY

The Regional Sanitation's Board of Directors adopted the Interceptor Sequencing Study (ISS) in February 2013. The ISS updated the Regional Sanitation's Master Plan 2000, which was intended to predict existing and future capacity needs in the regional interceptor system and provide a strategic approach to plan for these capacity needs.

The SASD Board of Directors approved the most current SASD planning document, the 2010 System Capacity Plan Update (SCP) in January 2012. The proposed project is located within the existing 2010 SCP service boundaries. Regional Sanitation and SASD have adequate capacity to receive additional sewage; however, this project would not result in an increase in sewage conveyed. The project intends to rehabilitate an existing pump station and upgrade infrastructure in order to improve safety and efficiency.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The project will result in improvements to an existing facility. The proposed improvements to the pump station would improve the overall safety and efficiency of the site and its infrastructure. The proposed improvements would not result in an increase in sewage conveyed.

CONCLUSION

Regional Sanitation and SASD facilities have adequate capacity. The project would not result in substantial adverse impacts associated with the proposed facility upgrades. Impacts associated with expansion of existing sewage facilities are ***less than significant***.

TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Result in a substantial adverse impact to access and/or circulation.
- Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

The proposed project consists of the replacement of an existing sewer pump station within the American River Parkway. Public vehicular access to the project site is possible via Olive Drive in the Fair Oak community (this is the western access point to Sailor Bar Park). At the terminus of Olive Drive is a parking lot maintained by the Sacramento County Regional Parks Department (Regional Parks). The eastern access point to Sailor Bar Park is via Illinois Avenue. There are no public roads connecting the eastern and western access points; however, there are unpaved park maintenance roads used by Regional Parks employees and emergency personnel. Areas of the paved bicycle and running trails are also used as maintenance roads.

Chapter 9.36 Park Regulations, of the Sacramento County Code sets forth the regulations for the operation of vehicles along County Park transportation facilities. Generally, no vehicle access is allowed beyond dedicated parking facilities and no vehicles are allowed to remain overnight. An encroachment permit will be required to use the maintenance roads as temporary construction access/haul roads and use of the parking lot adjacent to the pump station for equipment staging. Regional Parks processes permits for the use of park maintenance roads and parking areas.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The existing private access road leading into the current pump station will be abandoned and pavement will be removed. The access road will be relocated west approximately 100 feet and raised above the 100-year floodplain. The pump station's access road will stem from Olive Avenue (reference Plate IS-2). Relocation of this pump station access road will not result in a substantial adverse impact to access or circulation.

Access to the project site from the east, via Illinois Avenue, and will utilize existing, unpaved maintenance roads. The use of the maintenance roads could potentially conflict with Regional Parks maintenance vehicles, emergency vehicles and pedestrians/equestrians. In order to reduce potential conflicts within the Parkway, the contractor will prepare a traffic control plan and submit it to Regional Parks for their review and approval. The plan should include the following elements: identification of temporary closure of trails and/or maintenance roads; signage; and limit vehicle speed to 15 miles per hour.

Access via Illinois Avenue will also require an encroachment permit from Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SacDOT). SacDOT processes all encroachment or oversized vehicle permits on County public right-of-way. Illinois Avenue is a 22-foot wide roadway with residential driveways on both sides. During equipment mobilization and demobilization, the larger pieces of equipment may cause delays on Illinois Avenue, but these delays would be temporary and would not result in a significant impact. The use of haul trucks may also cause temporary delays in residential traffic. In order to secure an encroachment permit, a traffic control plan must be submitted to and approved by SacDOT. The plan should include the following elements: travel routes along public roadways; signage; and advanced notification to residents along affected portions of Illinois Avenue.

CONCLUSION

Impacts to traffic and local circulation are considered ***less than significant***.

AIR QUALITY

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard.
- Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people.

REGULATORY SETTING

The proposed project site is located in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB). The SVAB's frequent temperature inversions result in a relatively stable atmosphere that increases the potential for pollution. Within the SVAB, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) is responsible for ensuring that emission standards are not violated. Project related air emissions would have a significant effect if they would result in concentrations that either violate an ambient air quality standard or contribute to an existing air quality violation. SMAQMD has established significance thresholds to determine if a proposed project's emission contribution significantly contributes to regional air quality impacts (Table IS-1). The current analysis utilizes the current SMAQMD standards as outlined below.

Table IS-1: SMAQMD Significance Thresholds

	ROG ¹ (lbs/day)	NO _x (lbs/day)	CO (µg/m ³)	PM ₁₀ (lbs/day)	PM _{2.5} (lbs/day)
Construction (short-term)	None	85	CAAQS ²	80 ^{3*}	82 ^{3*}
Operational (long-term)	65	65	CAAQS	80 ^{3*}	82 ^{3*}
1. Reactive Organic Gas 2. California Ambient Air Quality Standards 3*. Only applies to projects for which all feasible best available control technology (BACT) and best management practices (BMPs) have been applied. Projects that fail to apply all feasible BACT/BMPs must meet a significance threshold of 0 lbs/day.					

CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS/SHORT-TERM IMPACTS

Short-term air quality impacts are mostly due to dust (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) generated by construction and development activities, and emissions from equipment and vehicle engines (NO_x) operated during these activities. Dust generation is dependent on soil type and soil moisture, as well as the amount of total acreage actually involved in clearing, grubbing and grading activities. Clearing and earthmoving activities comprise the major source of construction dust generation, but traffic and general disturbance of the soil also contribute to the problem. Sand, lime or other fine particulate materials may be used during construction, and stored on-site. If not stored properly, such materials could become airborne during periods of high winds. The effects of construction activities include increased dust fall and locally elevated levels of suspended particulates. PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} are considered unhealthy because the particles are small enough to inhale and damage lung tissue, which can lead to respiratory problems.

PARTICULATE MATTER EMISSIONS

The SMAQMD Guide includes screening criteria for construction-related particulate matter. Projects that are 35 acres or less in size will generally not exceed the SMAQMD's construction PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5} thresholds of significance provided that the project does not:

- Include buildings more than 4 stories tall;
- Include demolition activities;
- Include significant trenching activities;
- Have a construction schedule that is unusually compact, fast-paced, or involves more than 2 phases (i.e., grading, paving, building construction, and architectural coatings) occurring simultaneously;
- Involve cut-and-fill operations (moving earth with haul trucks and/or flattening or terracing hills); or,
- Require import or export of soil materials that will require a considerable amount of haul truck activity

Some PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} emissions during project construction can be reduced through compliance with institutional requirements for dust abatement and erosion control. These institutional measures include the SMAQMD “District Rule 403-Fugitive Dust” and measures in the Sacramento County Code relating to land grading and erosion control [Title 16, Chapter 16.44, Section 16.44.090(K)].

The SMAQMD Guide includes a list of Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices that should be implemented on all projects, regardless of size. Dust abatement practices are required pursuant to SMAQMD Rule 403 and California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d)(3) and 2485; the SMAQMD Guide simply lays out the basic practices needed to comply. Since these are already required by existing rules and regulations, it is not necessary to include them as mitigation.

The estimated area of disturbance for construction is 0.40 acres. The project may involve minor trenching activities for installation of pipe facilities and/or placement of electrical conduit. Another possible construction method is to use horizontal directional drilling. The project involves demolition of the existing electrical building, minor grading to bring the new pad above the 100-year base flood elevation, and minor haul of the asphalt and concrete removed during demolition. CalEEMod was used to estimate emissions for the project since the project does not meet SMAQMD’s screening requirements (project involves demolition activities; Appendix A).

CalEEMod utilizes equipment, phasing and timelines to generate daily construction emissions and operation emissions for a project. For modeling purposes, maximum numbers of equipment were used, and it was assumed all equipment could operate simultaneously. This represents a conservative estimate of equipment and timelines that demonstrates a ‘worst case scenario’ in terms of potential emissions. The results are summarized in Table IS-2 below.

OZONE PRECURSOR EMISSIONS (NO_x)

The SMAQMD Guide currently provides screening criteria for construction-related ozone precursor emissions (NO_x) similar to those that will be implemented for particulate matter. Projects that are 35 acres or less in size will generally not exceed the SMAQMD’s construction NO_x thresholds of significance if the project does not:

- Include buildings more than 4 stories tall;
- Include demolition activities;
- Include significant trenching activities;
- Have a construction schedule that is unusually compact, fast-paced, or involves more than 2 phases (i.e., grading, paving, building construction, and architectural coatings) occurring simultaneously;
- Involve cut-and-fill operations (moving earth with haul trucks and/or flattening or terracing hills);

- Require import or export of soil materials that will require a considerable amount of haul truck activity; or,
- Require soil disturbance (i.e., grading) that exceeds 15 acres per day. Note that 15 acres is a screening level and shall not be used as a mitigation measure.

The estimated area of disturbance for construction is 0.40 acres. The project may involve minor trenching activities for installation of pipes and/or placement of electrical conduit. Another possible construction method is to use horizontal directional drilling. The project involves demolition of the existing electrical building, minor grading to bring the new pad above the 100-year base flood elevation, and minor haul of the asphalt and concrete removed during demolition. CalEEMod was used to estimate emissions for the project since the project does not meet SMAQMD's screening requirements (project involves demolition). The results are summarized in Table IS-2 below.

Table IS-2: CalEEMod Estimated Construction Emissions

Construction Year 2020	Constituent in pounds per day			
	ROG	NOx	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Thresholds	n/a	85	80	82
Estimated Emissions	6.88	56.22	18.94	4.39

CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS CONCLUSION

As shown in Table IS-2, the project will not exceed the SMAQMD construction significance thresholds for NOx, PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5}; therefore, impacts associated with emissions for air quality standards are ***less than significant***.

NOISE

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Generate a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in excess of standards established by the local general plan, noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies.
- Generate a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity.
- Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.

The replacement pump station will include underground pumps and an emergency back-up generator. The location of the back-up generator will be moved approximately five feet southeast of its current location.

The Sacramento County General Plan Noise Element and the County Noise Ordinance outline standards for noise for all land use projects. Noise sources associated with construction, repair, remodeling, demolition, paving or grading of any real property, are exempt from maximum noise level requirements, if the activities take place between the hours of 6 am to 8 pm, Monday through Friday, and 7 am to 8 pm on Saturday and Sunday (Sacramento County Code section 6.68.090(e)). General Plan policies that pertain to this project are:

NO-6 Where a project would consists of or include non-transportation noise sources, the noise generation of those sources shall be mitigated so as not to exceed the interior and exterior noise level standards at existing noise-sensitive areas in the project vicinity.

NO-8 Noise associated with construction activities shall adhere to the County Code requirements. Specifically, Section 6.68.090(e) addresses construction noise within the County.

NO-16 The following sources of noise shall be exempt from the provisions of this Noise Element:

- a. Emergency warning devices and equipment operated in conjunction with emergency situation, such as sirens and generators which are activated during power outages. The routine testing of such warning devices and equipment shall also be exempt provided such testing occurs during daytime hours.

EXISTING NOISE ENVIRONMENT

The existing pump station includes underground pumps and an above ground compressor and emergency generator. The emergency generator is operated weekly to ensure all equipment is operational in the event of an emergency. The test lasts for approximately 30-minutes. In the event of an emergency, the generator would operate until power is restored to the pump station.

The pump station is located downhill from single-family residences along Olive Avenue. The nearest residence (adjacent property) is located up the hillside (elevation change of approximately 55 feet) with the usable outdoor activity area approximately 105 feet northwest of the project site (reference SR-1 location of Plate IS-3).

A noise survey was completed to identify the existing noise environment (Appendix B). Long-term noise measurements were collected over a 24-hour period from April 23-24, 2019. The noise meter was placed 25 feet from the enclosed pump house and 25 feet from the exposed compressor and emergency generator. The average sound level (L_{eq}) collected during the monitoring period was 45.4 dB and the maximum sound level (L_{max}) was 74.8 dB.

Plate IS-3: Noise Measurement Locations



Source: Data adapted by Ascent Environmental in 2019

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

CONSTRUCTION NOISE

Short-term construction noise at the project site will vary based on the type and number of equipment used during any given hour. Construction activities at the project site will include demolition of the existing pump station, earthwork, excavation for and construction of the new pump station. Construction equipment may include, but is not limited to, an excavator, haul trucks, dump truck, grader, crane, and a pile driver. Noise levels for individual equipment range from 55 to 95 dB at 50 feet. The dump truck at the lower end and the pile driver at the higher end.

Since specific construction phasing and use of equipment is unknown at this time, it is assumed that the three loudest pieces of equipment are used at one time to provide a conservative estimate. On-site construction-related activities could generate a combined average noise level of approximately 92 L_{eq} at 50 feet from the project boundary.

As stated in county policies above, construction-related noise is exempt if the activities take place between the hours of 6 am to 8 pm, Monday through Friday, and 7 am to 8 pm on Saturday and Sunday. SASD does not anticipate night work; however, schedule limitations and unknown conditions might arise which may require night work. If work is to occur during the non-exempt hours, there is a potential for impact to sensitive receptors (i.e. sleep disruption).

The same assumptions were made for the number of equipment and associated noise levels for nighttime construction activities. Applying these values, the nearest sensitive-receptor could experience exterior noise levels of approximately 84 L_{eq} and 88 L_{max} at the house façade. Applying the assumption that typical building construction (closed windows closed provide a reduction of 24 dB), the interior noise level would still exceed General Plan policy of 35 L_{eq}/L_{50} and 55 L_{max} .

The County Noise Ordinance provides for possible ways to mitigate construction-related noise if work must occur during non-exempt hours. The contractor shall provide a noise-monitoring plan prepared by a qualified acoustical engineer. The plan must include the following components:

- Detailed description of proposed nighttime work;
- List of equipment used;
- Projected noise levels generated during nighttime work at surrounding noise-sensitive land uses;
- Location of sensitive receptors in relation to the proposed nighttime work; and
- Detailed description of the location and time that noise monitors would be deployed.

If noise standards are not met during nighttime construction activities, then noise control measures would be required. Some possible noise control measures are outlined in the Noise Technical Report and are highlighted below.

- Where available and feasible, equipment with back-up alarms shall be equipped with either audible self-adjusting back-up alarms or alarms that only sound when an object is detected. Self-adjusting alarms shall automatically adjust to 5 dB over the surrounding background noise levels;
- Avoid pile driving at night;
- Noise-reducing enclosures and techniques shall be used around stationary noise-generating equipment (e.g., generators, compressors);
- Heavy duty equipment shall be operated at the lowest operating power possible;
- Use temporary noise curtains as close to the noise-generating activity;
- Offer hotel accommodations to residents who would temporarily be exposed to nighttime interior noise levels that exceed 45 dB.

CONCLUSION

Noise associated with daytime construction activities is considered exempt under the County Noise Ordinance. If nighttime work is required, the project proponent will be required to submit a noise monitoring plan that outlines the methods proposed to mitigate nighttime noise impacts. Implementation of the recommended mitigation reduces nighttime construction noise impacts to ***less than significant***.

OPERATIONAL NOISE

The project will be replacing the existing pump station with new facilities with negligible expansion of use. The existing pump station has fully enclosed pumps, and fully exposed backup generator and compressor. The proposed project will have similar equipment and the operational noise environment is not expected to be significantly different.

The County Noise Ordinance exempts the operation of emergency equipment (backup generators) during an emergency. It also exempts the routine testing of emergency equipment if conducted during the daytime hours. No new operational noise impacts have been identified for the proposed project; however, it is important to point out that the existing operational noise environment exceeds the County's General Plan outdoor maximum (Lmax) 55 dB for the nearest sensitive receptor. There are suggestions outlined in the Noise Technical Report to reduce this existing impact and should be considered by SASD.

CONCLUSION

The proposed project's operational noise levels would be similar to the existing use; impacts are considered ***less than significant***.

GROUND-BORNE VIBRATION

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) describes ground-borne vibrations as that can cause buildings to shake and rumbling sounds to be heard. In contrast to airborne noise, ground-borne vibration is not a common environmental problem. It is unusual for vibration from sources such as buses and trucks to be perceptible, even in locations close to major roads. Some common sources of ground-borne vibration are trains, buses on rough roads, and construction activities such as blasting, pile-driving and operating heavy earth-moving equipment. The effects of ground-borne vibration include feel-able movement of the building floors, rattling of windows, shaking of items on shelves or hanging on walls, and rumbling sounds. In extreme cases, the vibration can cause damage to buildings. Building damage is typically only a factor in the case of blasting and pile-driving during construction. Ground-borne vibration related to potential building damage effects is generally related to the peak particle velocity (PPV) in inches/second (FTA 2018).

The peak particle velocity (PPV) is defined as the maximum instantaneous peak of the vibration signal. The PPV is most frequently used to describe vibration impacts to buildings. Typically, ground-borne vibration generated by man-made activities attenuates rapidly with distance from the source of the vibration. Sensitive receptors for vibration include structures (especially older masonry structures) and vibration sensitive equipment. The FTA measure of the threshold of architectural damage for conventional sensitive structures is 0.2 in/sec PPV.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

Vibration levels from typical construction equipment can be found in the FTA's Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment (2018). Table IS-3 provides a summary of vibration levels for anticipated construction equipment for the project.

Table IS-3: Vibration Levels for Typical Construction Equipment

Equipment	PPV at 25 ft. (in/sec)	PPV at 26 ft. (in/sec) ¹
Vibratory Roller	0.210	0.20
Hoe Ram	0.089	0.083
Caisson Drilling	0.089	0.083
Loaded trucks	0.076	0.072
Jackhammer	0.035	0.033
Small bulldozer	0.003	0.003
Notes: 1. Based on the propagation adjustment formula PPV $= \text{PPV}_{25 \text{ feet}} \times (25/\text{distance from the equipment to the receptor})^{1.5}$ Source: FTA 2018		

Construction equipment would not exceed the 0.2 in/sec PPV vibration significance criteria for building damage effects at a distance of 26 feet, and would attenuate to an even smaller level at greater distances. The potential impact area would generally not extend beyond the project site limits. There are no existing structures within 50 feet of the proposed improvement areas. Therefore, no significant structural damage impacts to nearby residences are anticipated to result from implementation of the proposed project.

CONCLUSION

Impacts related to ground-borne vibration are considered ***less than significant***.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

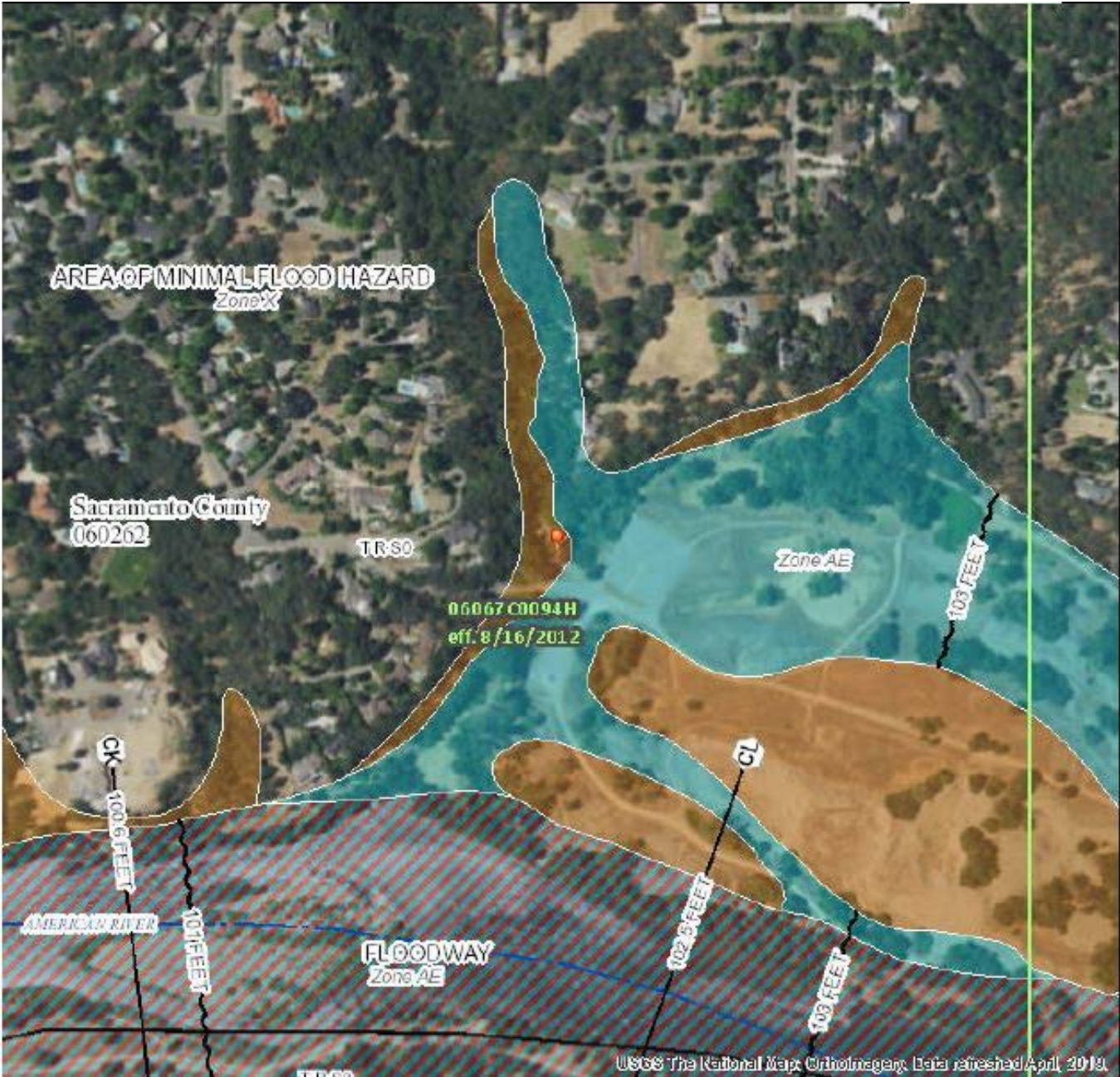
This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project area and/or increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site.
- Create or contribute runoff that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems.
- Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality.

FLOODPLAIN & DRAINAGE

The project is located within the Fair Oaks Stream Group watershed, which drains to the American River. The project site is within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panel 06067C0094H (8/16/12) and is within shaded Zone X (Plate IS-4). Shaded Zone X areas are identified as areas outside the 100-year flood, but are subject to a one percent annual chance flood with depths less than one foot. The proposed staging area is within Zone AE, which is considered a special flood hazard area with a base flood elevation of 103 feet above sea level. Neither the project nor the staging areas are within the designated floodway determined by the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB). A portion of the access routes are within the designated floodway and encroachment permits are typically required for work within these areas; however, the project will only be using existing maintenance routes and is making modifications to an existing structure. CVFPB confirmed that the project would be exempt from the needing encroachment permits.

Plate IS-4: FEMA Firmette



DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The project proposes to elevate the paved access road and new pump station facilities (electrical equipment and emergency/backup generator) above the floodplain to minimize future flooding of the facilities. The completed project will not introduce new structures or impedances to the floodplain and will not significantly alter existing drainage.

Construction staging is proposed within the large parking lot located at the end of Olive Avenue. Although construction is temporary, the staging is located within a flood hazard area (Zone AE) and the contractor will be required to submit an erosion control and water quality protection plan.

WATER QUALITY

CONSTRUCTION WATER QUALITY: EROSION AND GRADING

Construction on undeveloped land exposes bare soil, which can be mobilized by rain or wind and displaced into waterways or become an air pollutant. Construction equipment can also track mud and dirt onto roadways, where rains will wash the sediment into storm drains and thence into surface waters. After construction is complete, various other pollutants generated by site use can also be washed into local waterways. These pollutants include, but are not limited to: vehicle fluids, heavy metals deposited by vehicles, and pesticides or fertilizers used in landscaping.

Sacramento County has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Stormwater Permit issued by Regional Water Board. The Municipal Stormwater Permit requires the County to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the maximum extent practicable and to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges. The county complies with this permit in part by developing and enforcing ordinances and requirements to reduce the discharge of sediments and other pollutants in runoff from newly developing and redeveloping areas of the county.

The county has established a Stormwater Ordinance (Sacramento County Code 15.12). The Stormwater Ordinance prohibits the discharge of unauthorized non-stormwater to the County's stormwater conveyance system and local creeks. It applies to all private and public projects in the County, regardless of size or land use type. In addition, Sacramento County Code 16.44 (Land Grading and Erosion Control) requires private construction sites disturbing one or more acres or moving 350 cubic yards or more of earthen material to obtain a grading permit. To obtain a grading permit, project proponents must prepare and submit for approval an Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Plan describing erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented during construction to prevent sediment from leaving the site and entering the county's storm drain system or local receiving waters. Construction projects not subject to SCC 16.44 are subject to the Stormwater Ordinance (SCC 15.12) described above.

In addition to complying with the county's ordinances and requirements, construction sites disturbing one or more acres are required to comply with the State's General

Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities (CGP). CGP coverage is issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.shtml and enforced by the Regional Water Board. Coverage is obtained by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the State Board prior to construction and verified by receiving a WDID#. The CGP requires preparation and implementation of a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that must be kept on site at all times for review by the State inspector.

Applicable projects applying for a county grading permit must show proof that a WDID # has been obtained and must submit a copy of the SWPPP. Although the county has no enforcement authority related to the CGP, the county does have the authority to ensure sediment/pollutants are not discharged and is required by its Municipal Stormwater Permit to verify that SWPPPs include the minimum components.

The project must include an effective combination of erosion, sediment and other pollution control BMPs in compliance with the County ordinances and the State's CGP. Additionally, the project must comply with mitigation measures adopted by the county Board of Supervisors with the certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the 2006 American River Parkway Plan update.

Mitigation Measure HY-1 of the American River Parkway Plan states:

All new construction projects or redevelopment of facilities within the Parkway shall incorporate the design components within the latest version of the *Sacramento County Guidance Manual for Development of Erosion and Sediment Control Plans*, even if a grading permit is not required for the project. No grading shall be permitted from October 1 – April 30, unless the grading is associated with an emergency project or it can be demonstrated to the Office of Planning and Environmental Review that there is an environmental benefit to wet-season construction.

Mitigation Measure HY-2 of the American River Parkway Plan states:

All new construction or redevelopment of facilities within the Parkway shall incorporate the design components within the latest version of the Stormwater Quality Design Manual for the Sacramento and South Placer Regions, unless the Office of Planning and Environmental Review (PER) determines that the project does not have the potential to release post-construction pollutants (e.g. signage). This shall include all new roads and trails, which shall be designed to minimize transport of sediment from the road or trail surface into nearby water bodies.

Erosion controls should always be the *first line of defense*, to keep soil from being mobilized in wind and water. Examples include stabilized construction entrances, tackified mulch, 3-step hydroseeding, spray-on soil stabilizers and anchored blankets. Sediment controls are the *second line of defense*; they help to filter sediment out of runoff before it reaches the storm drains and local waterways. Examples include rock

bags to protect storm drain inlets, staked or weighted straw wattles/fiber rolls, and silt fences.

In addition to erosion and sediment controls, the project must have BMPs in place to keep other construction-related wastes and pollutants out of the storm drains. Such practices include, but are not limited to: filtering water from dewatering operations, providing proper washout areas for concrete trucks and stucco/paint contractors, containing wastes, managing portable toilets properly, and dry sweeping instead of washing down dirty pavement.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to verify that the proposed BMPs for the project are appropriate for the unique site conditions, including topography, soil type and anticipated volumes of water entering and leaving the site during the construction phase. In particular, the project proponent should check for the presence of colloidal clay soils on the site. Experience has shown that these soils do not settle out with conventional sedimentation and filtration BMPs. The project proponent may wish to conduct settling column tests in addition to other soils testing on the site, to ascertain whether conventional BMPs will work for the project.

If sediment-laden or otherwise polluted runoff discharges from the construction site are found to impact the county's storm drain system and/or Waters of the State, the property owner will be subject to enforcement action and possible fines by the county and the Regional Water Board.

Project compliance with requirements outlined above, as administered by the county and the Regional Water Board will ensure that project-related erosion and pollution impacts are ***less than significant***.

OPERATION: STORMWATER RUNOFF

Development and urbanization can increase pollutant loads, temperature, volume and discharge velocity of runoff over the predevelopment condition. The increased volume, increased velocity, and discharge duration of stormwater runoff from developed areas has the potential to greatly accelerate downstream erosion and impair stream habitat in natural drainage systems. Studies have demonstrated a direct correlation between the degree of imperviousness of an area and the degradation of its receiving waters. These impacts must be mitigated by requiring appropriate runoff reduction and pollution prevention controls to minimize runoff and keep runoff clean for the life of the project.

The county requires that projects include source and/or treatment control measures on selected new development and redevelopment projects. Source control BMPs are intended to keep pollutants from contacting site runoff. Examples include "No Dumping-Drains to Creek/River" stencils/stamps on storm drain inlets to educate the public, and providing roofs over areas likely to contain pollutants, so that rainfall does not contact the pollutants. Treatment control measures are intended to remove pollutants that have already been mobilized in runoff. Examples include vegetated swales and water quality detention basins. These facilities slow water down and allow sediments and pollutants to settle out prior to discharge to receiving waters. Additionally, vegetated facilities

provide filtration and pollutant uptake/adsorption. The project proponent should consider the use of “low impact development” techniques to reduce the amount of imperviousness on the site, since this will reduce the volume of runoff and therefore will reduce the size/cost of stormwater quality treatment required. Examples of low impact development techniques include pervious pavement and bioretention facilities.

The county requires project proponents to utilize the *Stormwater Quality Design Manual for the Sacramento Region, 2018* (Design Manual) in selecting and designing post-construction facilities to treat runoff from the project. Regardless of project type or size, developers are required to implement the minimum source control measures (Chapter 4 of the Design Manual). Low impact development measures and Treatment Control Measures are required of all projects exceeding the impervious surface threshold defined in Table 3-2 and 3-3 of the Design Manual. Further, depending on project size and location, hydromodification control measures may be required (Chapter 5 of the Design Manual).

Updates and background on the county’s requirements for post-construction stormwater quality treatment controls, along with several downloadable publications, can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.waterresources.saccounty.net/stormwater/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.beriverfriendly.net/Newdevelopment/>

The final selection and design of post-construction stormwater quality control measures is subject to the approval of the County Department of Water Resources; therefore, they should be contacted as early as possible in the design process for guidance.

CONCLUSION

Project compliance with requirements outlined above will ensure that project-related stormwater pollution impacts are ***less than significant***.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community.
- Have a substantial adverse effect on the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species.
- Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees.

- Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state or local regulations and policies.

An evaluation of natural and biological resources at the site was conducted to determine whether any special-status plant or wildlife species or their habitat, or other sensitive habitats occur in or near the project area. Sacramento County's analysis of biological resources included: review of Ascent Environmental Final Aquatic Resources Delineation Report (September 2019), Biological Resources Technical Report (September 2019), Arborist Report (September 2019), and a site visit by County staff in April 2019. The project study area defined in the various reports encompasses 16.29 acres and consists of a 50-foot buffer around the existing pump station and a 20-foot buffer along all temporary access routes. All technical reports are available online at: <https://planningdocuments.saccounty.net/ViewProjectDetails.aspx?ControlNum=PLER2019-00046>.

Based on examination of natural resources and habitat present on the project site and the surrounding area, it was determined that potential wetlands and waters of the U.S. and several special status species require further analysis and discussion. Sensitive habitats and special status species with the potential to occur in or near the project area are discussed below.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

The United States Congress passed the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) in 1973 to protect those species that are endangered or threatened with extinction. In 1984, the State of California enacted a similar law, the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), to protect species identified and listed by the California Fish and Game Commission as endangered or threatened with extinction.

The State and Federal Endangered Species Acts are intended to operate in conjunction with CEQA and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to help protect ecosystems that endangered and threatened species depend upon. The USFWS is responsible for implementation of the FESA while the CDFW implements the CESA.

Accidental or intentional killing of a threatened or endangered species is labeled "take." "Take" is defined by the FESA as "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect" any threatened or endangered wildlife species. Take may include significant habitat modification or degradation and is applied to threatened or endangered plant species as well.

Incidental take to an otherwise lawful activity may be authorized by one of two procedures. If a federal agency is involved with the permitting, funding, or carrying out of the project, then initiation of formal consultation between that agency and USFWS pursuant to Section 7 of the FESA is required if a proposed project may affect a federally listed species. Such consultation would result in a biological opinion that addresses the anticipated effects of the project to listed species and may authorize a limited level of incidental take. If a federal agency is not involved with the project, and federally listed species may be taken as part of the project, then an incidental take permit pursuant to Section 10(a) of the FESA must be obtained. The USFWS may issue

such a permit upon completion of a satisfactory conservation plan for any listed species that would be affected by the project.

Under CEQA, species of animals or plants presumed to be endangered, rare, or threatened as listed in the California Code of Regulation or Federal Code of Regulation; those officially proposed for listing (federal classification), candidate species (federal and state classification), and species of special concern (State of California classification) are fully protected. Plants identified as 1A, 1B, and 2A, 2B by the California Native Plant Society are also afforded protection pursuant to CEQA.

Birds of prey and migratory birds are protected under the California Fish and Game Code, the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, and the Federal Endangered Species Act.

Section 3503.5. of the California Fish and Game Code states: It is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds of prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.

Based on information gathered from the CNDDDB, the USFWS species list for the Folsom and Citrus Heights USGS topographic quadrangle and species with potential to occur in the study area are described in greater detail below.

WILDLIFE

Ascent biologists completed a biological resource survey on March 25, 2019 and created a list of observed wildlife (Appendix D). In addition to wildlife observed, the USFWS species list and CNDDDB records were referenced to determine all potential endangered, threatened or species of special concern that may occur within the project study area. Of the 19 wildlife species identified to potentially occur on-site, six species could occur, including: Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), western red bat (*Lasiurus blossevillei*), western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*), and valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*).

SWAINSON'S HAWK

The Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) is listed as a threatened species by the state of California and is a candidate for federal listing as threatened or endangered. It is a migratory raptor typically nesting in or near valley floor riparian habitats during spring and summer months. Swainson's hawks were once common throughout the state, but various habitat changes, including the loss of nesting habitat (trees) and the loss of foraging habitat through the conversion of native Central Valley grasslands to certain incompatible agricultural and urban uses has caused an estimated 90% decline in their population.

Swainson's hawks feed primarily upon small mammals, birds, and insects. Their typical foraging habitat includes native grasslands, alfalfa and other hay crops that provide

suitable habitat for small mammals. Certain other row crops and open habitats also provide some foraging habitat. The availability of productive foraging habitat near a Swainson's hawk's nest site is a critical requirement for nesting and fledgling success. In central California, about 85% of Swainson's hawk nests are within riparian forest or remnant riparian trees. CEQA analysis of impacts to Swainson's hawks consists of separate analyses of impacts to nesting habitat and foraging habitat.

The CEQA analysis provides a means by which to ascertain impacts to the Swainson's hawk. When the analysis identifies impacts, mitigation measures are established that will reduce impacts to the species to a less than significant level. Project proponents are cautioned that the mitigation measures are designed to reduce impacts and do not constitute an incidental take permit under the CESA. Anyone who directly or incidentally takes a Swainson's hawk, even when in compliance with mitigation measures established pursuant to CEQA, may violate the CESA.

CDFW recommends the use of the Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee's *Recommended Timing and Methodology for Swainson's Hawk Nesting Surveys in California's Central Valley* (2000). The document recommends that surveys be completed for at least two survey periods prior to a project's initiation. The purpose of the survey requirement is to ensure that construction activities do not agitate nesting hawks, potentially resulting in nest abandonment or other harm to nesting success. If Swainson's hawk nests are found, the project proponent is required to contact California Fish and Wildlife to determine what measures need to be implemented in order to ensure that nesting hawks remain undisturbed. The measures selected will depend on many variables, including the distance of activities from the nest, the types of activities, and whether the landform between the nest and activities provides any kind of natural screening.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The nearest recorded occurrence in CNDDB was recorded approximately 3.40 miles southwest of the project site, and occurs along the American River. Sightings of Swainson's hawks flying over Sailor Bar have been recorded in Cornell Lab of Ornithology's eBird database as recently as July 2018. The species was not observed during Ascent's biological survey; however, suitable nesting habitat exists adjacent to the project site and throughout the Sailor Bar area. To avoid impacts to nesting Swainson's hawks, mitigation involves pre-construction nesting surveys to identify any active nests and to implement avoidance measures if nests are found – if construction will occur during the nesting season of March 1 to September 15. The purpose of the survey requirement is to ensure that construction activities do not agitate nesting hawks, potentially resulting in nest abandonment or other harm to nesting success. If Swainson's hawk nests are found, the applicant is required to contact CDFW to determine what measures need to be implemented in order to ensure that nesting hawks remain undisturbed. The measures selected will depend on many variables, including the distance of activities from the nest, the types of activities, and whether the landform between the nest and activities provides any kind of natural screening.

CONCLUSION

Impacts to Swainson's hawk are considered ***less than significant***.

NESTING RAPTORS

This section addresses raptors that are not listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern, but are nonetheless afforded general protections by the Fish and Game Code. Raptors and their active nests are protected by the California Fish and Game Code Section 3503.5, which states: It is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds of prey, or raptors) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. Section 3(18) of the Federal Endangered Species Act defines the term "take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. Causing a bird to abandon an active nest may cause harm to egg(s) or chick(s) and is therefore considered "take." Take could occur from either the cutting down of a tree and/or construction-related activities nearby an active nest, resulting in nest abandonment.

Raptors within the Sacramento region include tree-nesting species such as the red-tailed hawk and red-shouldered hawk, as well as ground-nesting species such as the northern harrier. The following raptor species are identified as "special animals" due to concerns over nest disturbance: Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, golden eagle, northern harrier, and white-tailed kite.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

There is suitable tree and ground nesting habitat on and surrounding the project site. The biological report noted that a single white-tailed kite was observed flying during the March 2019 site visit. Active Cooper's hawk and red-tailed hawk nests were also observed during the March 2019 site visit. As noted in the biological report, there are no known CNDDB occurrences of northern harrier within five miles, but sightings of the species within Sailor Bar Park were reported on eBird in March 2019.

To avoid impacts to nesting raptors, pre-construction nesting surveys will be required. The purpose of the survey requirement is to ensure that construction activities do not agitate or harm nesting raptors, potentially resulting in nest abandonment or other harm to nesting success. If nests are found, the project proponent is required to contact CDFW to determine what measures need to be implemented in order to ensure that nesting raptors remain undisturbed. The measures selected will depend on many variables, including the distance of activities from the nest, the types of activities, and whether the landform between the nest and activities provides any kind of natural screening. If no active nests are found during the focused survey, no further mitigation will be required.

CONCLUSION

Impacts to nesting birds of prey are considered ***less than significant***.

MIGRATORY NESTING BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, which states “unless and except as permitted by regulations, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture, or kill” a migratory bird. Section 3(18) of FESA defines the term “take” means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. Causing a bird to abandon an active nest may cause harm to egg(s) or chick(s) and is therefore considered “take.” To avoid take of nesting migratory birds, minimization measures have been included to require that activities, either occur outside of the nesting season, or to require that nests be buffered from construction activities until the nesting season is concluded.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

Suitable nesting habitat is present throughout the project site and adjacent properties. Preconstruction surveys for migratory nesting birds will be required if work is to commence between February 1 and September 15. The purpose of the survey requirement is to ensure that construction activities do not agitate or harm nesting migratory birds, potentially resulting in nest abandonment or other harm to nesting success.

CONCLUSION

Impacts to migratory nesting birds are considered ***less than significant***.

WESTERN RED BAT

Western red bat (*Lasiurus blossevillei*) is a state-listed Species of Special Concern. This species roosts primarily in trees along edge habitats adjacent to streams, fields, or urban areas. The species can be found within either natural or human-made structures, such as caves, mines, crevices (including under bridges), hollow trees, and in abandoned or seldom-used buildings. Young are born to the species in the spring and early summer (maternity colonies typically begin to form in April, and births occur from May through early July). Threats to the species include loss of foraging and roosting habitat, and disruption of maternity colonies.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

There are no known occurrences of western red bat within five miles of the project area; however, suitable roost and foraging habitat is present in and adjacent to the project area. Proposed tree and vegetation removal could impact roosting bats and to avoid potential impacts pre-construction surveys are required prior to tree removal or pruning activities. If a bat roost is located, a qualified biologist will determine appropriate measures in consultation with CDFW for avoidance, exclusion, or relocation.

CONCLUSION

Impacts to Western red bats are considered ***less than significant***.

VALLEY ELDERBERRY LONGHORN BEETLE

The following discussion is based on the Framework for Assessing Impacts to the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle¹ (Conservation Guidelines). The valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), referred to as VELB for the remainder of the discussion, is federally listed as Threatened. VELB is completely dependent on its host plant, elderberry (*Sambucus* species), which is a common component of the remaining riparian forests and adjacent upland habitats of the Central Valley. In non-riparian settings, elderberries occur solitarily or in groups in oak woodlands and annual grasslands. The adult-stage of the species is short-lived, so the majority of the species' life is spent in larval form within the stem of an elderberry plant. Adults emerge from late March through June, at around the same time as the elderberry produces flowers. This leaves an exit hole in the stem of the plant, which is often the only exterior evidence of the plant's use by the beetle. Upon emergence, VELB typically stay within the local shrub clump with average distances ranging from 65 to 165 feet. Distances between occupied clumps range from 656 to 2,625 feet.

The Conservation Guidelines encourage the avoidance of riparian habitat or elderberry shrubs whenever possible. Since the dispersal of VELB is generally limited, guidance suggests surveying for elderberry shrubs on and extending 165 feet from the project limits. If elderberry shrubs are present, then the impact analysis will be guided by whether or not the project is within riparian or non-riparian habitat. In riparian habitats, the shrubs are considered suitable habitat and are likely occupied. In non-riparian habitats, the shrubs are evaluated for exit holes. If there are no exit holes, the surrounding area is evaluated for VELB occurrences up to 2,625 feet, nearby habitat, and historical habitat. The final determination of VELB habitat is discussed with the USFWS.

Projects that may impact VELB or its habitat should implement appropriate avoidance and minimization measures. The Conservation Guidelines indicate that not all measures are appropriate for every project and that the applicant should coordinate with the USFWS. The minimization measures include: fencing and flagging close to construction limits, training contractors and employees about the need to avoid the plants, posting signs along the edge of the avoidance area with a standardized message about avoiding impacts, construction outside of emergence window (March – July), and pruning shrubs in winter and to stems no larger than one inch in diameter. Minimum restoration activities include revegetating disturbed areas with native plants, protection of the buffered area from post-construction impacts (establishment of fencing, signs, weeding, and trash removal), prohibition on the use of pesticides or fertilizers within the buffer, and restrictions on grass mowing (for fire hazard reduction).

¹ United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2017. "Framework for Assessing Impacts to the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*)". U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Sacramento, CA. 28 pp.

The Conservation Guidelines indicate that, unless USFWS exempts a project from the requirement, all elderberry plants with one or more stems measuring 1.0 inch or greater in diameter at ground level that cannot be avoided must be transplanted to a conservation area.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

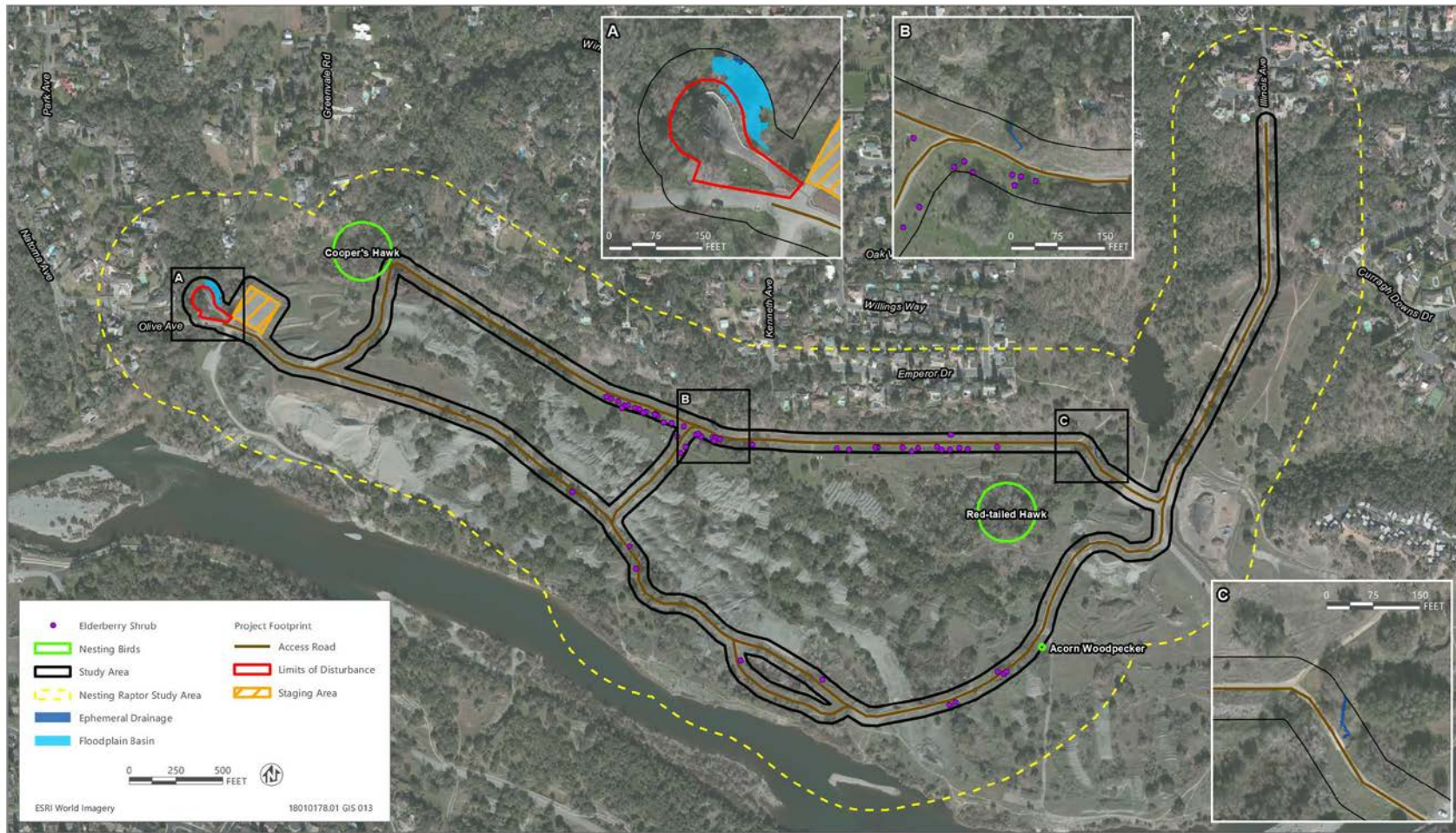
The project is within a riparian area, outside of the defined critical habitat for VELB. Over 50 elderberry shrubs were mapped within the study area along the northern and southern construction access routes (Plate IS-5). There are no elderberry shrubs surrounding the pump station site. During site visits in March 2019, old exit holes were observed and therefore, shrubs are presumed occupied. The biologist noticed that the shrubs are regularly trimmed by Regional Parks staff to maintain clearance along roadways.

No shrubs are located near the pump station where all construction will occur. The project will be using the established access routes through Sailor bar area, but no shrubs or associated habitat are proposed for removal. Some shrubs are located within 20 feet of the access routes; there is potential, indirect impacts on elderberry shrubs. Shrubs located along the access route may be indirectly impacted due to vehicles driving by generating dust, inadvertently clipping branches that are extending in to the path of travel, or by vehicles stopping or parking within the dripline of shrubs, causing damage to the roots, and potentially adversely affecting the health of the shrub. Some areas along the access route have an existing barrier between the road and the adjacent habitat through existing fencing made up of wooden posts and metal wire. Adverse health impacts, damage to, or mortality of elderberry shrubs would be a significant impact under CEQA. In order to limit potential impacts to shrubs mitigation measures such as worker awareness training, fencing of shrubs within 20 feet of access route (not already fenced), ESA signage, reduced speed limits, and use of water truck to inhibit generation of dust from traffic. Personal communication between Ascent and USFWS confirmed that the incorporation of this mitigation would be satisfactory to USFWS. Since the proposed project will not directly impacts elderberry shrubs or riparian habitat, the project will not be required to compensate per the Conservation Guidelines.

CONCLUSION

With the mitigation, impacts to VELB are considered ***less than significant***.

Plate IS-5: Elderberry Shrub Locations



Source: Adapted by Ascent Environmental in 2019

WESTERN POND TURTLE

The western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*)², is listed as a California Species of Special Concern by CDFW. According to the Fish and Wildlife Life History Account for the species, the western pond turtle is an aquatic turtle that usually leaves the aquatic site to reproduce, to aestivate, or to overwinter. Western pond turtles require some slack- or slow-water aquatic habitat. High-gradient streams with minimal cover or basking habitat are not suitable. In pond environments the species typically only leaves the water to reproduce, whereas in stream environments the turtles more commonly leave the water to aestivate or overwinter, in addition to leaving for reproduction. Turtles leave the water to overwinter in October or November, and typically become active in March or April. Mating typically occurs in late April or early May, but may occur year-round. Most egg-laying occurs in May or June, but may occur as early as April or as late as August. The hatchlings remain in the nest over the winter, and emerge in the spring. Suitable nesting locations have dry soils (usually in a substrate with a high clay or silt fraction) on a slope that is unshaded and may be at least partially south-facing. The nest site can be up to 1,300 feet from the aquatic habitat, but it is more typical for the nest to be within 650 feet of aquatic habitat. The Life History Account conservatively recommends a buffer of 1,650 feet to ensure that neither adults nor nests will be impacted.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The species is likely to occur within the project area. The nearest known CNDDDB occurrence of western pond turtle is at Illinois Pond, which is located 150 feet west of the Illinois Avenue entrance to Sailor Bar Park. This occurrence was recorded in 2007. The study area and vicinity additionally contain potentially suitable upland egg-laying habitat within grasslands for this species. Western pond turtle also has the potential to occur along the American River, on the southern boundary of Sailor Bar Park and could travel between Illinois Pond and the American River through the study area and across access routes.

Aquatic habitat for western pond turtle is not expected to be affected by the project, but because there are nearby occupied aquatic sites and turtles may move to grassland areas to lay eggs, turtle may be struck by vehicles or equipment using the access routes. CDFW has not published mitigation or other regulatory guidance for the treatment of impacts to this species. As a result, mitigation is focused on preventing construction activities from resulting in direct mortality of a western pond turtle. Mortality or injury of western pond turtle would be a significant impact under CEQA. The following In order to minimize the likelihood of vehicles striking pond turtles in the upland areas, project personnel will receive species awareness training from a qualified biologist and

² The western pond turtle was identified as being comprised of two subspecies, one of which was the northwestern pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata marmorata*). It is still listed as such in the Fish and Game Life History Account, as the account was written in 1994; however, the current special animals list clarifies that subsequent research has shown that the subspecies designations were not warranted, and the western pond turtle is now tracked only by species, not subspecies.

will be instructed to exercise caution when driving on the dirt access routes in the study area. A 15 mile-per-hour speed limit will be observed on all access roads in the study area to avoid striking western pond turtles that may be traveling through Sailor Bar Park.

CONCLUSION

Impacts to western pond turtle are considered ***less than significant***.

SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS

Ascent biologists completed a biological resource survey on March 25, 2019 and created a list of observed plants. An additional rare plant survey was completed on May 9, 2019, to verify the presence or absence of some rare plants during peak blooming periods. In addition to plants observed, the USFWS species list, CNDDDB records and a list from the California Native Plant Society was referenced to determine all potential endangered, threatened or rare plants that may occur within the project study area.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

Of the 12 plants identified to potentially occur on-site, nine are found only in vernal pool or wetland habitats. While there were large puddles observed within the study area, no special status plants were observed in these features. The remaining three species are not likely to occur due to lack of suitable habitat and/or the species were not observed during multiple site visits.

CONCLUSION

No impact will occur to special status plants.

SENSITIVE HABITATS

RIPARIAN & OAK WOODLAND HABITAT

Riparian habitat is characterized by particular groupings of soils, plants, and animals either within a 100-year floodplain or, if a floodplain is absent, by an area fundamentally influenced by a stream or a river. Riparian ecosystems are maintained by high water tables and periodic flooding. There are many subtypes of riparian habitats, but for the purposes of this analysis, only two basic distinctions will be made: riparian woodland, and riparian scrub. Throughout this chapter, areas described as riparian woodland are dominated or heavily influenced by large riparian trees, while riparian scrub contains trees growing in a shrub-like condition and often includes large herbaceous riparian plants as well. Small grassland areas are typically found in pockets amongst the woodland and scrubland areas. These interstitial (which means, areas found in gaps) grasslands are treated as a functioning part of the riparian area rather than as a separate annual grassland habitat in most cases. Many plants in riparian environments are adapted to periodic flooding events. An impact to riparian habitat is defined as any direct removal or modification of the habitat.

Oak trees and oak woodlands have a very different growth and habitat form than riparian trees and woodlands. The trees often grow in a domed shape, with the outermost branches drooping toward the ground. Less water availability means that there is more space between individual trees and less undergrowth. In the driest upland areas of the Parkway, the undergrowth consists almost entirely of annual grasses, with only the occasional shrub. Where oaks are found in wetter lowland areas, the undergrowth may be much thicker, and the grasses much taller. In contrast to the riparian woodlands, while the oak trees retain the same color and shape year-round, the understory is only green during the winter season. The understory grasses dry out during the summer months.

As noted in Mitigation Measure BR-9 of the Parkway Plan, there is a distinction between oak trees that are part of a riparian woodland, and oak trees that are part of an oak woodland. In the latter, the habitat is dominated by oak trees. The Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element contains several policies intended to protect riparian and oak woodland habitat.

CO-58. Ensure no net loss of wetlands, riparian woodlands, and oak woodlands.

CO-59. Ensure mitigation occurs for any loss of or modification to the following types of acreage and habitat function:

- vernal pools,
- wetlands,
- riparian,
- native vegetative habitat, and
- special status species habitat.

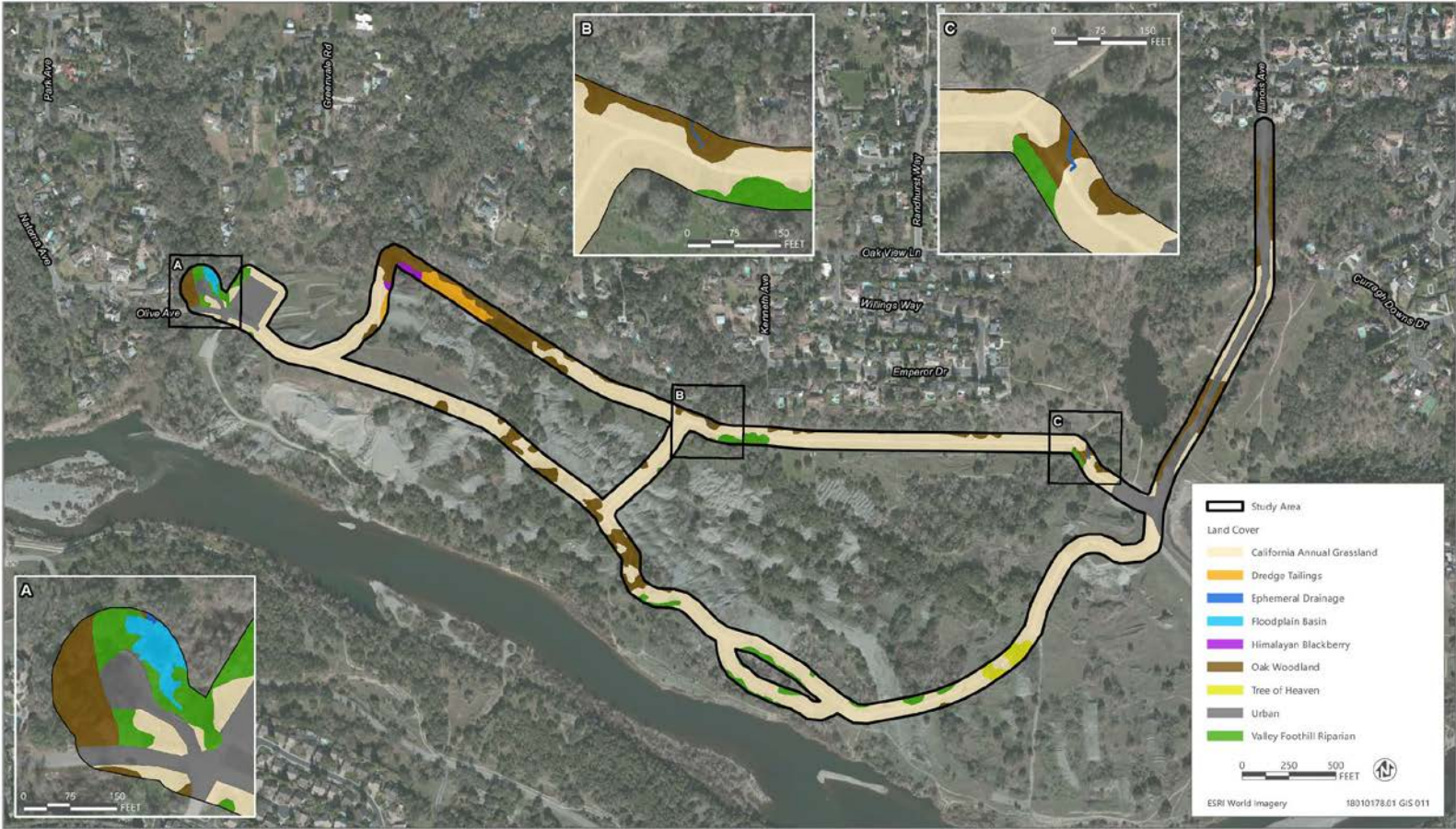
CO-140. For projects involving native oak woodlands, oak savannah or mixed riparian areas, ensure mitigation through either of the following methods:

- An adopted habitat conservation plan.
- Ensure no net loss of canopy area through a combination of the following: (1) preserving the main, central portions of consolidated and isolated groves constituting the existing canopy and (2) provide an area on-site to mitigate any canopy lost. Native oak mitigation area must be a contiguous area on-site which is equal to the size of canopy area lost and shall be adjacent to existing oak canopy to ensure opportunities for regeneration.
- Removal of native oaks shall be compensated with native oak species with a minimum of a one to one dbh replacement.

- A provision for a comparable on-site area for the propagation of oak trees may substitute for replacement tree planting requirements at the discretion of the County Tree Coordinator when removal of a mature oak tree is necessary.
- If the project site is not capable of supporting all the required replacement trees, a sum equivalent to the replacement cost of the number of trees that cannot be accommodated may be paid to the County's Tree Preservation Fund or another appropriate tree preservation fund.
- If on-site mitigation is not possible given site limitation, off-site mitigation may be considered. Such a mitigation area must meet all of the following criteria to preserve, enhance, and maintain a natural woodland habitat in perpetuity, preferably by transfer of title to an appropriate public entity. Protected woodland habitat could be used as a suitable site for replacement tree plantings required by ordinances or other mitigations.
 - Equal or greater in area to the total area that is included within a radius of 30 feet of the dripline of all trees to be removed;
 - Adjacent to protected stream corridor or other preserved natural areas;
 - Supports a significant number of native broadleaf trees; and
 - Offers good potential for continued regeneration of an integrated woodland community.

The pump station is located within the American River Parkway and is bordered by oak woodland to the west and valley foothill riparian habitat (riparian woodland) to the east (reference Inset A of Plate IS-6). Natural Investigations Company, Inc. prepared an Arborist Report and Tree Inventory on June 6, 2019 (Appendix E). The arborist report and tree inventory assessed trees within the pump station footprint and along the proposed access route; 39 trees were inventoried.

Plate IS-6: CDFW Land Cover Map



Source: Data downloaded from CDFW; adapted by Ascent Environmental in 2019

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

RIPARIAN WOODLAND

Nomenclature and definitions for land cover types vary slightly between the Parkway Plan and CDFW's land cover types. For instance, Plate IS-6 depicts the areas shaded green as Valley Foothill Riparian, while the Parkway Plan simply refers to this habitat as riparian woodland. The remainder of this discussion will use the Parkway Plan terminology.

Several trees (Tree #1, 2, 9, 10, 11, & 12) within the riparian woodland area of the project site will need to be pruned to allow for access; however, no trees in this area are proposed for removal (Plate IS-7). The current access road into the pump station is located under these canopies, so some construction related encroachment would occur; however, since the project site is expanding to the west and not the east, construction would not encroach farther into the canopies. Compensation is not required for the pruning of trees and the project would not result in the loss of riparian woodland canopy. Native tree protection measures as fencing will ensure that construction equipment is confined to the proposed work area.

OAK WOODLAND

There are 14 native trees within the construction footprint that will require removal or heavy pruning (reference Plate IS-8). These 14 trees are located within an oak woodland. As noted in Mitigation Measure BR-9 of the Parkway Plan, there is a distinction between oak trees that are part of a riparian woodland, and oak trees that are part of an oak woodland. In the latter, the habitat is dominated by oak trees.

Per the 75% percent design plans, Tree #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, & #8 of the arborist report are all proposed for removal. Additionally, Trees B, C, D, G & H of Table IS-4 & Plate IS-8 will also need to be removed. Three other trees (A, E, & F) will require heavy pruning, but may eventually be identified for removal when the final design plans are completed. Please refer to Table IS-4 for tree species, health, and size.

Plate IS-7: Trees surveyed in original arborist report

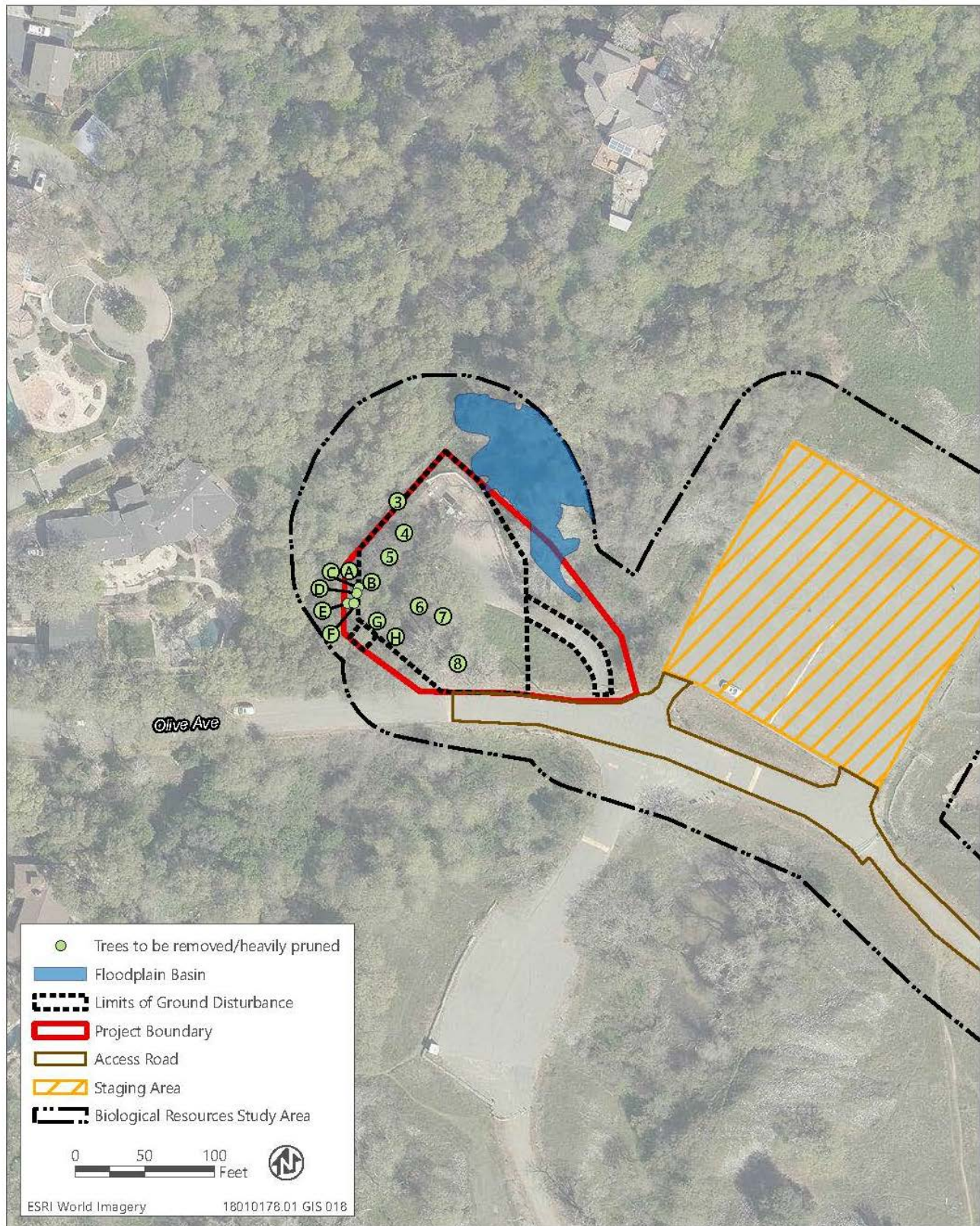


Table IS-4: Trees to be Removed or Heavily Pruned

Tree ID	Species	DBH (inches)	Dripline Radius (feet)	Condition	Impact Type
3	Valley oak (<i>Quercus lobata</i>)	9.6	15	Good	Removal
4	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	78 (multi-stem)	50	Good	Removal
5	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	13	15	Good	Removal
6	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	13 (multi-stem)	15	Good	Removal
7	Valley oak (<i>Quercus lobata</i>)	29	35	Good	Removal
8	Fremont cottonwood (<i>Populus fremontii</i>)	54	40	Good	Removal
A	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	23	25	Good	Heavy Pruning
B	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	6	5	Poor	Removal
C	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	8	15	Poor	Removal
D	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	12	20	Poor	Removal
E	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	4	10	Poor	Heavy Pruning
F	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	12	20	Good	Heavy Pruning
G	Interior live oak (<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>)	14 (multi-stem)	15	Good	Removal
H	Oregon ash (<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>)	20 (multi-stem)	25	Fair	Removal

Source: Compiled by Ascent Environmental 2020

Plate IS-8: Trees likely to be removed within oak woodland



As noted in Mitigation Measure BR-10 of the Parkway Plan, mitigation shall be required for oak woodland canopy removed. The mitigation site shall be within the Parkway, shall be contiguous to an existing oak woodland area, and shall be equal in size to the canopy area removed.

Six occurrences (Tree # 16, 18, 19, 29, 27, 28, 29, & 30) of *Ailanthus altissima* (Tree of Heaven) were observed in the study area. Trees # 16, 18, & 19 occur within the project site and the rest are located along the southern-most access road. The species is invasive and all individuals are recommended for removal to improve the natural habitat; replacement compensation is not required for the removal.

No trees along the proposed access route would require removal in order to construct the project; however, many trees would require pruning to allow large equipment to pass. In some cases, limbs four to ten inches in size may require pruning. This is not considered a significant impact, but a certified arborist will be required to perform the work. A number of dead trees (not given a tag ID) and Tree# 24, located along the access roads, were recommended for removal. Tree #24 is an interior live oak in poor condition. Its leaning structure is likely to result in structural failure and may block the southern access road. The removal of the dead trees and Tree #24 would not require compensation.

CONCLUSION

With mitigation, impacts to oak woodlands and riparian woodlands are considered ***less than significant***.

WETLANDS AND WATERS OF THE U.S.

The Clean Water Act (CWA) was enacted in 1977 to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation's bodies of waters. The CWA establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into waters of the United States. The CWA makes it unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant from a point source into navigable waters, unless a permit is obtained, pursuant to Sections 401, 402, and/or 404.

The CWA uses the term "surface water" to refer to all standing or flowing water which is present above-ground either perennially or seasonally. There are many types of surface waters, but the two major groupings are linear waterways with a bed and bank (streams, rivers, etc.) and wetlands. The CWA has defined the term wetland to mean "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions." The term "wetlands" includes a diverse assortment of habitats such as perennial and seasonal freshwater marshes, vernal pools, and wetted swales. The 1987 Army Corps Wetlands Delineation Manual is used to determine whether an area meets the technical criteria for a wetland and is therefore subject to local, State or federal regulation of that habitat type.

The CWA protects all "navigable waters," which are defined as traditional navigable waters that are or were used for commerce, or may be used for interstate commerce;

tributaries of covered waters; and wetlands adjacent to covered waters, including tributaries. Isolated wetlands that are not hydrologically connected to other “navigable” surface waters (or their tributaries) are not considered to be subject to the CWA.

The USACE regulates discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States under Section 404 of the CWA. Discharges of fill material is defined as the addition of fill material into waters of the U.S., including, but not limited to the following: placement of fill that is necessary for the construction of any structure, or impoundment requiring rock, sand, dirt, or other material for its construction; site-development fills for recreational, industrial, commercial, residential, and other uses; causeways or road fills; fill for intake and outfall pipes and subaqueous utility lines [33 C.F.R. §328.2(f)].

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) implements Section 401 of the CWA (33 U.S.C. 1341) which requires any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into waters of the United States to obtain a certification that the discharge will comply with the applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards.

In addition to the CWA, the State also has jurisdiction over impacts to surface waters through the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, which does not require that waters be “navigable.” For this reason, federal non-jurisdictional waters – isolated wetlands – can be regulated by the State of California pursuant to Porter-Cologne water Quality Control Act.

The CWA establishes a “no net” loss” policy regarding wetlands for the state and federal governments, and General Plan Policy CO-58 establishes a “no net loss” policy for Sacramento County. Pursuant to these policies, any wetlands to be excavated or filled require 1:1 mitigation, and construction within the wetlands cannot take place until the appropriate permit(s) have been obtained from the USACE, the USFWS, the RWQCB, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and any other agencies with authority over surface waters. Any loss of delineated wetlands not mitigated for through the permitting process must be mitigated, pursuant to County policy. Appropriate mitigation may include establishment of a conservation easement over wetlands, purchase of mitigation banking credits, or similar measures.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

An Aquatic Resource Delineation Report was prepared for the project in September 2019 by Ascent Environmental (Appendix C). Approximately 0.15 acres of potential waters of the U.S. were identified in the study area, including 0.002 acre ephemeral drainages, 0.003 acres intermittent drainages, and 0.14-acre floodplain basin (Plate IS-6).

Two ephemeral drainages are located along the access road. These drainages are narrow, shallow, defined channels that cross the roadway. Hydrophytic vegetation is mostly absent from the drainage channel. The hydrologic connection to the American River is not present for these features, as this was likely disrupted years ago during past

mining; however, the features were likely historically connected and are adjacent to the American River and are likely under USACE jurisdiction.

Two intermittent drainages and the floodplain basin are located north and northeast of the existing pump station. Both drainage channels are clearly defined with an average ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of four to five feet. These channels converge in the study area and create a shallow floodplain basin with riparian and some hydrophytic vegetation. This floodplain area narrows down to a low flow channel and terminates into culverts crossing the paved park roads. Drainage connects to the American River approximately 600 feet downstream.

The ephemeral and intermittent drainages will not be impacted by the proposed project. The temporary access roads are existing and all construction personnel will remain on the identified routes. No widening to the roads are necessary to accommodate construction. The intermittent drainages are on the north and northeastern side of the proposed development impact area. In order to ensure that construction personnel and equipment remain away from the features, fencing will be installed at construction limits.

While the floodplain basin likely would be classified as both state and federal waters, permits will not be needed for the abandonment of an existing manhole facility within the area. A crane will be used to remove the existing manhole lid and the facility will be abandoned in place. The crane will be located outside of the basin and will reach over the limits of ground disturbance boundary into the temporary access area where the manhole is located, but the equipment will not be staged in this area. Workers, on foot, may need to be within the temporary access area to help guide the equipment and to place a containment system around the manhole and pipelines to prevent spilling slurry mixture (used to backfill the manhole and pipelines) onto the ground. The slurry mixture will be pumped into the pipelines from outside of the basin area. This temporary access area between the limits of ground disturbance and the project boundary will not require any improvements or placing of fill within the floodplain basin. The abandonment activities would not change the existing elevation of the delineated floodplain basin and therefore would not require a Section 404 Nationwide Permit, 401, or Waste Discharge Requirement. In order to avoid disturbance to the floodplain basin, mitigation will be required. The biologist will establish the floodplain basin as an environmentally sensitive area and will direct the installation of flagging around the floodplain basin within the project boundary. The exclusionary fencing/flagging will be regularly inspected and maintained.

CONCLUSION

Impacts to wetlands and surface waters are considered ***less than significant***.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.
- Have a substantial adverse effect on an archaeological resource.
- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) defines cultural resources as historical and unique archaeological resources that meet significance criteria of the California Register of Historical Resources. The eligibility criteria of the California Register include the following:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
- Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (Public Resources Code SS5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852).

Under CEQA, lead agencies must consider the effects of their projects on historical resources.

HISTORIC-ERA RESOURCES

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) defines a "historical resource" as a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), a resource included in a local register of historical resources, and any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant (Section 15064.5[a] of the Guidelines). Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1 requires that any properties that can be expected to be directly or indirectly affected by a proposed project be evaluated for CRHR eligibility. According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource may be considered historically significant if it retains integrity and meets at least one of the following criteria. A property may be listed in the CRHR if the resource:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;

3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of installation, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

To be considered eligible, a resource must meet one of the above stated criteria and also retain integrity. Integrity has been defined by the National Park Service as consisting of seven elements: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Natural Investigations Company prepared the cultural resources inventory for the project site pursuant to the provision for the treatment of cultural resources contained within CEQA (Pub. Res. Code §21000 et seq). The following analysis contains portions of, and is based on, this report (Natural Investigations Company, May 10, 2019. Cultural and Paleontological Resources Inventory for the Sailor Bar Pump Station (S073) Rehabilitation Project, Sacramento County, California.

ETHNOGRAPHY

The project is located in lands historically occupied by the Nisenan (also known as the Southern Maidu). Prior to Euro-American contact, Nisenan territory included the southern extent of the Sacramento Valley, east of the Sacramento River between the Yuba and Cosumnes Rivers to the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. The project area specifically lies within the southernmost territory of the Valley Nisenan, which included the lower American, Feather, and Sacramento Rivers (Kroeber 1925, 1929; Merriam 1966-1967; Wilson and Towne 1978). Major Nisenan villages were located along the east bank of the Sacramento River and north bank of the American River. Those along the north bank of the American River near the current project area include Sekumni, Kadema, and Kishkish (Wilson and Town 1978:388).

The Valley Nisenan villages were generally on low, natural rises along streams and river or on gentle, south-facing slopes and Hill Nisenan villages on ridges and large flats along major streams. Villages ranged from 15 to 500 people and typical structures included semi-subterranean or aboveground circular, or dome-shape houses, as well as acorn granaries, grinding houses and dance houses.

HISTORY

After the discovery of gold in 1848, numerous mining camps sprang up along the American River between Coloma and Sacramento. Gold was discovered on the north shore of the river in 1849 at Mississippi Bar and circa 1850 at Sailor Bar. By the mid-1850s, the rich placer deposits along the American River had been depleted. Miners moved further east into the Sierra Nevada foothills. Continued mining in the valley floor depended on development of other mining techniques, such as ground sluice, hydraulic, and dredge mining.

Development of dredge mining in 1898 renewed mining as a major industry in the project area (Maniery 1995:17). The earliest dredge mining occurred in 1898 in the Mississippi Bar area (downstream of the project area). The dredge, constructed by Risdon Iron Works of San Francisco, was a continuous bucket type that facilitated gold extraction at a minimal cost per acre. Between 1899 and 1913, Sailor Bar was dredge mined by the Ashburton Mining Company (Deis 2008). The first dredge, Ashburton No.1, was the second bucket type dredge to operate within the Folsom Mining District; however, was consumed by fire in 1903.

The Folsom/American River Mining District was one of the largest dredge field in California and produced an estimated \$125 million in gold (Clark 1970:48). Overall, digging depths in the District ranged from 30 to 110 feet. Mining continued up to World War II, and ceased in 1962.

PRE-FIELD AND FIELDWORK RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

Research for this project was conducted in phases. The first phase consisted of an archival search of available records, repositories, and other sources of information applicable to the project area. The second phase consisted of fieldwork; project personnel conducted a pedestrian survey within the project area to inventory any cultural resources. The two phases of research are discussed below.

ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

A record search was performed at the North Central Information Center (NCIC) of the California Historical Records Information System (CHRIS) to identify known resources in the project area. In addition to the NCIC Sources consulted by NCIC and CHRIS record searches, the following historic references were reviewed:

- NCIC reports on file;
- Historic Property Data File and Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility for Sacramento County (2012);
- National Register of Historic Places;
- California Register of Historic Resources;
- California State Historical Landmarks (1996) and updates;
- California Points of Historical Interest (1992) and updates;
- 1871 General Land Office plat for Township 9 North, Range 7 East;
- 1911 Antelope and 1914 Folsom USGS 1:31,680 quadrangle;
- Historic Maps including USGS Citrus Heights, 1951, 1967, 1975, and Folsom, 1954, 1967 and 1975, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle

PRIOR STUDIES

The NCIC Records search found six previous studies within the one-quarter mile search radius. Of these, two cover a fraction of the study area. The two studies identified three previously recorded sites within the project area: P-34-000335 (CA-SAC-308H), P-34-002169 (Area I of CA-SAC-308H), and P-34-000498 (CA-SAC-471/H). It has since been determined that P-34-002169 was mislabeled as a separate site when in fact it is an update to P-34-000498.

P-34-000335 (CA-SAC-308H)

This record classifies the Folsom/American River Mining District.

With the exception of the dredge tailings, no mining-related cultural material, deposits, or features recorded as part of P-34-000335 (CA-SAC-308H) are present within the project area. The condition of the dredge tailings within the Project area remains as previously recorded, thus no DPR update was warranted. The site will not be impacted by the proposed project, which will use existing access roads and have the limits of disturbance restricted to the existing pump station and parking pad/staging area.

P-34-000498 (CA-SAC-471/H)

This record was initially recorded in 1995 as a bedrock milling site on the American River. In 1996, Derr expanded the site to include historic-era placer mining features. This site has since been disturbed by urban utilities and urban recreational uses.

The features previously recorded as part of P-34-000498 (CA-SAC-471/H) are located outside the current project area. The condition of the site within the project area remains as previously recorded, thus an update of the record was not warranted. Use of the existing access roads within the site boundaries will not impact P-34-000498.

P-34-002169 (AREA I OF CA-SAC-308H)

As previously noted, this record updated P-34-000498 (CA-SAC-471/H) and the NCIC plans to subsume this resource under that primary record.

Two areas within P-34-002169 found eligible for the NRHP and CRHR are not located within the proposed project area. The condition of the site within the project area remains as previously recorded, thus no DPR update was warranted. Use of the existing access roads within the site boundaries will not impact this site. .

THE PUMP STATION

The pump station was originally built in 1969. The existing pump station is a common infrastructure element that is common throughout the Sacramento region. The pump station is utilitarian in form and function and is not associated with significant events or individuals. Furthermore, it is not distinctive or characteristic of a style or construction method and is not associated with an important architect, builder or contractor. The pump station is not eligible for listing in the national or state registers.

FIELDWORK

PEDESTRIAN SURVEY

The project area was walked by Natural Investigations archaeologist in parallel transects in 15-meter intervals. All visible ground surface was closely examined for evidence of prehistoric or historic activity. No evidence of prehistoric or historical activity was noted within the project area.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The pedestrian survey did not identify new historic archaeological or built environment resources within or adjacent to the project area. None of the previously recorded cultural resources were present within the immediate footprint of the project, with the exception of the dredge tailings. The proposed project will not impact the tailings.

While it is unlikely that buried resources will be uncovered, CEQA requires that lead agencies protect both known and unknown cultural resources; therefore, mitigation is recommended to ensure that in the event that cultural resources are discovered on the project site during implementation phases that all work shall be halted until a qualified archaeologist may evaluate the resource encountered.

CONCLUSION

Impacts to potentially sensitive cultural resources are ***less than significant***.

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with a cultural value to a California Native American tribe, that is:
 - Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
 - A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Under PRC Section 21084.3, public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource. California Native American tribes traditionally and

culturally affiliated with a geographic area may have expertise concerning their tribal cultural resources (21080.3.1(a)).

AB-52 CONSULTATION

In order to identify potentially significant historical and traditional Native American resources within the project area, a letter was sent to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) requesting sacred site information and contacts with individuals of potential Native American descent who might hold information concerning the project area and vicinity. The NAHC responded on April 29, 2019, noting that there are no sacred lands within the project area.

In accordance with the AB-52 process, Sacramento County sent notification letters on October 17, 2019, to the three participating tribes. No correspondence was received from tribes. To avoid construction-related impacts to potential unknown tribal cultural resources, unanticipated discovery mitigation has been incorporated.

CONCLUSION

With the recommended mitigation, potential impacts to tribal cultural resources will be ***less than significant***.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Expose the public or the environment to a substantial hazard through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

During construction of the new facilities, the pump station will use the sewer existing facilities for flows of sewage. Once construction is complete, a temporary bypass system will be used for transitioning flows to the new facilities. Sewage will be relayed by temporary, above-ground pumps and facilities. The exact location of the overland facilities has not yet been determined and will not be until a contractor has been selected. The temporary bypass system is expected to be in use for up to two weeks. A monitor(s) will be required to be on-site 24 hours a day until the new pump station is operational, in order to prevent failure of the temporary bypass system and/or to quickly switch off the system in the event of a leak resulting in the spilling of raw sewage. Once the new wet-well is operational, sewage will be conveyed to that system.

The contractor will be required to develop a hazardous materials spill prevention and containment plan for the project. The plan would not allow any wastewater discharge from the sewage collection system to enter adjacent lands or waterways. In the event of accidental discharge, the contractor would be responsible for containment and the immediate cleanup and disposal of all contaminated materials, in accordance with the

requirements of the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD).

In the event of accidental discharge, the contractor would notify PER, EMD, and the appropriate regulatory agencies (e.g. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Emergency Services, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board) to determine the appropriate permits and compliance actions that would be required to ensure that the project areas were returned to pre-spill conditions following cleanup activities, and that all impacts were adequately mitigated.

CONCLUSION

With the recommended mitigation measures, potential impacts are ***less than significant***.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment.

SMAQMD has established GHG significance thresholds for construction and operation in its CEQA Guide. GHG emissions would be potentially cumulatively considerable if they exceeded 1,100 metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent (MT CO₂e) per year.

The existing pump station currently generates GHG emissions from maintenance trips, electricity use, and occasional generator use.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

CalEEMod was used to estimate construction and operational GHG emissions (Appendix A). Construction related GHG emissions were estimated to be 92 MT CO₂e, which is well below the SMAQMD threshold of 1,100 MT CO₂e. Operation of the proposed project would be similar to existing conditions. CalEEMod estimated operational emissions to be approximately 1.20 MT CO₂e/ per year.

CONCLUSION

Impacts from construction and operational GHG emissions are ***less than significant***

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measures A-L are critical to ensure that identified significant impacts of the project are reduced to a level of less than significant. Pursuant to Section 15074.1(b) of the CEQA Guidelines, each of these measures must be adopted exactly as written unless the hearing body or the Environmental Coordinator adopts a new written finding

that the new measure is equivalent or more effective in mitigating or avoiding potential significant effects and that it in itself will not cause any potentially significant effect on the environment.

MITIGATION MEASURE A: NOISE-MONITORING PLAN FOR NON-EXEMPT HOURS

The County Noise Ordinance provides for possible ways to mitigate construction-related noise if work must occur during non-exempt hours. The contractor shall provide a noise-monitoring plan prepared by a qualified acoustical engineer. The plan must include the following components:

- Detailed description of proposed nighttime work;
- List of equipment used;
- Projected noise levels generated during nighttime work at surrounding noise-sensitive land uses;
- Location of sensitive receptors in relation to the proposed nighttime work; and
- Detailed description of the location and time that noise monitors would be deployed.

If noise standards are not met during nighttime construction activities, then the following noise control measures would be required.

- Where available and feasible, equipment with back-up alarms shall be equipped with either audible self-adjusting back-up alarms or alarms that only sound when an object is detected. Self-adjusting alarms shall automatically adjust to 5 dB over the surrounding background noise levels;
- Avoid pile driving at night;
- Noise-reducing enclosures and techniques shall be used around stationary noise-generating equipment (e.g., generators, compressors);
- Heavy duty equipment shall be operated at the lowest operating power possible;
- Use temporary noise curtains as close to the noise-generating activity;
- Offer hotel accommodations to residents who would temporarily be exposed to nighttime interior noise levels that exceed 45 dB.

MITIGATION MEASURE B: EROSION CONTROL & WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PLAN

Pursuant to Mitigation Measure HY-1 and HY-2 of the American River Parkway Plan 2006 Update:

All new construction projects or redevelopment of facilities within the Parkway shall incorporate the design components within the latest version of the *Sacramento County Guidance Manual for Development of Erosion and Sediment Control Plans*, even if a grading permit is not required for the project. No grading shall be permitted from October 1 – April 30, unless the grading is associated with an emergency project or it can be demonstrated to the Office of Planning and Environmental Review that there is an environmental benefit to wet-season construction.

The final selection and design of post-construction stormwater quality control measures is subject to review and approval by the County Department of Water Resources. The Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following measures to protect water quality during construction:

1. Abandonment of the manhole facilities shall be completed during the dry season (May 15-October 1).
2. Stockpiling of construction materials, including portable equipment, vehicles and supplies, including chemicals, will be restricted to the designated construction staging areas. Staging will not occur within the floodplain basin area or any other areas deemed environmentally sensitive.
3. Erosion control measures that prevent soil or sediment from entering the river shall be emplaced, monitored for effectiveness, and maintained throughout the construction operations.
4. Refueling of construction equipment and vehicles within the 100-year floodplain shall only occur within designated, paved, bermed areas where possible spills will be readily contained.
5. If work is to occur between October 15th and May 15, truck and cement equipment wash-down will not occur within the floodplain.
6. Equipment and vehicle operated within the 100-year floodplain shall be checked and maintained daily to prevent leaks of fuels, lubricant or other fluids to the river.
7. Litter and construction debris shall be removed daily, and disposed of at an appropriate site.

MITIGATION MEASURE C: FLOODPLAIN BASIN PROTECTION

In order to establish environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) and non-disturbance zones, prior to the start of construction activities in the project boundary, the project biologist will establish the floodplain basin as an environmentally sensitive area (ESA) and will also direct the installation of flagging around the floodplain basin within the project boundary. The exclusionary fencing/flagging will be regularly inspected and maintained.

The contract package shall clearly describe prohibited construction-related activities other than access, including vehicle operation, material and equipment storage, and other surface-disturbing activities within the floodplain basin. The ESA and flagging location shall be identified and depicted on an exhibit. The purpose of the ESA shall be explained at Worker Environmental Awareness Program training, and the location of the floodplain basin will be noted during worker tailgate sessions.

MITIGATION MEASURE D: SWAINSON'S HAWK NESTING SURVEYS

If construction, grading, or project-related improvements are to commence between March 1 and September 15, focused surveys for Swainson's hawk nests shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within a 1/4-mile radius of project activities, in accordance with the Recommended Timing and Methodology for Swainson's Hawk Nesting Surveys in California's Central Valley (Swainson's Hawk TAC 2000). To meet the minimum level of protection for the species, surveys should be completed for at least two survey periods immediately prior to commencement of construction activities (including clearing and grubbing). If active nests are found, CDFW shall be contacted to determine appropriate protective measures, and these measures shall be implemented prior to the start of any ground-disturbing activities. If no active nests are found during the focused surveys, no further mitigation will be required.

MITIGATION MEASURE E: NESTING BIRDS OF PREY SURVEY

If construction activity (which includes clearing, grubbing, or grading) is to commence within 500 feet of suitable nesting habitat between March 1 and September 15, a survey for raptor nests shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The survey shall cover all potential tree on-site and off-site up to a distance of 500 feet from the project boundary. The survey shall occur within 30 days of the date that construction will encroach within 500 feet of suitable habitat. The biologist shall supply a brief written report (including date, time of survey, survey method, name of surveyor and survey results) to the Environmental Coordinator prior to ground disturbing activity. If no active nests are found during the survey, no further mitigation will be required. If any active nests are found, the Environmental Coordinator and California Fish and Wildlife shall be contacted to determine appropriate avoidance/protective measures. The avoidance/protective measures shall be implemented prior to the commencement of construction within 500 feet of an identified nest.

MITIGATION MEASURE F: MIGRATORY BIRD NEST PROTECTION

To avoid impacts to nesting migratory birds the following shall apply:

1. If construction activity (which includes clearing, grubbing, or grading) is to commence within 50 feet of nesting habitat between February 1 and September 15, a survey for active migratory bird nests shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to construction by a qualified biologist.
2. Trees slated for removal shall be removed during the period of September through January, in order to avoid the nesting season. Any trees that are to be

removed during the nesting season, which is February through August, shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist and will only be removed if no nesting migratory birds are found.

If active nest(s) are found in the survey area, a non-disturbance buffer, the size of which has been determined by a qualified biologist, shall be established and maintained around the nest to prevent nest failure. All construction activities shall be avoided within this buffer area until a qualified biologist determines that nestlings have fledged.

MITIGATION MEASURE G: BAT SURVEYS

Pre-construction surveys are required prior to tree removal or pruning activities. If a bat roost is located, a qualified biologist will determine appropriate measures in consultation with CDFW for avoidance, exclusion, or relocation.

MITIGATION MEASURE H: VALLEY ELDERBERRY LONGHORN BEETLE

In order to limit potential impacts to shrubs and valley elderberry longhorn beetle (VELB) the following measures shall be adhered to:

- All construction personnel shall receive VELB environmental awareness training prior to construction activities. The awareness training shall be prepared by a qualified biologist and comply with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) guidance.
- Construction fencing of shrubs within 20 feet of access route shall be erected prior to construction activities. Areas that are already fenced do not need to be fenced.
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) signage shall be erected every 50 feet along the edge of the avoidance area with the following information: "This area is habitat of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle, a threatened species, and must not be disturbed. This species is protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Violators are subject to prosecution, fines and imprisonment." The signs should be clearly readable from a distance of 20 feet, and must be maintained for the duration of construction.
- All vehicular traffic shall adhere to a 15 mile-per-hour speed limit
- In order to control fugitive dusts, water trucks will water the unpaved access roads with adequate frequency for continued moist soil; however, the contractor shall not overwater to the extent that sediment flows off the site.

MITIGATION MEASURE I: WESTERN POND TURTLE PROTECTION

In order to minimize the likelihood of vehicles striking pond turtles in the upland areas, project personnel will receive species awareness training from a qualified biologist and will be instructed to exercise caution when driving on the dirt access routes in the study

area. A 15 mile-per-hour speed limit will be observed on all access roads in the study area to avoid striking western pond turtles that may be traveling through Sailor Bar Park.

MITIGATION MEASURE J: OAK WOODLAND CANOPY REPLACEMENT

Pursuant to General Plan Policy CO-140 and Mitigation Measure BR-10 of the Parkway Plan, mitigation shall be required for oak woodland canopy removed. The mitigation site shall be within the Parkway, shall be contiguous to an existing oak woodland area, and shall be equal in size to the canopy area removed. Oak trees shall be planted in this area. Tree plantings shall be varied from a 10-foot minimum to a 40-foot maximum, averaging 25 feet apart, in a mosaic pattern that mimics existing oak woodlands. A Replacement Oak Tree Planting Plan commensurate with the description in Mitigation Measure BR-13 (Parkway Plan) shall be required, except that the monitoring period shall be seven years. Where removed oak trees are part of a riparian canopy area, instead of an oak woodland canopy area, mitigation for the oak trees shall be pursued through Mitigation Measure BR-9 (Parkway Plan). Any individual oak tree that is standing alone, not part of any other canopy area, shall be treated as a fragment of riparian woodland if it is within a riparian scrub environment, and shall be treated as a fragment of oak woodland if within a grassland environment.

If replacement plantings are demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Coordinator, to be infeasible for any or all trees removed, then compensation shall be through payment into the County Tree Preservation Fund and or .

- a) Compensation for oak trees shall be made through payment at a rate of \$325.00 per dbh inch removed but not otherwise compensated, or at the prevailing rate at the time payment into the fund is made.
- b) Compensation for non-natives trees shall be made through payment to the Sacramento Tree Foundation's Greenprint program in an amount proportional to the tree canopy lost (as determined by the 15-year shade cover calculations for the tree species to be planted through the funding, with the cost to be determined by the Sacramento County Tree Foundation).

MITIGATION MEASURE K: UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

In the event that human remains are discovered in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, work shall be halted and the County Coroner contacted. For all other unexpected cultural resources discovered during project construction, work shall be halted until a qualified archaeologist may evaluate the resource encountered.

1. Pursuant to Sections 5097.97 and 5097.98 of the State Public Resources Code, and Section 7050.5 of the State Health and Safety Code, if a human bone or bone of unknown origin is found during construction, all work is to stop and the County Coroner and the Office of Planning and Environmental Review shall be

immediately notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours, and the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descendent from the deceased Native American. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposition of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods.

2. In the event of an inadvertent discovery of cultural resources (excluding human remains) during construction, all work must halt within a 100-foot radius of the discovery.

A qualified professional archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology, shall be retained at the Applicant's expense to evaluate the significance of the find. If it is determined due to the types of deposits discovered that a Native American monitor is required, the Guidelines for Monitors/Consultants of Native American Cultural, Religious, and Burial Sites as established by the Native American Heritage Commission shall be followed, and the monitor shall be retained at the Applicant's expense.

- a) Work cannot continue within the 100-foot radius of the discovery site until the archaeologist and/or tribal monitor conducts sufficient research and data collection to make a determination that the resource is either 1) not cultural in origin; or 2) not potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or California Register of Historical Resources.

If a potentially-eligible resource is encountered, then the archaeologist and/or tribal monitor, Planning and Environmental Review staff, and project proponent shall arrange for either 1) total avoidance of the resource, if possible; or 2) test excavations or total data recovery as mitigation. The determination shall be formally documented in writing and submitted to the County Environmental Coordinator as verification that the provisions of CEQA for managing unanticipated discoveries have been met.

MITIGATION MEASURE L: TEMPORARY BYPASS SYSTEM MONITORING & SPILL PREVENTION/CONTAINMENT PLAN

1. A monitor(s) shall be on-site at all times while the temporary bypass system is in use, in order to prevent failure of the temporary bypass system and/or to switch off the system in the event of accidental discharge.
2. The contractor will be required to develop a hazardous materials spill prevention and containment plan for the project. The plan would not allow any wastewater discharge from the sewage collection system to enter adjacent lands or waterways. In the event of accidental discharge, the contractor would be responsible for containment and the immediate cleanup and disposal of all

contaminated materials, in accordance with the requirements of the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department.

In the event of accidental discharge, the contractor would notify the Office of Planning and Environmental Review and Sacramento County Environmental and Sacramento County Environmental Management Department all appropriate regulatory agencies (e.g. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Emergency Services, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board) to determine the appropriate permits and compliance actions that would be required to ensure that the project areas were returned to pre-spill conditions following cleanup activities, and that all impacts were adequately mitigated.

MITIGATION MEASURE COMPLIANCE

Comply with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for this project, including the payment of 100% of the Office of Planning and Environmental Review staff costs, and the costs of any technical consultant services incurred during implementation of that Program.

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed the following Initial Study Checklist. The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to impacts as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act as follows:

- 1 Potentially Significant indicates there is substantial evidence that an effect MAY be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant" entries an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. Further research of a potentially significant impact may reveal that the impact is actually less than significant or less than significant with mitigation.
- 2 Less than Significant with Mitigation applies where an impact could be significant but specific mitigation has been identified that reduces the impact to a less than significant level.
- 3 Less than Significant or No Impact indicates that either a project will have an impact but the impact is considered minor or that a project does not impact the particular resource.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
1. LAND USE - Would the project:					
a. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including but not limited to a general plan, specific plan or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X		The project is consistent with environmental policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, Fair Oaks Community Plan, American River Parkway Plan and the Sacramento County Zoning Code.
b. Physically disrupt or divide an established community?				X	The project is replacing existing sewer infrastructure and will not create physical barriers that substantially limit movement within or through the community.
2. POPULATION/HOUSING - Would the project:					
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of infrastructure)?			X		The proposed infrastructure project is intended to service existing or planned development and will not induce substantial unplanned population growth.
b. Displace substantial amounts of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X	The project will not result in the removal of existing housing, and thus will not displace substantial amounts of existing housing.
3. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or areas containing prime soils to uses not conducive to agricultural production?				X	The project site is not designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the current Sacramento County Important Farmland Map published by the California Department of Conservation. The site does not contain prime soils.
b. Conflict with any existing Williamson Act contract?				X	No Williamson Act contracts apply to the project site.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Introduce incompatible uses in the vicinity of existing agricultural uses?				X	The project does not occur in an area of agricultural production.
4. AESTHETICS - Would the project:					
a. Substantially alter existing viewsheds such as scenic highways, corridors or vistas?			X		The project is located within the American River Parkway which is a scenic area. The project will be replacing an existing sewer pump station with a new facility. The new facility will have some new structures. Given its nature, the project is not expected to substantially alter the viewshed associated with American River or associated Parkway uses. Refer to the Aesthetics discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
b. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?			X		It is acknowledged that aesthetic impacts are subjective and may be perceived differently by various affected individuals. Nonetheless, given the urbanized environment in which the project is proposed, it is concluded that the project would not substantially degrade the visual character or quality of the project site or vicinity.
c. Create a new source of substantial light, glare, or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X		The project will not result in a new source of substantial light, glare or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.
5. AIRPORTS - Would the project:					
a. Result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the vicinity of an airport/airstrip?				X	The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip safety zones.
b. Expose people residing or working in the project area to aircraft noise levels in excess of applicable standards?				X	The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip noise zones or contours.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Result in a substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft?				X	The project does not affect navigable airspace.
d. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X	The project does not involve or affect air traffic movement.
6. PUBLIC SERVICES - Would the project:					
a. Have an adequate water supply for full buildout of the project?				X	The project will not result in increased demand for water supply.
b. Have adequate wastewater treatment and disposal facilities for full buildout of the project?			X		The project consists of the replacement of a dry-pit pump station with a wet pit submersible pump station and required components. The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District has adequate wastewater treatment and disposal capacity to service the proposed project.
c. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?			X		The Kiefer Landfill has capacity to accommodate solid waste until the year 2050.
d. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the construction of new water supply or wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or expansion of existing facilities?			X		The project consists of the replacement of a dry-pit pump station with a wet pit submersible pump station and required components. Construction of new pump station infrastructure would occur result in a slightly larger station footprint. No significant new impacts would result from the replacement of the existing pump station.
e. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of storm water drainage facilities?			X		Minor extension of infrastructure would be necessary to serve the proposed project. Existing stormwater drainage facilities are located throughout Sailor Bar Park, and the extension of facilities would take place within areas already proposed for development as part of the project. No significant new impacts would result from stormwater facility extension.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
f. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of electric or natural gas service?			X		The project will not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of electric or natural gas service.
g. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of emergency services?				X	The project would not incrementally increase demand for emergency services, but would not cause substantial adverse physical impacts as a result of providing adequate service.
h. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of public school services?				X	The project will not require the use of public school services.
i. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of park and recreation services?				X	The project will not require park and recreation services.
7. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:					
a. Result in a substantial increase in vehicle trips that would exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the County?			X		The project may result in a temporary increase in vehicle trips associated with construction-related equipment; however, the project would not result in a substantial increase in vehicle trips.
b. Result in a substantial adverse impact to access and/or circulation?			X		Minor changes to existing pump station access will occur. Please refer to Transportation/Traffic section of the IS.
c. Result in a substantial adverse impact to public safety on area roadways?			X		No changes to existing access and/or circulation patterns would occur as a result of the project; therefore no impacts to public safety on area roadways will result.
d. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X	The project does not conflict with alternative transportation policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, with the Sacramento Regional Transit Master Plan, or other adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
8. AIR QUALITY - Would the project:					
a. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			X		The project does not exceed the screening thresholds established by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and will not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment. Compliance with existing dust abatement rules and standard construction mitigation for vehicle particulates will ensure that construction air quality impacts are less than significant.
b. Expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations in excess of standards?				X	There are no sensitive receptors (i.e., schools, nursing homes, hospitals, daycare centers, etc.) adjacent to the project site.
c. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			X		The project consists of improvements to an existing pump station. Future operations would be comparable to existing conditions without any new sources of objectionable odors.
9. NOISE - Would the project:					
a. Generation of a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in excess of standards established by the local general plan, noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?			X		The project is not in the vicinity of any uses that generate substantial noise, nor will the completed project generate substantial noise. Proposed operational noise will be consistent with the existing use. Refer to the Noise Section.
b. Generation of a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?			X		Project construction will result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. Refer to the Noise Section.
c. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			X		Construction-related groundborne vibration will not exceed would not exceed the 0.2 in/sec PPV vibration significance criteria for building damage effects at a distance of 26 feet. Refer to Noise Section.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:					
a. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge?				X	The project will not substantially increase water demand over the existing use.
b. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project area and/or increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?			X		The project does not involve any modifications that would substantially alter the existing drainage pattern and or/increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would lead to flooding. Compliance with applicable requirements of the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance, Sacramento County Water Agency Code, and Sacramento County Improvement Standards will ensure that impacts are less than significant.
c. Develop within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map or within a local flood hazard area?			X		Portions of the project site, including the staging area are located within a federal 100-year floodplain, however, the new facilities will be raised above the base flood elevation. Refer to the Hydrology discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
d. Place structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year floodplain?			X		Although the project is within a 100-year floodplain, compliance with the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance, Sacramento County Water Agency Code, and Sacramento County Improvement Standards will ensure that impacts are less than significant.
e. Develop in an area that is subject to 200 year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP)?				X	The project is not located in an area subject to 200-year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP).
f. Expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?			X		The project will not expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
g. Create or contribute runoff that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems?			X		The project is proposing minor physical changes that would improve drainage. Adequate on- and/or off-site drainage improvements will be required pursuant to the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance and Improvement Standards.
h. Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality?			X		Compliance with the Stormwater Ordinance and Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance (Chapters 15.12 and 14.44 of the County Code respectively) will ensure that the project will not create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality.
11. GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:					
a. Expose people or structures to substantial risk of loss, injury or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?			X		Sacramento County is not within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. Although there are no known active earthquake faults in the project area, the site could be subject to some ground shaking from regional faults. The Uniform Building Code contains applicable construction regulations for earthquake safety that will ensure less than significant impacts.
b. Result in substantial soil erosion, siltation or loss of topsoil?			X		Compliance with the County's Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance will reduce the amount of construction site erosion and minimize water quality degradation by providing stabilization and protection of disturbed areas, and by controlling the runoff of sediment and other pollutants during the course of construction.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, soil expansion, liquefaction or collapse?			X		Pursuant to Title 16 of the Sacramento County Code and the Uniform Building Code, a soils report will be required prior to building construction. If the soils report indicates that soils may be unstable for building construction then site-specific measures (e.g., special engineering design or soil replacement) must be incorporated to ensure that soil conditions will be satisfactory for the proposed construction.
d. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available?				X	A public sewer system is available to serve the project.
e. Result in a substantial loss of an important mineral resource?				X	The project is not located within an Aggregate Resource Area as identified by the Sacramento County General Plan Land Use Diagram, nor are any important mineral resources known to be located on the project site.
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site?				X	No known paleontological resources (e.g. fossil remains) or sites occur at the project location.
12. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community?		X			The proposed project will not have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species or substantially reduce habitat. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities?		X			The project site is located within the American River Parkway and in area containing sensitive natural communities. Mitigation is included to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state, or local regulations and policies?		X			The project will not have a substantial adverse effect on surface waters. Mitigation has been included to reduce potential impacts to less than significant. Refer to the Biological Resources section.
d. Have a substantial adverse effect on the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species?			X		Resident and/or migratory wildlife may be displaced by project construction; however, impacts are not anticipated to result in significant, long-term effects upon the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, and no major wildlife corridors would be affected.
e. Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees?		X			The project will result in a minor loss of oak woodland tree canopy. Mitigation is included to ensure impacts are less than significant. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
f. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources?			X		The project is consistent with local policies/ordinances protecting biological resources.
g. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, state or federal plan for the conservation of habitat?			X		There are no known conflicts with any approved plan for the conservation of habitat.
13. CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource?				X	No historical resources would be affected by the proposed project. Historical resources have been identified on the project site. Refer to the Cultural Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on an archaeological resource?			X		The project will not have a substantial adverse effect on an archaeological resource. Refer to the Cultural Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?			X		No known human remains exist on the project site. Nonetheless, mitigation has been recommended to ensure appropriate treatment should remains be uncovered during project implementation.
14. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074?			X		Notification pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.3.1(b) was provided to the tribes and request for consultation was not received. Tribal cultural resources have not identified in the project area. Refer to the Tribal Cultural Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
15. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Would the project:					
a. Create a substantial hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X		The project will not create a substantial hazard to the public. Refer to the Hazards and Hazardous Materials section above.
b. Expose the public or the environment to a substantial hazard through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials?			X		The project involves the conveyance of sewage on the site (i.e., underground sewer infrastructure). Compliance with local, state and federal standards regarding the construction and maintenance of these tanks will provide adequate protection from upset conditions.
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X	The project site is not located within ¼ mile of an existing /proposed school.
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, resulting in a substantial hazard to the public or the environment?				X	The project is not located on a known hazardous materials site.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
e. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or emergency evacuation plan?				X	The project would not interfere with any known emergency response or evacuation plan.
f. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to or intermixed with urbanized areas?			X		The project is located intermixed with wildlands (oak woodlands); however, the project consists of improvements to an existing sewer facility and would not expose people or structures to a significant risk in the event of a wildfire.
16. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:					
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X		CalEEMod was used to estimate construction and operational GHG emissions. Construction related GHG emissions were estimated to be 92 MT CO ₂ e, which is well below the SMAQMD threshold of 1,100 MT CO ₂ e. Operation of the proposed project would be similar to existing conditions. CalEEMod estimated operational emissions to be approximately 1.20 MT CO ₂ e/ per year.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

LAND USE CONSISTENCY	Current Land Use Designation	Consistent	Not Consistent	Comments
General Plan	Natural Preserve	X		
Community Plan	O	X		Fair Oaks Community Plan
Land Use Zone	O-Recreation	X		

INITIAL STUDY PREPARERS

Environmental Coordinator: Tim Hawkins

Section Manager: Julie Newton

Project Managers: Josh Greetan
Alison Little

Office Manager: Belinda Wekesa-Batts

Administrative Support: Justin Maulit