Print Form

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 #: 1999044004

Project Title: Supplemental EIR - Tule River Basin Investigation / Success Lake Capacity Expansion

Lead Agency: Lower Tule River Irrigation District

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Project Location: near Porterville, Tulare County
City *County*

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

Location: The Richard L. Schafer Dam and Lake Success reservoir are located on the main branch of the Tule River about 6 miles east of the City of Porterville in Tulare County, California, within the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, 50 miles north of Bakersfield and 60 miles southeast of Fresno. The Tule River drains about 390 square miles into Lake Success. It then flows from the reservoir through the City of Porterville and continues for 25 miles through agricultural areas before being completely diverted into irrigation canals.
Project Description:The Project consists of constructing a 10 foot-high concrete ogee weir across the spillway, which would result in raising the maximum gross pool elevation from 655.1 feet to 665.1 feet. Raising the gross pool elevation would add approximately 28,000 acre-feet of joint-use flood control and irrigation water storage space in the reservoir, increasing storage capacity from 82,300 to 110,300 acre-feet. The reservoir surface area would increase from 2,400 to 3,120 acres. Bridge abutments along California Highway 190 will be armored to accommodate the increase in gross pool at the point the highway spans the reservoir. Rock slope protection will be added to Frazier Dike. In addition, Southern California Edison (SCE) will be required to raise the height of an existing transmission line that crosses the lake. This will involve removal of existing towers and installation of new or replacement transmission towers. Some existing SCE distribution poles and facilities will also need to be replaced, removed or relocated as a result of the Project. To accommodate the Project, acquisition of right-of-way and/or private property will be required on surrounding properties.

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

The Draft SEIR for the proposed Project is being prepared because of the lapse in time (approximately 20 years since the original document), updates/changes to the CEQA Guidelines, and updates to applicable regulatory requirements. However, the Project remains substantially the same as what was previously analyzed. The Draft SEIR evaluates the 20 environmental topics outlined in the CEQA Appendix G Checklist.

The proposed project results less than significant impacts with mitigation incorporation. Mitigation measures are required for the following impact areas: Air Quality (dust control, use of efficient equipment, etc.), Biological Resources (preservation and management of habitat, protected species avoidance, water quality controls, preconstruction surveys, etc.), Cultural Resources (compliance with a Programmatic Agreement to govern the Section 106 process, on-going surveys, avoidance, handling of human remains, etc.), Hazardous Materials (conduct on-going Environmental Site Assessments, implement hazardous materials management plans, fire management, etc.), Hydrology (SWPPP), Noise (compliance with local ordinances, construction timing restrictions, notification, etc.), Recreation (coordination/notification of activities), Transportation (coordination and notification of activities), and Utilities (SWPPP and BMPs).

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

None so far. A scoping meeting was held on June 19, 2020. A public informational meeting will be held on November 12, 2020 and a public hearing will occur at the Lower Tule River Irrigation District Board meeting when the Supplemental EIR is presented for certification.

In addition, the public, local agencies, and stakeholders will be informed via newspaper noticing and direct mailing.

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

The proposed Project will include, but not be limited to, the following regulatory requirements:

- The certification of the Supplemental EIR by the Lower Tule River Irrigation District
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Air District Permits
- California Public Utilities Commission
- CA Department of Fish & Wildlife
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Compliance with other federal, state and local requirements.