

**Addendum to
Negative Declaration
for
Pacific Gas and Electric Company's
Relief Reach – Kennedy Meadows
Riparian Restoration and Streambank Stabilization Project**

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1.0 Introduction

On September 1, 2017, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency for the Relief Reach – Kennedy Meadows Riparian Restoration and Streambank Stabilization Project (Project), adopted an Initial Study/Negative Declaration (2017 IS/ND)¹ for the Project. Prior to this adoption, the State Water Board released a Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration and made a draft IS/ND available for a 30-day public and agency review period that began on June 7, 2017. The State Water Board filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) with the Office of Planning and Research on September 1, 2017. Water quality certification was issued for the Project on September 5, 2017 (Certification) pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1341).

This Addendum concerns Project modifications proposed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) after issuance of the Certification. This Addendum describes these modifications and discusses potential environmental effects resulting from the modified Project (as compared to the impacts analyzed in the 2017 IS/ND). This Addendum also includes the resource areas—energy, tribal cultural resources, and wildfire—that were added to CEQA Guidelines Appendix G, Environmental Checklist Form, following the adoption of the 2017 IS/ND.

As discussed in Section 2 of this Addendum, PG&E has proposed to modify Project elements to reduce disturbances to environmental resources, mainly through a reduction in construction work at two of the seven originally proposed restoration sites.

This Addendum has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of CEQA (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.). It relies on expert opinion, technical studies, and other evidence to substantiate its findings.

1.1 Applicability and Use of an Addendum – Sections 15162 and 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines

CEQA Guidelines section 15164, subdivision (b) states that an addendum to an adopted negative declaration may be prepared “if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary or none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR or negative declaration have occurred.” As described below, section 15164 applies to the modified Project description and analyses.²

¹ State Water Resources Control Board, Relief Reach – Kennedy Meadows Riparian Restoration and Streambank Stabilization Project Initial Study/Negative Declaration, September 2017, is available at: [www.waterboards.ca.gov website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov).

² CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 requires the Lead Agency to prepare a subsequent environmental impact report (EIR) if “substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to

1.2 Proposed Changes to the Project Description

The Project, as proposed by PG&E, is designed to provide streambank stabilization and enhance and create riparian, meadow, and aquatic habitat along a 3,000-linear-foot reach of the Middle Fork Stanislaus River identified as “Kennedy Meadows Reach” (Project Reach). The proposed modifications to the Project are consistent with the objectives as stated in the 2017 IS/ND, which are to reduce meadow (wetland) habitat loss; decrease sedimentation/erosion to improve water quality; and minimize activities on streambanks that may contribute to continued instability.

As originally evaluated in the 2017 IS/ND, the Project included seven locations within the Project Reach where bank stabilization and riparian restoration treatments would occur. Each of the treatment areas were subject to modification through bioengineering, streambank grading, rock and wood placement, and riparian vegetation planting. As originally proposed, the majority of the Project has been constructed, monitored, and managed. Construction and planting were completed at five of the seven sites in October 2017, but construction work for the two remaining treatment areas, known as Treatment Areas 1 and 7, was deferred (Figure 1-1).

After 2017, PG&E re-evaluated the originally proposed construction work for Treatment Areas 1 and 7 (which included a combination of rock and large wood placement and vegetation plantings, as well as bank grading) and now proposes to achieve the bank stabilization and riparian restoration objectives for the Project Reach by densely re-vegetating the toe of bank, bank slope, and top of bank by planting only for Treatment Areas 1 and 7. The new proposal has no construction-related disturbance, fill, or related impacts, as all planting work will occur via hand tools. The proposed modification for Treatment Areas 1 and 7 is further described below:

- **Treatment Area 1:** The originally proposed bank stabilization treatment techniques included large wood placement of two logs, placement of 41.3 cubic yards of rock, and planting of approximately 25 riparian poles/containers along 130 feet length of bank. In lieu of this work and any associated construction disturbance, approximately 120 riparian poles/containers would be planted and seeded by hand.
- **Treatment Area 7:** The originally proposed bank stabilization treatment techniques included bank grading, large wood placement of 14 logs, placement of 35.1 cubic yards of rock, and planting of approximately 87 riparian poles/containers along 250 feet length of bank. In lieu of this work and associated construction disturbance, approximately 800 riparian poles/containers would be planted and seeded by hand.

the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.” (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15162, subd. (a)(1).) CEQA Guidelines section 15164, subdivision (c) provides that an addendum need not be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the final adopted negative declaration.

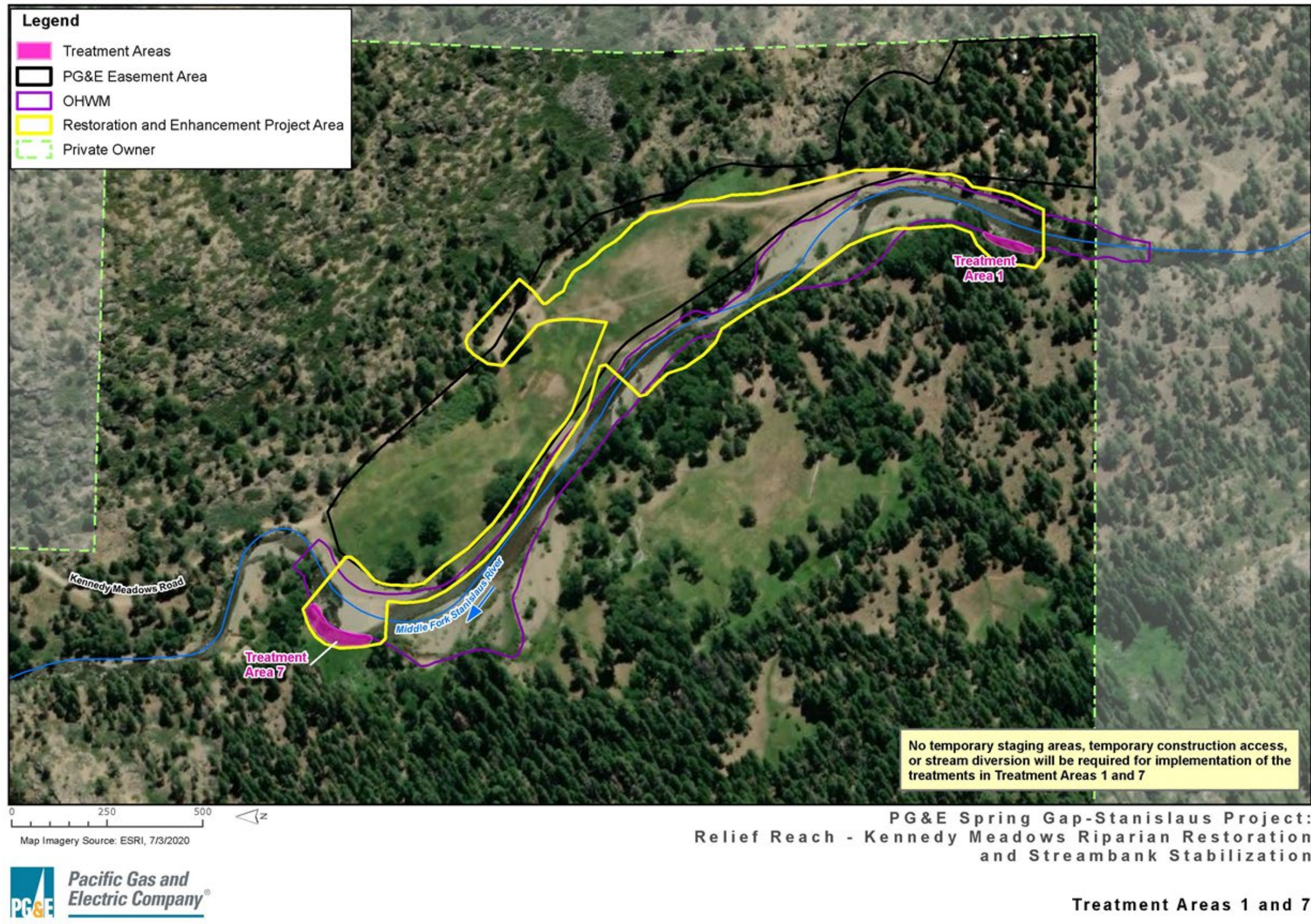


Figure 1-1 Kennedy Meadows Project – Treatment Areas 1 and 7.

Support for the efficacy of this approach was derived from the results of annual maintenance and monitoring conducted between 2017 and 2021 in accordance with the maintenance and monitoring plan (MMP) included in the 2017 IS/ND, and as required by Condition 9 of the 2009 revised Spring-Gap Stanislaus Hydroelectric Project water quality certification. Results from Treatment Areas 2 through 6 indicated that less intensive and intrusive treatment techniques such as hand planting would achieve the streambank stabilization and riparian restoration objectives of the Project³ and would reduce the potential for impacts during construction.

Based on the modified approach described in this addendum, best management practices (BMPs) and avoidance, protection, and minimization measures (APMMs) that were included in the 2017 IS/ND but are no longer applicable to Treatment Areas 1 and 7 have been removed from the Project. These measures include equipment maintenance, hazardous materials management and spill prevention, concrete waste management, stream diversion and dewatering, and aquatic species recovery and relocation. Certain generally applicable water quality protection, fire prevention, general wildlife avoidance and protection, and nesting bird avoidance and protection measures included in the 2017 IS/ND are still applicable to Treatment Areas 1 and 7 (Attachment A).

Planting in Treatment Areas 1 and 7 is anticipated to occur in October 2022 and would occur for approximately one week. PG&E estimates that the Project would require approximately six to eight contracted workers to be onsite daily for planting of Treatment Areas 1 and 7 which is a reduction from the eight to ten contracted workers estimated in the 2017 IS/ND. Lodging is available at several locations near the Project, including at Kennedy Meadows Resort and Pack Station, nearby campgrounds, Dardanelle Resort located approximately six miles west on Highway 108, and in the town of Twain Harte located approximately 45 miles southwest on Highway 108.

The proposed modifications to Treatment Areas 1 and 7 eliminate the temporary disturbances described in the 2017 IS/ND, including temporary staging areas, temporary construction access, in-water work, and stream diversions. No construction vehicles would be required for Treatment Areas 1 and 7 because they would be accessed by foot. No mechanized equipment would be necessary for planting or seeding.

For Treatment Areas 1 and 7, no dredge and fill would occur within the ordinary high water mark (OHWM). Planting in Treatment Areas 1 and 7 would improve bank stability, riparian cover, and wetland functions and would result in enhancements to 0.09 acres of wetlands (Table 1-1).

³ The descriptions of streambank stabilization and riparian restoration activities, equipment, and sources of material for live stake/pole planting have not been modified from Table 2.6-2 of the 2017 IS/ND, with the exception of seeding bare areas with a riparian seed mix.

Table 1-1 Estimated Project Impacts and Permanent Enhancements to Wetlands and Other Waters of the United States.

Wetland/ Riparian/ Waters of the United States	Treatment Area	Activity	Temporary Impact Acreage	Permanent Impact Acreage	Enhancement Permanent Acreage
Riparian Middle Fork Stanislaus River	1	Riparian planting only; no construction equipment	0 acre	0.01 acre	0.01 acre
Riparian Middle Fork Stanislaus River	7	Riparian planting only; no construction equipment	0 acre	0.02 acre	0.02 acre
Wet Meadow D	7	Riparian planting only; no construction equipment	0 acre	0.06 acre	0.06 acre

PG&E implemented the MMP included in the 2017 IS/ND for Treatment Areas 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 starting with baseline surveys in 2017, and maintenance and/or monitoring from 2018 through present. To date, monitoring has indicated a positive trend in increased percent riparian cover and improved streambank stability. For Treatment Areas 1 and 7, PG&E would implement maintenance and monitoring consistent with the MMP, following the existing maintenance, monitoring, and reporting schedule with the addition of maintenance, monitoring, and reporting in Year 1 and Year 2 after planting at Treatment Areas 1 and 7. The overall success criteria for the Project will be based on an evaluation of the conditions of the entire Kennedy Meadows reach.

The schedule from the MMP in Figure 1-2 below has been updated to identify the maintenance and monitoring that has been completed to date and the remaining activities. Monitoring and reporting in Years 1 and 2 after planting at Treatment Areas 1 and 7 are identified with an asterisk symbol (*).

2.0 Potential Impacts of the Revised Project

This Addendum was prepared to consider the potential environmental impacts associated with PG&E's proposed Project modifications (as discussed in Section 2) to resource areas that were evaluated in the 2017 IS/ND or did not require analysis upon adoption of the 2017 IS/ND.

The following resource areas have been eliminated from further analysis in this Addendum because PG&E's proposed Project modifications have no potential to affect these resources and the 2017 IS/ND's analyses remain current and applicable:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture/Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Land Use/Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population/Housing
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Utilities/Service Systems
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

The following sections provide analysis of resource areas that could potentially be affected by PG&E’s proposed Project modifications. Tribal Cultural Resources was included as a subset of Section 3.5, *Cultural Resources*, of the 2017 IS/ND but have been separated in this Addendum for compliance with updated CEQA Guidelines.⁴ None of the conditions described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 requiring the preparation of a subsequent IS/ND have occurred. Therefore, this Addendum provides analysis for the following resource areas:

- Biological Resources
- Energy (initial analysis)
- Geology/Soils
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Wildfire (initial analysis)

2.1 Biological Resources

Table 2-1. CEQA Checklist for Assessing Project-Specific Potential Impacts on Biological Resources

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?			☒	

⁴Pub. Resources Code, § 21074.

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?			☒	
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				☒

2.1.1 Discussion

The Project would not result in a change in impacts to biological resources as analyzed in the 2017 IS/ND. Several wildlife avoidance and minimization measures were removed from the Project BMPs and APMs, including the special-status bat survey measure (Section 2.6.4.9 of the 2017 IS/ND) and all aquatic species protection measures (Section 2.6.4.10 of the 2017 IS/ND). Hand planting, as described in Table 2.6-2 of the 2017 IS/ND, would not impact nesting/roosting bats, thus eliminating the need to perform a bat survey prior to Project activities at Treatment Areas 1 and 7. Similarly, aquatic species protection measures are no longer applicable because in-water work would not occur and stream diversion/dewatering is no longer proposed at Treatment Areas 1 and 7.

As discussed in Section 3.4.2 of the 2017 IS/ND, database queries included a review of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) within 5 miles of the Project Reach. A subsequent review was completed in March 2022 to identify any new occurrences of special-status species within the buffer area since the initial analysis conducted in 2016 (CDFW 2022). No newly identified species were identified within the buffer. However, new occurrences for Jack's wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum luteolum* var. *saltuarium*) and subalpine cryptantha (*Cryptantha crymophila*) were identified within the buffer. Table 3.4-1 of the 2017 IS/ND determined that subalpine cryptantha has a low potential to

occur within the Project Reach, while Jack’s wild buckwheat has a moderate potential to occur within the Project Reach. Field surveys conducted by PG&E spanning from 2002 to 2015 have shown that Jack’s wild buckwheat is not present within the Project Reach. The proposed planting and seeding activities should not adversely affect these species.

As discussed in Section 2 above, the proposed modifications to the Project would not entail dredge and fill activities within the OHWM. Planting in Treatment Areas 1 and 7 would improve bank stability, riparian cover, and wetland functions and would result in the permanent increase of 0.09 acres of wetlands.

Although additional CNDDDB occurrences of special status species have been identified since the analysis included in the 2017 IS/ND, impacts to special status species remain less than significant with the proposed modifications to the Project. The proposed modifications to the Project would not have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands. Therefore, PG&E’s proposed modifications to the Project would not result in new or increased impacts on biological resources.

2.2 Energy

Table 2-2 CEQA Checklist for Assessing Project-Specific Potential Impacts on Energy

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?				☒
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?				☒

2.2.1 Environmental Setting

As discussed in Section 3.17 of the 2017 IS/ND, the Project Reach does not receive electricity or natural gas services. No electricity or natural gas services would be required to complete the proposed Project activities at Treatment Areas 1 and 7. Fossil fuel consumption would be limited to vehicle trips between the Project Reach and one of the nearby lodging locations for approximately one week.

2.2.2 Impact Analysis

- a. **Finding.** The proposed modifications to the Project would entail planting activities that require neither fossil fuels nor electricity. All planting and seeding would occur by hand. No construction vehicles or mechanized equipment would be used in Treatment Areas 1 and 7. Construction would be completed in approximately one week with a crew of six to eight contracted workers, who would stay in available housing relatively close to the Project, thus minimizing the potential for wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of fuel during travel. Therefore, the proposed modifications to the Project would have no impact.
- b. **Finding.** The proposed modifications to the Project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Therefore, the proposed modifications to the Project would have no impact.

2.3 Geology and Soils

Table 2-3. CEQA Checklist for Assessing Project-Specific Potential Impacts on Geology and Soils

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

2.3.1 Discussion

The Project would not result in a change in impacts to geology and soils as analyzed in the 2017 IS/ND. The findings in Section 3.6.2 of the 2017 IS/ND determined that construction activities such as vegetation removal, excavation, and grading associated with the Project have the potential to result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil. To minimize erosion and sedimentation, PG&E prepared a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) in accordance with the Construction General Permit and the Tuolumne County General Plan. The SWPPP was terminated on November 1, 2019, following completion of Project activities at Treatment Areas 2 through 6. An SWPPP is no longer required for the proposed activities at Treatment Areas 1 and 7 because ground-disturbing activities do not exceed one acre, and the proposed modifications no longer include the activities associated with potential for substantial soil erosion described above. In addition, the Project still includes BMPs and APMMs applicable to erosion and sediment control. Therefore, PG&E’s proposed modifications to the Project would not result in new or increased impacts to geology and soils.

2.4 Hydrology and Water Quality

Table 2-4. CEQA Checklist for Assessing Project-Specific Potential Impacts on Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			☒	
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?			☒	

2.4.1 Discussion

The Project would not result in a change in impacts to hydrology and water quality as analyzed in the 2017 IS/ND. Section 3.9 of the 2017 IS/ND identified the beneficial uses for the Stanislaus River from the source to New Melones Reservoir as defined in the July 2016 version of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins* (Basin Plan) (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board [CVRWQCB] 2016). Since adoption of the 2017 IS/ND, a revised Basin Plan was adopted in May 2018 (CVWRQCB 2018). The beneficial uses for the Project Reach were not amended in the May 2018 revision and do not affect the analysis.

As discussed in Section 2.3.1, the proposed modifications to the Project should not require implementation of an SWPPP. Ground-disturbing activities would be limited to hand plantings within the bank and would consist of small point disturbances that are unlikely to contribute to erosion and sedimentation. In addition, the proposed modifications to the Project would not require any equipment or vehicles that may discharge pollutants, such as petroleum hydrocarbons, oils, and grease, into water in violation of water quality standards and/or waste discharge requirements. Therefore, PG&E's proposed modifications to the Project would not result in new or increased impacts on hydrology and water quality but instead would reduce the potential for impacts.

2.5 Tribal Cultural Resources

Upon adoption of the 2017 IS/ND, Tribal Cultural Resources was not included as a resource area in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. However, the Appendix G Tribal Cultural Resource Checklist questions were addressed in Section 3.5, *Cultural Resources*, of the 2017 IS/ND. In accordance with Assembly Bill 52, the State Water Board sent a notification of consultation opportunity to the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation for

tribal cultural resources related to the proposed Project changes. No request for consultation was received. The proposed modifications to the Project would have no potential to affect tribal cultural resources. The 2017 IS/ND's analysis remains current and applicable.

2.6 Wildfire

Table 2-5 CEQA Checklist for Assessing Project-Specific Potential Impacts on Wildfire

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
d. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				☒

2.6.1 Environmental Setting

As discussed in Section 3.8 of the 2017 IS/ND, the Project Reach is located in a “Very High” Fire Hazard Severity Zone within the State Responsibility Area (SRA). SRAs are recognized by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection as areas where the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is the primary emergency response agency responsible for fire suppression and prevention. The areas surrounding the Tuolumne County property are located within Stanislaus National Forest, which is a Federal Responsibility Area (FRA). FRAs are recognized by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection as areas where federal agencies are the primary emergency response agency responsible for fire suppression and prevention.

2.6.2 Impact Analysis

- a. **Finding.** As discussed in Section 3.8.2 of the 2017 IS/ND, the Project would not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The proposed modifications to the Project would not entail any changes that would result in new or increased impacts to implementation of an adopted emergency response plan. Therefore, there would be no impact.
- b. **Finding.** Section 3.8.2 of the 2017 IS/ND determined that the Project would have a less than significant impact on exposing people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands. This analysis noted that the construction activities associated with the Project may result in a slight increase in potential wildland fire hazards, further exacerbated by the fact that work was proposed to occur during the dry season (April through October). While work for the proposed modifications to the Project are still anticipated to occur during the dry season, the construction activities that may increase wildland fire hazards are no longer included in the Project. Further, implementation of APMs and BMPs for Fire Protection (Section 2.6.4.6 of the

2017 IS/ND) incorporated in the Project design would further ensure that fire prevention and safety are addressed. Therefore, the potentially slight increase in wildland fire hazards is considered less than significant.

- c. **Finding.** The Project would not require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. Therefore, there would be no impact.
- d. **Finding.** The Project would not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. Therefore, there would be no impact.

3.0 Conclusion

Based on the above analysis, PG&E's proposed modifications to the Project do not alter the conclusions of the 2017 IS/ND regarding environmental impacts. As discussed in the previous section, the State Water Board has determined that PG&E's proposed modifications would not create any new potentially significant effects or substantially increase the severity of any previously identified potentially significant effects. No substantial changes to the circumstances under which the Project would be undertaken have occurred, and no new information of substantial importance regarding effects of the Project or previously adopted mitigation measures has been identified. Therefore, the State Water Board has determined that preparation of a subsequent mitigated negative declaration is not required pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15162 and has prepared this Addendum.

Both this Addendum and the 2017 IS/ND are available on the State Water Board Spring Gap-Stanislaus Hydroelectric Project www.waterboards.ca.gov web page. The State Water Board, as the CEQA Lead Agency, will consider this Addendum with the previously adopted 2017 IS/ND prior to making a decision on the Project in accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15164, subdivision (d).

4.0 References

CDFW (California Department of Fish and Wildlife). 2022. California Natural Diversity Database. Available at: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB>. Accessed March 2022.

CVRWQCB (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board). 2016. Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins. Fourth Edition. Available at: www.waterboards.ca.gov web page.

CVRWQCB (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board). 2018. Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins. Fifth Edition. Available at: www.waterboards.ca.gov web page.

Attachment A

Kennedy Meadows Riparian Restoration and Streambank Stabilization Project

**Treatment Areas 1 and 7 Avoidance, Protection, and Minimization Measures
(APMMs) and Best Management Practices (BMPs)**

This section describes Avoidance and Protection and Minimization Measures (APMMs) and Best Management Practices (BMPs) that PG&E and/or their designated contractor will utilize during implementation of Treatments 1 and 7 for the Kennedy Meadows Project (Project). The Project has been designed to provide environmental benefits and to limit potential impacts to environmental resources during its implementation. The following BMPs and APMMs are specific to the Project and include standard PG&E adopted measures.

General Measures

PG&E proposes the following measures related to designation of work areas and proper handling of materials. PG&E and/or their designated contractor will implement the following measures, as necessary.

- Environmental Awareness Training, to be conducted by PG&E or their designee, will ensure that proposed measures are implemented by PG&E personnel or their designated contractor. A PG&E Representative will be designated prior to implementation of the Project and will be available during Project-related activities to assist with APMM/BMP compliance. All contractors will be required to complete the training prior to beginning work to increase awareness of the resource values present within the Project area. Training will include a review of avoidance and protection measures and BMPs listed in this section and included in Project permits. Contractors will require all onsite workers to attend a 15-minute environmental training session. The session will outline sensitive resources, requirements for protection, state and federal laws pertaining to protection of sensitive resources, and worker BMPs required for the job. Workers will be required to sign a statement indicating they will comply with such requirements during work.
- Work crews will be restricted to designated and clearly defined work areas.
- If appropriate, loose materials will be covered with tarps, plastic, or erosion control blankets when not in use.
- At the end of each workday, equipment, tools, loose sediment, spoils, etc. will be removed from within the OHWM of the riverbed in case an unexpected rise in water level during the night should disturb the work area.
- Trimming and/or removal of vegetation will be minimized to the extent required to complete the proposed Project.
- Motorized equipment will comply with Air Resources Board permitting requirements. No heavy equipment is planned for the implementation of the Project.
- Vehicle idling, noise, and odor will be minimized to the extent practicable when working near campsites, residences, public buildings, or commercial buildings. Diesel-fueled work vehicles will not stand idling for more than five minutes at any location, unless necessary for work purposes.

- Contractors will have the ability to communicate quickly with their supervisor and/or the PG&E Representative by having a working cell phone or radio on the job site at all times, or by identifying the closest area of cell phone reception or closest public phone and familiarizing all personnel with that location.
- Vehicles will not exceed 15 miles per hour (mph) on unsurfaced roads.
- All non-emergency work activities will be limited to the hours between dawn and dusk.

Water Quality Protection

- PG&E and its contractors will keep the Project area in a neat, clean, and safe condition.
- Cleared or pruned vegetation and woody debris (including chips) will be disposed of in a manner that ensures they do not enter surface water or a watercourse. All cleared vegetation and woody debris (including chips) will be removed from surface water or watercourses daily and placed or secured where they cannot re- enter the watercourse.

Fire Prevention

The following measures address fire prevention and safety. PG&E and/or their designated contractor will implement the following fire prevention measures, as appropriate.

- Appropriate fire suppression equipment (e.g., extinguishers, shovels, water backpacks) will be available onsite, and appropriate fire prevention measures shall be taken to help minimize the chance of human-caused wildfires.
- During designated fire season, motorized equipment must have federal or state- approved spark arrestors; all vehicles must be equipped with firefighting tools as appropriate and in accordance with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, orders, and ordinances. When the fire adjective rating is Very High or Extreme, no vehicular travel will be permitted off cleared roads except in case of emergency.
- Smoking will not be allowed at any time in grass and wildland areas. Smoking will be allowed in barren areas, or within an area cleared to mineral soil at least three feet in diameter.
- Hunting, firearms, portable stoves, and open fires (such as barbecues) not required by vegetation management activity (except for safety in remote locations) will be prohibited in the Project area. All trash, food items, and human-generated debris will be properly contained and/or removed from the site.

- Woody debris created by chipping, lop and scatter, or brush mowing operations must be left at an average depth of less than 18 inches from the ground surface.

General Wildlife Avoidance and Protection

This section describes the general wildlife avoidance and protection measures that PG&E and/or their designated contractor will utilize as appropriate, during Project implementation:

- Clear work area limits will be defined and respected.
- If required by a regulatory agency or warranted by the identification of nesting birds or threatened and endangered species through a preconstruction survey, a qualified biologist will be present and will monitor all planting activities within the Project Reach. The biologist will educate employees and planting workers as described above under General Measures.
- Pre-planting and planting activities will be completed outside of the bird breeding season (February to August), to the extent feasible.
- Animals or their nests/burrows will not be disturbed, captured, handled, or moved. If any wildlife is encountered during the course of Project activities, said wildlife will be allowed to leave the area freely and unharmed.
- All dead or injured listed or sensitive animals will be reported to the PG&E Representative immediately.
- In the unlikely event of the discovery of any sensitive species, active nest, den, or burrow, the PG&E Representative will be notified.
- PG&E personnel and their contractors will be prohibited from bringing pets and firearms to the Project area while performing Project-related activities.
- The contractor will institute a litter control program during the course of planting activities. Covered trash receptacles, if they are needed, will be placed at the Project site and the contents properly disposed of at the end of the day, and more often as necessary. No foodstuffs or associated trash, containers, etc. will be left overnight.
- All work will be completed during daylight hours. Nighttime work (and use of artificial lighting) is not permitted unless specifically authorized.
- Any large pipes, containers, etc. will be capped during the evenings to prevent entry by wildlife. All these described items will be thoroughly inspected again immediately prior to use to ensure that no entry or nesting has occurred.

- The undersides of all vehicles will be inspected after being parked and prior to movement.
- If a protected wildlife species is killed or injured as a result of planting or maintenance activities, the incident will be reported immediately to a supervisor and the PG&E Representative for appropriate management.

Nesting Birds

Nesting birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA makes it unlawful for anyone to kill, capture, collect, possess, buy, sell, trade, ship, import, or export any migratory bird including feathers, parts, nests, or eggs. California Fish and Game Code section 3503 makes it illegal to destroy any birds' nests or eggs that are protected under the MBTA during the breeding season. Section 3503.5 further protects all birds of prey, such as hawks and owls, and their eggs and nests from any form of take during the breeding season.

The Project area contains potential nesting habitat for migratory bird species. Pursuant to the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code, removal of any trees, shrubs, or other potential nesting habitat should be conducted outside of the nesting season. The nesting season typically occurs from February to mid-September, but can vary from year to year. The measures below shall be implemented in order to ensure that nesting birds are not disturbed by the Project.

- PG&E personnel and contractors will not disturb, capture, handle, or move birds or their nests.
- If PG&E personnel and contractors discover any nests or roost sites, they will call the PG&E Representative for assistance.
- From February 1 to September 15, preconstruction nesting bird surveys will be performed by a qualified biologist to identify any nests that could be affected. The survey will take place no more than 10 days prior to the onset of scheduled mobilization and staging activities. The results of the survey will be submitted to the appropriate agencies for approval, as needed.
- All active nests will be clearly marked following the survey to avoid destruction and/or disturbance by planting activities. Non-disturbance buffers will be established around the nest site as detailed below.

Should active nests be found within 250 feet (or 500 feet for raptors) of scheduled active planting areas, a biologist will be assigned to monitor the nest during work activities to determine if the activities are detrimental to the nesting process. Should the biologist determine that nesting activities are being disturbed or disrupted, the biologist will discuss with the PG&E Representative and the contractor practical alternatives to activities within the nest buffer. If needed, the PG&E Representative shall contact the USFS, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and/or CDFW for further guidance.