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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

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

SCH #: 2017061009

Project Title: North Fork Ranch Frost Ponds

Lead Agency: Santa Barbara County Planning & Development

Contact Name: Steve Rodriguez, Contract Planner

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Project Location: 7400 Highway 166, approximately nine miles west of New Cuyama, Santa Barbara County

City *County*

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

The North Fork Ranch Frost Pond project would result in the construction and operation of three water storage reservoirs (frost ponds) located on the south side of State Route 166 on a 6,565-acre parcel. The project parcel is located approximately nine miles west of the community of New Cuyama in Santa Barbara County. The reservoirs would be used to supply frost protection water to approximately 840 acres of existing vineyards generally during the months of February, March and April. Each of the proposed reservoirs would be lined to prevent water infiltration, and each would occupy an area of approximately five acres and have the capacity to store approximately 44 acre feet of water. Water stored in the reservoirs would be supplied by existing agricultural wells located on the project parcel and north of SR 166. A total of approximately 257,945 cubic yards of cut and fill grading would be required to construct the three proposed reservoirs. In total the three reservoirs would occupy an area of approximately 15.6 acres.

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

Potential impacts to San Joaquin kit fox, American badger, nesting birds, and wildlife movement reduced to less than significant with required pre-activity surveys, implementation of USFWS recommendations, monitoring during construction, and prohibition of pesticides. Impacts to native grasslands reduced to less than significant by required avoidance and restoration measures.
Potential impact to Cultural Resources reduced to less than significant with required monitoring, stop work at discovery, and pre-construction education measures.
Potential erosion-related impacts reduced to less than significant with required erosion and sediment control measures.
Potential short-term water quality impacts reduced to less than significant with required storage and washout requirements.
Potential flooding impacts reduced to less than significant with required reservoir inspection, and plan clarification/revision measures.
Potential groundwater pumping/evaporation impacts reduced to less than significant with requirements to install reservoir covers and limits on groundwater use for frost protection.

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

Water used by the proposed project would result in additional groundwater extractions from the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin, which is in a critical overdraft condition.

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

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District
California Department of Transportation, District 5
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams
California Native Heritage Commission
Regional Water Quality Control Board, District 3