Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To:

☒ Office of Planning and Research

U.S. Mail: P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address: 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113, Sacramento, CA 95814

☐ County Clerk
County of: _____
Address: _____

From:

Public Agency: Department of Water Resources
Address: 3500 Industrial Blvd., 2nd Floor
West Sacramento, CA 95691
Contact: Catherine McCalvin
Phone: 916-376-9705

Lead Agency (if different from above):
_____
Address: _____
_____
Contact: _____
Phone: _____

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2013032004

Project Title: Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Project

Project Applicant: California Department of Water Resources

Project Location (include county): Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, Yolo (See Attachment 1, Project Location)

Project Description:
See Attachment 1, Project Description

This is to advise that the California Department of Water Resources (☒ Lead Agency or ☐ Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on 7-19-19 (date) and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

1. The project [☒ will ☐ will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☒ An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
   ☐ A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [☒ were ☐ were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [☒ was ☐ was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [☒ was ☐ was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [☒ were ☐ were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:
3500 Industrial Blvd., 2nd Floor, West Sacramento, CA 95691

Signature (Public Agency): Karla Nemeth Title: Director, Depart. of Water Resources

Date: 7-19-19 Date Received for filing at OPR: JUL 19 2019

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2011

YOLO BYPASS SALMONID HABITAT RESTORATION AND FISH PASSAGE PROJECT (SCH# 2013032004)

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION ATTACHMENT 1

PROJECT AREA

The Project area includes the lower Sacramento River basin, including the Yolo Bypass, in Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, and Yolo counties, California. The neighboring local jurisdictions include the cities of Davis, Sacramento, West Sacramento, and Woodland. Major water bodies and infrastructure located within the Project area include the Sacramento River; Fremont, Sacramento, and Lisbon weirs; Knights Landing Ridge Cut and Wallace Weir; Cache and Putah creeks; Willow Slough Bypass; Tule Canal; and the Toe Drain. Project actions are primarily located along Fremont Weir and within the Fremont Weir Wildlife Area south to Agricultural Road Crossing 1.

The below figure shows the Project (Alternative 1 in the Final EIS/EIR) area.

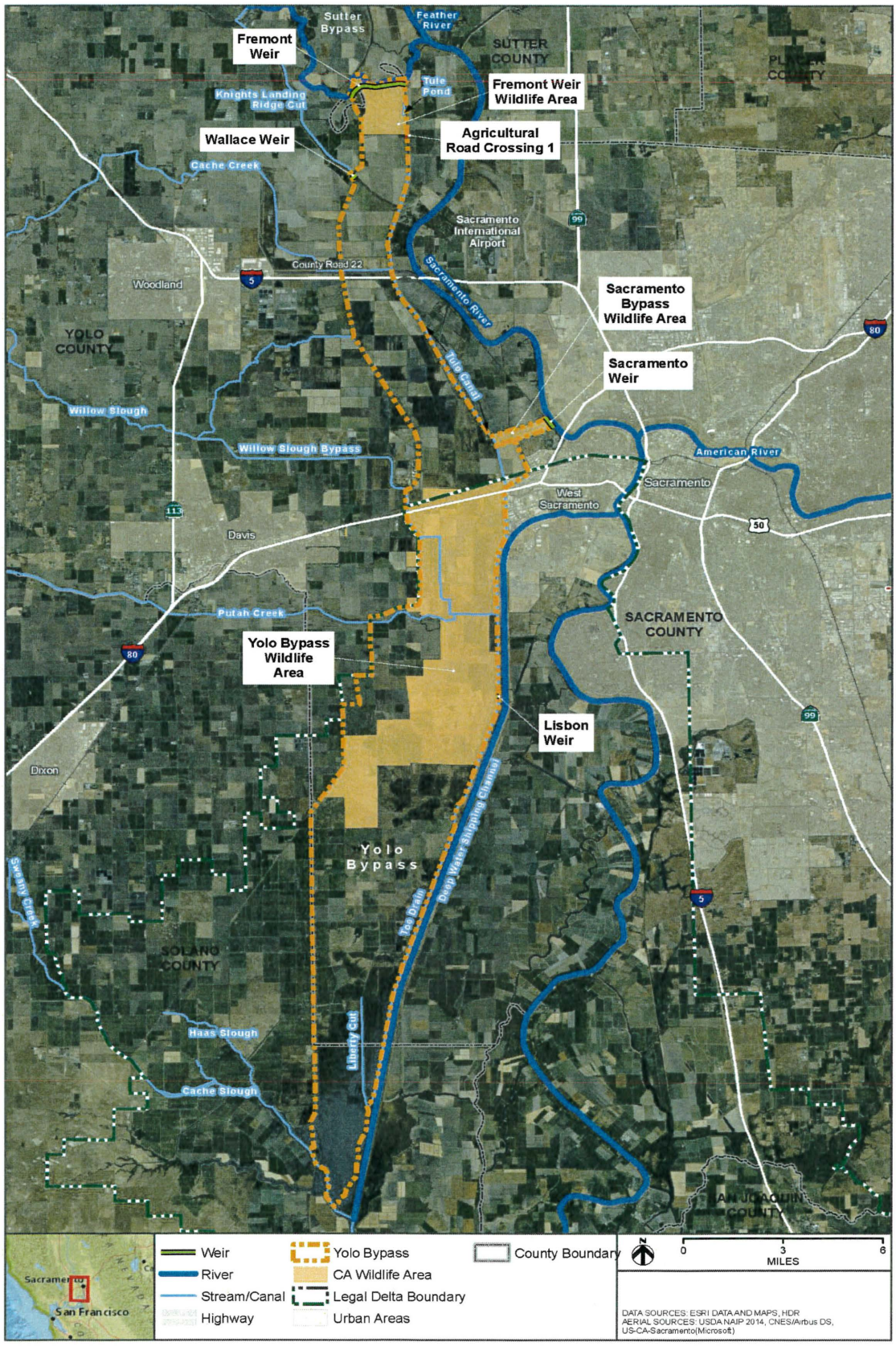

Figure 1. Project Area

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The goal of the Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Project is to improve fish passage and increase juvenile fisheries rearing habitat in the Yolo Bypass and lower Sacramento River basin. The Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Project is intended to comply with Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) action I.6.1 and, in part, I.7 of the 2009 National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion (NMFS BiOp) on the long-term operations of the State Water Project and Central Valley Project. The Final EIS/EIR analyzed six alternatives and the No Project Alternative. Alternative 1 was DWR's Preferred Alternative during the Draft EIS/EIR process where it was identified as the environmentally superior alternative. After reviewing public comments and considering the impacts and benefits of the Alternatives, DWR is proposing to proceed with the construction of Alternative 1. Under Alternative 1 described in the Final EIS/EIR (see Figures 2-4), increased flow from the Sacramento River would enter the Yolo Bypass through a gated notch on the east side of Fremont Weir. The gated notch would create an opening in Fremont Weir that is deeper than Fremont Weir, with gates to control water going through the facility into the Yolo Bypass. The invert of the new notch would be at an elevation of 14 feet, which is approximately 18 feet below the existing Fremont Weir crest. Water would be able to flow through the notch during some periods when the river elevations are not high enough to go over the crest of Fremont Weir (at an elevation of 32 feet). Alternative 1 would connect the new gated notch to Tule Pond with a channel that parallels the existing east levee of the Yolo Bypass. Alternative 1 would have the shortest and most direct access to the Tule Canal for migrating fish. Alternative 1 would allow flows up to 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), depending on Sacramento River elevation, through the gated notch to provide open channel flow for adult fish passage, juvenile emigration, and floodplain inundation. This alternative would include a supplemental fish passage facility on the west side of Fremont Weir and improvements to allow fish to pass through Agricultural Road Crossing 1 and the channel north of Agricultural Road Crossing 1.

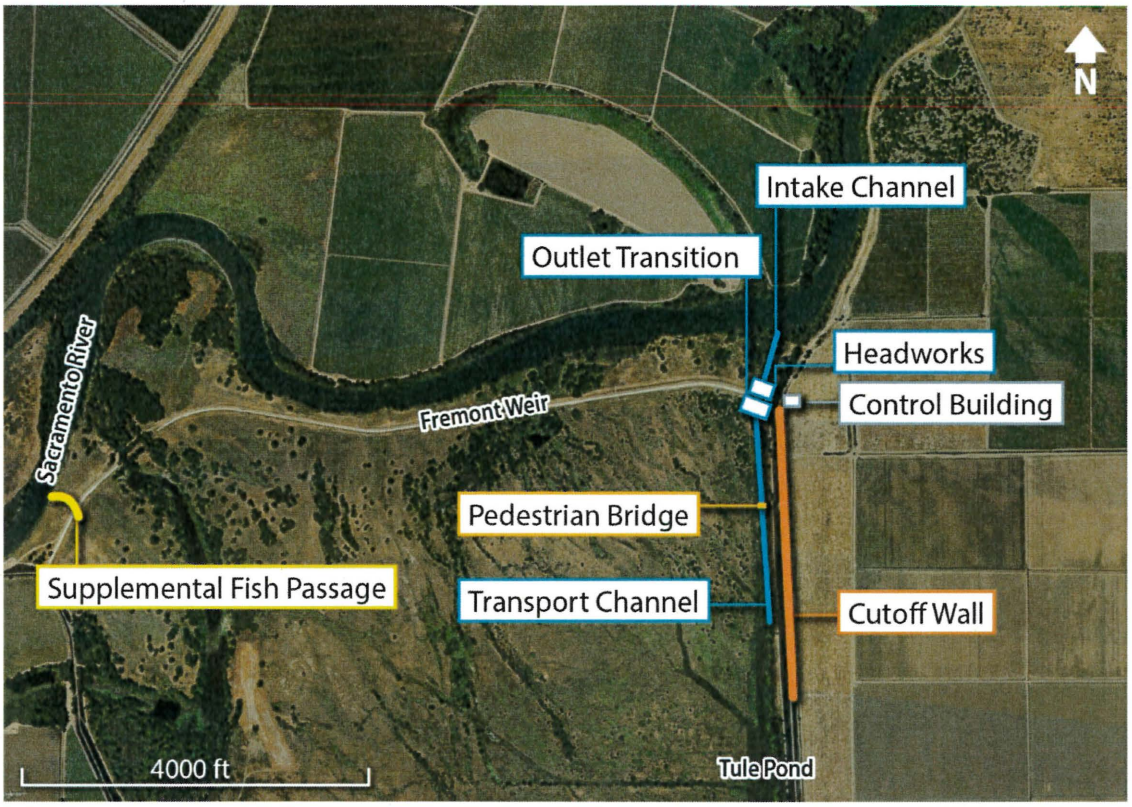

Figure 2. Alternative 1 components near the Fremont Weir

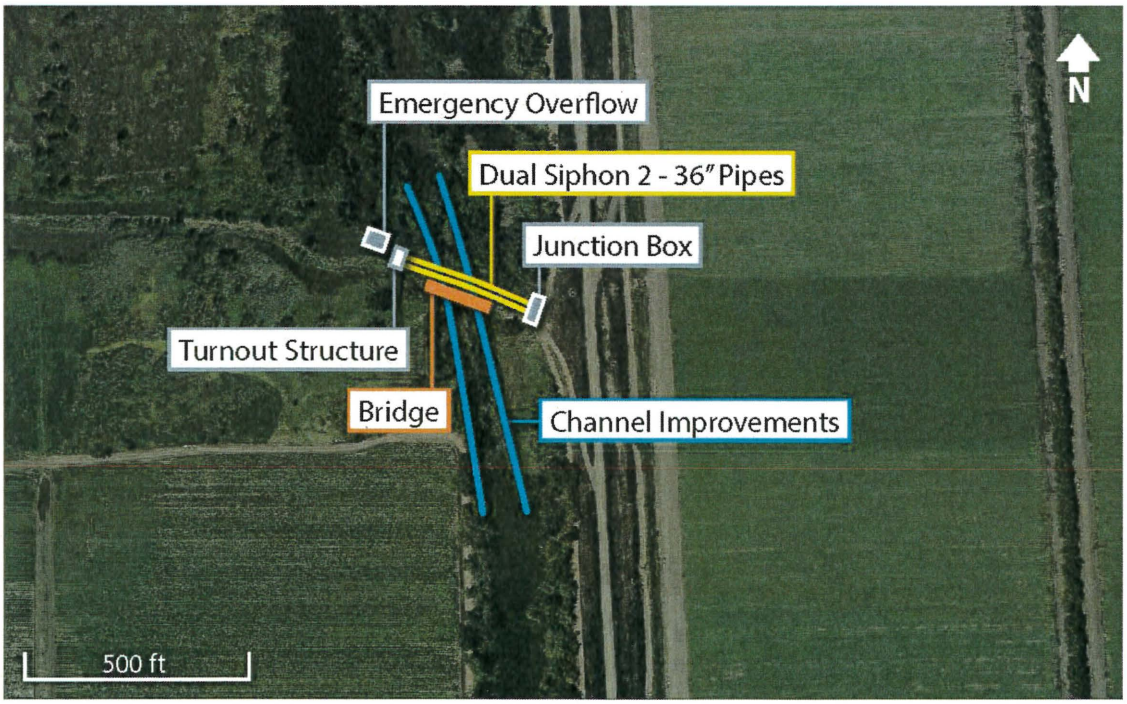

Figure 3. Improvements at Agricultural Road Crossing 1

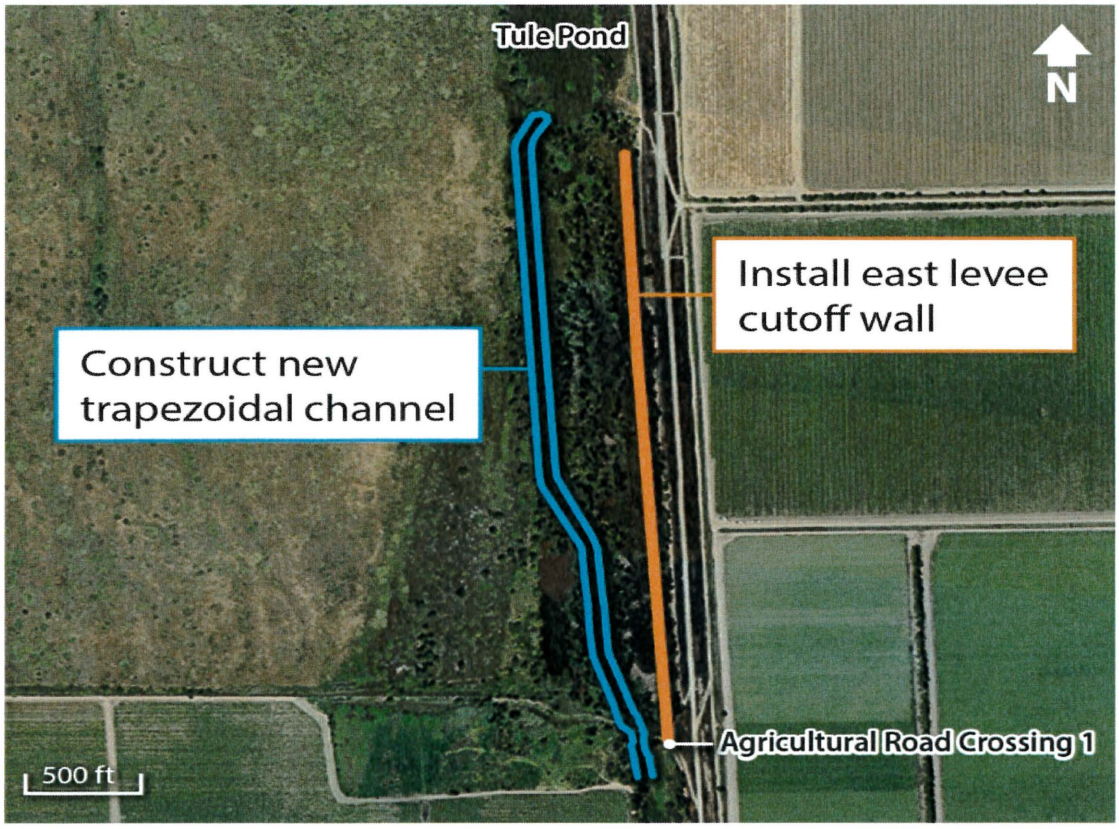

Figure 4. Downstream improvements near Agricultural Road Crossing 1