

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 #: _____

Project Title: Erskine Creek Water Company and Kernville Mutual Water Company Consolidation Water Project

Lead Agency: State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance

Contact Name: Gabriel Edwards, Environmental Scientist

Email: Gabriel.Edwards@Waterboards.ca.gov Phone Number: (916) 449-5990

Project Location: Lake Isabella, CDP, Kern County
City *County*

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

Please see attached.

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

Please see attached MMRP

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

No known areas of controversy.

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

No known responsible trustee agencies.

Chapter 2 Project Description

2.1 Project Background and Objectives

2.1.1 Project Title

Erskine Creek Water Company and Kernvale Mutual Water Company Consolidation Water Project

2.1.2 Lead Agency Name and Address

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance
Environmental Review Unit
1001 I Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

2.1.3 Contact Person and Phone Number

Lead Agency Contact
Gabriel Edwards
Environmental Scientist
(916) 449-5990

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2.1.4 Project Location

The Project site consists of approximately 2.58 acres and is located in the southeastern area of the unincorporated community of Lake Isabella, California, in Kern County, approximately 260 miles south of Sacramento and 35 miles northeast of the City of Bakersfield (see **Figure 2-1** and **Figure 2-2**). Major routes to the area are State Route 178 and State Route 155. The Project site is located approximately 2.5 miles south of the Lake Isabella Auxiliary Dam and at the east end of Webb Avenue on Assessor’s Parcel Numbers (APN) identified in **Table 2-1** below. The Project’s proposed water storage tank and associated pipeline (Project site) are shown in **Figure 3-2**.

Table 2-1. Project Assessor Parcels

Project Component	Assessor Parcel Numbers Involved
Existing Tank and New Tank	263-281-59; 263-281-58; and 263-281-57
Phase I - New Water Line North, Meter Connections and Fire Hydrants	348-031-14; 263-281-40; 263-281-52; 263-281-53; 263-281-32; 263-281-41; 263-281-64; 263-281-42; 263-281-65; 263-281-66; 263-281-67; 263-400-23; 263-400-22; 263-400-18; 263-400-17; 263-400-16; 263-400-15; 263-400-14; 263-400-13; 263-400-12; 263-400-11; 263-400-10; 263-400-09; 263-400-08; 263-400-07; 263-400-06; 263-400-05; 263-400-04; 263-400-03; 263-400-21; and 263-400-01
Phase II – New Water Line East and School Property and Existing Tank	348-031-14; 348-031-15; and 348-031-18

Chapter 2 Project Description

ECWC and KMWC Consolidation Water Project

Project Component	Assessor Parcel Numbers Involved
Canal Crossing	348-031-14

2.1.5 Latitude and Longitude

The centroid of the Project site is 35°36' 33.6276" N and 118°28'11.748" E.

2.1.6 General Plan & Zoning Designation

The Project is covered by the Kern County General Plan and Kern County Zoning Ordinance. **Table 2-2** provides a list of land use designations and **Figure 2-4** provides a visual of the General Plan designations for Project site.

Table 2-2. General Plan Designation

Project Features	General Plan Designation
Open spaces near existing tank.	Resource Management (Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size)
Kern Valley High School and Woodrow W Wallace Elementary/Middle School	Educational Facilities
Residential connections, meters, and fire hydrants	Maximum 16 Units/Net Acre
Residential connections, meters, and fire hydrants	Maximum 10 Units/Net Acre
Residential connections, meters, and fire hydrants	Maximum 4 Units/Net Acre

Table 2-3 provides a list of the zoning districts and **Figure 2-5** provides a visual of the zoning districts for the Project site.

Table 2-3. County Zone District

Project Features	Zone District Code	Zone District
Existing water tank to the east of Erskine Creek Road	A	Exclusive Agriculture
Water pipeline	E(20)	Estate 20 Acres
Water pipeline	E(20) RS	Estate 20 Acres, Residential Suburban Combining
Water pipeline	MP	Mobilehome Park
Water pipeline	MS	Mobilehome Subdivision 6000 Square Feet
Water pipeline, meters, and fire hydrants	E(1/2) RS	Estate 0.5 Acres, Residential Suburban Combining
Water pipeline, meters, and fire hydrants	E(1/4)	Estate 0.25 Acres
New water tank and existing tank and pump stations	R-1	Low Density Residential
Pipeline alignment along the road	R-1 MH	Low Density Residential, Mobilehome Combining

2.1.7 Description of Project

2.1.7.1 Project Background and Purpose

KMWC is a community water system (No. 1500364) with 22 connections serving approximately 52 residents in the unincorporated community of Lake Isabella in Kern County. The system currently receives water through a groundwater well and has exceeded the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for arsenic and uranium. ECWC is a nearby water system and has agreed

to allow KMWC to consolidate services for the 52 residents. ECWC has been approved by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to act on behalf of KMWC for the Project.

The Project purpose is to consolidate KMWC into ECWC by permanently connecting and upgrading the existing water systems to provide more reliable water service and provide safe drinking water that meets USEPA MCLs and California Code of Regulations Title 22 standards.

2.1.7.2 Project Description

The Project will be built out in two phases as described below:

Phase I

- Water Storage Tank - A new 200,000-gallon water storage tank would be installed on an existing gravel pad to replace a smaller existing 120,000-gallon tank located at the east end of Webb Avenue. The new tank would be approximately 48-feet across and 24-feet tall.
- Distribution Water Pipeline – Approximately 3,550 feet of 8-inch diameter pipeline and 280 feet of 12-inch diameter PVC pipeline would be installed. The new waterline would travel from the new water tank, over the Borel Canal and east onto School District property, then run north along the Borel Canal, Mountain View Road, turn west between two existing residential homes and then continue north along the back of the remaining homes until reaching Erskine Creek Road, turn west and connect to the existing ECWC pipeline on Erskine Creek Road near Edna Avenue.
- Borel Canal Crossing – Canal crossings would be accomplished by installing an 8-inch pipeline within a 16-inch casing and attaching the casing at two bridge locations: one at the pedestrian bridge located between the ECWC tank property and the schools; and the other at the Erskine Creek Road crossing.
- Fire Hydrants – Fire hydrants would be placed along Mountain View Road.
- Hydropneumatics Tank – A 5,000-gallon hydropneumatics tank would be installed at the east side of the ECWC property.
- Associated infrastructure – Associated infrastructure components include water meters, fittings, connections, valve boxes, air release valves, shut-off valves, and flushing valves.
- Asphalt and Concrete – The new pipeline would be placed in Mountain View Road and Erskine Creek Road right-of-way and the roads would be regraded and repaved to pre-construction conditions.
- Vegetation Removal – Minimal vegetation removal may be required and would consist of low-lying grasses and vegetation. One cottonwood tree may also be removed near the Borel Canal crossing and some trimming of cottonwood trees limbs may also be required.

Phase II

- Pipeline - An additional water line would be installed which connects at the southern canal crossing and would run east between Kern Valley High School and Woodrow W Wallace Elementary/Middle School to an existing water tank located across Erskine Creek Road. The existing temporary waterline would be abandoned in place.
- Pump Station – One new pump station may be installed in the future on ECWC property located at the end of Webb Avenue. The booster pump station would be for the north/ shopping center zone and the school zone areas.

2.1.7.3 Construction

Excavation during construction would generate spoils that would be used as backfill or hauled off-site. For all excavated areas, once filled and compacted, the area would be resurfaced to match the surrounding material. In addition, damage to all roads and unpaved areas would be repaired. Unpaved areas would be revegetated with native grasses indigenous to the disturbed area. Revegetation would occur after construction and prior to winter rains to stabilize disturbed areas against erosion.

Chapter 4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been formulated based upon the findings of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Erskine Creek Water Company (ECWC) and Kernvale Mutual Water Company (KMWC) Consolidation Water Project (Project) in the town of Lake Isabella. The MMRP lists mitigation measures recommended in the IS/MND for the Project and identifies monitoring and reporting requirements.

Table 4-1 presents the mitigation measures identified for the proposed Project. Each mitigation measure is numbered with a symbol indicating the topical section to which it pertains, a hyphen, and the impact number. For example, AIR-2 would be the second mitigation measure identified in the Air Quality analysis of the IS/MND.

The first column of **Table 4-1** identifies the mitigation measure. The second column, entitled “When Monitoring is to Occur,” identifies the time the mitigation measure should be initiated. The third column, “Frequency of Monitoring,” identifies the frequency of the monitoring of the mitigation measure. The fourth column, “Agency Responsible for Monitoring,” names the party ultimately responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented. The last columns will be used by SWRCB to ensure that individual mitigation measures have been complied with and monitored.

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Table 4-1 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
Air Quality					
AIR - 1: (Valley Fever Control Measures)					
To minimize personnel and public exposure to potential Valley Fever-containing dust both on- and offsite, the following additional control measures shall be included in the Fugitive Dust Control Plan to be prepared for this Project:					
a) <i>Equipment, vehicles, and other items shall be thoroughly cleaned of dust before they are moved offsite to other work locations.</i>	Before Equipment Moves to another Project Site	Prior to leaving construction site	ECWC	Visual Inspection	
b) <i>Wherever possible, grading, and trenching work shall be phased so that earth-moving equipment is working well ahead or downwind of workers on the ground.</i>	During Ground Disturbing Activities	Daily	ECWC	Visual Inspection	
c) <i>The area immediately behind grading or trenching equipment shall be sprayed with water before ground workers move into the area.</i>	During Ground Disturbing Activities	Daily	ECWC	Visual Inspection	
d) <i>In the event that a water truck runs out of water before dust is sufficiently dampened, ground workers being exposed to dust are to leave the area until a full truck resumes water spraying.</i>	Prior to Ground Disturbing Activities	Daily	ECWC	Visual Inspection	
e) <i>All heavy-duty earth-moving vehicles shall be closed-cab and equipped with a high-efficiency particulate air-filtered system.</i>	During Ground Disturbing Activities	Daily	ECWC	Visual Inspection and Equipment Paperwork	
f) <i>Workers shall receive training to recognize the symptoms of Valley Fever and shall be instructed to promptly report suspected symptoms of work-related Valley Fever to a supervisor. Evidence of training shall be provided to the Kern County Planning and Community Development Department within 24 hours of the training session.</i>	Prior to the Start of Construction	Prior to the Start of Construction	ECWC	Log in Sheet	

Chapter 4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
ECWC and KMWC Consolidation Water Project

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
g) <i>A Valley Fever informational handout shall be provided to all onsite construction personnel. The handout shall, at a minimum, provide information regarding the symptoms, health effects, preventative measures, and treatment.</i>					
Biological Resources					
BIO-1a (Avoidance).					
The Project's construction activities shall occur, if feasible, between September 16 and January 31 (outside of nesting bird season) in an effort to avoid impacts to nesting birds.	Prior to the start of construction	Once, prior to construction	ECWC	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	
BIO-1b (Pre-Construction Survey)					
If construction activities start during nesting bird season (February 1 to September 15), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction nesting bird presence/absence survey for avian species and nests including Swainson's hawk onsite and within a 500-foot radius of the APE. This survey will be conducted in accordance with current federal and State guidance documents. The pre-construction survey shall be performed within 10 days prior to the start of construction. All raptor nests will be considered "active" upon the nest-building stage. All other nests are considered "active" by the presence of eggs or young.	If construction activities and/or vegetation removal must occur between February 1 and August 31, then within 10 days prior to the start of work	February 1-September 15	Once prior to initiating any ground disturbances	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	
BIO -1c (Establish Buffers).					
On discovery of any active nests near work areas, the biologist shall determine appropriate construction setback distances based on applicable CDFW and/or USFWS guidelines and/or the biology of the species in question. Construction buffers shall be identified with flagging, fencing, or other easily visible means, and shall be maintained until the biologist has determined that the nestlings have fledged and are no longer dependent on the nest.	Prior to the start of construction .	February 1-September 15	Once prior to initiating any ground disturbances	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	
BIO-2a (Focused Survey).					
A qualified botanist/biologist shall conduct focused botanical surveys according to CDFW's "Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities", 2018, for the rose-flowered larkspur and Piute Mountains navarretia.	If rare plant individuals or populations or sensitive natural communities are detected within Project work areas	Once, prior to construction	ECWC	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	

Chapter 4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
ECWC and KMWC Consolidation Water Project

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
	during the focused botanical survey				
BIO -2b (Formal Notification).					
If rare plant individuals or populations or sensitive natural communities are detected within Project work areas during the focused botanical survey, and the plants cannot be avoided and buffer zones and exclusion fencing cannot be used to provide protection, then consultation with CDFW and/or USFWS will be required. If CDFW and/or USFWS determines that "take" cannot be avoided, the Project proponent may be required to obtain an Incidental Take Permit (ITP).	On discovery of any listed species near work areas	Once, prior to construction	ECWC	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	
BIO-3a (Avoidance).					
The Project's construction activities shall occur, if feasible, between April 16 and August 31, the time frame within which colony-roosting bats generally assemble, give birth, nurse their young, and ultimately disperse in an effort to avoid impacts to roosting bats.	Prior to construction, ground disturbing activities and vegetation removal	April 16 – August 31	Once, prior to initiating any ground disturbances or vegetation removal	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	
BIO-3b (Preconstruction Survey).					
If tree removal is to occur between April 16 and August 31 (general maternity bat roost season), a qualified biologist will survey suitable trees for the presence of bats within 30 days prior to their removal. The biologist will look for individuals, guano, and staining, and will listen for bat vocalizations. If necessary, the biologist will wait for nighttime emergence of bats from roost sites. If no bats are observed to be roosting or breeding, then no further action will be required, and construction can proceed.	Prior to construction, ground disturbing activities and vegetation removal	April 16 – August 31	Once, prior to initiating any ground disturbances or vegetation removal	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	
BIO-3c (Establish Buffers).					
If a maternity colony is detected during preconstruction surveys, a disturbance-free buffer will be established around the colony and remain in place until a qualified biologist determines that the nursery is no longer active. The disturbance-free buffer will range from 50 to 100 feet as determined by the biologist.	Prior to construction, ground disturbing activities and vegetation removal	April 16 – August 31	Once, prior to initiating any ground disturbances or vegetation removal	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	
BIO-3d (Monitoring)					
If non-breeding bat roosts are found in trees that are to be removed or trimmed, a qualified biologist will provide the appropriate direction to ensure that no harm or "take" of any bats occurs as a result of construction activities.	Prior to construction, ground disturbing activities and vegetation removal	April 16 – August 31	Once, prior to initiating any ground disturbances or vegetation removal	ECWC with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	

Chapter 4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
ECWC and KMWC Consolidation Water Project

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
Cultural Resources					
CUL-1 (Archaeological Resources):					
In the event that archaeological resources are encountered at any time during construction, development or any ground-moving activities within the entire Project area, all work in the vicinity of the find shall halt until a qualified archaeologist can assess the discovery. ECWC and KMWC shall implement all recommendations of the archaeologist necessary to avoid or reduce the potential impacts to cultural resources to a less than significant level. Appropriate actions could include a Data Recovery Plan or preservation in place.	During ground disturbing activities and in the event potential archaeological artifacts or resources are uncovered	Daily during ground disturbing activities	ECWC with assistance of a qualified cultural subconsultant	By subconsultant/contract or reports to ECWC	
CUL-2 (Human Remains):					
If human remains are uncovered, or in any other case when human remains are discovered during construction, the Kern County Coroner is to be notified to arrange proper treatment and disposition. If the remains are identified—on the basis of archaeological context, age, cultural associations, or biological traits—as those of Native American origin, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 and Public Resource Code 5097.98 require that the coroner notify the NAHC within 24 hours of discovery. The NAHC will then identify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD) who will determine the manner in which the remains are treated.	During ground disturbing activities and in the event human remains are uncovered	Daily during ground disturbing activities	ECWC with assistance of a qualified cultural subconsultant	By subconsultant/contract or reports to ECWC, Kern County Coroner notification and report, and notification to NAHC, if applicable	
Wildfire					
WILD-1 (Defensible Space)					
Pre-wildfire mitigation measures focus on the maintenance of defensible space and fire-focused landscaping, and may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> highly flammable vegetation near Project will be noted and maintained to reduce fire fuel, as appropriate Dispose of debris, such as pine needles, leaves, and dead limbs within the Project site; Design defensible spaces with fire breaks, in open space areas, as appropriate. 	Prior to construction and ground disturbing activities	Once, prior to construction	ECWC	Visual Observation	
WILD-2 (Water Source)					
Adequate on-site water source will be made available during construction welding activities or Project activities in open spaces, such as, but not limited to, water truck, water backpacks, and/or fire extinguishers.	During Construction, welding activities or Project activities in open spaces	Every day during construction	ECWC	Visual Observation	