

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District-Kern County Water Agency Water Transfer Program

Initial Study / Proposed Negative Declaration

January 2021

Prepared for:
Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Prepared by:
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
2505 Alluvial Ave
Clovis, CA 93611



**COPYRIGHT 2020 by PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group expressly reserves its common law copyright and other applicable property rights to this document. This document is not to be reproduced, changed, or copied in any form or manner whatsoever, nor are they to be assigned to a third party without first obtaining the written permission and consent of Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group. In the event of unauthorized reuse of the information contained herein by a third party, the third party shall hold the firm of Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group harmless, and shall bear the cost of Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group's legal fees associated with defending and enforcing these rights.

Report Prepared for:

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

1001 Chase Ave
Corcoran CA 93212

Contact:

Jacob Westra, General Manager

(559) 992-4127

Report Prepared by:

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group

Rick Besecker, Water Resources Specialist
Dale Melville, PE, Principal Engineer

Contact:

Rick Besecker, Water Resources Specialist
(559) 449-2700

Table of Contents

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| Chapter 1 | Introduction..... | 1-1 |
| 1.1 | Regulatory Information..... | 1-1 |
| 1.2 | Document Format | 1-1 |
| Chapter 2 | Project Description..... | 2-1 |
| 2.1 | Project Background and Objectives..... | 2-1 |
| 2.1.1 | Project Title..... | 2-1 |
| 2.1.2 | Lead Agency Name and Address | 2-1 |
| 2.1.3 | Contact Person and Phone Number | 2-1 |
| 2.1.4 | Project Location..... | 2-2 |
| 2.1.5 | Latitude and Longitude..... | 2-2 |
| 2.1.6 | General Plan Designation and Zoning..... | 2-2 |
| 2.1.7 | Description of Project..... | 2-2 |
| 2.1.8 | Site and Surrounding Land Uses and Setting..... | 2-2 |
| 2.1.9 | Other Public Agencies Whose Approval May Be Required | 2-3 |
| 2.1.10 | Consultation with California Native American Tribes | 2-3 |
| Chapter 3 | Impact Analysis | 3-1 |
| 3.1 | Environmental Factors Potentially Affected | 3-1 |
| 3.2 | Aesthetics..... | 3-2 |
| 3.2.1 | Impact Assessment..... | 3-2 |
| 3.3 | Agriculture and Forestry Resources | 3-3 |
| 3.3.1 | Impact Assessment..... | 3-3 |
| 3.4 | Air Quality..... | 3-4 |
| 3.4.1 | Impact Assessment..... | 3-4 |
| 3.5 | Biological Resources | 3-5 |
| 3.5.1 | Impact Assessment..... | 3-7 |
| 3.6 | Cultural Resources | 3-7 |
| 3.6.1 | Impact Assessment..... | 3-7 |
| 3.7 | Energy..... | 3-8 |
| 3.7.1 | Impact Assessment..... | 3-8 |
| 3.8 | Geology and Soils..... | 3-8 |
| 3.8.1 | Impact Assessment..... | 3-9 |
| 3.9 | Greenhouse Gas Emissions | 3-9 |
| 3.9.1 | Impact Assessment..... | 3-9 |

| | | |
|--------|---|------|
| 3.10 | Hazards and Hazardous Materials | 3-10 |
| 3.10.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-10 |
| 3.11 | Hydrology and Water Quality | 3-11 |
| 3.11.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-11 |
| 3.12 | Land Use and Planning | 3-12 |
| 3.12.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-12 |
| 3.13 | Mineral Resources | 3-12 |
| 3.13.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-12 |
| 3.14 | Noise | 3-13 |
| 3.14.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-13 |
| 3.15 | Population and Housing | 3-13 |
| 3.15.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-14 |
| 3.16 | Public Services | 3-14 |
| 3.16.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-14 |
| 3.17 | Recreation | 3-14 |
| 3.17.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-15 |
| 3.18 | Transportation | 3-15 |
| 3.18.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-15 |
| 3.19 | Tribal Cultural Resources | 3-16 |
| 3.19.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-16 |
| 3.20 | Utilities and Service Systems | 3-17 |
| 3.20.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-17 |
| 3.21 | Wildfire | 3-18 |
| 3.21.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-18 |
| 3.22 | CEQA Mandatory Findings of Significance | 3-19 |
| 3.22.1 | Impact Assessment | 3-19 |
| 3.23 | Determination: | 3-21 |

List of Figures

Figure 2-1 Regional Location.....2-4

List of Tables

Table 3-1 CNDDDB Search of Threatened and Endangered Species Identified within the Project.3-5

Acronyms and Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------|---|
| CEQA..... | California Environmental Quality Act |
| CNDDDB..... | California Department of Fish and Wildlife Natural Diversity Database |
| Delta..... | Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta |
| DWR..... | Department of Water Resources |
| EIR..... | Environmental Impact Report |
| IS..... | Initial Study |
| IS/ND..... | Initial Study/Negative Declaration |
| KCWA..... | Kern County Water Agency |
| MND..... | Mitigated Negative Declaration |
| ND..... | Negative Declaration |
| Project..... | Tulare Lake Basin WSD-Kern County WA Water Transfer Program |
| SWP..... | State Water Project |
| TLBWSD..... | Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District |

Chapter 1 Introduction

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group has prepared this Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) on behalf of the Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (TLBWSD) to address the environmental effects of the Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District-Kern County Water Agency Water Transfer Program (Project). This document has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.* The Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District is the CEQA lead agency for this Project.

The site and the Project are described in detail in the **Error! Reference source not found.**

1.1 Regulatory Information

An Initial Study (IS) is a document prepared by a lead agency to determine whether a project may have a significant effect on the environment. In accordance with California Code of Regulations Title 14 (Chapter 3, Section 15000, *et seq.*)-- also known as the CEQA Guidelines-- Section 15064 (a)(1) states that an environmental impact report (EIR) must be prepared if there is substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the Project under review may have a significant effect on the environment and should be further analyzed to determine mitigation measures or project alternatives that might avoid or reduce project impacts to less than significant levels. A negative declaration (ND) may be prepared instead if the lead agency finds that there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. A ND is a written statement describing the reasons why a project, not otherwise exempt from CEQA, would not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, why it would not require the preparation of an EIR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15371). According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, a ND or mitigated ND (MND) shall be prepared for a project subject to CEQA when either:

- a. The IS shows there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, or
- b. The IS identified potentially significant effects, but:
 1. Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by or agreed to by the applicant before the MND and IS are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur is prepared, and
 2. There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment.

1.2 Document Format

This IS/ND contains four chapters and four appendices. **Error! Reference source not found.**, provides an overview of the Project and the CEQA process. **Error! Reference source not found.**, provides a detailed description of Project components and objectives. Chapter 3 Impacts Analysis presents the CEQA checklist and environmental analysis for all impact areas, mandatory findings of significance, and feasible mitigation measures. If the Project does not have the potential to significantly impact a given issue area, the relevant section provides a brief discussion of the reasons why no impacts are expected. If the Project could have a potentially significant impact on a resource, the issue area discussion provides a description of potential impacts, and appropriate mitigation measures and/or permit requirements that would reduce those impacts to a less

than significant level. Chapter 3 concludes with the Lead Agency's determination based upon this initial evaluation.

Chapter 2 Project Description

2.1 Project Background and Objectives

2.1.1 Project Title

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District-Kern County Water Agency Water Transfer Program

2.1.2 Lead Agency Name and Address

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District
1001 Chase Ave
Corcoran CA 93212

2.1.3 Contact Person and Phone Number

Lead Agency Contact
Jacob Westra, General Manager
(559) 992-4127

CEQA Consultant
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
Rick Besecker, Water Resources Specialist
(559) 449-2700

2.1.4 Project Location

The Project is located within the service areas of the Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (TLBWSD) in Kings and Tulare County and the Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) in Kern County. The points of delivery for water transfers would be in Reaches 8 through 16 of the California Aqueduct and Reach 31A of the Coastal Branch of the California Aqueduct. The KCWA Member Units expected to be involved in the water transfers with TLBWSD are located on the San Joaquin Valley floor portion of Kern County.

2.1.5 Latitude and Longitude

Not applicable.

2.1.6 General Plan Designation and Zoning

Not applicable.

2.1.7 Description of Project

The Project is a long-term water transfer program between TLBWSD and KCWA to allow for annual transfers of up to 67,000 acre-feet per year (AF/y) of State Water Project (SWP) water from common landowners (JG Boswell up to 66,000 AF/y and Westlake Farms up to 1,000 AF/y) with landholdings in each of the member units. The purpose of the Project is to improve water management opportunities within TLBWSD and KCWA by creating a program that would accelerate the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) approval process for the kinds of surface water transfers that have successfully occurred in the past between TLBWSD and KCWA. The Project would allow for timely water transfers that would utilize the water supplies and existing facilities in a more beneficial manner for the growers, thereby improving water management practices within the agencies. Although water transfers could occur both from TLBWSD to KCWA and from KCWA to TLBWSD, it is anticipated that most of the SWP water transfers would be from landowners in TLBWSD to districts in KCWA where the same landowners also own and manage agricultural operations. Transfers from districts in KCWA to TLBWSD would only occur if both the specific district in KCWA and KCWA approve the specific transfer when and if it is requested by the landowner.

For common landowner transfers, the following KCWA Member Units could be involved:

- Belridge Water Storage District
- Berrenda Mesa Water District
- Buena Vista Water Storage District
- Henry Miller Water District
- Kern Delta Water District
- Lost Hills Water District
- Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
- Semitropic Water Storage District
- Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

No construction, nor any operational or maintenance changes will occur as a result of the Project.

2.1.8 Site and Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

The Project is located within the service areas of KCWA within Kern County and TLBWSD in Kings and Tulare Counties. The points of delivery would be in Reaches 8 through 16 of the California Aqueduct and Reach 31A of the Coastal Branch of the California Aqueduct. The KCWA Member Units expected to be

involved in the water transfers are located in the San Joaquin Valley floor portion of Kern County. The land uses in TLBWSD and KCWA are primarily agricultural.

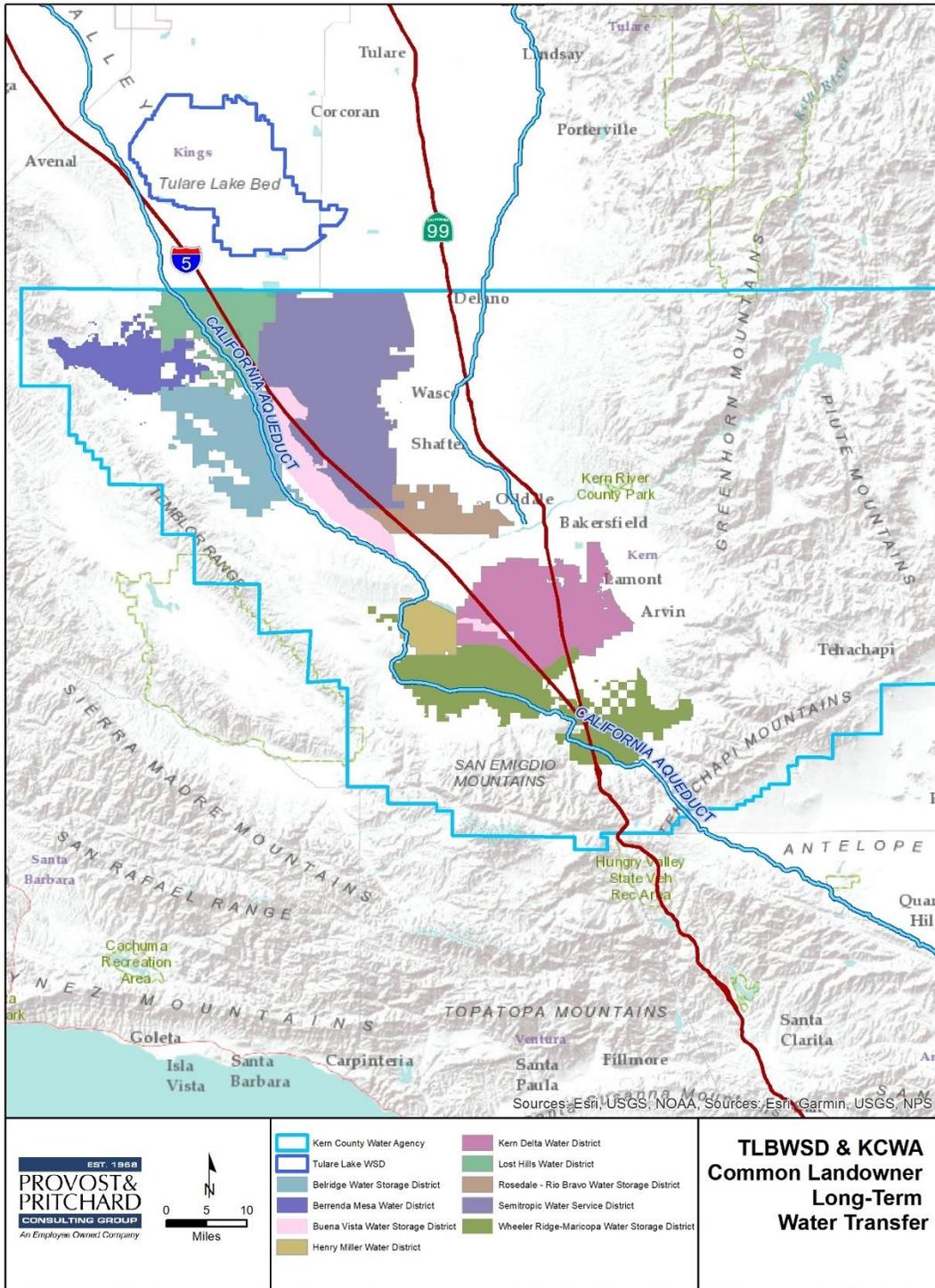
2.1.9 Other Public Agencies Whose Approval May Be Required

- California Department of Water Resources

2.1.10 Consultation with California Native American Tribes

Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1, *et seq.* (codification of AB 52, 2013-14) requires that a lead agency, within 14 days of determining that it will undertake a project, must notify in writing any California Native American Tribe traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project if that Tribe has previously requested notification about projects in that geographic area. The notice must briefly describe the project and inquire whether the Tribe wishes to initiate request formal consultation. Tribes have 30 days from receipt of notification to request formal consultation. The lead agency then has 30 days to initiate the consultation, which then continues until the parties come to an agreement regarding necessary mitigation or agree that no mitigation is needed, or one or both parties determine that negotiation occurred in good faith, but no agreement will be made.

TLBWSD notified the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe and the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians on March 27, 2020, and has not received any written correspondence from the Tribes pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 requesting notification of the Project.



6/8/2020 : G:\Tulare Lake Basin WSD-1224\122419001-Long-term Landowner Transfer to KCWA\400 GISMap\TLBWSD_KCWA_WaterTransfer_02_Portrait.mxd

Figure 2-1 Regional Location

Chapter 3 Impact Analysis

3.1 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

As indicated by the discussions of existing and baseline conditions, and impact analyses that follow in this Chapter, environmental factors not checked below would have no impacts or less than significant impacts resulting from the project. Environmental factors that are checked below would have potentially significant impacts resulting from the project. Mitigation measures are recommended for each of the potentially significant impacts that would reduce the impact to less than significant.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

The analyses of environmental impacts here in Chapter 3 Impact Analysis are separated into the following categories:

Potentially Significant Impact. This category is applicable if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant, and no feasible mitigation measures can be identified to reduce impacts to a less than significant level. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. This category applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures would reduce an effect from a “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measure(s), and briefly explain how they would reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from earlier analyses may be cross-referenced).

Less Than Significant Impact. This category is identified when the Project would result in impacts below the threshold of significance, and no mitigation measures are required.

No Impact. This category applies when a project would not create an impact in the specific environmental issue area. “No Impact” answers do not require a detailed explanation if they are adequately supported by the information sources cited by the lead agency, which show that the impact does not apply to the specific project (e.g. the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g. the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis)

3.2 Aesthetics

| Aesthetics Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.2.1 Impact Assessment

a) The Project consists of the transfer of water between common landowners between two water agencies, and would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. There would be no changes to scenic vistas.

b) According to the California Department of Transportation mapping of state scenic highways¹ there are no officially designated state scenic highways located in Kings County. Three eligible state scenic highways are located in eastern Kern County. Since there are no eligible or officially designated state scenic highways within the immediate vicinity of the Project site, the Project would not impact a designated state scenic highway.

c) The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. There would be no changes to visual character or quality of public views.

d) The Project is located in rural areas, not subject to preexisting exterior lighting from surrounding development and existing street lighting often found in urban areas. The Project would not introduce new sources of light and glare to the area in the form of exterior safety and security lighting.

¹ California Department of Transportation, List of eligible and officially designated State Scenic Highways, <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/design/documents/2017-03designandeligible-a11y.xlsx>, (accessed on April 20, 2020).

3.3 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

| Agriculture and Forest Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.3.1 Impact Assessment

a)-b) The Project would not cause any significant changes in land use or zoning and does not involve the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use. The transfer supplies would either be excess to the demands of the transferring landowner or lands would either be fallowed to make the water available, planted to lower water use crops (safflower and wheat versus cotton and tomatoes), or irrigated with other available water sources, which may include SWP water, Central Valley Project water and/or other local water supplies, such as Kings River water.

c)-e) Not applicable. There are no forest lands associated with the Project.

3.4 Air Quality

| Air Quality Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.4.1 Impact Assessment

a)-d) The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. Because of the lack of any ground-disturbing construction activities, there would be no impacts to air quality associated with the Project.

3.5 Biological Resources

| Biological Resources Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

A California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) search was run on May 15, 2020 to identify federally and state threatened or endangered species within the Project. The results are presented below in **Error! Reference source not found.**

Table 3-1 CNDDDB Search of Threatened and Endangered Species Identified within the Project.

| Species | Common Name | Status |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Amphibians | | |
| Ambystoma californiense | California tiger salamander | FT/CT |
| Anaxyrus californicus | arroyo toad | FE |
| Batrachoseps simatus | Kern Canyon slender salamander | CT |
| Batrachoseps stebbinsi | Tehachapi slender salamander | CT |

| Species | Common Name | Status |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Rana boylei | foothill yellow-legged frog | CCT |
| Rana draytonii | California red-legged frog | FT |
| Rana muscosa | southern mountain yellow-legged frog | FE/CE |
| Birds | | |
| Agelaius tricolor | tricolored blackbird | CT |
| Buteo swainsoni | Swainson's hawk | CT |
| Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus | western snowy plover | FT |
| Coccyzus americanus occidentalis | western yellow-billed cuckoo | FT/CE |
| Empidonax traillii | willow flycatcher | CE |
| Empidonax traillii extimus | southwestern willow flycatcher | FE/CE |
| Gymnogyps californianus | California condor | FE/CE |
| Haliaeetus leucocephalus | bald eagle | CE |
| Sternula antillarum browni | California least tern | FE/CE |
| Vireo bellii pusillus | least Bell's vireo | FE/CE |
| Crustaceans | | |
| Branchinecta conservatio | Conservancy fairy shrimp | FE |
| Branchinecta lynchi | vernal pool fairy shrimp | FT |
| Lepidurus packardii | vernal pool tadpole shrimp | FE |
| Fish | | |
| Siphateles bicolor mohavensis | Mohave tui chub | FE/CE |
| Insects | | |
| Bombus crotchii | Crotch bumble bee | CCE |
| Desmocerus californicus dimorphus | valley elderberry longhorn beetle | FT |
| Euproserpinus euterpe | Kern primrose sphinx moth | FT |
| Mammals | | |
| Ammospermophilus nelsoni | Nelson's antelope squirrel | CT |
| Dipodomys ingens | giant kangaroo rat | FE/CE |
| Dipodomys nitratoideus nitratoideus | Tipton kangaroo rat | FE/CE |
| Dipodomys stephensi | Stephens' kangaroo rat | FE/CT |
| Gulo gulo | California wolverine | FPT/CT |
| Ovis canadensis sierrae | Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep | FE/CE |
| Pekania pennanti | fisher - West Coast DPS | CT |
| Sorex ornatus relictus | Buena Vista Lake ornate shrew | FE |
| Vulpes macrotis mutica | San Joaquin kit fox | FE/CT |
| Xerospermophilus mohavensis | Mohave ground squirrel | CT |
| Plants | | |
| Atriplex tularensis | Bakersfield smallscale | CE |
| Caulanthus californicus | California jewelflower | FE/CE |
| Deinandra mohavensis | Mojave tarplant | CE |
| Eremalche parryi ssp. kernensis | Kern mallow | FE |

| Species | Common Name | Status |
|--|----------------------------|--------|
| <i>Fritillaria striata</i> | striped adobe-lily | CT |
| <i>Monolopia congdonii</i> | San Joaquin woollythreads | FE |
| <i>Opuntia basilaris</i> var. <i>treleasei</i> | Bakersfield cactus | FE/CE |
| <i>Pseudobahia peirsonii</i> | San Joaquin adobe sunburst | FT/CE |
| Reptiles | | |
| <i>Charina umbratica</i> | southern rubber boa | CT |
| <i>Gambelia sila</i> | blunt-nosed leopard lizard | FE/CE |
| <i>Gopherus agassizii</i> | desert tortoise | FT/CT |
| <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> | giant gartersnake | FT/CT |

EXPLANATION OF OCCURRENCE DESIGNATIONS AND STATUS CODES

- FE *Federally Endangered*
- CE *California Endangered*
- CT *California Threatened*
- FT *Federally Threatened*
- CCE *California Endangered (Candidate)*
- CCT *California Threatened (Candidate)*

3.5.1 Impact Assessment

a)-f) The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. Because of the lack of any ground-disturbing construction activities, there will be no impacts to biological resources.

3.6 Cultural Resources

| Cultural Resources Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to in §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.6.1 Impact Assessment

a)-b) The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. Because of the lack of any ground-disturbing construction activities, there will be no impacts to historical or archeological resources.

3.7 Energy

| Energy Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.7.1 Impact Assessment

a)-b) The Project consists of the transfer of water between common landowners between two water agencies, both located south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta). There would be no additional pumping from the Delta required to transfer this water, and although water delivered to Berrenda Mesa Water District and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District would require additional pumping, the additional energy required is insignificant when compared to the total energy used in each of the districts.

3.8 Geology and Soils

| Geology and Soils Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: | | | | |
| i) 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? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| iv) Landslides? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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, liquefaction or collapse? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

| Geology and Soils Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the most recently adopted Uniform Building Code creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.8.1 Impact Assessment

a)-f) The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. Because of the lack of any ground-disturbing construction activities, there will be no impacts to geology and soils.

3.9 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

| Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.9.1 Impact Assessment

a)-b) The Project consists of the transfer of water between common landowners between two water agencies, both located south of the Delta. There would be no additional pumping from the Delta required to transfer this water, so there would be no changes to greenhouse gas emissions, and although water delivered to Berrenda Mesa Water District and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District would require additional pumping, the additional greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the increased pumping are insignificant when compared to the total greenhouse gas emissions generated to deliver water to each of the districts.

3.10 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

| Hazards and Hazardous Materials Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or school? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.10.1 Impact Assessment

a)-g) Not Applicable. There are no hazards or hazardous materials associated with the Project. Therefore, further analysis of the Project’s potential impacts from hazards and hazardous materials are not warranted.

3.11 Hydrology and Water Quality

| Hydrology and Water Quality Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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 or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would: | | | | |
| i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site; | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or offsite; | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| iv) impede or redirect flood flows? | | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.11.1 Impact Assessment

a)-e) The Project consists of the transfer of water between common landowners between two water agencies, both located south of the Delta. There would be no change in water quality, as the water being transferred is each agencies' SWP supply, which derives from the same source in the Delta; there will be no decreases in groundwater supplies (as no additional groundwater will be pumped), no changes to drainage patterns, or no increase in flood hazards due to the Project. Transfer water would be made available (1) due to excess flows (including floodwater), (2) purchases or exchanges with other water users, and/or (3) fallowing and/or crop shifting. Thus, there would be no changes to hydrology and water quality resources.

3.12 Land Use and Planning

| Land Use and Planning Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Physically divide an established community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.12.1 Impact Assessment

a)-b) Not applicable. The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. Therefore, further analysis of the Project's potential impacts to land use and planning are not warranted.

3.13 Mineral Resources

| Mineral Resources Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.13.1 Impact Assessment

a)-b) Not applicable. The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. Because of the lack of any ground-disturbing construction activities, there will be no impacts to mineral resources.

3.14 Noise

| Noise Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.14.1 Impact Assessment

a)-c) Not applicable. The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. Because of the lack of any ground-disturbing construction activities, there will be no noise impacts as a result of this Project.

3.15 Population and Housing

| Population and Housing Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.15.1 Impact Assessment

a)-b) Not applicable. The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. No changes to population or housing would occur as a result of this Project.

3.16 Public Services

| Public Services Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: | | | | |
| Fire protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Police protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Schools? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Parks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other public facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.16.1 Impact Assessment

a) Not applicable. There are no governmental facilities in the Project vicinity.

3.17 Recreation

| Recreation Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

| Recreation Impacts | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.17.1 Impact Assessment

a)-b) Not applicable. There are no recreational facilities in the Project vicinity.

3.18 Transportation

| Transportation Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Conflict with an program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in inadequate emergency access? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.18.1 Impact Assessment

a)-d) Not applicable. The Project would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. There are no transportation resources that would be affected by the Project.

3.19 Tribal Cultural Resources

| Tribal Cultural Resources Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) 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 cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is: | | | | |
| i. 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| ii. 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 Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.19.1 Impact Assessment

a) The Project consists of the transfer of water between common landowners between two water agencies, and would not involve any construction or any significant changes in land use. TLBWSD notified the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe and the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians on March 27, 2020, and has not received any written correspondence from the Tribes pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 requesting notification of the Project. Therefore, further analysis of the Project’s potential impacts to tribal cultural resources are not warranted.

3.20 Utilities and Service Systems

| Utilities and Service Systems Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reductions goals? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.20.1 Impact Assessment

a)-e) Not applicable. There are no utilities or service systems that would be affected by the Project.

3.21 Wildfire

| Wildfire Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <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 uncontrollable spread of wildfire? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <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 type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.21.1 Impact Assessment

a)-d) Not applicable. The Project areas are agricultural and not located near a State responsibility area or in a very high fire hazard severity zone.

3.22 CEQA Mandatory Findings of Significance

| Mandatory Findings of Significance Impacts | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3.22.1 Impact Assessment

- a) Does the Project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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?**

No Impact: As the Project consists of the transfer of surface water between common landowners between two neighboring water agencies, the Project has no potential to substantially degrade the environment, reduce the habitat or population of fish or wildlife species, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or restrict, reduce, or eliminate endangered, rare or important plants, animals, or California history or prehistory.

b) Does the Project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

No Impact: Cumulatively considerable means that “the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future project.” The Project consists of the transfer of water between common landowners between two neighboring water agencies. Due to the lack of construction activities, the opportunity for cumulatively considerable effects or impacts is not available.

c) Does the Project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

No Impact: The Project will not result in substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. With a lack of construction or any operational changes, there will be no Project impacts.

3.23 Determination:

(To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the Project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the Project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

Printed Name/Position