

## **County of Sacramento**

#### **Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Pursuant to Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 6, Sections 15070 and 15071 of the California Code of Regulations and pursuant to the Procedures for Preparation and Processing of Environmental Documents adopted by the County of Sacramento pursuant to Sacramento County Ordinance No. SCC-116, the Environmental Coordinator of Sacramento County, State of California, does prepare, make, declare, publish, and cause to be filed with the County Clerk of Sacramento County, State of California, this Mitigated Negative Declaration re: The Project described as follows:

#### 1. Control Number: PLER2023-00119

2. Title and Short Description of Project: RCCC Pump Station Rehabilitation Project The Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center (RCCC) Pump Station Rehabilitation Project proposes upgrades the existing pump station within limits of existing pump station. The modifications include: replacement of two submersible pumps, two inclined auger screens, two grinders, one standby generator meeting Tier 4 emissions requirements, pump removal crane and frame, wet well cover and access hatch, spot repairs to existing wet well poly vinyl chloride (pvc) lining, and replacing and relocating the service transformer. Structural modifications will be necessary at both the existing screening structures and wet well to facilitate the new equipment. The Project would also construct an electrical building with a restroom, electrical equipment and instrumentation control systems, valve vaults, flow diversion structure, piping, valves, manholes, mechanical equipment, site improvements, and incoming and outgoing sewer piping and connections. To accomplish these modifications portions of the existing pump station will be removed/replaced.

The project also includes the installation of force main pipe connections on Bruceville Road, constructing underground storage pipes extending from the pump station to 600 feet south of station. An easement acquisition is needed for the storage pipe.

- 3. Assessor's Parcel Number: 146-0050-084-0000, 146-0050-085-0000 (part)
- 4. Location of Project: The project site is located adjacent to Bruceville Road approximately 1,400 feet north of Camp Road, 1.3 miles north of Twin Cities Road and 0.8 mile south of Lambert Road in Sacramento County. Project is located within the RCCC campus.
- 5. Project Applicant: Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer)
- 6. Said project will not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

  a. It will not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.
  - b. It will not have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals.
  - c. It will not have impacts, which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
  - d. It will not have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.
- **7.** As a result thereof, the preparation of an environmental impact report pursuant to the Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California) is not required.

8. The attached Initial Study has been prepared by the Sacramento County Planning and Environmental Review Division in support of this Mitigated Negative Declaration. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Planning and Environmental Review Division at 827 Seventh Street, Room 225, Sacramento, California, 95814, or phone (916) 874-6141.

Julie Newton Environmental Coordinator County of Sacramento, State of California

# COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW INITIAL STUDY

## **PROJECT INFORMATION**

#### CONTROL NUMBER: PLER2023-00119

NAME: RCCC Pump Station Rehabilitation Project

**LOCATION:** The project site is located adjacent to Bruceville Road approximately 1,400 feet north of Camp Road, 1.3 miles north of Twin Cities Road and 0.8 mile south of Lambert Road in Sacramento County (Plates IS-1). Project is located within the RCCC campus (Plate IS-2).

Assessor's Parcel Number: 146-0050-084-0000, 146-0050-085-0000 (part)

**OWNER:** Sacramento County

**APPLICANT:** Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer)

# **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center (RCCC) Pump Station Rehabilitation Project proposes upgrades the existing pump station within limits of existing pump station. The modifications include: replacement of two submersible pumps, two inclined auger screens, two grinders, one standby generator meeting Tier 4 emissions requirements, pump removal crane and frame, wet well cover and access hatch, spot repairs to existing wet well poly vinyl chloride (pvc) lining, and replacing and relocating the service transformer. Structural modifications will be necessary at both the existing screening structures and wet well to facilitate the new equipment. The Project would also construct an electrical building with a restroom, electrical equipment and instrumentation control systems, valve vaults, flow diversion structure, piping, valves, manholes, mechanical equipment, site improvements, and incoming and outgoing sewer piping and connections. To accomplish these modifications portions of the existing pump station will be removed/replaced. Plate IS-3 shows the project sequence and Plates IS-4 to IS-6 shows the areas that would be demolished and rebuilt.

The project also includes the installation of force main pipe connections on Bruceville Road, constructing underground storage pipes extending from the pump station to 600 feet south of station. An easement acquisition is needed for the storage pipe. See Plates IS-7 to IS-17.



Plate IS-1 Project Location





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#### Plate IS-3 General Sequencing Plan



#### Plate IS-4 Site Demolition Plan



#### Plate IS-5 Screening Facility Structural Demolition Plan



#### Plate IS-6 Screening Facility Structural Demolition Sections



## Plate IS-7 Civil Improvements Index



#### Plate IS-8 Grading and Paving Plan 1



## Plate IS-9 Paving and Grading Plan 2



#### Plate IS-10 Yard Piping Plan 1



## Plate IS-11 Yard Piping Plan 2



#### Plate IS-12 Electrical Building Foundation

#### GENERAL NOTES: 1. FOR GENERAL STRUCTURAL NOTES SEE DRAWING 0801 KEY NOTES: 3" x 1/4" SQUARE TUBULAR SHAFT WITH TWO HELICES BEARING 30FT BELOW GRADE PER SPECIFICATION 024558 - STEEL HELICAJ PILES AND HELICAL TENSION ANCHORS. COORDINATE THE SHAFT OPEN FRP GRATING MANUFACTURER. P PLATFORM, GRATING, AND GUARDRAL TO BE DESIGNED, IPPLIED, AND INSTALLED BY CONTRACTOR IN ACCORDANCE WIT ECIFICATIONS 08611 - FRP GRATING AND 08616 - FRP HANDRAL 1-61 5-6 5-0 4.6" 4.6 3-**C** 4 14 d' 4. 50 a 10 a 40 - 40 8 - - - 45 an ta tati An an 5 2 5 10" (TYP) FRP GRATING ۶Ê 1×Ê HEAD (TYP) \_ť FRP LEDGER DRAIN ١Ę - FRP I BEANS AT 3-17 MAX SPACING 8-4-F 3 ð [0]-SIDE MOUNTED FRP GUARDRAIL LUPT 21.25 Ł ৵ [0] [c]-☽ HPT 21. 5 3130 1" EJ 14 <sup>6</sup> 8 <sup>6</sup> 8 i ag Li a REVISIONS RCCC PUMP STATION (S012) REHABILITATION PROJECT CONTRACT NO. 80000139 B.M.:TBM ELEV.: 22.43 Carollo DESCRIPTION DATE hor: as shown Ver: N/A FILE NAME SO12-SPLAN-03 DESC. COUNTY NAL & WASHER (#300), WEST SIDE OF BRUCEVILLE ROAD NEAR THE SOUTH EDGE OF THE ENTRANCE ROAD T THE PUMP STATION 60% DESIGN SUBMITTAL NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION **STRUCTURAL** -DRAWN \_\_\_\_ RYW SO3/ SACRAMENTO AREA DESIGNED NV **SCREENING FACILITY** PLANS: F.B.: PROFILE: F.B.: DATUM: MODES (VERTICAL) CCS MODES DATUM: ZONE 2, EPOCH 2010.0 CHECKED . EQ SUBMITTED: SUBMITTAL VPPROVED: DATE: SEWER DISTRICT SHEET DATE SEPTEMBER 2023 PLAN -/χ SERVING YOU 24/7 DATE OF X SHEET

#### Plate IS-13 Screening Facility Plan



# Plate IS-14 Screening Facility Sections and Details



#### Plate IS-15 Pump Station Plan



#### **Plate IS-16 Pump Station Sections**



Plate IS-17 Force Main and Valve Vault Plan

DJECT NO. 201787-100000 FILE NAME: 8012-MPLAN-01.dgn

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING**

The project is located on the western side of Bruceville Road, north of Camp Road and south of Lambert Road in Sacramento County (Plate IS-1). RCCC facilities are north, west, and south of the project area, and cropland is to the east. Approximately 520 feet north of the pump station there is an electrical substation. Further west of the RCCC is the north-south runway of Franklin Field, a general aviation airport. The project area is composed of a pump station and a mowed field that is part of RCCC and is enclosed by chain-link fencing (Plate IS-2). The pump station is largely developed with asphalt, concrete and gravel surfaces, and therefore does not provide habitat for native plant or wildlife species. The field between the inner and outer perimeter fences is regularly mowed and consists of ruderal species. Aside from two native oak trees, mostly nonnative trees line the northern and eastern edges of the project area. Only one of the native oak trees is alive. There are no elderberry shrubs present in the project area, and no ground squirrel colonies or other obvious sign of burrowing animals were observed in the project area. The RCCC facilities have a land use designation of Public Quasi Public (Plate IS-18) and are zoned AG-20 (Plate IS-19).

# **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.

# BACKGROUND

The Sacramento Area Sewer District's (SacSewer) 2015 Condition and Performance Assessment Project identified deficiencies at the RCCC Pump Station (S012) and evaluated several alternatives to address those deficiencies. Since the 2015 evaluation, additional issues were discovered and some of the previously identified issues have worsened. Current major deficiencies include high operating pressure in the force main during peak flows, limited storage and redundancy, and being a critical pump station without an emergency bypass system. The proposed project would address these deficiencies.



Plate IS-18 Land Use Designation





# AIR QUALITY

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

• Expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations in excess of standards.

# CRITERIA POLLUTANT HEALTH RISKS

All criteria air pollutants can have human health effects at certain concentrations. Air districts develop region-specific CEQA thresholds of significance in consideration of existing air quality concentrations and attainment designations under the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) and California ambient air quality standards (CAAQS). The NAAQS and CAAQS are informed by a wide range of scientific evidence, which demonstrates that there are known safe concentrations of criteria air pollutants. Because the NAAQS and CAAQS are based on maximum pollutant levels in outdoor air that would not harm the public's health, and air district thresholds pertain to attainment of these standards, the thresholds established by air districts are also protective of human health. Sacramento County is currently in nonattainment of the NAAQS and CAAQS for ozone. Projects that emit criteria air pollutants in exceedance of Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's (SMAQMD) thresholds would contribute to the regional degradation of air quality that could result in adverse human health impacts.

Acute health effects of ozone exposure include increased respiratory and pulmonary resistance, cough, pain, shortness of breath, and lung inflammation. Chronic health effects include permeability of respiratory epithelia and the possibility of permanent lung impairment (EPA 2016).

## HEALTH EFFECTS SCREENING

In order to estimate the potential health risks that could result from the operational emissions of ROG, NO<sub>X</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PER staff implemented the procedures within SMAQMD's Instructions for Sac Metro Air District Minor Project and Strategic Area Project Health Effects Screening Tools (SMAQMD's Instructions). To date, SMAQMD has published three options for analyzing projects: small projects may use the Minor Project Health Screening Tool, while larger projects may use the Strategic Area Project Health Screening Tool, and practitioners have the option to conduct project-specific modeling.

Both the Minor Project Health Screening Tool and Strategic Area Project Health Screening Tool are based on the maximum thresholds of significance adopted within the five air district regions contemplated within SMAQMD's Guidance to Address the Friant Ranch Ruling for CEQA Projects in the Sac Metro Air District (SMAQMD's Friant Guidance; October 2020). The air district thresholds considered in SMAQMD's Friant Guidance included thresholds from SMAQMD as well as the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District, the Feather River Air Quality Management District, the Placer County Air Pollution Control District, and the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District. The highest allowable emission rates of NO<sub>X</sub>, ROG, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> from the five air districts is 82 pounds per day (lbs/day) for all four pollutants. Thus, the Minor Project Health Screening Tool is intended for use by projects that would result in emissions at or below 82 lbs/day, while the Strategic Area Project Health Screening Tool is intended for use by projects that would result in emissions between two and eight times greater than 82 lbs/day. The Strategic Area Project Screening Model was prepared by SMAQMD for five locations throughout the Sacramento region for two scenarios: two times and eight times the threshold of significance level (2xTOS and 8xTOS). The corresponding emissions levels included in the model for 2xTOS were 164 lb/day for ROG and NO<sub>x</sub>, and 656 lb/day under the 8xTOS for ROG and NO<sub>x</sub> (SMAQMD 2020).

As noted in SMAQMD's Friant Guidance, "each model generates conservative estimates of health effects, for two reasons: The tools' outputs are based on the simulation of a full year of exposure at the maximum daily average of the increases in air pollution concentration... [and] [t]he health effects are calculated for emissions levels that are very high" (SMAQMD 2020).

The model derives the estimated health risk associated with operation of the project based on increases in concentrations of ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> that were estimated using a photochemical grid model (PGM). The concentration estimates of the PGM are then applied to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Benefits Mapping and Analysis Program (BenMAP) to estimate the resulting health effects from concentration increases. PGMs and BenMAP were developed to assess air pollution and human health impacts over large areas and populations that far exceed the area of an average land use development project. These models were never designed to determine whether emissions generated by an individual development project would affect community health or the date an air basin would attain an ambient air quality standard. Rather, they are used to help inform regional planning strategies based on cumulative changes in emissions within an air basin or larger geography.

It must be cautioned that within the typical project-level scope of CEQA analyses, PGMs are unable to provide precise, spatially defined pollutant data at a local scale. In addition, as noted in SMAQMD's Friant Guidance, "BenMAP estimates potential health effects from a change in air pollutant concentrations, but does not fully account for other factors affecting health such as access to medical care, genetics, income levels, behavior choices such as diet and exercise, and underlying health conditions" (2020). Thus, the modeling conducted for the health risk analysis is based on imprecise mapping and only takes into account one of the main public health determinants (i.e., environmental influences).

#### DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS: CRITERIA POLLUTANT HEALTH RISKS

Since the project was below the daily operational thresholds for criteria air pollutants, the Minor Project Health Screening Tool was used to estimate health risks. The results are shown in Table IS-1 and Table IS-2.

PM <sub>2.5</sub> Health Endpoint	Age Range <sup>1</sup>	Incidences Across the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain Resulting from Project Emissions (per year) <sup>2,5</sup>	Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region Resulting from Project Emissions (per year) <sup>2</sup>	Percent of Background Health Incidences Across the 5- Air-District Region <sup>3</sup>	Total Number of Health Incidences Across the 5- Air-District Region (per year) <sup>4</sup>
Respiratory		(Mean)	(Mean)		
Emergency Room Visits, Asthma	0 - 99	0.67	0.57	0.0031%	18419
Hospital Admissions, Asthma	0 - 64	0.043	0.037	0.0020%	1846
Hospital Admissions, All Respiratory	65 - 99	0.22	0.18	0.00090%	19644
Cardiovascular					
Hospital Admissions, All Cardiovascular (less Myocardial Infarctions)	65 - 99	0.11	0.096	0.00040%	24037
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	18 - 24	0.000055	0.000046	0.0012%	4
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	25 - 44	0.0048	0.0042	0.0014%	308
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	45 - 54	0.012	0.011	0.0014%	741
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	55 - 64	0.019	0.017	0.0014%	1239
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	65 - 99	0.070	0.061	0.0012%	5052
Mortality					
Mortality, All Cause	30 - 99	1.3	1.1	0.0026%	44766

Table IS-1:	PM25 Health Risk E	stimates
		Stimatoo

Notes:

1. Affected age ranges are shown. Other age ranges are available, but the endpoints and age ranges shown here are the ones used by the USEPA in their health assessments. The age ranges are consistent with the epidemiological study that is the basis of the health function.

2. Health effects are shown in terms of incidences of each health endpoint and how it compares to the base (2035 base year health effect incidences, or "background health incidence") values. Health effects are shown for the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain and the 5-Air-District Region.

The percent of background health incidence uses the mean incidence. The background health 3. incidence is an estimate of the average number of people that are affected by the health endpoint in a given population over a given period of time. In this case, the background incidence rates cover the 5-Air-District Region (estimated 2035 population of 3,271,451 persons). Health incidence rates and other health data are typically collected by the government as well as the World Health Organization. The background incidence rates used here are obtained from BenMAP.

- 4. The total number of health incidences across the 5-Air-District Region is calculated based on the modeling data. The information is presented to assist in providing overall health context.
- The technical specifications and map for the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain are included in Appendix A, Table A-1 and Appendix B, Figure B-2 of the *Guidance to Address the Friant Ranch Ruling for CEQA Projects in the Sac Metro Air District.*

Ozone Health Endpoint	Age Range <sup>1</sup>	Incidences Across the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain Resulting from Project Emissions (per year) <sup>2,5</sup>	Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region Resulting from Project Emissions (per year) <sup>2</sup>	Percent of Background Health Incidences Across the 5- Air-District Region <sup>3</sup>	Total Number of Health Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region (per year) <sup>4</sup>
		(Mean)	(Mean)		
Respiratory					
Hospital Admissions, All Respiratory	65 - 99	0.051	0.039	0.00020%	19644
Emergency Room Visits, Asthma	0 - 17	0.27	0.22	0.0037%	5859
Emergency Room Visits, Asthma	18 - 99	0.41	0.33	0.0026%	12560
Mortality					
Mortality, Non-Accidental	0 - 99	0.030	0.024	0.000079%	30386

#### Table IS-2: Ozone Health Risk Estimates

Notes:

1. Affected age ranges are shown. Other age ranges are available, but the endpoints and age ranges shown here are the ones used by the USEPA in their health assessments. The age ranges are consistent with the epidemiological study that is the basis of the health function.

 Health effects are shown in terms of incidences of each health endpoint and how it compares to the base (2035 base year health effect incidences, or "background health incidence") values. Health effects are shown for the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain and the 5-Air-District Region.

- 3. The percent of background health incidence uses the mean incidence. The background health incidence is an estimate of the average number of people that are affected by the health endpoint in a given population over a given period of time. In this case, the background incidence rates cover the 5-Air-District Region (estimated 2035 population of 3,271,451 persons). Health incidence rates and other health data are typically collected by the government as well as the World Health Organization. The background incidence rates used here are obtained from BenMAP.
- 4. The total number of health incidences across the 5-Air-District Region is calculated based on the modeling data. The information is presented to assist in providing overall health context.
- 5. The technical specifications and map for the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain are included in Appendix A, Table A-1 and Appendix B, Figure B-2 of the *Guidance to Address the Friant Ranch Ruling for CEQA Projects in the Sac Metro Air District.*

Again, it is important to note that the "model outputs are derived from the numbers of people who would be affected by [the] project due to their geographic proximity and based on average population through the Five-District-Region. The models do not take into account population subgroups with greater vulnerabilities to air pollution, except for

ages for certain endpoints" (SMAQMD 2020). Therefore, it would be misleading to correlate the levels of criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions associated with project implementation to specific health outcomes. While the effects noted above could manifest in individuals, actual effects depend on factors specific to each individual, including life stage (e.g., older adults are more sensitive), preexisting cardiovascular or respiratory diseases, and genetic polymorphisms. Even if this specific medical information was known about each individual, there are wide ranges of potential outcomes from exposure to ozone precursors and particulates, from no effect to the effects listed in the tables. Ultimately, the health effects associated with the project, using the SMAQMD guidance "are conservatively estimated, and the actual effects may be zero" (SMAQMD 2020).

## CONCLUSION: CRITERIA POLLUTANT HEALTH RISKS

Neither SMAQMD nor the County of Sacramento have adopted thresholds of significance for the assessment of health risks related to the emission of criteria pollutants. Furthermore, an industry standard level of significance has not been adopted or proposed. Due to the lack of adopted thresholds of significance the health risks, this data is presented for informational purposes and does not represent an attempt to arrive at any level-of-significance conclusions.

# HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

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

- Develop within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map or within a local flood hazard area.
- Place structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year floodplain.
- Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality.

The Project site is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as identified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map panel number 06067C0450H which is defined as the area that will be inundated by the flood event having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The 1-percent annual chance flood is also referred to as the base flood or 100-year flood. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designation for the Project site is Flood Zone A, which does not have an established base flood elevation.

As designed all new/reconstructed structures are set to be built one foot higher than the base flood elevation including access road and manhole rims. These will not impede the flood way given the structures are existing and new piping is underground. Therefore, impacts of construction within the flood zone would be *less than significant*.

## 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 nonstormwater 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. 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) <u>http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.shtml</u> 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.

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 developers 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:

https://waterresources.saccounty.gov/stormwater/Pages/default.aspx

https://www.beriverfriendly.net/new-development/

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. 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
- Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees
- Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, state or federal plan for the conservation of habitat

## South Sacramento County Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP)

The SSHCP is a regional approach to addressing development, habitat conservation, and agricultural lands within the south Sacramento County region, including the cities of Galt and Rancho Cordova. The specific geographic scope of the SSHCP includes U.S. Highway 50 to the north, the Sacramento River levee and County Road J11 (connects the towns of Walnut Grove and Thornton, it is known as the Walnut Grove-Thornton Road) to the west, the Sacramento County line with El Dorado and Amador counties to the east, and San Joaquin County to the south. The SSHCP Project area excludes the City of Sacramento, the City of Folsom, the City of Elk Grove, most of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and the Sacramento community of Rancho Murieta. Within the Plan boundary a smaller area was designated for urban development – or the Urban Development Area (UDA).

The SSHCP covers 28 different species of plants and wildlife, including 10 that are state and/or federally-listed as threatened or endangered. The SSHCP has been developed as a collaborative effort to streamline permitting and protect covered species habitat.

On May 15, 2018, the Final SSHCP and EIS/EIR was published in the federal Register for a 30-day review period. Public hearings on the proposed adoption of the final SSHCP, final EIS/EIR, final Aquatic Resources Plan (ARP), and final Implementation Agreement (IA) began in August 2018, and adoption by the County occurred on September 11, 2018. The permit was received on June 12, 2019 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, July 25, 2019 from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and August 20, 2019 from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The project is located outside of the UDA and would not generally be considered a Covered Activity; however, the operation and maintenance of existing wastewater projects required to provide sewer service to existing communities outside the UDA are Covered Activities under the SSHCP. Therefore, the project must comply with the provisions of the SSHCP and associated permits. The analysis contained below addresses the applicability of the SSHCP, and mitigation has been recommended to comply with the SSHCP.

#### CONSISTENCY WITH THE SOUTH SACRAMENTO COUNTY HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

The proposed project's design and construction must comply with all SSHCP requirements including SSHCP avoidance and minimization measures (AMMs). The SSHCP is a habitat-based plan in which mitigation fees are based on impacts to habitat or land cover rather than impacts to individual species.

The baseline mapping for the SSHCP Landcovers is illustrated in Plate IS-20. The landcovers outlined in the baseline map are an interpretation of habitat based on remote

# Plate IS-20 SSHCP Land Cover Type



Independent verification of all data contained on this map product should be obtained by any user thereof. The County of Sacramento does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of this map product and therefore disclaims all liability for its fitness of use.

https://inside.gis.saccounty.gov/exportmaps/ceced379-e263-4e1f-a102-49aa53dc2f3f.html

sensing analysis over a number years prior to adoption of the SSHCP. Therefore, these landcovers are intended to serve as a guide as to what may be present on the project site and are intended to be updated. During the local impact authorization process, these landcovers will be refined, and calculation of project mitigation impact fees will be based on project specific survey and wetland delineation data. As shown in the *Biological Constraints Report for the SASD RCCC Pump Station Rehabilitation Project* prepared for SacSewer by Ascent Environmental (Ascent) dated November 10, 2021, and included as Appendix A, the area of "valley grassland" adjacent to the pump station is between two fence lines (the security fence of RCCC and the roadside outer security fence is an area regularly mowed and therefore considered developed and not valley grassland habitat.

The analysis contained in this section and the discussion of special status species below is consistent with the protocol for covered species analysis under the SSHCP. Compliance with the SSHCP will ensure that impacts to covered species and their habitat will be less than significant. The mitigation contained in this chapter has been structured such that the required mitigation is consistent with the adopted SSHCP mitigation and monitoring protocols.

The applicant will be required to obtain a signed SSHCP authorization form from the Environmental Coordinator for potential impacts to terrestrial habitats. The project will comply with the requirements of the SSHCP, including adherence to the Avoidance and Minimization Measures (Appendix B), as well as payment of fees, if applicable, to support the overall SSHCP Conservation Strategy. The project is consistent with, and aids in the goals set forth in the proposed SSHCP. Impacts with regards to consistency with the proposed SSHCP are *less than significant*.

## SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

The discussion below of special-status species and potential project impacts is taken from the Biological Constraints Report prepared by Ascent (Appendix A).

Special-status species are defined as species that are legally protected or that are otherwise considered sensitive by federal, state, or local resource agencies. Special-status species are species, subspecies, or varieties that fall into one or more of the following categories, regardless of their legal or protection status:

- officially listed by California under California Endangered Species Act (CESA) or the federal government under Endangered Species Act (ESA) as endangered, threatened, or rare;
- a candidate for state or federal listing as endangered, or threatened under CESA or ESA;
- taxa (i.e., taxonomic category or group) that meet the criteria for listing, even if not currently included on any list, as described in Section 15380 of the State CEQA Guidelines;

- species identified by CDFW as Species of Special Concern;
- species listed as Fully Protected under the California Fish and Game Code;
- species afforded protection under local planning documents; and
- taxa considered by CDFW to be "rare, threatened, or endangered in California" and assigned a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1 or 2. The CDFW system includes rarity and endangerment ranks for categorizing plant species of concern, and ranks 1 and 2 are summarized as follows:
  - CRPR 1A Plants presumed to be extinct in California;
  - CRPR 1B Plants that are rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere;
  - CRPR 2A Plants presumed to be extinct in California but common elsewhere; and
  - CRPR 2B Plants that are rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere.

The term "California species of special concern" is applied by CDFW to animals not listed under ESA or CESA, but that are considered to be declining at a rate that could result in listing, or that historically occurred in low numbers and known threats to their persistence currently exist. CDFW's fully protected status was California's first attempt to identify and protect animals that were rare or facing extinction. Most species listed as fully protected were eventually listed as threatened or endangered under CESA; however, some species remain listed as fully protected but do not have simultaneous listing under CESA. Fully protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time and no take permits can be issued for these species except for scientific research purposes, for relocation to protect livestock, or as part of an NCCP.

Six special-status wildlife species: burrowing owl, Ferruginous hawk, loggerhead shrike, song sparrow ("Modesto" population), Swainson's hawk, and white-tailed kite, have the potential to be present in the project area, or to use it occasionally, and are discussed in more detail below (Table IS-3).

No special-status plant species are expected to occupy the project area because of a lack of suitable habitat. Wildlife species reliant on rivers, riparian, vernal pools, or other wetland habitats will not be analyzed further because there are no such habitats present in project area. These species include:

- California tiger salamander (central CA DPS)
- vernal pool fairy shrimp
- foothill yellow-legged frog
- midvalley fairy shrimp

- steelhead (Central Valley DPS)
- Delta smelt
- longfin smelt
- Sacramento splittail

- vernal pool tadpole shrimp
- Ricksecker's water scavenger beetle
- western pond turtle
- giant garter snake

A list of all species considered but eliminated from further analysis due to absence of habitat are included in the CNDDB record search report, as well as CNPS and IPaC reports, which can be found within Appendix A. Out of the above listed species, the following are covered under the SSHCP:

- California tiger salamander (central CA DPS)
- vernal pool fairy shrimp
- midvalley fairy shrimp
- vernal pool tadpole shrimp

- Ricksecker's water scavenger beetle
- western pond turtle
- giant garter snake
- •
# Table IS-3 Special-Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Project area and Potential forOccurrence on the Project area

Species	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> Federal	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> State	SSHCP	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
Birds		I			
Burrowing owl <i>Athene cunicularia</i> (year round)		SSC	Covered	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California ground squirrel.	<i>May occur</i> . Ruderal grassland habitat potentially suitable for burrowing owl foraging and nesting is present on the project area, though no burrows or burrowing mammals were observed during reconnaissance surveys. A burrowing owl breeding site was documented 0.5 mile southwest of project area in 2008 (CNDDB 2021). Burrowing owl were also documented wintering at this location through January 2010 (CNDDB 2021). There are additional burrowing owl occurrences 2.3 miles northwest of the project area where five sites were documented with approximately one mating pair at each location and three juveniles at one of the locations. It is noted that burrowing owls are documented at these sites year-round (CNDDB 2021).
California black rail Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus (year round)	_	ST, FP	_	Inhabits freshwater marshes, wet meadows and shallow margins of saltwater marshes bordering larger bays. Needs water depths of about 1 inch that do not fluctuate during the year and dense vegetation for nesting habitat.	<i>Not expected to occur</i> . The project area does not support wetland habitat suitable for this species.

Species	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> Federal	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> State	SSHCP	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
Cooper's hawk <i>Accipiter cooperii</i> (year round)	_	_	Covered	Woodland, chiefly of open, interrupted, or marginal type. Nest sites mainly in riparian growths of deciduous trees, as in canyon bottoms on river floodplains; also, live oaks.	<i>Not expected to occur</i> . The project area does not contain riparian habitat suitable for this species.
Ferruginous hawk <i>Buteo regalis</i> (wintering)	_	_	Covered	Open grasslands, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, low foothills and fringes of pinyon and juniper habitats. Eats mostly lagomorphs (e.g., rabbits and hares), ground squirrels, and mice. Population trends may follow lagomorph population cycles.	<i>May occur</i> . Grassland habitat potentially suitable for winter foraging habitat for this species is present on the project area.
Grasshopper sparrow <i>Ammodramus</i> savannarum (nesting)	_	SSC	_	Dense grasslands on rolling hills, lowland plains, in valleys and on hillsides on lower mountain slopes. Favors native grasslands with a mix of grasses, forbs and scattered shrubs. Loosely colonial when nesting.	<i>Not expected to occur</i> . Dense native grassland habitat suitable for this species is not present on the study area.
Greater sandhill crane <i>Grus canadensis</i> <i>tabida</i> (wintering)	_	T, FP	Covered	Annual and perennial grassland habitats, moist croplands with rice or corn stubble, and open, emergent wetlands. Typically nests in mounds of wetland plants or hummocks in remote portions of extensive wetlands. Sometimes nests in grass- lined depressions on dry sites.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The project area does not contain suitable foraging or winter roosting habitat for this species. Additionally, this species is known to breed only in Siskiyou, Modoc, and Lassen counties and in Sierra Valley, Plumas, and Sierra counties.
Least bittern <i>Ixobrychus exilis</i> (nesting)	_	SSC	_	Marsh and swamp, wetlands. Colonial nester in marshlands and borders of ponds and reservoirs which provide	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The project area does not support wetland nesting habitat suitable for this species.

Species	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> Federal	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> State	SSHCP	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
				ample cover. Nests usually placed low in tules, over water.	
Lesser sandhill crane Antigone [=Grus] canadensis (wintering)	_	SSC	_	Annual and perennial grassland habitats, moist croplands with rice or corn stubble, and open, emergent wetlands.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The project area does not contain suitable wintering habitat for this species. Breeding for the Lesser sandhill crane occurs outside of California.
Loggerhead shrike <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> (year round)	_	SSC	Covered	A common resident and winter visitor in lowlands and foothills throughout California. Prefers open habitats with scattered shrubs, trees, posts, fences, utility lines, or other perches. Occurs only rarely in heavily urbanized areas, but often found in open cropland. Sometimes uses edges of denser habitats.	<i>May occur</i> . Trees and shrubs providing potential nest sites for this species are present on and near the project area. Agricultural field habitat suitable for this species is present adjacent to the project area.
Mountain plover Charadrius montanus (wintering)	_	SSC	_	Chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Short grasslands, freshly plowed fields, newly sprouting grain fields, and sometimes sod farms. Short vegetation, bare ground and flat topography. Prefers grazed areas and areas with burrowing rodents.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The study area is outside of this species' currently known wintering range, which in Sacramento County, is restricted to areas west of Elk Grove in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta west of I-5. Mountain plover nests outside of California.
Northern Harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> (nesting)	_	SSC	Covered	Coastal salt and fresh-water marsh. Nest and forage in grasslands, from salt grass in desert sink to mountain cienagas. Nests on ground in shrubby vegetation, usually at marsh edge; nest built of a large mound of sticks in wet areas.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> Ruderal grassland habitat potentially suitable for foraging for this species is present in the project area, but nesting habitat is not present.

Species	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> Federal	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> State	SSHCP	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
Song sparrow ("Modesto" population) <i>Melospiza melodia</i> (year round)	_	SSC	_	Emergent freshwater marshes, riparian willow thickets, riparian forests of valley oak ( <i>Quercus lobata</i> ), and vegetated irrigation canals and levees.	<i>May occur</i> . May nest east of the project area, in vegetation lining the irrigation ditch on the other side of Bruceville Road.
Swainson's hawk <i>Buteo swainsoni</i> (nesting)	_	ST	Covered	Breeds in grasslands with scattered trees, juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, savannahs, and agricultural or ranch lands with groves or lines of trees. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, or alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations.	<i>May occur</i> . Trees providing potential nest sites for Swainson's hawks are present on and adjacent to the project area. Swainson's hawk nests with young were documented 0.15 miles and 0.75 miles south of the project area in 2009. There are also multiple known occurrences documented in the surrounding area, which include a nest occurrence 1.3 miles west of the project area.
Tricolored blackbird <i>Agelaius tricolor</i> (year round)	_	ST, SSC`	Covered	Freshwater marsh, marsh and swamp, swamp, wetland. Highly colonial species, most numerous in Central Valley and vicinity. Largely endemic to California. Requires open water, protected nesting substrate, and foraging area with insect prey within a few kilometers of the colony.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The project area does not contain suitable nesting habitat for this species.
Western yellow- billed cuckoo <i>Coccyzus</i> <i>americanus</i> <i>occidentalis</i> (nesting)	FT. USFS-S	SE	_	Riparian forest. Riparian forest nester, along the broad, lower flood-bottoms of larger river systems. Nests in riparian jungles of willow, often mixed with cottonwoods, with lower story of blackberry, nettles, or wild grape.	<i>Not expected to occur</i> . The project area is out of range for this species and does not contain riparian forest nesting habitat suitable for this species.
White-tailed kite <i>Elanus leucurus</i>	_	FP	Covered	Rolling foothills and valley margins with scattered oaks and river bottomlands or marshes next to	<i>May occur</i> . Dense-topped tree habitat potentially suitable for nesting is present on and near the project area as well as ruderal

Species	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> Federal	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> State	SSHCP	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
(year round)				deciduous woodland. Open grasslands, meadows, or marshes for foraging close to isolated, dense- topped trees for nesting and perching.	grasslands and agricultural fields suitable for foraging.
Yellow-breasted chat <i>Icteria virens</i> (nesting)	_	SSC	_	Riparian forest, riparian scrub, riparian woodland. Summer resident; inhabits riparian thickets of willow and other brushy tangles near watercourses. Nests in low, dense riparian, consisting of willow, blackberry, wild grape; forages and nests within 10 feet of ground.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The project area does not contain riparian habitat suitable for this species.
Yellow-headed blackbird <i>Xanthocephalus</i> (year round)	_	SSC	_	Marsh and swamp, wetland. Nests in freshwater emergent wetlands with dense vegetation and deep water. Often along borders of lakes or ponds. Nests only where large insects such as Odonata are abundant, nesting timed with maximum emergence of aquatic insects.	<i>Not expected to occur</i> . Project area does not contain wetland nesting habitat suitable for this species.
Yellow warbler Setophaga petechia (nesting)	_	SSC	_	Riparian forest, riparian scrub, riparian woodland. Riparian plant associations in close proximity to water. Also nests in montane shrubbery in open conifer forests in Cascades and Sierra Nevada. Frequently found nesting and foraging in willow shrubs and thickets, and in other riparian plants including cottonwoods, sycamores, ash, and alders.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The project area is outside the current known range of this species. This species has been largely extirpated from the Sacramento Valley (Shuford and Gardali 2008).

#### PLER2023-00119 - RCCC Pump Station Rehabilitation Project Initial Study

Species	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> Federal	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> State	SSHCP	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
Invertebrates					
Crotch bumble bee Bombus crotchii	_	SSC	_	Coastal California east to the Sierra- Cascade crest and south into Mexico. Food plant genera include <i>Antirrhinum</i> spp., <i>Phacelia</i> spp., <i>Clarkia</i> spp., <i>Dendromecon</i> spp., <i>Eschscholzia</i> spp., and <i>Eriogonum</i> spp	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The project area does not support plants associated with this bumble bee, as the field in the study area is mowed regularly.
Monarch butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	FC USFS-S	_	_	Closed-cone coniferous forest. Winter roost sites extend along the coast from northern Mendocino to Baja California, Mexico. Roosts located in wind-protected tree groves (eucalyptus, Monterey pine, cypress), with nectar and water sources nearby.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The project area does not support milkweed larval hosts and or sufficient nectar plant species, as the field in the study area is mowed regularly.
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle <i>Desmocerus</i> <i>californicus</i> <i>dimorphus</i>	Ft	_	Covered	Riparian scrub. Occurs only in the Central Valley of California, in association with blue elderberry <i>(Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>caerulea</i> ). Prefers to lay eggs in elderberries 2-8 inches in diameter; some preference shown for "stressed" elderberries.	<i>Not expected to occur</i> . The project area does not contain elderberry shrubs suitable for this species.
Mammals					
American badger <i>Taxidea taxus</i>	_	SSC	Covered	Alkali marsh, alkali playa, alpine, alpine dwarf scrub, bog a fen, brackish marsh, broadleaved upland forest, chaparral, chenopod scrub, cismontane woodland, closed-cone coniferous forest, coastal bluff scrub, coastal dunes, coastal prairie. Most abundant in drier open stages of most	Not expected to occur. The project area does not contain friable soils suitable for burrowing habitat and during the reconnaissance-level survey, no evidence of burrowing animals was found.

#### PLER2023-00119 - RCCC Pump Station Rehabilitation Project Initial Study

Species	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> Federal	Listing Status <sup>1</sup> State	SSHCP	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
				shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils. Needs sufficient food, friable soils and open, uncultivated ground. Preys on burrowing rodents. Digs burrows.	
Riparian brush rabbit Sylvilagus bachmani riparius	FE	SE	_	Riparian forest. Riparian areas on the San Joaquin River in northern Stanislaus County. Dense thickets of wild rose, willows, and blackberries.	<i>Not expected to occur</i> . The study area does not support riparian habitat suitable for this species.
Western red bat <i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i>	_	SSC	Covered	Roosts primarily in dense tree foliage, especially in cottonwood, sycamore, and other riparian trees or orchards. Prefers habitat edges and mosaics with trees that are protected from above and open below with open areas for foraging. Strongly associated with intact mature riparian forest.	<i>Not expected to occur.</i> The study area does not support riparian habitat preferred by this species.

Notes:

1 Status definitions:

Federal:

Candidate (legally protected under ESA) Threatened (legally protected under ESA) Endangered (legally protected under ESA)

State:

Endangered (legally protected under CESA)

Threatened (legally protected under CESA)

FP Fully Protected (legally protected under California Fish and Game Code)

SSC Species of Special Concern (protected under CEQA, but not legally protected under CESA) Not Expected to Occur – For wildlife species, suitable habitat is not in project area or else surrounding urban development makes occurrence unlikely. For plant species, suitable habitat is lacking, or else presence is unlikely due to rarity of species and/or nearest known occurrence is greater than 5 miles.

May Occur - Suitable habitat is present in the project area and the nearest known occurrence is within 5 miles.

### BURROWING OWL

Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) is a California Species of Special Concern and is covered under the SSHCP. Burrowing owl habitat is characterized by low growing vegetation and may include annual and perennial grasslands and arid scrublands. Burrows are an essential component of burrowing owl habitat. Burrowing owls typically use burrows made by mammals such as ground squirrels or badgers but may also use artificial structures such as cement culverts; cement, asphalt, or wood debris piles; or openings beneath cement or asphalt pavement. They can also create their own burrows if soil conditions are suitable. The breeding season for burrowing owls is from approximately February 1 to August 31. Burrowing owls may make local movements or small migrations during the nonbreeding season, but still require burrows for shelter and protection from predators.

The CNDDB contains six records of burrowing owl within a five-mile radius of the project area, ranging from approximately 0.5-4.8 miles away from the project area (CNDDB 2021). Four out of six of these occurrences had documented breeding pairs present (CNDDB 2021). Although ground squirrel burrows were not observed on site during the reconnaissance survey, burrowing owl has been documented on Franklin Field, 0.5 miles southwest of the project area.

#### FERRUGINOUS HAWK

Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*) is covered under the SSHCP. Ferruginous hawk is a common winter resident in southwestern California in grasslands and agricultural areas (Garrett and Dunn 1981). Ferruginous hawk generally will arrive in California in September depart by the middle of April and does not nest in California. This species is an uncommon winter resident and migrant in lower elevations of the Modoc Plateau, Coast Ranges, and Central Valley. Ferruginous hawk habitat includes open grasslands, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, low foothills and fringes of pinyon and juniper habitat, and their diet is mostly made up of lagomorphs, ground squirrels and mice. Population trends may follow lagomorph population cycles. Ferruginous hawk requires large tracts of habitat and roosts on trees or poles in open areas. In Colorado it was found that wintering Ferruginous hawks avoided urban development and surrounding areas (Berry et al. 1998).

The CNDDB contains no records of Ferruginous hawk within a five-mile radius of the project area (CNDDB 2021). Within a ten-mile radius of the project area there was a sole documented occurrence of a Ferruginous hawk wintering near a wastewater treatment facility in 2003 (CNDDB 2021). However, because ferruginous hawk has no special status, it is not often reported to the CNDDB.

#### LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE

Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) is a California Species of Special Concern and is covered under the SSHCP. Loggerhead shrike is a year-round resident of Sacramento County. Nesting occurs in densely-foliaged trees or shrubs, and usually on stable, well-concealed branches (Miller 1931; Bent 1950). Breeding season is typically from March through August.

Loggerhead shrike preferred habitat includes scattered shrubs, posts, trees, utility lines, or other perches. It occurs only rarely in heavily urbanized areas but is often found in open cropland and sometimes uses edges of denser habitats (Grinnell and Miller 1944; McCaskie et al. 1979; Garrett and Dunn 1981). Loggerhead shrike diet mostly consists of large insects, but can also contain small birds, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and fish, among other things. Hunting usually occurs while perched at least two feet above ground (Grinnell and Miller 1944).

The CNDDB contains no records of loggerhead shrike within a five- or ten-mile radius of the project area (CNDDB 2021); however, loggerhead shrike is known to be an under-reported species.

#### SONG SPARROW (MODESTO POPULATION)

The Modesto population of song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) is a California Species of Special Concern. Song sparrow is a year-round resident of Sacramento County. Nesting can occur on or just above the ground in shrubs or other low vegetation, normally within four feet of the ground (Bent 1968; Harrison 1978). When nesting on the ground, the nest is normally hidden under low, dense vegetation, and typically near water. Breeding season for song sparrow generally starts in April.

Song sparrow preferred habitat typically consists of emergent freshwater marshes, riparian willow thickets, riparian forests of valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), and vegetated irrigation canals and levees. Generally, song sparrow is more abundant in the lowlands and desert areas of California. Song sparrow typically feed on seeds, which constitutes most of their diet annually, but during nesting season will also feed on insects, spiders, and other small invertebrates, making up almost half their diet during this time of year (Martin et al. 1961).

The CNDDB contains seven records of song sparrow occurrences within a five-mile radius of the project area, ranging from approximately 2.7-5 miles away in 2009 (CNDDB 2021). This includes up to 185 nesting song sparrows in the areas where occurrences were recorded, which were mostly by water (CNDDB 2021).

### SWAINSON'S HAWK

Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) is state listed as threatened in California and is covered under the SSHCP. Swainson's hawks typically are found in California only during the breeding season (March–September) and generally begin to arrive in the Central Valley in March. Nesting territories are usually established by April, with incubation and rearing of young occurring through June. Most Swainson's hawks leave the Central Valley by late August to mid-September to migrate to Mexico and South America. Nesting pairs frequently return to the same nest site for multiple years. Sacramento, Yolo, Solano, and San Joaquin Counties support the largest concentration of nesting Swainson's hawks in California.

Swainson's hawks are most commonly present in grassland, low-shrubland, and agricultural habitats that include large trees for nesting. Nests are found in riparian woodlands, roadside trees, trees along field borders, and isolated trees. In the Central

Valley, the Swainson's hawk population is correlated with agricultural production that creates abundant prey availability in large tracts of foraging areas (Estep 2008). However, Swainson's hawks can also be found in areas undergoing urbanization (e.g., City of Elk Grove), if sufficient nesting and foraging habitat remains available (Estep 2009).

Prey abundance and accessibility are the most important features determining the suitability of Swainson's hawk foraging habitat. Agricultural operations (e.g., mowing, flood irrigation) have substantial influence on the accessibility of prey and, thus, create important foraging opportunities. Swainson's hawks feed primarily on small rodents, but also consume insects and birds.

There are 54 reported Swainson's hawk historic nests within five miles of the project area. Not all of these nesting territories may be active in a given year. Swainson's hawk may nest in trees along the eastern and northern borders of project area, and nests have been documented as close as 0.15 mile south of the project area.

#### WHITE-TAILED KITE

White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) is fully protected by the California Fish and Game Code and is covered under the SSHCP. California supports the largest number of whitetailed kites in North America. White-tailed kites are typically found in virtually all lowlands west of the Sierra Nevada range and the southeast deserts. Nest-building occurs January through August (Dunk 1995). Egg laying begins in February and probably peaks in March and April. Peak fledging probably occurs in May and June with most fledging complete by October (Erichsen 1995). Although the white-tailed kite is probably resident through most of its breeding range, dispersal occurs during the nonbreeding season, leading to range expansion that includes most of California.

White-tailed kites generally nest in dense stands of trees, but like Swainson's hawks, they nest on habitat edges adjacent to open foraging habitat. They occasionally nest in isolated trees. They typically nest within 0.5 mile of foraging habitat and are rarely found away from their preferred foraging habitats. They inhabit lowland grasslands, agriculture, wetlands, oak-woodland and savannah habitats, and riparian areas associated with open areas. In addition, it has been found that riparian corridors represent preferred nesting sites for kites. As preferred habitats (e.g., riparian woodlands, wetlands, and native wooded grasslands) have diminished, kites must compete with larger raptors for nesting sites in remaining woodlands and agricultural settings. Such nest site competitors include great horned owls (*Bubo virginianus*), red-tailed hawks (*Buteo jamaicensis*), red-shouldered hawks, and Swainson's hawks (*Buteo swainsoni*).

Kites do not seem to associate with particular plant species but are more tied to prey abundance and vegetation structure. Those habitats supporting larger prey populations are more suitable; ungrazed lands support higher prey populations than grazed lands. Alfalfa and sugarbeet fields support the highest vole populations, relative to other agriculture. Summer habitat preferences include riparian zones, dry pastures, alfalfa, orchards, and rice stubble fields. Plowed fields were avoided in both winter and summer. White-tailed kites have been reported to nest in a wide variety of tree and shrub species ranging from shrubs, such as coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), that are less than 10 feet tall to redwood trees over 150 feet tall. However, they most often build their nests near the tops of trees (generally 20 to 100 feet above ground) with dense canopies. White-tailed kites show strong fidelity to general nesting locations and return annually to the same sites to breed. Unlike some other raptors however, kites tend to exhibit nesting fidelity to a particular tree or grove of trees but may not reuse their nest from previous years.

There was only one documented white-tailed kite nest occurrence reported in the CNDDB within a five-mile radius of the project area, located approximately 4.9 miles northeast of the project area and recorded in 1991. The nest was located in a cottonwood tree surrounded by habitat consisting of agricultural fields and grazed grasslands. White-tailed kite is known to be an underreported species in the CNDDB. In Cornell Lab of Ornithology's eBird database, the closest observation of white-tailed kite was recorded in March 2020, 0.35-mile northwest of the project area. There are approximately seven observation locations in a 1.5-mile radius of the project area in the eBird database. At one of the locations 1.5 miles south of the project area, there are approximately 53 observations of white-tailed kite from 2011 to 2021.

### **P**ROJECT IMPACTS

#### SWAINSON'S HAWK, BURROWING OWL, LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE, WHITE-TAILED KITE, AND OTHER RAPTORS

Swainson's hawk, burrowing owl, loggerhead shrike, white-tailed kite, and other raptors have the potential to forage and nest in the project area. Foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk and other raptors is located within the mowed field in the project area and in the adjacent agricultural fields. Nesting could occur in trees lining the north and east edges of the project area, trees located south and west of the project area, and trees lining the irrigation ditch east of the project area, across Bruceville road.

There have been 54 Swainson's hawk nest occurrences documented within 5 miles of the project area, the two closest recorded 0.15 miles and 0.75 miles south of the project area in 2009. There is also a nest occurrence documented 1.3 miles west of the project area. Construction activities conducted during the breeding season (defined as March 1 - September 15 for Swainson's hawk) near active nest trees could disturb Swainson's hawks if they are nesting nearby, causing adults to abandon their nests, resulting in mortality of chicks or eggs. Generally, visual and noise disturbances can affect nesting success of Swainson's hawks nesting up to 0.5 mile away from the disturbance source. Other raptor nests located near the project area could also be disturbed or fail as a result of project construction during the breeding season; however, other raptor species occur in the area are generally not as sensitive to disturbances originating from distances further than 500 feet from the nest.

Although Swainson's hawk is the only state-listed raptor species expected to occur in the project vicinity, white-tailed kite, a fully protected species under the California Fish and Game Code, could also nest in and near the project area. There are approximately

seven documented observation locations in a 1.5-mile radius of the project area in the eBird database. At one of these locations, which is about 1.5 miles south of the project area, there are approximately 53 observations of white-tailed kite from 2011 to 2021. Additionally, all raptor species and their nests are protected under California Fish and Game Code. Other raptors known to nest in the project vicinity include red-shouldered hawk, American kestrel, red-tailed hawk, great horned owl, and barn owl.

Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, burrowing owl, and loggerhead shrike are all covered species under the SSHCP. Although loggerhead shrike is not a raptor, the SSHCP includes them within their AMM for Covered Raptor Species. They were evaluated together with raptors in the report; however, SSHCP AMMs for these species and for burrowing owl are species specific. Therefore separate AMMs are included for each.

The closest burrowing owl nest occurrence was documented 0.5 miles southwest of the project area in 2008, with multiple years of wintering burrowing owl occurrences documented at the same location from 2008-2010. With that said, it should be noted that the site is regularly mowed which may discourage burrowing owl nesting, and as mentioned above, no burrows were observed during the reconnaissance survey. Burrowing owls may be flushed from their burrows by disturbances occurring up to 500 meters (1,640 feet) from the burrow site. Flushing burrowing owls from their burrows can result in nest abandonment resulting in death of chicks or eggs. In addition, burrowing owls need burrows at all times of year to survive and displacing individuals from their burrows can result in indirect impacts such as predation, increased energetic costs, increased stress, exposure to extreme heat or cold, and risks associated with having to find and compete for burrows, all of which can lead to take or reduced reproduction.

To mitigate the potential impacts to Swainson's hawk, burrowing owl, loggerhead shrike, white-tailed kite, and other raptors the following AMMs are required: BMP-7 (Biological Monitor), BMP-8 (Training of Construction Staff), SWHA-1 (Swainson's Hawk Surveys), SWHA-2 (Swainson's Hawk Pre-Construction Surveys), SWHA-3 (Swainson's Hawk Nest Buffer), SWHA-4 (Swainson's Hawk Nest Buffer Monitoring), SWHA-5 (Swainson's Hawk Nest Tree Avoidance), WBO-1 (Western Burrowing Owl Surveys), WBO-2 (Western Burrowing Owl Pre-Construction Surveys), WBO-3 (Western Burrowing Owl Avoidance), WBO-41 (Western Burrowing Owl Construction Monitoring), WBO-5 (Western Burrowing Owl Passive Relocation), WBO-7 (Rodent Control), RAPTOR-1 (Raptor Surveys), RAPTOR-2 (Raptor Pre-Construction Surveys), RAPTOR-3 (Raptor Nest/Roost Buffer), and RAPTOR-4 (Raptor Nest/Roost Buffer Monitoring).

#### Ferruginous Hawk

Ferruginous hawk, which is covered under the SSHCP, has the potential to forage in the project area. This species breeds outside of California so nesting disturbance would not be an issue for this species. The project area contains approximately seven acres of suitable winter foraging habitat for Ferruginous hawk that may be temporarily disturbed during project construction. Because the amount of foraging habitat that would be affected is small compared to the amount of foraging habitat available in surrounding

areas and because there would be no permanent loss of foraging habitat in the project area, impacts to ferruginous hawk would be less than significant.

#### SONG SPARROW (MODESTO POPULATION) AND COMMON NATIVE BIRDS

Though song sparrow is not expected to nest in the project area, it has the potential to nest east of the project area in vegetation lining the irrigation ditch on the other side of Bruceville Road. Construction could disturb nesting song sparrows if they were to nest along the irrigation ditch adjacent to the project area.

Common native nesting birds are protected by California Fish and Game Code and the federal MBTA. Nesting habitat potentially suitable for native bird species is present in the trees bordering the northern and eastern edges of the project area, as well as vegetation lining the irrigation ditch east of the project area. Project activities could disturb of native nesting birds resulting in the loss of nests, or disruption to nesting attempts, of song sparrow, and non-special-status native birds protected by California Fish and Game Code and MBTA.

To mitigate the potential impacts to Song Sparrow (Modesto Population) and Common Native birds mitigation measures BIRD-1, BIRD-2, and BIRD-3 are required.

#### **CONSTRUCTION-GENERATED IMPACTS**

With the implementation of the listed AMMs and BIRD mitigation measures detailed below the construction-related impacts to special status species are considered *less than significant*.

#### **OPERATIONAL PHASE IMPACTS**

The operations of the pump station would be located within the mechanical facilities of the station and the underground storage pipes. While during operations there may be some noise associated with pumping or valves opening or closing, the resulting noise would be localized to the pump station area and would not be so loud as to disturb the use of the surrounding area by birds or other animals. Any future lighting would be for security and safety and would not cast light beyond the confines of the pump station; therefore, light would not disturb use of the surrounding areas by special status species. The operational impacts of the project to special status species are *less than significant*.

## NATIVE TREES

Sacramento County has identified the value of its native and landmark trees and has adopted measures for their preservation. The Tree Ordinance (Chapter 19.04 and 19.12 of the County Code) provides protections for landmark trees and heritage trees. The County Code defines a landmark tree as "an especially prominent or stately tree on any land in Sacramento County, including privately owned land" and a heritage tree as "native oak trees that are at or over 19" diameter at breast height (dbh)." Chapter 19.12 of the County Code, titled Tree Preservation and Protection, defines native oak trees as valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), interior live oak (*Quercus wislizenii*), blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*), or oracle oak (*Quercus morehus*) and states that "it shall be the policy of the

County to preserve all trees possible through its development review process." It should be noted that to be considered a tree, as opposed to a seedling or sapling, the tree must have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of at least 6 inches or, if it has multiple trunks of less than 6 inches each, a combined dbh of 10 inches. The Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element policies CO-138 and CO-139 also provide protections for native trees:

CO-138. Protect and preserve non-oak native trees along riparian areas if used by Swainson's Hawk, as well as landmark and native oak trees measuring a minimum of 6 inches in diameter or 10 inches aggregate for multi-trunk trees at 4.5 feet above ground.

CO-139. Native trees other than oaks, which cannot be protected through development, shall be replaced with in-kind species in accordance with established tree planting specifications, the combined diameter of which shall equal the combined diameter of the trees removed.

Native trees other than oaks include Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), California sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), California black walnut (*Juglans californica*), Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*), western redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*), gray pine (*Pinus sabiniana*), California white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*), boxelder (*Acer negundo*), California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*), narrowleaf willow (*Salix exigua*), Gooding's willow (*Salix gooddingii*), red willow (*Salix laevigata*), arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), shining willow (*Salix lucida*), Pacific willow (*Salix lasiandra*), and dusky willow (*Salix melanopsis*).

### TREE INVENTORY

The applicant provided a Memorandum of Survey Results (Memo) prepared by Ascent (Appendix C). The Memo identified the species, size, and location of onsite and overhanging offsite trees. Ascent inventoried and evaluated trees 4 inches or greater diameter at breast height (dbh) and all multi-trunk trees with an aggregate dbh of 10 inches or greater. A total of 63 trees were inventoried and evaluated. Of the 63 trees, two of the trees qualify as "protected trees" by the standards of the Sacramento County Tree Ordinance and Zoning Code (Table IS-4). All of the protected trees identified by the survey are located within the project area. All trees identified are shown on Plate IS-21.

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Dripline (Feet)	Contiion Rating*	Action	Mitigation
112	Interior Live Oak	6	6	Poor	Retain	N/A

 Table IS-4:
 Tree Inventory of Protected Native Trees

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Dripline (Feet)	Contiion Rating*	Action	Mitigation
113	Interior Live Oak	4	4	Dead	Remove	N/A due to condition
Total						N/A

#### DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

#### ONSITE AND OFFSITE PROTECTED NATIVE TREES TO BE REMOVED

The one living oak tree (tree 112) is outside of the planned development zone of the project and will be retained. The other oak tree (tree 113) is dead and could be removed. If it is removed the removal would not require to be mitigated because of the condition of the tree. Therefore, the project impacts to native trees are *less than significant*.

### Non-Native Trees

The Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element contains several policies aimed at preserving tree canopy within the County. These are:

CO-145. Removal of non-native tree canopy for development shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to the acreage of non-native tree canopy removed. New tree canopy acreage shall be calculated using the 15-year shade cover values for tree species.

CO-146. If new tree canopy cannot be created onsite to mitigate for the nonnative tree canopy removed for new development, project proponents (including public agencies) shall contribute to the Greenprint funding in an amount proportional to the tree canopy of the specific project.

CO-147. Increase the number of trees planted within residential lots and within new and existing parking lots.

CO-149. Trees planted within new or existing parking lots should utilize pervious cement and structured soils in a radius from the base of the tree necessary to maximize water infiltration sufficient to sustain the tree at full growth.

The 15-year shade cover values for tree species referenced in policy CO-145 are also referenced by the Sacramento County Zoning Code, Chapter 30, Article 4, and the list is maintained by the Sacramento County Department of Transportation, Landscape Planning and Design Division. The list includes more than seventy trees, so is not included here, but it is available at

http://www.per.saccounty.net/Programs/Documents/Tree%20Coordinator/Tree%2015year%20shade%20values%201-8-14.pdf#search=15%20year%20shade%20value. Policy CO-146 references the Greenprint program, which is run by the Sacramento Tree Foundation and has a goal of planting five million trees in the Sacramento region.

#### TREE INVENTORY

The Memo identified the species, size, and location of onsite and overhanging offsite trees. Of the 63 trees, 61 of the trees are non-native and are not considered "protected trees" by the standards of the Sacramento County Tree Ordinance and Zoning Code. However, Chapter 19.04 of the Sacramento County Code of Ordinances provides for the protection, preservation, and regulation of trees on public property within Sacramento County. This includes all trees planted or maintained by the County on an easement, planting easement, street, county park, or public premises. A permit shall be required to plant, transplant, move, separate, trim, prune, cut above or below ground, disrupt, alter, or take any other action upon any tree located on public premises. Because the survey area is entirely on public property, all trees within the survey area are subject to the tree permit requirements in Chapter 19.04. All trees identified are shown on Plate IS-21.



Plate IS-21 Tree Location

Source: Data collected by Ascent in 2021

10/14/2021

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Condition Rating*	Action	impacts from Development	Mitigation
1	Blue gum	22	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
2	Blue gum	18	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
3	Blue gum	18	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
4	Blue gum	12, 10	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
5	Blue gum	15, 12	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
6	Blue gum	8	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
7	Blue gum	28, 19	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
8	Blue gum	12, 7	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
9	Blue gum	14	Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
10	Blue gum	14, 12, 10	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
11	Blue gum	15	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
12	Blue gum	23	Good	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A

 Table IS-5:
 Tree Inventory of Non-Native Public Trees

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Condition Rating*	Action	impacts from Development	Mitigation
13	Blue gum	16	Good/Fair	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
14	Blue gum	25	Good	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
15	Blue gum	17	Fair	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
16	Blue gum	27	Good	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
17	Blue gum	18	Good	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
18	Blue gum	27, 22	Fair	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
19	Blue gum	14	Poor	Remove	To be removed for grading of underground storage pipes	TREE1

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Condition Rating*	Action	impacts from Development	Mitigation
20	Blue gum	11	Fair	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
21	Blue gum	21	Good	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
22	Blue gum	24	Fair	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
23	Blue gum	11	Good	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
24	Blue gum	14, 13	Good/Fair	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
25	Blue gum	22	Good/Fair	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A
26	Blue gum	22	Good/Fair	Retain	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to area to be graded constructing underground storage pipes	N/A

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Condition Rating*	Action	impacts from Development	Mitigation
27	Blue gum	8, 6, 5	Fair	Remove	To be removed for grading of underground storage pipes	TREE-1
28	Monterey pine	17	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
29	White mulberry	19	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
30	Monterey pine	8	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
31	Monterey pine	7	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
32	White mulberry	16	Good/Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
33	White mulberry	18	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
100	Peruvian pepper tree	4	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
101	Peruvian pepper tree	5	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
102	Peruvian pepper tree	5	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
103	Peruvian pepper tree	4	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
104	Peruvian pepper tree	3	Good	Retained	None – outside of developed area	N/A
105	Peruvian pepper tree	7	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
106	Peruvian pepper tree	5	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Condition Rating*	Action	impacts from Development	Mitigation
107	Peruvian pepper tree	5	Good	Retained	None – outside of developed area	N/A
108	Peruvian pepper tree	7	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
109	Peruvian pepper tree	5	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
110	Carob	6, 4, 4, 3, 3	Fair/Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
111	Peruvian pepper tree	4	Good	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
114	Monterey pine	16, 13	Poor	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
115	Monterey pine	15, 13, 9	Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
116	Monterey pine	14, 12	Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
117	Monterey pine	12, 11, 10	Fair	Retained	None – outside of proposed developed area	N/A
118	Redwood	6	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
119	Redwood	6	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
120	Redwood	9	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Condition Rating*	Action	impacts from Development	Mitigation
121	Redwood	5	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
122	Redwood	6	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
123	Redwood	5	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
124	Redwood	9	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
125	Redwood	8	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
126	Redwood	7	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
127	Redwood	5	Poor	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2
128	Blue gum	24	Good	Remove	Tree is within an area to be graded	TREE-2

Tree #	Common Name	DBH (Inches)	Condition Rating*	Action	impacts from Development	Mitigation
129	Blue gum	21	Good	Retained	Potential encroachment as tree is adjacent to pump station construction	TREE-2

#### DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS

As shown on the site demolition plan (Plate IS-2) areas around the pump stations would be subject to construction activities as portions of the existing pump station are removed and or replaced. In addition, grading and grubbing will occur in the area to the south of pump station for construction of the storage piping there are a number of non-native but public, and therefore, trees subject to tree permitting requirements if encroached on or removed. As shown on Plate IS-21 and Table IS-5 Trees 118 to 129 are within or adjacent to the pump station. The remaining adjacent tree will require protection from the demolishing and rehabilitation construction of the pump station. Also shown on Plate IS-21 and Table IS-3 Trees 12 to 26 being within the area that would be graded for the underground pipe storage with Tree 27 shown on Plate IS-2 being removed.

The remaining non-native trees are located outside of any development envelope.

At this time, with the exception of Tree 27, it is unclear whether there are encroachment impacts associated with the proposed project; therefore, mitigation measures TREE-1 and TREE-2 are to be implemented to ensure that potential impacts due to construction activities are reduced to a less than significant level.

Mitigation has been included to ensure tree canopy is replaced. County Policy requires that impacts to tree canopy be addressed by replacement or contribution to the Greenprint Program. With mitigation, project impacts related to tree canopy loss are *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

Under CEQA, lead agencies must consider the effects of projects on historical resources and archaeological resources. A "historical resource" is defined 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 5042.1 requires that any properties that can be expected to be directly or indirectly affected by a proposed project be evaluated for CRHR eligibility. Impacts to historical resources that materially impair those characteristics that convey its historical significance and justify its inclusion or eligibility for the NRHP or CRHR are considered a significant effect on the environment (CEQA guidelines 15064.5)).

In addition to historically significant resources, an archeological site may meet the definition of a "unique archeological resource" as defined in PRC Section 21083.2(g). If unique archaeological resources cannot be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state, mitigation measures shall be required (PRC Section 21083.2 (c)).

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 (e) outlines the steps the lead agency shall take in the event of an accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery.

#### CULTURAL SETTING

A Cultural and Paleontological Resources Assessment was prepared for the project by Natural Investigations Company, Inc. (Natural Investigations). The following information and analysis is based on these reports.

A search of records and historical information on file at the North Central Information Center (NCIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) was conducted in August 30, 2021 for the project area and a one-quarter-mile buffer.

The records search identified no previously recorded resources within the project site.

On September 16, 2021, Natural Investigations conducted a field survey of the project site. The archaeologists walked parallel transects spaced no greater than 15-meters apart. The bullet-point list below summarizes the findings of the built environment and historic archaeological surveys.

No cultural resources of any kind were identified within the project area during the field survey. Additionally, no indication of subgrade cultural materials was noted in rodent burrows or other areas of past ground-disturbance and no paleontological resources or unique geologic units were observed.

#### PROJECT IMPACTS

No cultural resources of any kind were identified during the field survey undertaken as part of this assessment. Geoarchaeological analysis finds that the project area is underlain by Middle-to-Late Pleistocene-aged (450 to 130 thousand years ago) alluvium

of the Riverbank Formation (Qr<sup>2</sup>) with soils of the San Joaquin Series formed at their surface. Because this material formed long before the first human occupation of the area, it is very unlikely to contain or to have buried archaeological resources. Given several site-specific variables, including the age of the underlying landform, distance from freshwater, proximity of known sites, lack of historical development, extent of past disturbance from plowing and modern pump station construction, and negative survey results for subgrade cultural materials, the potential for the discovery of intact archaeological deposits by implementation of the Project is estimated to be low.

Based on the negative findings of the geoarchaeological analysis and CHRIS search, as well as the negative results of tribal outreach and field survey, there is no indication that the project will impact any historical resources as defined under CEQA Section 15064.5, unique archaeological resources as defined under CEQA Section 21083.2(g), or known Native American resources.

The project is unlikely to impact human remains buried outside of formal cemeteries; however, if human remains are encountered during construction, mitigation is included specifying how to comply with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 (e), Sections 5097.97 and 5097.98 of the State Public Resources Code, and Section 7050.5 of the State Health and Safety Code. Therefore, with mitigation, project impacts to cultural resources will be *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 section 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:
  - a) 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
  - b) 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)).

## TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCE SETTING

Natural Investigations submitted a Sacred Lands File Search (SLFS) request to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on August 26, 2021. On October 11, 2021, the NAHC responded that there was a negative SLFS for the project site.

In accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52, codified as Section 21080.3.1 of CEQA, formal notification letters were sent to those tribes who had previously requested to be notified of Sacramento County projects on November 22, 2023. Both Wilton Rancheria and Untied Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria declined consultation with Auburn deferring to Wilton and Wilton requesting that mitigation for unanticipated discovery be included without further consultation.

#### DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS – TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Tribes confirmed that the project area or does not contain tribal cultural resources of significance. The tribes and lead agency mutually agreed that tribal cultural resources mitigation measures were appropriate and feasible for the project. With this mitigation in place, project impacts to tribal cultural resources will be *less than significant*.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES**

The project is a covered activity under the SSCHP and as such is subject to the SSHCP AMMs which would include Condition 3. Implement Construction Best Management Practices (BMP 1 through 6) while these measures are not called out as mitigation measures these will be implemented by inclusion as the project's bid contract requirements. Mitigation Measures (AQ-1, BMP-7, BMP-8, SWHA-2, SWHA-3, SWHA-4, SWHA-5, WBO-2, WBO-3, WBO-4, WBO-5, WBO-7, RAPTOR-2, RAPTOR-3, RAPTOR-4, BIRD-1, BIRD-2, BIRD-3, TREE-1, TREE-2, CR-1, CR-2, and TCR-1) 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 both of the following occur: (1) A public hearing is held on the proposed changes; (2) The hearing body adopts a 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 AQ-1: BASIC CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS CONTROL PRACTICES

The following Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices are considered feasible for controlling fugitive dust from a construction site. Control of fugitive dust is required by SMAQMD Rule 403 and enforced by SMAQMD staff. Prior to issuing grading or construction permits the County shall verify the following measures are specified on construction contracts and/or construction documentation.

- Water all exposed surfaces two times daily. Exposed surfaces include, but are not limited to soil piles, graded areas, unpaved parking areas, staging areas, and access roads.
- Cover or maintain at least two feet of free board space on haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material on the site. Any haul trucks that would be traveling along freeways or major roadways should be covered.
- Use wet power vacuum street sweepers to remove any visible trackout mud or dirt onto adjacent public roads at least once a day. Use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
- Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15 mph.
- All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
- Minimize idling time by either shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing time of idling to 5 minutes. Provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers at the entrances to the site; and
- Maintain all construction equipment in proper working condition according to manufacturer's specifications. The equipment must be checked by a certified mechanic and determine to be running in proper condition before it is operated.

## MITIGATION MEASURE BMP-7: BIOLOGICAL MONITOR

If a Covered Activity includes ground disturbance within Covered Species modeled habitat, an approved biologist will be on site during the period of ground disturbance, and may need to be on site during other construction activities depending on the Covered Species affected. After ground-disturbing project activities are complete, the approved biologist will train an individual to act as the on-site construction monitor for the remainder of construction, with the concurrence of the Permitting Agencies. The onsite monitor will attend the training described in BMP-8. The approved biologist and the on-site monitor will have oversight over implementation of Avoidance and Minimization Measures, and will have the authority to stop activities if any of the requirements associated with those measures are not met. If the monitor requests that work be stopped, the Wildlife Agencies will be notified within one working day by email. The approved biologist and/or on-site monitor will record all observations of listed species on California Natural Diversity Database field sheets and submit them to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The approved biologist or on-site monitor will be the contact source for any employee or contractor who might inadvertently kill or injure a Covered Species or who finds a dead, injured or entrapped individual. The approved biologist and on-site monitor's names and telephone numbers will be provided to the Wildlife Agencies prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities. Refer to speciesspecific measures for details on requirements for biological monitors.

## MITIGATION MEASURE BMP-8 TRAINING OF CONSTRUCTION STAFF

A mandatory Worker Environmental Awareness Program will be conducted by an approved biologist for all construction workers, including contractors, prior to the commencement of construction activities. The training will include how to identify Covered Species that might enter the construction site, relevant life history information and habitats, SSHCP and statutory requirements and the consequences of noncompliance, the boundaries of the construction area and permitted disturbance zones, litter control training (SPECIES-2), and appropriate protocols if a Covered Species is encountered. Supporting materials containing training information will be prepared and distributed by the approved biologist. When necessary, training and supporting materials will also be provided in Spanish. Upon completion of training, construction personnel will sign a form stating that they attended the training and understand all of the Avoidance and Minimization Measures. Written documentation of the training must be submitted to the Implementing Entity within 30 days of completion of the training, and the Implementing Entity will provide this information to the Wildlife Agencies.

## MITIGATION MEASURE SWHA-2 SWAINSON'S HAWK PRE-CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS

If existing or potential nest sites were found during surveys (SWHA-1), and construction activities will occur during the breeding season (March 1 through September 15), preconstruction surveys will be required to determine if active nests are present within a project footprint or within 0.25 mile of a project footprint. An approved biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys within 30 days and again within 3 days of ground-disturbing activities to determine presence of nesting Swainson's hawk. Preconstruction surveys will be conducted during the breeding season (March 1 through September 15). If a nest is present, then SWHA-3 and SWHA-4 will be implemented. The approved biologist will inform the Land Use Authority Permittee and Implementing Entity of species locations, and they in turn will notify the Wildlife Agencies.

### MITIGATION MEASURE SWHA-3: SWAINSON'S HAWK NEST BUFFER

If active nests are found within the project footprint or within 0.25 mile of any projectrelated Covered Activity, the Third-Party Project Proponent will establish a 0.25 mile disturbance buffer around the active nest until the young have fledged, with concurrence from the Wildlife Agencies.

## MITIGATION MEASURE SWHA-4: SWAINSON'S HAWK NEST BUFFER MONITORING

If nesting Swainson's hawks are present within the project footprint or within 0.25 mile of any project-related Covered Activity, then an approved biologist experienced with Swainson's hawk behavior will be retained by the Third-Party Project Proponent to monitor the nest throughout the nesting season and to determine when the young have fledged. The approved biologist will be on site daily while construction-related activities are taking place within the buffer. Work within the temporary nest disturbance buffer can occur with the written permission of the Implementing Entity and Wildlife Agencies. If nesting Swainson's hawks begin to exhibit agitated behavior, such as defensive flights at intruders, getting up from a brooding position, or flying off the nest, the approved biologist will have the authority to shut down construction activities. If agitated behavior is exhibited, the biologist, Third-Party Project Proponent, Implementing Entity, and Wildlife Agencies will meet to determine the best course of action to avoid nest abandonment or take of individuals. The approved biologist will also train construction personnel on the required avoidance procedures, buffer zones, and protocols in the event that a Swainson's hawk flies into an active construction zone (i.e., outside the buffer zone).

### MITIGATION MEASURE SWHA-5: SWAINSON'S HAWK NEST AVOIDANCE

Project proponents shall avoid removal of Swainson's hawk nest trees active within the last 5 years, to the maximum extent practicable. Removal of occupied nest trees shall be timed outside of the Swainson's hawk nesting season, which would limit removal to October 1 through February 1, and shall not remove any occupied nest trees until the last young have fledged, as verified by the approved biologist. The Implementing Entity shall provide the number of Swainson's hawk nest trees removed each year, along with nest locations, in each Annual Report submitted to CDFW.

## MITIGATION MEASURE WBO-2: WESTERN BURROWING OWL PRE-CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS

Prior to any Covered Activity ground disturbance, an approved biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys in all areas that were identified as suitable habitat during the initial surveys. The purpose of the pre-construction surveys is to document the presence or absence of burrowing owls on the project site, particularly in areas within 250 feet of construction activities. To maximize the likelihood of detecting owls, the pre-construction survey will last a minimum of 3 hours. The survey will begin 1 hour before sunrise and continue until 2 hours after sunrise (3 hours total), or begin 2 hours before sunset and continue until 1 hour after sunset. Additional time may be required for large project sites. A minimum of two pre-construction surveys will be conducted (if owls are detected on the first survey, a second survey is not needed). All owls observed will be counted and their location will be mapped. Surveys will conclude no more than 2 calendar days prior to construction. Therefore, the Third-Party Project Proponent must begin surveys no more than 4 days prior to construction (2 days of surveying plus up to 2 days between surveys and construction). To avoid last-minute changes in schedule or contracting that may occur if burrowing owls are found, the Third-Party Project Proponent may also conduct a preliminary survey up to 15 days before construction. This preliminary survey may count as the first of the two required surveys as long as the second survey concludes no more than 2 calendar days in advance of construction.

#### MITIGATION MEASURE WBO-3: WESTERN BURROWING OWL AVOIDANCE

If western burrowing owl or evidence of western burrowing owl is observed on the project site or within 250 feet of the project site during pre-construction surveys, then the following will occur:

**During Breeding Season**: If the approved biologist finds evidence of western burrowing owls within a project site during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31), all project-related activities will avoid nest sites during the remainder of the breeding season or while the nest remains occupied by adults or young (nest occupation includes individuals or family groups foraging on or near the site following fledging). Avoidance is establishment of a minimum 250-foot buffer zone around nests. Construction and other project-related activities may occur outside of the 250-foot buffer zone. Construction and other project-related activities may be allowed inside of the 250foot non-disturbance buffer during the breeding season if the nest is not disturbed, and the Third-Party Project Proponent develops an avoidance, minimization, and monitoring plan that is approved by the Implementing Entity and Wildlife Agencies prior to project construction based on the following criteria:

- The Implementing Entity and Wildlife Agencies approve of the avoidance and minimization plan provided by the project applicant.
- An approved biologist monitors the owls for at least 3 days prior to construction to determine baseline nesting and foraging behavior (i.e., behavior without construction).
- The same approved biologist monitors the owls during construction and finds no change in owl nesting and foraging behavior in response to construction activities.

If there is any change in owl nesting and foraging behavior as a result of construction activities, the approved biologist will have authority to shut down activities within the 250-foot buffer.

Construction cannot resume within the 250-foot buffer until any owls present are no longer affected by nearby construction activities, and with written concurrence from the Wildlife Agencies.

If monitoring by the approved biologist indicates that the nest is abandoned prior to the end of nesting season and the burrow is no longer in use, the non-disturbance buffer zone may be removed if approved by the Wildlife Agencies. The approved biologist will excavate the burrow in accordance with the latest California Department of Fish and Wildlife guidelines for burrowing owl to prevent reoccupation after receiving approval from the Wildlife Agencies.

The Implementing Entity and Wildlife Agencies will respond to a request from the Third-Party Project Proponent to review the proposed construction monitoring plan within 21 days. **During Non-Breeding Season:** During the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31), the approved biologist will establish a minimum 250-foot non-disturbance buffer around occupied burrows. Construction activities outside of this 250-foot buffer will be allowed. Construction activities within the non-disturbance buffer will be allowed if the following criteria are met to prevent owls from abandoning over-wintering sites:

- An approved biologist monitors the owls for at least 3 days prior to construction to determine baseline foraging behavior (i.e., behavior without construction).
- The same approved biologist monitors the owls during construction and finds no change in owl foraging behavior in response to construction activities.
- If there is any change in owl foraging behavior as a result of construction activities, the approved biologist will have authority to shut down activities within the 250-foot buffer.
- If the owls are gone for at least 1 week, the Third-Party Project Proponent may request approval from the Implementing Entity and Wildlife Agencies that an approved biologist excavate usable burrows and install one-way exclusionary devices to prevent owls from re-occupying the site. After all usable burrows are excavated, the buffer zone will be removed and construction may continue.

Monitoring must continue as described above for the non-breeding season as long as the burrow remains active.

## MITIGATION MEASURE WBO-4: WESTERN BURROWING OWL

## **CONSTRUCTION MONITORING**

During construction of Covered Activities, 250-foot construction buffer zones will be established and maintained around any occupied burrow. An approved biologist will monitor the site to ensure that buffers are enforced and owls are not disturbed. The approved biologist will also train construction personnel on avoidance procedures, buffer zones, and protocols in the event that a burrowing owl flies into an active construction zone.

## MITIGATION MEASURE WBO-5: BURROWING OWL PASSIVE RELOCATION

Passive relocation is not allowed without the express written approval of the Wildlife Agencies. Passive owl relocation may be allowed on a case-by-case basis on project sites during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) with the written approval of the Wildlife Agencies if the other measures described in this condition preclude work from continuing. Passive relocation must be done in accordance with the latest California Department of Fish and Wildlife guidelines for burrowing owl. Passive relocation will only be proposed if the burrow needing to be removed or with the potential to collapse from construction activities is the result of a Covered Activity. If passive relocation is approved by the Wildlife Agencies, an approved biologist can passively exclude birds from their burrows during the non-breeding season by installing one-way doors in burrow entrances. These doors will be in place for 48 hours to ensure that owls have left the burrow, and then the biologist will excavate the burrow to prevent reoccupation. Burrows will be excavated using hand tools only. During excavation, an escape route will be maintained at all times. This may include inserting an artificial structure into the burrow to avoid having materials collapse into the burrow and trap owls inside. Other methods of passive relocation, based on best available science, may be approved by the Wildlife Agencies over the 50-year Permit Term.

## MITIGATION MEASURE WBO-7: RODENT CONTROL

Rodent control will be allowed only in developed portions of a Covered Activity project site within western burrowing owl modeled habitat. Where rodent control is allowed, the method of rodent control will comply with the methods of rodent control discussed in the 4(d) Rule published in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (2004) final listing rule for tiger salamander.

### MITIGATION MEASURE RAPTOR-2: RAPTOR PRE-CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS

Pre-construction surveys will be required to determine if active nests are present with a project footprint or within 0.25 mile of a project footprint if existing or potential nest sites are found during initial surveys and construction activities will occur during the raptor breeding season. An approved biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys within 30 days and 3 days of ground-disturbing activities within the proposed project footprint and within 0.25 mile of the proposed project footprint to determine presence of nesting covered raptor species. Pre-construction surveys will be conducted during the raptor breeding season. If a nest is present, then RAPTOR-3 and RAPTOR-4 will be implemented. The approved biologist will inform the Land Use Authority Permittee and Implementing Entity of species locations, and they in turn will notify the Wildlife Agencies.

### MITIGATION MEASURE RAPTOR-3: RAPTOR NEST/ROOST BUFFER

If active nests are found within the project footprint or within 0.25 mile of any projectrelated Covered Activity, the Third-Party Project Proponent will establish a 0.25 mile temporary nest disturbance buffer around the active nest until the young have fledged.

## MITIGATION MEASURE RAPTOR-4: RAPTOR NEST/ROOST BUFFER MONITORING

If project-related Covered Activities within the temporary nest disturbance buffer are determined to be necessary during the nesting season, then an approved biologist experienced with raptor behavior will be retained by the Third-Party Project Proponent to monitor the nest throughout the nesting season and to determine when the young have fledged. The approved biologist will be on site daily while construction-related activities are taking place within the disturbance buffer. Work within the temporary nest disturbance buffer can occur with the written permission of the Implementing Entity and Wildlife Agencies. If nesting raptors begin to exhibit agitated behavior, such as defensive flights at intruders, getting up from a brooding position, or flying off the nest,

the approved biologist/monitor will have the authority to shut down construction activities. If agitated behavior is exhibited, the biologist, Third-Party Project Proponent, Implementing Entity, and Wildlife Agencies will meet to determine the best course of action to avoid nest abandonment or take of individuals. The approved biologist will also train construction personnel on the required avoidance procedures, buffer zones, and protocols in the event that a covered raptor species flies into an active construction zone (i.e., outside the buffer zone).

## MITIGATION MEASURE BIRD-1: SONG BIRD SURVEYS

A qualified biologist will conduct a field investigation to determine if existing or potential song sparrow nesting or foraging sites are present in adjacent areas within 500 feet of the project footprint. Potential song sparrow nest sites are often associated with freshwater marsh and seasonal wetlands, or in thickets of willow, blackberry, wild rose, thistle, and other thorny vegetation. Foraging habitat includes annual grasslands, wet and dry vernal pools and other seasonal wetlands, agricultural fields (such as large tracts of alfalfa and pastures with continuous haying schedules and recently tilled fields), cattle feedlots, and dairies. The qualified biologist will map all existing or potential nesting or foraging sites. Nesting sites will also be noted on construction maps.

## MITIGATION MEASURE BIRD-2: SONG BIRD PRE CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS

Preconstruction surveys will be required to determine if active nests of song sparrow are present within 500 feet of the study area, if potential nesting sites are found during field investigations and construction activities will occur during the breeding season (March 1 through September 15). A qualified biologist will conduct preconstruction surveys within 30 days and again within 3 days of ground-disturbing activities in areas of potential nesting habitat within 500 feet of the proposed study area to determine the presence of nesting song sparrow. If a song sparrow nest colony is present, then the following measures shall be implemented

- If active nests are found within the project footprint or within 500 feet of any project-related activity, SacSewer will establish a temporary no-disturbance buffer, the size of which has been determined by a qualified biologist around the active nest site until the young have fledged.
- If nesting song sparrows are present within 500 feet of any project-related activity, then a qualified biologist will monitor the nest colony throughout the nesting season and to determine when the young have fledged. The qualified biologist will be on site daily while construction-related activities are taking place near the no disturbance buffer. Work within the nest disturbance buffer will not be permitted. If the qualified biologist determines that song sparrows are exhibiting agitated behavior, construction will halt until the buffer size is increased to a distance necessary to prevent harm or harassment of nesting song sparrows. If the biologist determines that the colonies are at risk, a meeting with SacSewer will be held to determine the best course of action to avoid nest abandonment or take of individuals. CDFW will be consulted, if necessary, to identify appropriate

avoidance measures for the song sparrow nesting colony. The qualified biologist will also train construction personnel on the required avoidance procedures, buffer zones, and protocols in the event that a song sparrow flies into an active construction zone (i.e., outside the buffer zone).

## MITIGATION MEASURE BIRD-3: SONG BIRD NEST/ROOST BUFFER

A preconstruction survey will be required to determine if active nests of common native birds are present within 100 feet of the study area if construction activities will occur during the breeding season (March 1 through September 15). A qualified biologist will conduct preconstruction surveys within 14 days of ground-disturbing activities. If active nests of common native bird species are found, SacSewer will establish a temporary no-disturbance buffer; the size of which will be determined by a qualified biologist. Factors to be considered for determining buffer size will include presence of natural buffers provided by vegetation or topography, nest height above ground, baseline levels of noise and human activity, species sensitivity, and proposed project construction activities. Generally, buffer size for common native bird species will be at least 20 feet. The size of the buffer may be adjusted if a qualified biologist, determines that such an adjustment would not be likely to adversely affect the nest.

## MITIGATION MEASURE TREE-1: PUBLIC TREE REMOVAL

Prior to the start of grading or ground disturbance, an arborist will conduct a survey to determine the exact location of where all grading will occur and identify trees to be removed or retained. For trees determined to be removed, a tree permit must obtained for their removal and will be mitigated by the creation of new tree canopy equivalent to the square footage of non-native tree canopy removed. New tree canopy acreage shall be calculated using the Sacramento County Department of Transportation 15-year shade cover values for tree species. Preference is given to on-site mitigation, but if this is infeasible, then funding shall be contributed to the Sacramento Tree Foundation's Greenprint Program in an amount proportional to the tree canopy lost.

## MITIGATION MEASURE TREE-2: PUBLIC TREE GRADING SURVEY

For those trees that are outside of the grading envelope but are adjacent to the areas to be graded, the following tree preservation measures must be implemented during construction activities:

- a. A circle with a radius measurement from the trunk of the tree to the tip of its longest limb shall constitute the dripline protection area of each tree. Limbs must not be cut back in order to change the dripline. The area beneath the dripline is a critical portion of the root zone and defines the minimum protected area of each tree. Removing limbs that make up the dripline does not change the protected area.
- b. Any protected trees on the site that require pruning shall be pruned by a certified arborist prior to the start of construction work. All pruning shall be in accordance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300

pruning standards and the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) "Tree Pruning Guidelines."

- c. Temporary protective fencing shall be installed at least one foot outside the driplines of the trees prior to the start of construction work, in order to avoid damage to the trees and their root systems. Protective fencing may be adjusted on a case-by-case basis after consultation with a Certified Arborist. Protective fencing must be maintained through the duration of construction.
- d. No signs, ropes, cables (except those which may be installed by a certified arborist to provide limb support) or any other items shall be attached to the protected trees. Small metallic numbering tags for the purpose of preparing tree reports and inventories shall be allowed.
- e. No vehicles, construction equipment, mobile home/office, supplies, materials or facilities shall be driven, parked, stockpiled or located within the driplines of protected trees.
- f. With the exception of the proposed retaining wall and cut slope, no grading (grade cuts or fills) shall be allowed within the driplines of trees. Grade cuts for the proposed retaining wall shall be performed under direct supervision of a certified arborist.
- g. Drainage patterns on the site shall not be modified so that water collects or stands within, or is diverted across, the dripline of any protected tree.
- h. No trenching shall be allowed within the driplines of protected trees. If it is absolutely necessary to install underground utilities within the dripline of a protected tree, it must be completed under the supervision of a certified arborist.
- i. The construction of impervious surfaces within the driplines of protected trees shall be stringently minimized. When it is absolutely necessary, a piped aeration system per County standard detail shall be installed under the supervision of a certified arborist.
- j. No sprinkler or irrigation system shall be installed in such a manner that sprays water or requires trenching within the driplines of protected trees. An above ground drip irrigation system is recommended.
- k. Landscaping beneath trees may include non-plant materials such as bark mulch, wood chips, boulders, etc. The only plant species which shall be planted within the driplines of trees are those which are tolerant of the natural semi-arid environs of the trees. A list of such drought-tolerant plant species is available from the Office of Planning Environmental Review. Limited drip irrigation approximately twice per summer is recommended for the understory plants.
# MITIGATION MEASURE CR-1: UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

In accordance with PRC Section 21082 and Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines and [36 CFR 800] of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), if buried cultural resources are discovered during construction, operations shall stop in the immediate vicinity of the find and a qualified archaeologist shall be consulted to determine whether the resource requires further study. The archaeologist shall make recommendations to the lead agency concerning appropriate measures that will be implemented to protect the resources, including but not limited to excavation and evaluation of the finds, consistent with Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines and 36 CFR 800. Cultural resources could consist of but are not limited to stone, bone, wood, or shell artifacts, or features including hearths, structural remains, or historic dumpsites. In accordance with PRC Section 21082 and Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, no further grading or construction activity shall occur within 50 feet of the discovery until the lead agency approves the measures to protect these resources.

In addition, reasonable efforts to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to the property shall be taken and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Indian tribes with concerns about the property, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council) will be notified within 48 hours in compliance with 36 CFR 800.13 (b)(3).

## MITIGATION MEASURE CR-2: UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF HUMAN REMAINS

In the event of an accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, PRC Section 5097.98 shall be followed. Once project-related earthmoving begins and if there is a discovery or recognition of human remains, the following steps shall be taken:

- 1. There shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the specific location or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until the County Coroner is contacted to determine if the remains are Native American and if an investigation of the cause of death is required. If the coroner determines the remains are Native American, the coroner shall contact the NAHC within 24 hours, and the NAHC shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the "most likely descendant" of the deceased Native American. The most likely descendant may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains, and any associated grave goods as provided in PRC Section 5097.98, or
- 2. Where the following conditions occur, the landowner or his/her authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity either in accordance with the recommendations of the most likely descendent or on the project area in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance:

- The NAHC is unable to identify a most likely descendent or the most likely descendent failed to make a recommendation within 48 hours after being notified by the commission;
- The descendent identified fails to make a recommendation; or
- The landowner or his authorized representative rejects the recommendation of the descendent, and the mediation by the NAHC fails to provide measures acceptable to the landowner.

# MITIGATION MEASURE TCR-1: INADVERTENT DISCOVERIES OF TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

If potential TCRs, archaeological resources, other cultural resources, articulated, or disarticulated human remains are discovered during construction activities, work shall cease within 100 feet of the find (based on the apparent distribution of cultural resources), whether or not a Native American Monitor from a traditionally and culturally affiliated Native American Tribe is present. Sacramento County Planning and Environmental Review shall be immediately notified at (916) 874-6141. A qualified cultural resources specialist and Native American Representatives and Monitors from traditionally and culturally affiliated Native American Tribes will assess the significance of the find and make recommendations for further evaluation and treatment, as necessary. Culturally appropriate treatment may be, but is not limited to, processing materials for reburial, minimizing handling of cultural objects, leaving objects in place within the landscape, and returning objects to a location within the project area where they will not be subject to future impacts.

Whenever there is question as to whether or not the discovery represents a tribal resource, culturally affiliated tribes shall be consulted in making the determination. Whenever a tribal monitor is present, the monitor has the authority to stop work.

### **MITIGATION MEASURE COMPLIANCE**

Comply with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for this project, including the payment of 100% of the 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.

#### PLER2023-00119 - RCCC Pump Station Rehabilitation Project Initial Study

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
1. LAND USE - Would the project:		-	_		-
a. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			х		The project is consistent with environmental policies of the Sacramento County General Plan and Sacramento County Zoning Code.
b. Physically disrupt or divide an established community?				х	The project will not create physical barriers that substantially limit movement within or through the community.
2. <b>POPULATION/HOUSING -</b> 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)?			х		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 people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				Х	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 pro	oject:	-			
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or areas containing prime soils to uses not conducive to agricultural production?				Х	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?				Х	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		Though in an area where agricultural uses occur, the project will not substantially interfere with agricultural operations because project development will occur within existing RCCC and pump station facilities. No agricultural use would be impacted.
4.	AESTHETICS - Would the project:					
a.	Substantially alter existing viewsheds such as scenic highways, corridors or vistas?			Х		The project does not occur in the vicinity of any scenic highways, corridors, or vistas.
b.	In non-urbanized area, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings?			Х		Construction will not substantially degrade the visual character or quality of the project site.
C.	If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				Х	The project is not located in an urbanized area.
d.	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?			Х		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?			Х		Although near Franklin Field, 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.
C.	Result in a substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft?				Х	The project does not affect navigable airspace.

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		Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
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?			Х		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?			Х		The water service provider has adequate capacity to serve the water needs of the proposed project.
b.	Have adequate wastewater treatment and disposal facilities for full buildout of the project?			Х		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?			Х		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?			Х		Minor extension of infrastructure would be necessary to serve the proposed project restroom. Existing service lines are located within existing roadways and other developed areas, and the extension of lines would take place within areas already proposed for development as part of the project. No significant new impacts would result from service line extension.
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 within existing roadways and other developed areas, 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		Minor extension of utility lines would be necessary to serve the proposed project. Existing utility lines are located along existing roadways and other developed areas, and the extension of lines would take place within areas already proposed for development as part of the project. No significant new impacts would result from utility extension.
g.	Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of emergency services?				Х	The project would not incrementally increase demand for emergency services, and therefore 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?				Х	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?				Х	The project will not require park and recreation services.
7.	TRANSPORTATION - Would the project:					
a.	Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b) – measuring transportation impacts individually or cumulatively, using a vehicles miles traveled standard established by the County?			Х		VMT analysis is intended to capture the long-term impacts of a proposed project. Therefore, construction activities are not typically subject to VMT analysis. As a result, no analysis of construction VMT is warranted (Sacramento County 2020). Therefore, consistent with the Transportation Analysis Guidelines, there is no conflict with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3.
b.	Result in a substantial adverse impact to access and/or circulation?				Х	No changes to existing access and/or circulation patterns would occur as a result of the project.
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.

		Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
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.
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?			Х		Compliance with existing dust abatement rules and standard construction mitigation for vehicle particulates will ensure that construction air quality impacts are less than significant. The California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) was used to analyze ozone precursor emissions; the project will not result in emissions that exceed standards. Standard mitigation will ensure these impacts are reduced to less than significant levels.
b.	And Expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations in excess of standards?			X		See Response 8.a.
C.	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			Х		The project will not generate objectionable odors.
9.	NOISE - Would the project:					
а.	Result in generation of a temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established by the local general plan, noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?			Х		The completed project will not substantially increase noise levels over those currently generated by the existing pump station. The project will not result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of applicable standards.
b.	Result in 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. This impact is less than significant due to the temporary nature of the these activities, limits on the duration of noise, and evening and nighttime restrictions imposed by the County Noise Ordinance (Chapter 6.68 of the County Code).

		Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments						
C.	Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.				Х	The project will not involve the use of pile driving or other methods that would produce excessive groundborne vibration or noise levels at the property boundary.						
10	10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:											
a.	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge?				Х	The project will not rely on groundwater supplies and will not substantially interfere with groundwater recharge.						
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?			х		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?			Х		The project is within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map (Flood Zone A). The Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance, Sacramento County Water Agency Code, and Sacramento County Improvement Standards require that the project be located outside or above the floodplain, and will ensure that impacts are less than significant. 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)?				Х	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?			Х		Adequate on- and/or off-site drainage improvements will be required pursuant to the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance and Improvement Standards.
<ul> <li>h. Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality?</li> </ul>			Х		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. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including 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.
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		The project is not located on an unstable geologic or soil unit.

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d.	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available?				Х	The project is the rehabilitation of an existing public sewer system pump station septic systems not required.
e.	Result in a substantial loss of an important mineral resource?				Х	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 or unique geologic feature?			Х		No known paleontological resources (e.g. fossil remains) or sites occur at the project location.
12	2. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project	t:				
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?		Х			The project site contains suitable habitat for Swainson's Hawk, Western Burrowing Owl, raptors, and song birds. Mitigation is included to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. 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?			Х		No sensitive natural communities occur on the project site, nor is the project expected to affect natural communities off- site.
C.	Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state, or local regulations and policies?				Х	No protected surface waters are located on or adjacent to the project site.
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.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
e. Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees?			Х		No healthy native oak trees will be removed as a result of the project. Impacts to native oak trees 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?		Х			There are many public trees that may be affected by on and/or off-site construction. Mitigation is included to ensure impacts are less than significant. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above
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?		Х			The project is a covered activity of the South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP). The project will need to comply with the applicable avoidance and minimization measures outlined in the SSHCP. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
13. CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource?				Х	No historical resources would be affected by the proposed project.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on an archaeological resource?			Х		An archaeological survey was conducted on the project site. Refer to the Cultural Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		Х			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.

		Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments						
14	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?		Х			Notification pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.3.1(b) was provided to the tribes and request for consultation was deferred if mitigation for unanticipated discovery was included. Refer to the Tribal Cultural Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.						
15	. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - \	Nould the pr	oject:									
a.	Create a substantial hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			Х		The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of hazardous material.						
b.	Expose the public or the environment to a substantial hazard through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials?			Х		The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of hazardous material.						
C.	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				Х	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		Within the RCCC there was a leaking underground tank which has been removed and the cleanup has been determined to be complete. The location of this tank was not within the project area; therefore, the project is not located on a known hazardous materials site.						
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.						

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
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 closest State Resource Area (SRA) lands are east of the cities of Folsom and Rancho Cordova, approximately 25 miles northeast of the proposed pump station rehabilitation; these lands are rated as Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zones (CAL Fire 2023). There are no Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) that encompass the proposed pump station project or in the project area (CAL FIRE 2023). Therefore, construction of the proposed project would not exacerbate wildfire risks within an SRA or a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, and no impact would occur.
16. ENERGY – Would the project:					
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction?			Х		The project is the rehabilitation of an existing sewage pump station. The project result in greater efficiency thereby not increase energy consumption resulting in less than significant impacts.
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			Х		The project will comply with Title 24, Green Building Code, for all project efficiency requirements.
17. 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		The California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) (Appendix D) was used to estimate the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the project. Based on the results, the established County threshold of 1,100 annual metric tons of CO2e for the commercial/industrial energy sector of the proposed project will not be exceeded.
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?			Х		The project is consistent with County policies adopted for the purpose or reducing the emission of greenhouse gases.

#### LAND USE CONSISTENCY **Current Land Use Designation** Consistent Comments Not Consistent PQP- Cemetery, Public, General Plan Х Quasi Public Community Plan N/A Land Use Zone AG-20 Agricultural - 20 Х Acres

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

# INITIAL STUDY PREPARERS

Environmental Coordinator: Julie Newton Senior Planner: Alison Little Project Leader: Kurtis Steinert Office Manager: Kimberly Reading Administrative Support: Justin Maulit

# APPENDICES

Appendix A: Biological Constraints Report for the SASD RCCC Pump Station Rehabilitation Project prepared for SASD by Ascent Environmental, November 10, 2021

Appendix B: SSHCP Avoidance and Minimization Measures

Appendix C: Memorandum of Survey Results prepared by Ascent, October20, 2021

Appendix D: CalEEMod report

These document can also be found at the Sacramento County project detail website. The direct link is:

https://planningdocuments.saccounty.gov/projectdetails.aspx?projectID=9393&communi tyID=12