Lewiston Community Services District Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project

Public Draft
Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

March 3, 2021

Prepared for:
Lewiston Community Services District
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Project Information

1. Project Title	Lewiston Community Services District Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project
2. Lead Agency Name and Address	Lewiston Community Services District P.O. Box 164 Lewiston, CA 96052
3. Contact Person	Mel Deardorff, Board President (530) 778-3018 meldeardorff@gmail.com
4. Project Location	In the rural community of Lewiston, Trinity County, California; Township 33 North, Range 8 West, Sections 19 and 20, *Lewiston, California,* U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; Assessor Parcel Numbers: See Attachment 1
5. Project Sponsor's Name	Lewiston Community Services District
6. General Plan Designation	RR (Rural Residential) PF (Public Facility) C (Commercial) SF-L (Single Family Residence – Low Density) SF-H (Single Family Residence – High Density) MF-H (Multi-Family Housing)
7. Zoning	RR1 (Rural Residential) PF (Public Facility) C2 (General Commercial) R1A (Single Family Residence – Low Density) R1 (Single Family Residence – High Density) R3 (Multi-Family Residence)

8. Description of Project

Replacement of the failing Lewiston Community Service's District (LCSD) water distribution system and completion of Well 8 are recommended to maintain water service within LCSD's service area boundary. On July 1, 2018, LCSD subsumed Lewiston Park Mutual Water Company, which provided water to the Lewiston Subdivision. The existing water distribution system in the Lewiston Subdivision was installed circa 1957 and consists of asbestos-cement pipe ranging in size from 4 inches to 8 inches. This pipe has reached the end of its useful service life as demonstrated by the significant daily loss of water experienced by LCSD—as much as 32 percent daily loss due to leaks and unauthorized water use. Replacement of the distribution system in the Lewiston Subdivision is recommended to address these system deficiencies. Replacement of outdated infrastructure would address human health risks posed by the existing water system. The new system would also allow for fire flow compliance and the reconnection

and installation of fire hydrants. An open trench cut method would be used to install new pipe along surface streets and through annual grasslands and urban lawns to connect to three wells.

In 2017, initial drilling of Well 8 began to replace Well 5, which had been disconnected from the water distribution system due to poor water quality and electronic control malfunctions. The LCSD Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project (project) would complete Well 8. Project activities would include furnishing and installing a pump; construction of a building to house the well and its components; addition of a disinfection system; and connecting the well to the distribution system by installing several hundred feet of subsurface piping. Additionally, the Community Park Well, an irrigation-only well, would be decommissioned, and water sourced from Well 8 would be used to irrigate the park via the new water distribution system.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

The project area includes the Lewiston Subdivision, a neighborhood located about 0.25 mile south of the Trinity River. Land uses in and around the project area include Trinity County road right-of-way, LCSD facilities, and rural residential properties.

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval May Be Required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)

- California Department of Fish & Wildlife (Region 1)
- California State Regional Water Quality Control Board (North Coast Region)
- Trinity County Planning Department

Lewiston Community Services District Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project
Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration — Administrative Draft

Table of Contents

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF APPENDICES

Acronyms and Abbreviations

°F	degrees Fahrenheit
AC	asbestos cement
BMP	best management practice
C	Commercial
C2	General Commercial
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CRPR	California Rare Plant Rank
dBA	decibels A-weighted
GHG	greenhouse gas
GPM	gallons per minute
IS	Initial Study
LCSD	Lewiston Community Services District
MDD	maximum day demand
MF-H	Multi-Family Housing
MMRP	Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
NESHAP	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
NOx	oxides of nitrogen
PF	Public Facility
PM	particulate matter
PM10	particulate matter 10 microns in diameter or less
PM2.5	particulate matter 2.5 microns in diameter or less
PRC	Public Resources Code
project	Lewiston Community Services District Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project
PWS	Public Water System
R1	Single Family Residence – High Density
R1A	Single Family Residence – Low Density
R3	Multi-Family Residence
ROG	reactive organic gases
ROW	right-of-way
RR, RR1	Rural Residential
SF-H	Single Family Residence – High Density
SF-L	Single Family Residence – Low Density
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
WTP	Water Treatment Plant

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION AND REGULATORY GUIDANCE

This document is an Initial Study (IS) that summarizes the technical studies prepared for the proposed Lewiston Community Services District (LCSD) Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project (project). It includes an evaluation of potential environmental impacts that could result from project implementation and provides justification for a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the project. This document was prepared in accordance with the current California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21000 et seq., and the state CEQA Guidelines (14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] 1500 et seq.) that require all state and local government agencies to consider the environmental consequences of projects over which they have discretionary authority before acting on those projects. Mitigation measures are proposed to avoid or minimize any significant impacts that are identified.

1.2 LEAD AGENCY

The Lead Agency is the public agency with primary responsibility for carrying out or approving a project. The CEQA Lead Agency will be LCSD and will coordinate with PACE Engineering, Inc. to apply for funding for the project from the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. The Office of Water Programs at California State University, Sacramento provided funding for the environmental review, while the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund is used for project implementation. LCSD will be the project applicant and will be responsible for implementing the project. LCSD is a not-for-profit public water system (PWS) that provides service to 221 active water service connections in the rural community of Lewiston, Trinity County, California.

1.3 SUPPORTING TECHNICAL STUDIES

The technical studies listed below are available for review at the following location:

Lewiston Community Services District
130 Texas Ave
Lewiston, CA 96052
(530) 778-3869

Technical studies conducted for this project are available to the public upon request (with the exception of the cultural report) include the following:

- Cultural Resources Report (This report is confidential and available to qualified readers only)
- Biological Resources Assessment
- Biological Resources Assessment Addendum
- Wetland Delineation Report
- Engineering Project Report

1.4 DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The IS consists of the following chapters:

- **Chapter 1.0 – Introduction** describes the purpose and content of this document.
- **Chapter 2.0 – Project Description** provides a comprehensive description of the project, a tentative schedule, required permit approvals, and project alternatives.
- **Chapter 3.0 – Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures** describes the environmental impacts of the project using the CEQA Environmental Checklist. Where appropriate, mitigation measures are provided that would reduce potentially significant impacts to a less-than-significant level.
- **Chapter 4.0 – Determination** provides the environmental determination for the project.
- **Chapter 5.0 – Summary of Mitigation Commitments** provides a comprehensive list of all mitigation measures proposed for the project.
- **Chapter 6.0 – Report Preparation** identifies the individuals responsible for preparation of this document.
- **Chapter 7.0 – References** provides a list of references used to prepare this document.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 LOCATION

The approximately 45-acre project area is located between Trinity Dam Boulevard and the Trinity River in the rural community of Lewiston, Trinity County, California. The project area is shown on the *Lewiston, California,* 7.5-minute U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; Township 33 North, Range 8 West, Sections 19 and 20 (Figure 1). It includes the existing LCSD water system infrastructure associated with the Lewiston Subdivision (Figure 2). Assessor's parcel numbers, General Plan designations, and zoning in the project area are provided in Appendix A. The project is not located within any state or federally maintained lands (e.g., Bureau of Land Management or United States Forest Service land).

2.2 EXISTING FACILITY CONDITIONS

LCSD is a not-for-profit [503(c)(12)] PWS (PWS Permit CA5201002) serving 221 active service connections. LCSD's residential and commercial service area consists of about 119 residences including Trinity Dam Mobile Home Park, as well as the Lewiston Mini-Mart, Lewiston Valley Motel, Mountain Valley Grill, and Lewiston Elementary School. The existing water system facilities include a well field, a raw water intake structure on the Trinity River, a surface water direct filtration treatment plant, one 318,000-gallon welded steel storage tank, one 160,000-gallon welded steel storage tank, and a water distribution system.

The distribution system within the Lewiston Subdivision was installed circa 1957 by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. From the 1940s to the 1970s, asbestos cement (AC) pipe was the pipe of choice due to its strength, ability to resist corrosion, and light weight compared to steel and cast iron. AC pipe has a life expectancy of 65 years (American Water Works Association 2020). As such, the AC pipe installed within the Lewiston Subdivision is reaching the end of its useful service life. Between September 2018 and September 2019, LCSD lost an average of 28,000 gallons per day, or 32 percent of its water. Much of the leakage appears to be at the individual service connections, which are threaded directly into the system's AC pipe. The American Water Works Association indicates that 10 to 20 percent of "unaccounted-for" water is considered normal, whereas more than 20 percent requires priority attention and corrective action. Additionally, several fire hydrants in LCSD's service area do not meet the California Fire Code, which requires a minimum of 1,500 gallons per minute (GPM) flow. Fire flow testing in 2016 showed a fire flow rate of 310 GPM at Lewiston Elementary School's fire hydrants.

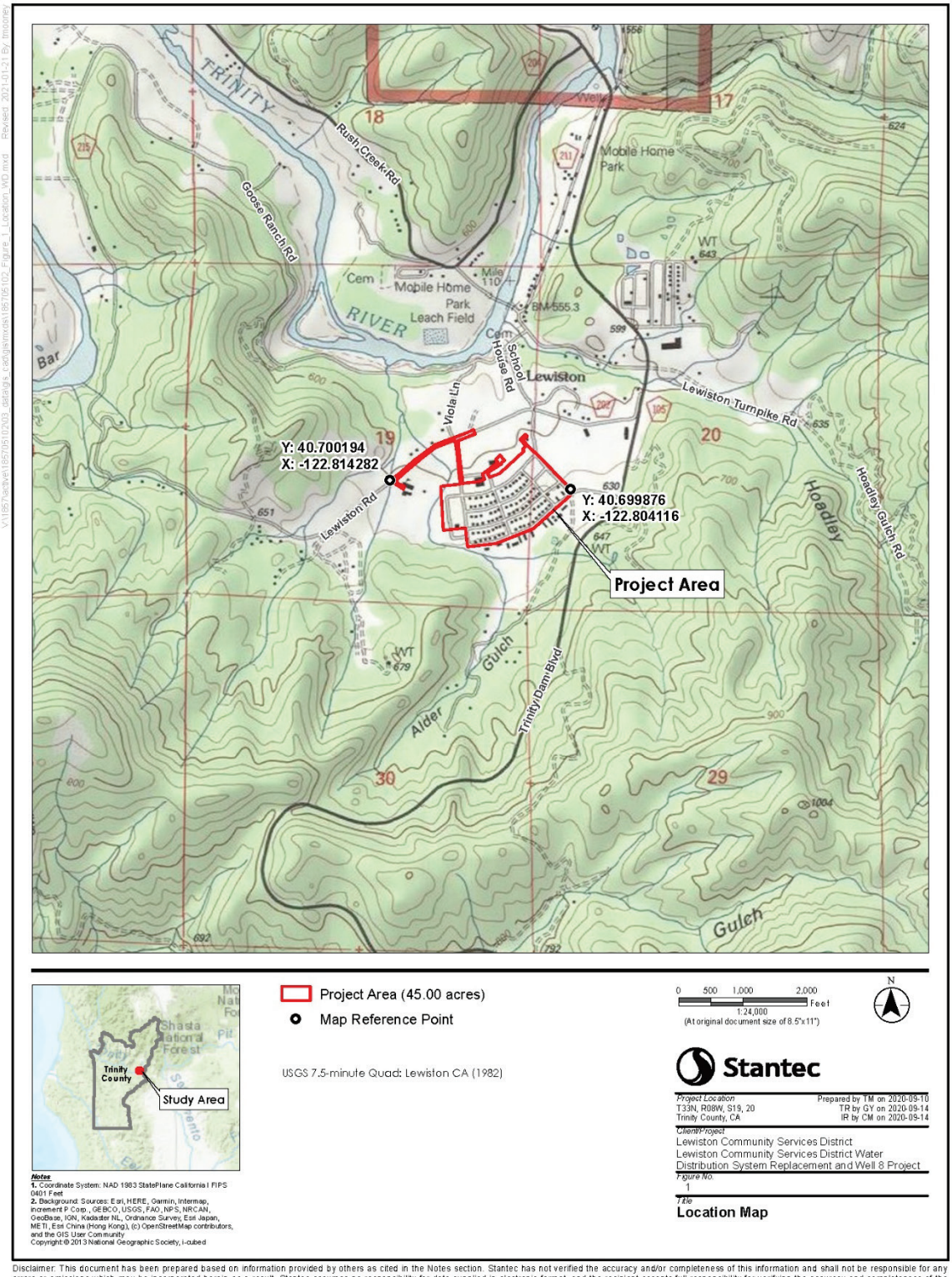
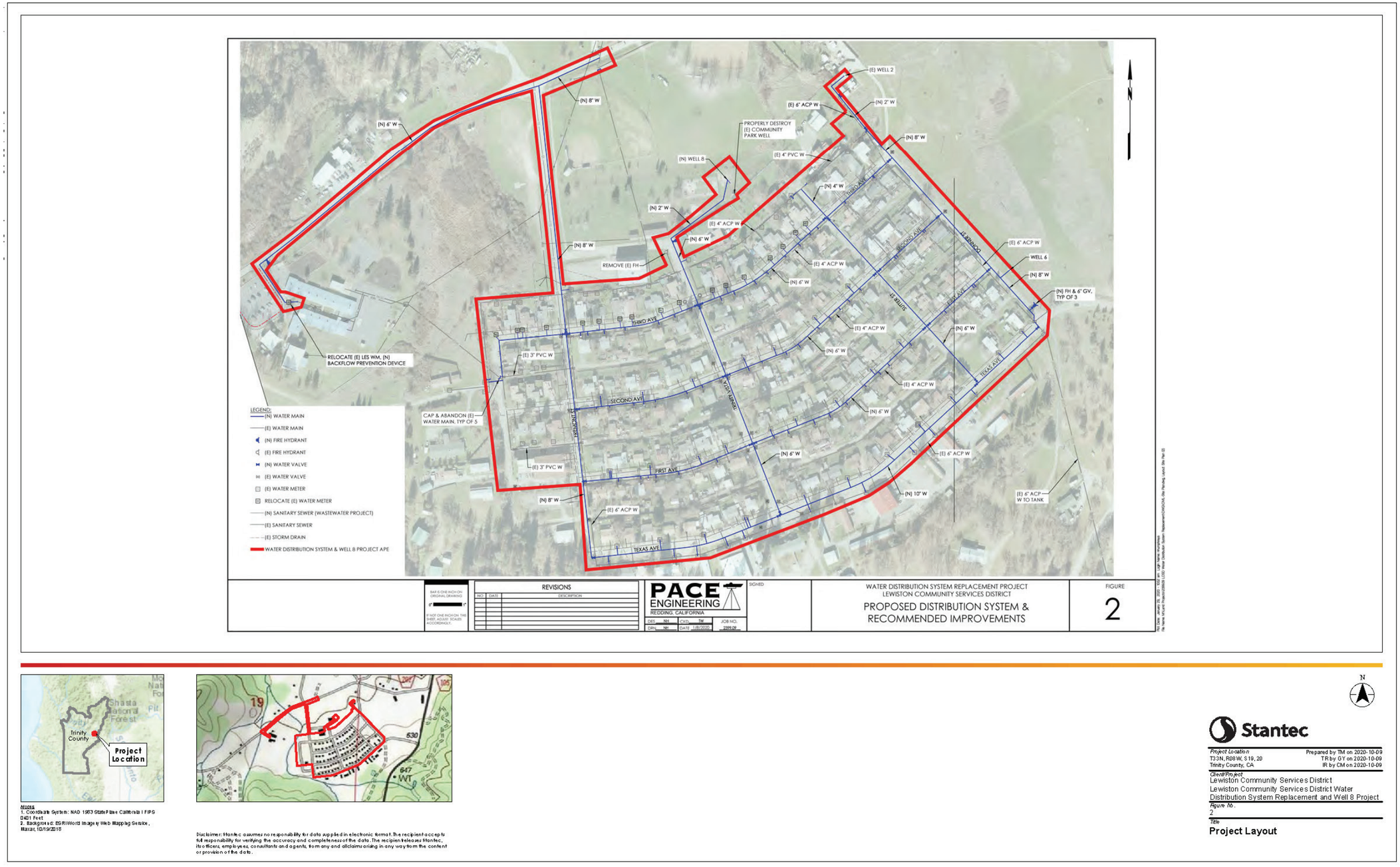


Figure 1. Location Map



NOTES
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane California I FIPS 0401 Feet
2. Background: ESRI World Imagery Web Mapping Service, Maxar, 10/19/2018

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Stantec

Project Location	Prepared by TM on 2020-10-09
T03N, R06W, S19, 20	TR by GY on 2020-10-09
Trinity County, CA	IR by CM on 2020-10-09

Client/Project
Lewiston Community Services District
Lewiston Community Services District Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project
Figure No.
2
Title
Project Layout

Figure 2: Project Layout

According to CCR Title 22, Chapter 17, Article 2, Section 64554, a PWS shall have the capacity to meet the system's maximum day demand (MDD) at all times. In addition, for systems with less than 1,000 service connections, the system shall have storage capacity equal to or greater than one MDD unless the system can demonstrate that it has an additional source of supply or has an emergency source connection that can meet the MDD requirement. LCSD currently relies on its water treatment plant (WTP) to supply the majority its system's water with the three active wells supplementing the WTP. However, the cost to operate the WTP is much greater than the cost to operate the wells, which is due in large part to the cost of pumping water from the raw water intake on the Trinity River upslope to the WTP. The WTP has a capacity of 170 GPM, while the active wells have a combined capacity of 94 GPM. If LCSD needed to rely on only the wells due to the WTP being out of service, it would not be able to meet the MDD of 99 GPM.

2.3 PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of this project is to replace the water distribution infrastructure and to complete Well 8 to improve the water distribution system for the Lewiston Subdivision. The project is needed to prevent substantial water loss, meet fire flow requirements, and have firm capacity to meet MDD in the event that the WTP needs to be taken offline.

2.4 PROPOSED PROJECT

2.4.1 Proposed Project Features

The project is described in detail in the *Engineering Project Report* (PACE Engineering, Inc. 2020). The project consists of the major components detailed in the following sections.

2.4.1.1 Replace Water Distribution System

- Open trench cut method used to install 13,620 feet of new water pipe along surface streets and connect to three wells
- Reconnect 105 service connections
- Relocate 17 service connections
- Reconnect 9 fire hydrants
- Install a backflow prevention device at Lewiston Elementary School
- Install three new fire hydrants

2.4.1.2 Well 8

- Furnish and install a submersible pump
- Construct a building to house the well and its components
- Add a disinfection system and a supervisory control and data acquisition control system
- Build a concrete masonry unit block and appurtenances
- Connect the well to the distribution system in Third Avenue by installing several hundred feet of subsurface piping
- Decommission the Community Park Well, an irrigation-only well. Well 8 would be used to irrigate the park via the new water distribution system

2.5 PROJECT DESIGN CRITERIA

2.5.1 Contractor Staging Areas/Construction Access Routes

Equipment and material staging would be confined to the existing facilities boundaries and the public right-of-way (ROW). Contractor staging would occupy an approximately 75-foot by 75-foot area around the new Well 8 location. Access to the site would occur via existing roads. No land, easements, or ROW would need to be acquired as part of this project.

2.5.2 Design Standards

All new water distribution pipeline and wells would be designed and installed per the latest edition of the CCR Title 22, Division of Drinking Water Regulations, Department of Water Resources Regulations, and American Water Works Association standards. A Trinity County Encroachment Permit would be required for distribution system improvements throughout the Lewiston Subdivision.

2.5.3 Equipment

The types of construction equipment and vehicles to be used during construction activities would be determined by the construction contractor. Equipment typically used for this type of project includes pick-up trucks, dump trucks, graders, backhoes, excavators, bulldozers, front-end loaders, jack hammers, generators, welders, circular saws, concrete vibrators, compactors, water trucks, truck-mounted drills, concrete delivery trucks, asphalt concrete paving machines, rollers, a crane, and service vehicles. The number of construction workers needed for the project would also be determined by the contractor.

2.6 CONSERVATION MEASURES

The conservation measures and best management practices (BMPs) detailed in the following sections will be followed during project construction to avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts.

2.6.1 Conservation Measure #1—Air Quality/Fugitive Dust and Emissions Controls

Air pollution control will conform to all applicable air pollution control rules, regulations, ordinances, and statutes. Dust will be controlled during construction activities and subsequent operation of the project. Dust controls may include but will not be limited to the following elements, as appropriate:

- Water construction sites and exposed stockpile sites at least twice daily until soils are stable, or as needed to reduce airborne dust. Watering will occur on workdays and non-workdays.
- Pursuant to California Vehicle Code (Section 23114) (California Legislative Information 2020), all trucks hauling soil and other loose material to and from the construction site will be covered or will maintain at least 6 inches of freeboard (i.e., minimum vertical distance between the top of the load and the upper edge of the trailer).
- Any topsoil that is removed for the construction operation will be stored on-site in piles not to exceed 4 feet in height to allow development of microorganisms prior to re-soiling of the construction area.

These topsoil piles will be clearly marked and flagged. Topsoil piles that will not be immediately returned to use will be revegetated with a non-persistent erosion control mixture.

- Soil piles for backfill will be marked and flagged separately from native topsoil stockpiles. These soil piles will also be surrounded by silt fencing, straw wattles, or other sediment barriers, or covered unless they are to be immediately used.
- Equipment and manual watering will be conducted on all stockpiles, dirt/gravel roads, and exposed or disturbed soil surfaces, as necessary, to reduce airborne dust.
- Contractors will commit to using the best available emissions control technology. The use of diesel construction equipment meeting the California Air Resources Board 1996 or newer certification standard for off-road heavy-duty diesel engines and having Tier 4 engines will be maximized to the extent feasible. Equipment may be electrified if feasible, and gasoline-powered equipment should be substituted for diesel-powered equipment when feasible, unless alternatively fueled construction equipment can be used. If the use of all equipment with Tier 4 engine standards is not feasible, the contractor should commit to using California Air Resources Control Board- and Environmental Protection Agency-verified particulate traps, oxidation catalysts, and other appropriate controls when suitable to reduce emissions of diesel particulate matter and other pollutants during construction.
- The construction contractor will designate a person to monitor dust control and to order increased watering as necessary to prevent transport of dust offsite. This person will also respond to any citizen complaints.

2.6.2 Conservation Measure #2—Erosion and Sedimentation Control

BMPs for erosion control will be implemented during project construction. Erosion control measures included in the construction contract and to be implemented by the contractor include the following. Additional measures will be detailed in the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

- To the maximum extent practicable, activities that increase the erosion potential in the project area will be restricted to the relatively dry summer and early fall period to minimize the potential for rainfall events to transport sediment to surface water features. Upland construction will likely occur throughout the year, as long as work activities comply with the conservation and avoidance and minimization measures identified herein for the protection of sensitive or special-status plant or animal species. For upland construction activities that must take place during the late fall, winter, or spring, temporary erosion and sediment control structures will be in place and operational at the end of each construction day and will be maintained until permanent erosion control structures are in place.
- Areas where upland vegetation needs to be removed will be identified in advance of ground disturbance and limited to only those areas that have been approved by LCSD. Exclusionary fencing will be installed around areas that do not need to be disturbed.
- Within 10 days of completion of construction in those areas where subsequent ground disturbance will not occur for 10 calendar days or more, weed-free mulch will be applied to disturbed areas to reduce the potential for short-term erosion. Prior to a rain event or when there is a greater than 50

percent possibility of rain within the next 24 hours as forecasted by the National Weather Service, weed-free mulch will be applied to all exposed areas upon completion of the day's activities. Soils will not be left exposed during the rainy season.

- Suitable BMPs, such as silt fences, straw wattles, or catch basins, will be placed below all construction activities at the edge of surface water features to intercept sediment before it reaches the waterway. These structures will be installed prior to any clearing or grading activities. Further, sediment built up at the base of BMPs will be removed before BMP removal to avoid any accumulated sediments from being mobilized post-construction.
- If spoil sites are used, they will be placed in locations that will avoid draining directly into a surface water feature, if possible. If a spoil site drains into a surface water feature, catch basins will be constructed to intercept sediment before it reaches the feature. Spoil sites will be graded and vegetated with native species to reduce the potential for erosion.
- Sediment control measures will be in place prior to the onset of the rainy season and will be monitored and maintained in good working condition until disturbed areas have been revegetated with native species.

2.6.3 Conservation Measure #3—Prevention of Accidental Spills of Pollutants

Construction specifications will include the following measures to reduce potential impacts on vegetation and aquatic habitat resources in the project area associated with accidental spills of pollutants (e.g., fuel, oil, and grease):

- A site-specific spill prevention plan will be implemented for potentially hazardous materials. The plan will include the proper handling and storage of all potentially hazardous materials, as well as the proper procedures for cleaning up and reporting any spills. If necessary, containment berms will be constructed to prevent spilled materials from reaching surface water features.
- Equipment and hazardous materials will be stored 50 feet away from surface water features.
- Vehicles and equipment used during construction will receive proper and timely maintenance to reduce the potential for mechanical breakdowns leading to a spill of materials. Maintenance and fueling will be conducted within an adequate fueling containment area.

2.6.4 Conservation Measure #4—Prevention of Spread of Invasive Species

The following measures will be implemented to prevent the spread of invasive species in the project area:

- All equipment used for off-road construction activities will be weed-free prior to entering the project area.
- If project implementation calls for mulches or fill, they will be weed-free.
- Any seed mixes or other vegetative material used for revegetation of disturbed sites will consist of locally adapted native plant materials to the extent practicable.

- Non-native and invasive species removed during project construction will be properly disposed of to prevent the spread of non-native and invasive species.

2.6.5 Conservation Measure #5—Cultural Resources and Human Remains

Surface surveys are not infallible and buried resources may be overlooked. Implementation of the following conservation measures will avoid or minimize the potential for significant effects to newly discovered resources:

- Construction contract documents include provisions to respond to archaeological resources discovered during the project. In the event that previously unknown archaeological resources are discovered during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the discovery will be stopped immediately, and the contractor will notify LCSD. An archaeologist meeting the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards will be retained to evaluate the discovery and recommend appropriate treatment. The conservation measures will be implemented prior to re-initiation of activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery. If the resource that is discovered is prehistoric or Native American in nature, a Native American monitor will be present during subsequent project ground disturbance.

- If human remains are discovered during project activities, all activities near the find will be suspended, and the Trinity County Sheriff–Coroner will be notified. If the coroner determines that the remains may be those of a Native American, the coroner will contact the Native American Heritage Commission. Treatment of the remains will be conducted in accordance with the direction of the County Coroner and/or Native American Heritage Commission as appropriate.

2.6.6 Conservation Measure #6—Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Construction contract documents include provisions to minimize project-related greenhouse gas emissions. The following measures will be implemented to reduce construction-related greenhouse gas emissions:

- Reuse and recycle construction and demolition waste, including but not limited to soil, vegetation, concrete, lumber, metal, and cardboard.

- Ensure that the project enhances and does not disrupt or create barriers to non-motorized transportation (e.g., bicycles, pedestrians) through proper pre-construction planning.

- Protect existing trees to the extent possible and encourage the planting of new trees.

2.6.7 Conservation Measure #7—Wildfire Potential

Construction contract documents include measures to minimize project-related potential for wildfire ignition:

- Per the requirements of PRC Section 4442, LCSD will include a note on all construction plans that internal combustion engines will be equipped with an operational spark arrester, or the engine must be equipped for the prevention of fire.

2.6.8 Conservation Measure #8—Construction Noise

Construction contract documents include provisions to minimize project-related noises. The following measures will be implemented to reduce construction-related noise:

- Construction activities (excluding activities that would result in a safety concern to the public or construction workers) will be limited to between the daylight hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Construction activities will be prohibited on Sundays and holidays officially recognized by LCSD, unless otherwise approved by LCSD.
- Construction equipment will be properly maintained and equipped with noise-reduction intake and exhaust mufflers in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.
- When not in use, motorized construction equipment will not be left idling for more than 5 minutes.
- Stationary equipment (e.g., generators or compressors) will be located at the furthest practicable distance from nearby noise-sensitive land uses. If necessary, noise attenuation measures sufficient to achieve compliance with the Trinity County General Plan Noise Element (Trinity County 2003) will be implemented.

2.7 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

The project is expected to begin in spring or summer of 2021 or 2022 depending on environmental clearance, funding, and response periods for permits. The project will take about 1 year to construct.

2.8 REQUIRED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

The following permit will be required to implement the project:

- Trinity County Encroachment Permit

2.9 NO PROJECT ALTERNATIVE

In addition to the proposed project, LCSD also considered a "No Project" alternative in its evaluation, pursuant to CEQA. Under the No Project alternative, LCSD would not proceed with water system upgrades. Deficiencies in the existing water distribution and storage system would not be addressed.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

This chapter incorporates the Environmental Checklist contained in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, including the CEQA Mandatory Findings of Significance. Each resource section provides a brief description of the setting, a determination of impact potential, and a discussion of the impacts. Where appropriate, mitigation measures are provided to reduce potential impacts to a less-than-significant level. A discussion of cumulative impacts is included at the end of this chapter.

Addressed in this section are the following 20 environmental categories and mandatory findings of significance:

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation/Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

Each of these issue areas was fully evaluated and one of the following four impact determinations was made:

- **No Impact:** No impact to the environment would occur as a result of implementing the proposed project.
- **Less-than-Significant Impact:** Implementation of the proposed project would not result in a substantial and adverse change to the environment, and no mitigation is required.
- **Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated:** A “significant” impact that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with the incorporation of project-specific mitigation measures.
- **Potentially Significant Impact:** Implementation of the proposed project could result in an impact that has a “substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project” (CEQA Guidelines Section 15382).

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

3.1.1 Regional Setting

The project area lies in the Klamath Range at the eastern boundary of Trinity County, California. This geomorphic region is bounded by the Sacramento Valley to the southeast, the Cascade Mountains to the

northeast, and the Coastal Mountains to the southwest. The project area is located within Trinity River watershed (sub basin) and the Weaver Creek-Trinity River subwatershed. The region supports an extensive system of rivers and streams, including the Trinity River, Lewiston Lake, and Trinity Lake.

3.1.2 Local Setting

The project area is centered on a single-family residential subdivision in the community of Lewiston in the Klamath Range foothills. The project area consists of rural residences, several commercial properties, paved and dirt roads and their ROWs, barren areas, Lewiston Elementary School, and the Well 8 site. The area is bounded by pine and fir stands to the south and grasslands, the Trinity River, and its riparian corridor to the north. Trinity Dam Boulevard is located east of the project area and runs north-south from Lewiston Lake to State Route 299.

3.1.3 Climate

The climate is typical of northern California's Klamath region, with moderate winters and hot, dry summers. Approximately 32 inches of precipitation and 7 inches of snow fall occurs annually, most of which occurs between November 1 and March 30. Air temperatures range between an average January high of 48 degrees Fahrenheit (ºF) and an average July high of 92ºF. The average annual high is approximately 69ºF. The average minimum temperature is approximately 40ºF (Western Regional Climate Center 2021).

3.1.4 Existing Land Uses

The project area encompasses the residential Lewiston Subdivision, several commercial properties, and the Lewiston Elementary School. Land uses in the project area and immediate vicinity include rural residences consisting of stick-frame and manufactured housing. Surrounding land uses are grassland, riparian, and forested open space on all sides, as well as scattered residences and the community of Lewiston to the north. There is one major road in the project area (Lewiston Road), as well as paved residential roads and gravel roads. Water fire hydrants and overhead utilities follow some of the road corridors.

3.1.5 Topography

Topography in the project area is relatively flat and gently sloping to the south away from the Trinity River. The elevation ranges from 1,950 to 2,070 feet above mean sea level.

3.1.6 Hydrological Setting

Hydrologic features in the project area include vegetated ditches that are tributary to the Trinity River. Drainage is from south to north. The Trinity River is a traditional navigable water and is located approximately 1,200 feet north of the project area.

3.1.7 Soils

Three soil map units occur in the project area. They are described in the *Soil Survey of the Trinity County, California, Weaverville Area* (Natural Resource Conservation Service 2021):

- Haysum Loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes, Pachic Argixerolls (149). This soil map unit consists of deep, well-drained soils. The parent material is alluvium derived from granite. The depth to a restrictive layer is more than 80 inches. The soil map unit is not hydric, except in depressions and alluvial fans.

- Urban land-xeralfs complex, 5 to 30 percent slopes, Xeralfs (201). This soil map unit consists of well-drained soils. The parent material is residuum weathered from mixed materials. The depth to a restrictive later (i.e., lithic bedrock) is 10 to 60 inches. The soil map unit is not hydric, except in stream terraces.

- Xeralfs-Xerorthents complex, 5 to 50 percent slopes, Xeralfs, xerorthents (213). This soil map unit consists of well-drained soils. The soils are eroded from hydraulic mining and alluvium derived from sedimentary rock. The depth to a restrictive later (i.e., lithic bedrock) is 10 to 60 inches. The soil map unit is not hydric, except in stream terraces.

3.1.8 Geology

The project area is centrally located within the Klamath Range geomorphic province (U.S. Geological Survey 1962). The underlying geology of the project area is made up of plutonic rocks and granitic rocks from the Mesozoic era (California Department of Conservation 2010; U.S. Geological Survey 1962). In the project area, very gravelly clay loam, gravelly loam, and clay loam are common throughout the soil profile and are overlain on weathered bedrock (Natural Resource Conservation Service 2021).

3.1.9 Vegetation Community Types

Vegetation communities are based on descriptions provided in *A Guide to Wildlife Habitats of California* (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Three vegetation communities or other habitats occur in the project area: annual grassland, montane riparian, and urban.

Annual Grassland. Annual grassland occurs west of the Lewiston Subdivision alongside vegetated ditches. It is characterized as a dense herbaceous layer and is dominated by introduced annual grass species, including medusa head (*Elymus caput-medusae*), wild oats (*Avena fatua*), soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), and ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*). Common forbs include hayfield tarweed (*Hemizonia congesta*), Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*), English plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), and gumweed (*Grindelia camporum*).

Montane Riparian. The montane riparian community occurs within and adjacent to the vegetated ditches in the project area. Dominant tree species include Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*) and red willow (*Salix laevigata*). Shrub species include narrow-leaved willow (*Salix exigua*), arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), and Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*). The herbaceous layer consists of tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*), common velvet grass (*Holcus lanatus*), western goldenrod (*Euthamia occidentalis*), sedges (*Carex* spp.), rushes (*Juncus* spp.) and narrow leaf cattail (*Typha angustifolia*).

Urban. Urban occurs throughout the project area and includes residences and landscaped yards, paved roads and their associated road shoulders, portions of a public park, and Lewiston Elementary School. Vegetation is either ornamental or consists of grasses and weedy species including chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), and Queen Anne's lace.

3.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS — Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **No Impact.** There are no scenic areas or resources within the project area. The project consists of replacing the existing water supply facilities and infrastructure along the County's road ROW and within pre-existing LCSD facilities locations. The project would be constructed in a manner consistent with the communities' existing aesthetic.

b) **No Impact.** No roads in the project area are designated as scenic. No buildings, trees, or other resources would be altered or removed.

c) **No Impact.** The project components would be consistent with the surrounding visual environment, which has been subject to use as LCSD facilities and rural urban development. A building to house Well 8 components would be constructed on the north side of the Lewiston Subdivision. It would be a small concrete brick building that will not stand out compared to the adjacent community. The visual aesthetic of replacement hydrants would be consistent with existing hydrants throughout the Lewiston Subdivision. The project would have no impact on the existing visual character and quality of existing views.

d) **No Impact.** No new lighting is proposed as part of the project. All construction activities would be limited to daylight hours and would not require the use of construction lights. The proposed Well 8 components would not contrast sharply with the surrounding environment or be a source of glare.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES — In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined by 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))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **No Impact.** No designated farmlands occur in the project area or vicinity (California Department of Conservation 2021). The project would have no impact on Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance.

b) **No Impact.** The project area and surrounding area are not designated under Williamson Act lands or agricultural uses (California Department of Conservation 2012). The project would have no impact on zoning for agricultural land uses.

c) **No Impact.** The project would not cause rezoning of forestland, timberland, or timberland zoned for timber production. The project area is not zoned for timber production or as forest land (Trinity County 1988).

d) **No Impact.** The project area does not include any designated forestland (Trinity County 1988). The project would not convert any forestland to non-forest uses and would not result in the loss of forestlands in Trinity County.

e) **No Impact.** The project would have no direct or indirect effects on farmland.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. AIR QUALITY — Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion of Impacts

a) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Trinity County is in the North Coast Air Basin. Currently, Trinity County is designated as "unclassified" or "attainment" for all federal and state ambient air quality standards, including ozone, particulate matter 2.5 microns in diameter or less ($PM_{2.5}$), particulate matter 10 microns in diameter or less (PM_{10}), carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and lead (California Air Resources Board 2021a). The operation of project construction equipment would be contained within localized areas and would result in temporary emissions (i.e., confined to short-term grading and construction activities) of reactive organic gases (ROG), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), which are ozone precursors, and carbon monoxide. Specifically, ROG and NOx emissions are associated with construction activity vehicle trips, delivery of materials, and construction equipment exhaust. Additionally, earth-moving activities could result in localized increased levels of fugitive dust and particulate matter (PM), which includes $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}. Such localized PM is generated during site grading, excavation, and exhaust from construction equipment. However, equipment used for construction and operation of the project would conform to the rules and regulations of the Trinity County Air Quality Management District. The project would not increase long-term operational emissions. The project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the current *North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District Particulate Matter (PM_{10}) Attainment Plan* (North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District 1995) or any other applicable air quality plan. Temporary emissions resulting from the project would not exceed state or national Ambient Air Quality Standards (California Air Resources Board 2021b). Implementation of *Conservation Measure #1—Air Quality/Fugitive Dust and Emission Controls* (described in Section 2.6) would further reduce air quality impacts. As a result of these implementations, the project's air quality impacts would be less than significant.

b) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Although Trinity County is designated as unclassified or attainment for all federal and state ambient air quality standards, construction activities associated with the project would result in a relatively minor net increase in PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$. When the project is complete, it would not significantly contribute PMs into the air. However, construction activities that generate fugitive dust could contribute to the region's cumulative PM levels. In addition, diesel particulates emitted from heavy equipment are identified as toxic air contaminants. Construction emissions would be temporary and would primarily be localized around the construction areas. Operational emissions would be similar to current conditions. The new submersible pump proposed at Well 8 would be electric. The project would not increase long-term operational emissions. The Trinity County General Plan Safety Element requires that standard air quality measures be applied to all projects (Trinity County 2014). *Conservation Measure #1 – Air Quality/Fugitive Dust and Emission Controls* (described in Section 2.6) includes these standard air quality measures and would further maintain air quality; therefore, project construction-related impacts would be less than significant.

c) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Sensitive receptors, including the Lewiston Elementary School and residences, are present in and adjacent to the project area. These residents could be exposed to temporary air pollutants from construction activities, such as fugitive dust, ROG, NOx, and carbon monoxide. However, construction activities would be temporary. *Conservation Measure #1 – Air Quality/Fugitive Dust and Emission Controls* (described in Section 2.6) would be used to maintain air quality. Sensitive receptors would not be exposed to substantial pollutant concentrations.

d) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Construction activities would involve the use of gasoline- or diesel-powered equipment that emits exhaust fumes. These activities would take place intermittently throughout the workday, and the associated odors would be expected to dissipate within the immediate vicinity of the work area. Persons near the construction work area may find these odors objectionable. The infrequency of the emissions, rapid dissipation of the exhaust into the air, and short-term nature of the construction activities would result in less-than-significant odor impacts. Operation of the project facilities (e.g., Well 8) would have no odor impact.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #1 – Air Quality/Fugitive Dust and Emission Controls (described in Section 2.6) would be used if necessary; however, no project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES — Would the project:				
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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** Biological Resources Assessment reports were prepared for LCSD's Wastewater Project (North State Resources 2017a) and for the Well #8 Project (North State Resources 2017b). An addendum to these reports was prepared to examine biological resources in the extended project area and to discuss current conditions (Stantec 2021). A delineation of waters of the United States was prepared for the project in 2020 (Stantec 2020a). Collectively, these studies assessed the project impacts on special-status biological resources known to occur in the project area.

Special-Status Plants and Sensitive Natural Communities. Riparian habitat, a sensitive community, is located in and adjacent to a vegetated ditch in the project area. Based on database and information review, habitat mapping, and botanical surveys of the project area, habitat for two special-status plant species having California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) designations is present in the project area and vicinity:

- Porcupine sedge (*Carex hystericina*), CRPR[1] 2B.1: occurs in marshes, swamps, and streambanks; the blooming period is typically between May and June at an elevation of about 2,000 to 3,000 feet.

- Dudely's rush (*Juncus dudleyi*), CRPR 2B.3: occurs in mesic areas in lower montane coniferous forest habitat; the blooming period is typically between July and August at an elevation of about 1,500 to 6,500 feet.

A vegetated ditch in the project area provides potential habitat for porcupine sedge and Dudley's rush. Riparian habitat occurs in and alongside the vegetated ditch. The project was designed to avoid impacting the ditch and associated riparian habitat by crossing the ditch at an existing culvert. This would avoid disturbing the bed and bank of the ditch and discharging fill into the feature. Project construction would not impact the ditch or vegetation within the ditch, and impacts on special-status plants, if present, would not occur. Impacts on riparian habitat, a sensitive natural community, would not occur.

Special-Status Wildlife. Two special status animal species were determined to potentially occur in the project area based on database and information review, vegetation and habitat mapping, and field assessments. Based on review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online Critical Habitat Portal and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Biogeographic Information and Observation System, no U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-designated critical habitat for special-status animal species occurs in or immediately adjacent to the project area. Habitat for the following special-status wildlife species was found within the project area:

- yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*): Species of Special Concern
- yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*): Species of Special Concern

Neither yellow warbler nor yellow breasted chat were observed during the field assessments conducted for the project despite the presence of nesting habitat (riparian vegetation) in and immediately adjacent to the project area.

Construction activities (e.g., equipment noise) occurring during the yellow warbler and yellow-breasted chat breeding season (February 15 to August 31) could disturb nesting pairs in or adjacent to the project area. Construction-related disturbance could result in the incidental loss of nesting adults, fertile eggs, or nestlings, which could lead to nest abandonment and may affect local or regional populations of these special-status species. Impacts could result from noise or visual disturbance from construction activities. *Mitigation Measure #1—Yellow Warbler and Yellow-Breasted Chat* (described below) would be used to reduce any impacts on these species to a less-than-significant level.

[1] California Rare Plant Rank 2B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere. Threat Ranks: 0.1-Seriously threatened in California (80 percent of occurrences threatened/high degree and immediacy of threat); 0.3-Not very threatened in California (less than 20 percent of occurrences threatened/low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

Migratory Birds and Raptors. All migratory birds and their nests are protected from take under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. All raptor species, including relatively common species and their nests, are protected from take according to California Fish and Game Code. No passerine or raptor nests were observed in the project area; however, vegetation communities or other habitat types present in the project area provide suitable nesting habitat for a variety of migratory birds, including songbirds and raptors. The local migratory bird and raptor breeding season generally extends from February 1 to August 31.

If migratory bird or raptor species are nesting in or adjacent to the project area, construction disturbance (e.g., vegetation removal, ground-disturbing activities, equipment noise or visual disturbance) during the breeding season could result in the loss of fertile eggs or nestlings, or otherwise lead to nest abandonment that could affect local or regional populations of resident and migratory birds, resulting in a significant impact. Foraging birds and individuals present in or adjacent to the project area outside of the avian breeding season would not be adversely impacted by construction activities due to their mobility and the availability of comparable or higher quality habitats outside of the project area. *Mitigation Measure #2—Migratory Birds and Raptors* (described below) would be used to ensure that any impacts on migratory birds, including raptors, would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

b) **No Impact.** Proposed work locations within the project area have been subjected to previous development-related disturbance and are largely in urban or barren habitats. Riparian habitat, a sensitive natural community, is present along a vegetated ditch in one portion of the project area. However, project construction would avoid impacts on the feature, and impacts on the riparian habitat would not occur.

c) **No Impact.** Stantec conducted a delineation of potential waters of the United States in the project area on September 4, 2020 (Stantec 2020a). Wetlands occur in the project area as a vegetated ditch; however, project construction would avoid the feature (Stantec 2021).

d) **No Impact.** Proposed activities would be confined to the existing LCSD well site, and along residential and Trinity County road ROWs. These activities would not impede movement of wildlife or fragment migration corridors**.** The project area does not encompass any wildlife nursery sites. No hydrologic features suitable for salmonid habitat occur within the proposed work areas or immediately adjacent to them. During project construction wildlife would be able to move around the project area or move through it at night. The project would have no impact on fish or wildlife movement or nursery sites.

e) **No Impact.** The project would comply with the goals and objectives described in the County's General Plan (Trinity County 1973), including measures for water quality and biological resources protection. The project would not conflict with any local biological resource policies or ordinances.

f) **No Impact.** Currently, there are no adopted Habitat Conservation Plans, Natural Community Conservation Plans, or other approved habitat conservation plans that cover the project area. The project would have no impact on local, regional, or state conservation plans.

Mitigation Measures

3.2.1 Mitigation Measure #1—Yellow Warbler and Yellow Breasted Chat

The following measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for significant impacts on yellow warbler and yellow breasted chat:

- If all necessary approvals have been obtained, potential nesting substrate (e.g., shrubs and trees) will be removed by the Lewiston Community Services District Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project (project) before the onset of the nesting season (i.e., February 15 through August 31), if practicable. This will help preclude nesting and will substantially decrease the likelihood of direct impacts.

- If construction occurs during the nesting season (February 15 through August 31), a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for nesting yellow warbler and yellow breasted chat. The effort will include surveying the project area and within a 50-foot buffer of the project area for nests, where access is permitted. The pre-construction survey will be performed no more than 7 days prior to the implementation of construction activities (including staging and equipment access). If a lapse in construction activities of 7 days or longer occurs between those dates, another pre-construction survey will be performed.

- If an active yellow warbler or yellow breasted chat nest is found, a qualified biologist in consultation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will determine the extent of a construction-free buffer zone to be established around the nest.

Timing/Implementation:	Prior to and during construction
Enforcement:	CDFW, LCSD
Monitoring:	LCSD and/or its contractor

3.2.2 Mitigation Measure #2—Migratory Birds and Raptors

The following measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for adverse impacts on nesting migratory birds and raptors:

- If all necessary approvals have been obtained, potential nesting substrate (e.g., shrubs and trees) that will be removed by the project shall be removed before the onset of the nesting season (February 1 through August 31), if practicable. This will help preclude nesting and will substantially decrease the likelihood of direct impacts.

- If construction occurs during the nesting season (February 1 through August 31), a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey within a 250-foot buffer of the project area for raptors and a 50-foot buffer of the project area for passerines, where access is permitted. The pre-construction survey will be performed between February 1 and August 31, but no more than 7 days prior to the implementation of construction activities (including staging and equipment access). If a lapse in construction activities of 7 days or longer occurs between those dates, another pre-construction survey will be performed.

- If an active nest is found, a qualified biologist (in consultation with CDFW) will determine the extent of a construction-free buffer zone to be established around the nest.

  Timing/Implementation: Prior to and during construction
  Enforcement: CDFW, LCSD
  Monitoring: LCSD and its contractor

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES — Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a, b) **No Impact.** One previously recorded historic site is in the project area; however, it was determined that the site no longer exists. The Lewiston Elementary School currently occupies the site's former location (Stantec 2020b). There are no known archaeological resources in the project area. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and CEQA Article 5, subsection 15064.5, no historic or known cultural properties would be affected by project implementation. *Conservation Measure #5—Cultural Resources and Human Remains* (described in Section 2.6) was incorporated into the project design to address any inadvertent discovery of cultural resources during project excavation.

c) **No Impact.** Human remains were not identified during the cultural study; however, the potential for encountering human remains during project construction can never be entirely ruled out. State law prescribes protective measures that must be taken in the event that any subsurface human remains are discovered. *Conservation Measure #5—Cultural Resources and Human Remains* (described in Section 2.6) was incorporated into the project design to address any inadvertent discovery of human remains during project excavation.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #5—Cultural Resources and Human Remains (described in Section 2.6) will be used if necessary; however, no project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
VI. ENERGY — Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a, b) **No Impact.** It would be necessary to use diesel-powered equipment during project construction. This would not be considered wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. The water systems capacity improvement project would comply with state and Trinity County plans for energy efficiency.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS — Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Be located on strata 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a, i-iv) **No Impact.** No faults pass through the project area, and the site is not within an Alquist-Priolo area for fault-rupture hazard (U.S. Geological Survey 2021). The project location is in a region that experiences lower levels of and less frequent ground shaking (California Geological Survey 2016). The nearest mapped quaternary faults are approximately 40 miles southeast and 40 miles southwest of the project area (U.S. Geological Survey 2021). According to the Trinity County General Plan, there are many inactive faults, and an occasional earthquake occurs in the county. Earthquake-related ground shaking may occur during design of life structures onsite. However, the risk of seismic activity occurring would not change with the implementation of the project, and the project would not expose people or structures to seismic ground shaking or seismic-related ground

failure. Implementation of the project would not increase the likelihood of landslides or expose people to substantial adverse effects from landslides.

b) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Construction of the new water distribution system would result in soil disturbance in portions of the project area. Project designs and geotechnical considerations would reduce soil erosion. Overall, soil loss would be minimal with implementation of standard construction practices for dust control and stormwater pollution prevention. Erosion and sediment control measures described in *Conservation Measure #2—Erosion and Sedimentation Control* (described in Section 2.6) would be used during construction to minimize the potential for erosion. Implementation of the project's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would also reduce soil loss. Project operation would be consistent with existing conditions (i.e., low potential for erosion). The potential for soil erosion and loss of topsoil as a result of project implementation would be less than significant.

c) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** The project area is underlain by gravelly clay loam, gravelly loam, and clay loam. The majority of the project area does not have soil erosion ratings, except for the western portion, which has a K Erosion Factor rating of 0.32. The K Erosion Factor indicates a moderate potential of a soil to sheet and rill erosion by water (Natural Resource Conservation Service 2021). The project area does not have a significant potential for landslides according to the California Department of Conservation (California Geological Survey 2016) or by the Trinity County General Plan (Trinity County 2014). The potential for site instability would be less than significant.

d) **No Impact.** Expansive soils are defined as those soils with a plasticity index of 15 percent or greater; soil types within the project area do not exceed a plasticity index of 7.5 percent (Natural Resource Conservation Service 2021). Project design would backfill trenches with excavated soils. When installing under existing pavement, the project would use granular backfill to prevent settlement and erosion (PACE Engineering, Inc. 2020). As such, there is no potential for expansive soils that would be substantial risks to life or property.

e) **No Impact.** The project does not involve septic or wastewater systems.

f) **No Impact.** There are no unique paleontological or geologic features in the project area.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #2—Erosion and Sedimentation Control (described in Section 2.6) will be used if necessary; however, no project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS — Would the Project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion of Impacts

a) **Less-than-Significant Impact**. The consensus of the scientific community is that greenhouse gases (GHG) contribute to global warming and climate change and have associated environmental impacts because of their ability to trap heat in the atmosphere and affect climate. The major GHGs that are released from human activity include carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide (Governor's Office of Planning and Research 2008, 2018). The primary sources of GHGs are vehicles (including planes and trains), energy plants, and industrial and agricultural activities (such as dairies and hog farms).

GHG emissions from the project would be generated offsite from the production of project materials (e.g., pumps, electrical systems), as well as onsite construction-related equipment emissions. While the project would have an incremental contribution in the context of the county and region, construction-related GHG emissions would be short term and minor. *Conservation Measure #1—Air Quality/Fugitive Dust and Emissions Controls* and *Conservation Measure #6—Greenhouse Gas Emissions* (described in Section 2.6) were incorporated into the project design to avoid or minimize construction-related GHG emissions. Project operation would be consistent with existing conditions.

b) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** The State of California has adopted several regulations related to GHG emissions reduction. These include efforts to reduce tailpipe emissions and diesel exhaust produced by fuel-combustion engines. Project construction and operation would adhere to statewide efforts aimed at minimizing GHG emissions and therefore would not conflict with any applicable plans, policies, or regulations adopted for reducing the emission of GHGs. The project would have a less-than-significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #1—Air Quality/Fugitive Dust and Emissions Controls, Conservation Measure #2—Erosion and Sedimentation Control, and *Conservation Measure #6—Greenhouse Gas Emissions* (described in Section 2.6) will be used if necessary; however, no project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS — Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) For a project located within an airport land use compatibility 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 for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion of Impacts

a, b, c) **Less-than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**. Hazardous materials would not be stored onsite. Lewiston Elementary School is located in the northwest portion of the project area. Construction could pose a potential hazard to the public, the environment, and the elementary school through the use of diesel- or gasoline-powered construction equipment (e.g., trucks, excavators) and lubricants such as oil and hydraulic fluids. The potential for such hazards would be temporary since equipment would be routinely maintained and inspected to avoid leaks, and this is similar to the impacts associated with the vehicles operating daily on nearby roads. BMPs described in *Conservation Measure #3—Prevention of Accidental Spills of Pollutants* (described in Section 2.6) would further reduce the potential impacts associated with the accidental spills of pollutants (e.g., fuel, oil, grease) during construction and operation.

The Lewiston Subdivision water distribution system, installed circa 1957, is comprised of materials now considered to be hazardous including AC pipe and pipe joints that were sealed with oakum and lead caulking. Asbestos presents an airborne hazard when it becomes friable—it can be reduced to a powder or dust under hand pressure when dry (California Department of Toxic Substances Control 2006). AC pipe is regulated under the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Notification and disposal measures provided in *Mitigation Measure #3—Asbestos* will be used to mitigate the potential public health hazard and environmental impacts. The project-related effects of AC pipe replacement and disposal would be less than significant.

Lead caulking used to seal joints in the existing Lewiston Subdivision water distribution system was found to contain no less than 99.73 percent pure lead (PACE Engineering Inc. 2020). Lead is a metal known to be toxic to human health even at low exposure levels. Although the full extent of lead usage in LCSDs system is unknown, it is assumed to occur throughout. Water quality data from various sampling locations throughout the distribution system does not indicate lead is present in amounts in excess of the minimum contaminant level. However, *Mitigation Measure #4—Lead Abatement and Disposal* (described below) would be used to reduce impacts on the environment or the public from lead exposure or disposal to a less-than-significant level.

d) **No Impact.** Review of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database (California Department of Toxic Substances Control 2021) and the SWRCB's GeoTracker database (State Water Resources Control Board 2021) found no record of any known contaminated sites, regulated landfill sites, underground tank sites, or hazardous-waste generators in the project vicinity. The project area is not included on the list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. No potential hazardous materials or waste sites are listed in the project vicinity.

e) **No Impact.** No airports are located near the project area. The project would have no impact on public or private airports or present a safety hazard for people working or residing in the project area.

f) **No Impact.** The water distribution system replacement would require the temporary closure of some roads in the Lewiston Subdivision; however, traffic control and detours would be in place, and roads would be reopened at the end of each workday. Work at Well 8 would be away from area roads. Hydrant replacements would be adjacent to but outside of the paved road corridor. The project would not impair implementation of nor physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan because vehicular access would be maintained through detours or traffic control throughout construction. Evacuation routes have not been designated for the community so the project would not interfere with designated routes (Trinity County 2016). Project operation would be consistent with existing conditions.

g) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** The project area is in a rural residential subdivision surrounded by open grasslands and forest. The subdivision has scattered native and ornamental trees, but it abuts native forest with a moderately dense canopy structure. Based on current mapping, the fire hazard potential of lands in the project area is mapped as having "low" to "moderate" fire hazard

potential by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (2020) and "elevated" fire risk according to the California Public Utilities Commission Fire-Threat Map (California Public Utilities Commission 2018). The use of construction equipment in and around vegetated areas increases the potential for wildfire ignition. However, *Conservation Measure #7—Wildfire Potential* (described in Section 2.6) would further reduce the risk of wildfire associated with project construction. The potential for accidental wildfire ignition during construction would be less than significant. Project operation would be consistent with existing conditions and would not increase the potential for wildfire ignition.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #3—Prevention of Accidental Spills of Pollutants and *Conservation Measure #7—Wildfire Potential* (described in Section 2.6) will be used if necessary.

3.2.3 Mitigation Measure #3—Asbestos

The following measures would be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for exposure to asbestos:

- National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) regulations require notification of the demolition be submitted to the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District on behalf of the federal Environmental Protection Agency (NESHAP Section 61.145(b)). Notifications must contain certain specified information including but not limited to the scheduled start and completion date of the work, the location of the site, the names of operators or asbestos removal contractors, methods of removal and the amount of asbestos, and whether the operation is a demolition or renovation.
- -After excavation, AC pipe shall be wet-cut, wrapped for containment, and removed for disposal to a landfill qualified to receive asbestos waste.

Timing/Implementation:	Prior to and during construction
Enforcement:	LCSD
Monitoring:	LCSD and/or its contractor

3.2.4 Mitigation Measure #4—Lead Abatement and Disposal

The following measures would be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for exposure to lead:

- Lead-containing materials shall be abated prior to planned construction/demolition by a licensed contractor in accordance with 17 California Code of Regulations (CCR) 3500.
    - Lead-containing materials must be transported under a Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest (Title 22 CCR, Section 6626.23). It must be disposed of either at a Class I landfill or at other landfills that have specific permits to accept these wastes.
    - Demolition and construction work shall be subject to the applicable work practices for lead hazards including the following:
        - California Construction Order 1532.1(a)

- Lead-in-Construction Standard
- Title 17, CCR, Division 1, Chapter 8
- Work Practices for Lead-Based Paint and Lead Hazards

- If more than 100 square or linear feet of lead-containing materials are disturbed, steps must be taken to prevent worker exposure to lead. The Department of Industrial Relations shall be notified at least 24 hours prior to beginning work.

  Timing/Implementation: Prior to and during construction
  Enforcement: LCSD
  Monitoring: LCSD and/or its contractor

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY — Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality??	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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;	☐	☐	☒	☐
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	☐	☐	☒	☐
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	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** The project would involve ground disturbance and other activities that could discharge pollutants in storm water runoff. Project construction would not alter the existing topography or existing drainage patterns in a way that would result in increased erosion, surface runoff, flooding on- or offsite, or otherwise degrade water quality. Construction and operation of the project would involve the minor use of hazardous materials (i.e., petroleum-based fuels and lubricants) for fueling and maintenance of equipment in uplands (i.e., urban habitat) away from any waterways. Implementation of *Conservation Measure #2—Erosion and Sediment Controls* and *Conservation Measure #3—Prevention of Accidental Spills of Pollutants* (described in Section 2.6) would further reduce potential impacts on water quality; project-related impacts on water quality would remain less than significant.

b) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Well 8 would replace Well 5, which was discontinued in 2016 when it was no longer producing good quality water. The average daily demand and MDD would remain the same, and the project is not intended to induce growth (PACE Engineering, Inc. 2020). Since the replacement water distribution system would lessen water loss by fixing leaky connections, less groundwater would be used after the distribution system is replaced. The project would have no effect on groundwater recharge. The impact on groundwater resources would be less than significant.

c i-ii) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Well 8 would be constructed on a small parcel, while the distribution system improvements would be constructed in existing road ROWs. The layout for the project would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the site. Facilities improvements at Well 8 would slightly increase the amount of impervious surface, but there would be no significant alterations to the existing topography or existing drainage patterns that would result in increased erosion, surface runoff, flooding on- or offsite, or otherwise degrade water quality.

c iii-iv) **No Impact.** Although the project would slightly increase the amount of impervious surface area at Well 8, proposed system improvements would not substantially alter the existing drainage patterns of the project area or substantially increase the amount of surface runoff. There are no stormwater drainage systems in the project area. Topography throughout the project area is nearly level to slightly sloped, and work would be confined to existing roads and the well site. There are no surface water features in the project area with the potential to flood. The project would not substantially increase the rate or quantity of surface runoff that could result in flooding.

d) **No Impact.** The project area is not in a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zone.

e) **No Impact.** Construction and operation of the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #2—Erosion and Sedimentation Controls and *Conservation Measure #3—Prevention of Accidental Spills of Pollutants* (described in Section 2.6) would be used if necessary; however, no project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING — Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **No Impact.** The project would not divide an established community. Construction would be temporary, and roads would remain passable through detours on nearby alternate roads and traffic control.

b) **No Impact.** The project would not require any changes to land uses or zoning and would not conflict with the Trinity County General Plan or Zoning Ordinances. The project would not conflict with any applicable conservation plans.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. MINERAL RESOURCES — Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource classified MRZ-2 by the State Geologist that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a, b) **No Impact.** The project area has not been mapped by the California Department of Conservation as containing marketable aggregate (California Department of Conservation 2018). The project area is not designated as a mineral resource area, as depicted by the Trinity County General Plan (Trinity County 1973). Gravel mining activities do not occur at this location. Project implementation would not result in the loss of availability of a valuable mineral resource.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII. NOISE — Would the project result in:				
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** During project construction, there would be a minor increase in ambient noise levels. Based on the Trinity County General Plan Noise Element, the maximum allowable noise exposure from stationary sources is up to 75 A-weighted decibels (dBA) during daylight hours (Trinity County 2003). The types of construction equipment and vehicles to be used during construction activities would be determined by the construction contractor and would likely include pick-up trucks, ten-wheeled dump trucks, cranes, graders, backhoes, excavators, front-end loaders, jack hammers, pneumatic compressors and equipment, generators, welders, circular saws, concrete vibrators, compactors, water trucks, truck-mounted drills, concrete delivery trucks, asphalt concrete paving machines, rollers, and service vehicles.

Heavy construction equipment that may be used for this project can generate noise levels as high as 88 dBA at a distance of 50 feet (Federal Transit Administration 2006; Federal Highway Administration 2006). Construction-related noise would be temporary and would occur only during daylight hours (typically 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday). The nearest residence is located approximately 100 feet southeast of Well 8, and all other residences are more than 150 feet from the well site. The water distribution system would be installed along existing residential roads and would not remain at a given location for more than a day at a time. Given the distance of Well 8 from most residences and the temporary nature of the water distribution system replacement, noise generated by project construction would have a less-than-significant impact on the community. Construction activities associated with hydrant replacement would involve minor mechanical digging and hand digging and would not result in noise impacts on nearby residences or the Lewiston Elementary School.

Noise from construction between equipment and receptors generally attenuates more quickly over longer distances, as is the case surrounding the immediate project area. However, to account for any localized and temporary increases in noise levels during construction activities (i.e., greater than 75 dBA), implementation of *Conservation Measure #8—Construction Noise* (described in Section 2.6) would further reduce noise; project noise during construction would be less than significant.

Ambient noise associated with project operation would be consistent with existing conditions.

b) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** During excavation and construction activities for the project, groundborne vibration would be produced by the heavy-duty construction equipment such as jackhammers, backhoes, and loaded trucks. Therefore, short-term, construction-related groundborne vibration impacts would be less than significant. Implementation of *Conservation Measure #8—Construction Noise* (described in Section 2.6) would further reduce the potential for groundborne vibration. Project impacts related to groundborne vibration would be less than significant.

c) **No Impact.** The project is not located near an airport or private airstrip.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #8—Construction Noise (described in Section 2.6) would be used if necessary; however, no project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING — Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial 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)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **No Impact.** This project is intended to improve the water capacity and distribution components of LCSD's existing water system. The improved system would serve the existing Lewiston Subdivision residences, commercial properties, and Lewiston Elementary School. The project would not induce growth.

b) **No Impact.** Housing in the Lewiston Subdivision and other project-adjacent areas would not be displaced by the project, and no replacement housing would be required.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. PUBLIC SERVICES — Would the project:				
a) 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impact

a) **No Impact.** The project would not cause substantial adverse physical impacts on government facilities or negatively affect fire and police protection, schools, parks, or public facilities. Although the Lewiston Fire Department is located in the southern portion of the project area, no project construction activities would interfere with ingress or egress to the fire department or its operation. The project would have no impact on any public recreational facilities in the project area and vicinity. Although traffic control and detours would occur during construction, there are many alternate routes, and impacts on emergency vehicle access would not be expected. No significant adverse impacts on service ratios, response times, or service objectives for any of the public services are anticipated.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. RECREATION — Would the project:				
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a, b) **No Impact.** Well 8 would be constructed adjacent to the Lewiston Community Park; however, the well site is relatively small and would not encroach on the existing park usage. The project would not increase the usage of the park and would not construct or expand recreational facilities.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC — Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **No Impact.** The project is not anticipated to increase either the number of vehicle trips, volume-to-capacity ratio, or congestion at intersections in the project area or vicinity. The project does not conflict with any alternative transportation plan or policy. The project is consistent with the goals

and policies of the Regional Transportation Plan for Trinity County (Trinity County 2017) and the Trinity County General Plan Circulation Element (Trinity County 2002).

b) **No Impact.** The primary purpose of the project is to improve the water distribution system for the Lewiston Subdivision and create a permanent new source of water that would meet fire flow requirements and have the capacity to meet MDD in the event the WTP needs to be taken offline. The project would have no impact on vehicle miles traveled since nearby detours would be similar in length. The project would not conflict with Section 15064.3, subdivision (b).

c) **No Impact.** The project would not result in the creation of sharp curves, dangerous intersections, or incompatible uses.

d) **No Impact.** Construction would occur within the Well 8 site and existing public ROW along several roads. Traffic control measures such as signage would be used to route traffic flow around the project activities and to alternate routes. The project would not result in inadequate emergency access.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES — Would the project: 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:				
a) 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	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) 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. In applying the 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.	☐	☒	☐	☐

Discussion of Impacts

a) **No Impact.** There are no tribal cultural resources listed or eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register of historical resources as defined in PRC Section 5020.1(k).

b) **Less-than-Significant Impact with Mitigation.** In accordance with PRC Sections 5024.1, 5097.94, 21074, and 21080.3, commonly known as Assembly Bill 52, Stantec sent notification letters and a map via mail on October 15, 2020, and email on October 30, 2020, to the Native American tribes who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. The following tribes were contacted based on a list of tribes provided by the Native American Heritage Commission: Nor Rel Muk Nation, Redding Rancheria, Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community, Shasta Nation, and the Wintu Tribe of Northern California. The Nor Rel Muk Nation responded to the outreach on November 13, 2020, indicating that cultural resources are common in the general area. The tribe formally requested to have a tribal monitor on the project during construction. There were no responses from any other tribes.

Additionally, the Native American Heritage Commission conducted a review of its Sacred Lands database for culturally significant properties and responded by email on September 29, 2020, indicating that the Sacred Lands File contained no records of Native American cultural resources in the immediate area, and no tribal cultural resources were identified in the project area. Although project construction would occur in previously disturbed areas and is not anticipated to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of tribal cultural resources, Native American construction monitoring may occur at the request of the Nor Rel Muk Nation. Project operation would have no impact on tribal cultural resources.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #5—Cultural Resources and Human Remains (described in Section 2.6) would be used if necessary; however, no project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS — Would the project:				
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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 reduction goals?	☐	☐	☒	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion of Impacts

a) **No Impact**. The project consists of improvements to the water capacity and distribution system of the existing LCSD water system. Proposed improvements would include constructing a new well, replacing the water distribution system, decommissioning an old well, and installing fire hydrants. The project does not involve any actions that would require or result in new wastewater treatment facilities.

b) **No Impact.** No new or expanded water entitlements would be required for the project.

c) **No Impact.** The project does not in involve any actions that would generate wastewater.

d) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Construction activities associated with the project would generate solid waste in the form of demolished materials, metal pilings, and other trash. Solid waste generated at the project site would be disposed of at a suitable facility such as the Weaverville Transfer Station located in Weaverville, California, approximately 8 miles west of the project area. The project would not generate solid waste in amounts that would adversely affect the existing capacity of the local landfill or would violate regulations related to solid waste. The contractor would be responsible for removing solid waste from the site. Project impacts on landfills would be less than significant.

e) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** Any solid waste generated by the project would be disposed of at an approved landfill in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations pertaining to solid waste disposal.

Mitigation Measures

No project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XX. WILDFIRE — Would the project result in:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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 uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☒	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion of Impacts

a) **No Impact.** Roads within the project area may have lane closures or detours during construction; however, many alternate routes are available. The project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Alternative routes are available, and there are no designated emergency evacuation routes in the community (Trinity County 2016). Project operation would be consistent with existing conditions.

b, c) **Less-than-Significant-Impact**. Based on current mapping, the lands in the project area are mapped as having "low" to "moderate" fire hazard potential by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (2020) and "elevated" fire risk according to the California Public Utilities Commission Fire-Threat Map (California Public Utilities Commission 2018). The project activities would not exacerbate fire risks or result in ongoing impacts to the environment. Implementation of *Conservation Measure #7—Wildfire Potential* (described in Section 2.6) would further reduce the potential for wildfire. The project's wildfire risk potential would be less than significant.

d) **No Impact.** The project profile would provide sufficient gradient for drainage of roadway surfaces, and as such, the project would not expose people or structures to significant risks as a result in drainage changes, runoff, or slope instability.

Mitigation Measures

Conservation Measure #7—Wildfire Potential (described in Section 2.6) will be used if necessary; however, no project-specific mitigation is required under this subject.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE (To be filled out by Lead Agency if required)				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the	☐	☒	☐	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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, 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?				
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)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Discussion of Impacts

a) **Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** As discussed in the preceding sections, the project has a potential to impact biological resources. Although no federally listed plant or animal species would be affected by the project, migratory birds could be impacted by construction. Habitat for two California avian species of special concern could be impacted by project construction, but mitigation measures described in the Biological Resources section (Section 3.2.1 and 3.2.2) and conservation measures described in Section 2.6 would be used to avoid or minimize potential impacts on avian species. No cultural resources are anticipated to be impacted by project construction; however, conservation measures described in Section 2.6 would be used in the event of an unexpected discovery of cultural resources or human remains. Additionally, use of a Native American cultural resources monitor during construction excavation was requested by the Nor Rel Muk Nation. The project would have no impact or a less-than-significant impact on environmental resources with mitigation and conservation measures incorporated.

b) **Less-than-Significant Impact.** The project consists of improvements to an existing water distribution system. Impacts associated with the project would be primarily limited to the construction phase, with no significant operational impacts on the environment. All impacts resulting from project implementation can be fully mitigated at the project level. As a result, cumulative impacts would be less than significant.

c) **Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** As discussed in the preceding sections, the existing water distribution system contains hazardous materials: asbestos and lead. Improper handling of these materials during removal and disposal could affect the human environment. Mitigation measures described in the Hazards and Hazardous Materials section (Section 3.2.3 and 3.2.4) would be used to avoid or minimize potential impacts on the human environment.

4.0 DETERMINATION

Based on this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed 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 proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed 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 proposed 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 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature _____ Date _____

Mel Deardorff, Board President
Lewiston Community Services District

5.0 MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

This chapter describes the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) for the Lewiston Community Services District (LCSD) Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project (project). The purpose of this MMRP is to memorialize the mitigation responsibilities of LCSD in implementing the proposed project. The mitigation measures listed herein are required by law or regulation and will be adopted by LCSD as part of the overall project approval. Mitigation is defined by California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15370 as a measure that

- *avoids the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;*
- *minimizes impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation;*
- *rectifies the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the impacted environment;*
- *reduces or eliminates the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the project; or*
- *compensates for the impacts by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.*

Mitigation measures provided in this MMRP have been identified in Chapter 3, Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures of the Initial Study (IS)/Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and are considered feasible and effective in mitigating project-related environmental impacts.

This MMRP includes discussions of the following: legal requirements, the intent of the MMRP; the development and approval process for the MMRP; the authorities and responsibilities associated with implementation of the MMRP; a method of resolution of noncompliance complaints; and a summary of monitoring requirements.

Legal Requirements: The legal basis for the development and implementation of the MMRP lies within CEQA (including the California Public Resources Code (PRC). PRC Sections 21002 and 21002.1 state the following:

> *Public agencies are not to approve projects as proposed if there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available that would substantially lessen the significant environmental effects of such projects.*
>
> *Each public agency shall mitigate or avoid the significant effects on the environment of projects that it carries out or approves whenever it is feasible to do so.*

Section 21081.6 of the California Public Resources Code further requires the following:

> *The public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes made to the project or conditions of project approval, adopted in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment. The reporting or monitoring program shall be designed to ensure compliance during project implementation.*
>
> *The monitoring program must be adopted when a public agency makes its findings under CEQA so that the program can be made a condition of project approval in order to mitigate significant*

> *effects on the environment. The program must be designed to ensure compliance with mitigation measures during project implementation to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects.*

Intent of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program: The MMRP is intended to satisfy the requirements of CEQA as they relate to the project. It will be used by LCSD, participating agencies, project contractors, and mitigation monitoring personnel during implementation of the project. The primary objective of the MMRP is to ensure the effective implementation and enforcement of adopted mitigation measures and permit conditions. The MMRP will provide for monitoring of construction activities as needed, onsite identification and resolution of environmental problems, and proper reporting to lead agency staff.

Development and Approval Process: The timing elements for implementing mitigation measures and the definition of the approval process are provided in detail throughout this MMRP to assist LCSD by providing the most usable monitoring document possible.

Authorities and Responsibilities: LCSD, functioning as the CEQA Lead Agency, will have the primary responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the MMRP and will be responsible for the following activities:

- coordination of monitoring activities
- reviewing and approving status reports
- maintenance of records concerning the status of all approved mitigation measures

As the implementing agency, LCSD is responsible for implementing the mitigation measures by incorporating them into the project specifications (contract documents) and enforcing the conditions of the contract in the field during construction. Some pre- and post-construction activities may be implemented directly by the LCSD.

Resolution of Noncompliance Complaints: Any person or agency may file a complaint that alleges noncompliance with the mitigation measure(s) adopted as part of the approval process for the proposed project. The complaint would be directed to LCSD in written form describing the purported violation in detail. LCSD would investigate and determine the validity of the complaint. If noncompliance with a mitigation measure is verified, LCSD would take the necessary action(s) to remedy the violation. Complaints would be responded to in writing, including descriptions of LCSD's investigation findings and the corrective action(s) taken, if applicable.

Summary of Monitoring Requirements: Following this discussion are the conservation measures, mitigation measures and associated monitoring requirements for the proposed project. Conservation measures include standard best management practices (BMPs) that will be used during construction. Mitigation measures are organized by environmental issue area (e.g., Air Quality, Biological Resources).

- Conservation Measures: describes the schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and structural or managerial practices, that will be used either singly or in combination to prevent or reduce the release of pollutants, or otherwise minimize the potential for adverse effects on environmental resources. The same conservation numbering system used in the IS/MND is carried forward in this MMRP.

- Mitigation Measure(s): lists the mitigation measure(s) identified for each potentially significant impact discussed in the IS/MND. The same mitigation numbering system used in the IS/MND is carried forward in this MMRP.
- Timing/Implementation: Indicates at what point in time or project phase the mitigation measure will need to be implemented.
- Enforcement: Indicates which agency or entity is responsible for enforcement of the mitigation measure(s).
- Monitoring: Indicates which agency or entity is responsible for implementing and monitoring each mitigation measure.
- Verification: Provides a space to be signed and dated by the individual responsible for verifying compliance with each mitigation measure.

5.1 CONSERVATION MEASURES

The following conservation measures and BMPs will be followed during project construction to avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts:

5.1.1 Conservation Measure #1—Air Quality/Fugitive Dust and Emissions Controls

Air pollution control will conform to all applicable air pollution control rules, regulations, ordinances, and statutes. Dust will be controlled during construction activities and subsequent operation of the project. Dust controls may include but will not be limited to the following elements, as appropriate:

- Water construction sites and exposed stockpile sites at least twice daily until soils are stable, or as needed to reduce airborne dust. Watering will occur on workdays and non-workdays.
- Pursuant to California Vehicle Code (Section 23114) (California Legislative Information 2020), all trucks hauling soil and other loose material to and from the construction site will be covered or will maintain at least 6 inches of freeboard (i.e., minimum vertical distance between the top of the load and the upper edge of the trailer).
- Any topsoil that is removed for the construction operation will be stored on-site in piles not to exceed 4 feet in height to allow development of microorganisms prior to re-soiling of the construction area. These topsoil piles will be clearly marked and flagged. Topsoil piles that will not be immediately returned to use will be revegetated with a non-persistent erosion control mixture.
- Soil piles for backfill will be marked and flagged separately from native topsoil stockpiles. These soil piles will also be surrounded by silt fencing, straw wattles, or other sediment barriers, or covered unless they are to be immediately used.
- Equipment and manual watering will be conducted on all stockpiles, dirt/gravel roads, and exposed or disturbed soil surfaces, as necessary, to reduce airborne dust.

- Contractors will commit to using the best available emissions control technology. The use of diesel construction equipment meeting the California Air Resources Board 1996 or newer certification standard for off-road heavy-duty diesel engines and having Tier 4 engines will be maximized to the extent feasible. Equipment may be electrified if feasible, and gasoline-powered equipment should be substituted for diesel-powered equipment when feasible, unless alternatively fueled construction equipment can be used. If the use of all equipment with Tier 4 engine standards is not feasible, the contractor should commit to using California Air Resources Control Board and Environmental Protection Agency-verified particulate traps, oxidation catalysts, and other appropriate controls when suitable to reduce emissions of diesel particulate matter and other pollutants during construction.

- The construction contractor will designate a person to monitor dust control and to order increased watering as necessary to prevent transport of dust offsite. This person will also respond to any citizen complaints.

5.1.2 Conservation Measure #2—Erosion and Sedimentation Control

BMPs for erosion control will be implemented during project construction. Erosion control measures included in the construction contract and to be implemented by the contractor include the following. Additional measures will be detailed in the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

- To the maximum extent practicable, activities that increase the erosion potential in the project area will be restricted to the relatively dry summer and early fall period to minimize the potential for rainfall events to transport sediment to surface water features. Upland construction will likely occur throughout the year, as long as work activities comply with the conservation and avoidance and minimization measures identified herein for the protection of sensitive or special-status plant or animal species. For upland construction activities that must take place during the late fall, winter, or spring, temporary erosion and sediment control structures will be in place and operational at the end of each construction day and will be maintained until permanent erosion control structures are in place.

- Areas where upland vegetation needs to be removed will be identified in advance of ground disturbance and limited to only those areas that have been approved by LCSD. Exclusionary fencing will be installed around areas that do not need to be disturbed.

- Within 10 days of completion of construction in those areas where subsequent ground disturbance will not occur for 10 calendar days or more, weed-free mulch will be applied to disturbed areas to reduce the potential for short-term erosion. Prior to a rain event or when there is a greater than 50 percent possibility of rain within the next 24 hours as forecasted by the National Weather Service, weed-free mulch will be applied to all exposed areas upon completion of the day's activities. Soils will not be left exposed during the rainy season.

- Suitable BMPs, such as silt fences, straw wattles, or catch basins will be placed below all construction activities at the edge of surface water features to intercept sediment before it reaches the waterway. These structures will be installed prior to any clearing or grading activities. Further, sediment built up at the base of BMPs will be removed before BMP removal to avoid any accumulated sediments from being mobilized post-construction.

- If spoil sites are used, they will placed in locations that will avoid draining directly into a surface water feature, if possible. If a spoil site drains into a surface water feature, catch basins will be constructed to intercept sediment before it reaches the feature. Spoil sites will be graded and vegetated with native species to reduce the potential for erosion.
- Sediment control measures will be in place prior to the onset of the rainy season and will be monitored and maintained in good working condition until disturbed areas have been revegetated with native species.

5.1.3 Conservation Measure #3—Prevention of Accidental Spills of Pollutants

Construction specifications will include the following measures to reduce potential impacts on vegetation and aquatic habitat resources in the project area associated with accidental spills of pollutants (e.g., fuel, oil, and grease):

- A site-specific spill prevention plan will be implemented for potentially hazardous materials. The plan will include the proper handling and storage of all potentially hazardous materials, as well as the proper procedures for cleaning up and reporting any spills. If necessary, containment berms will be constructed to prevent spilled materials from reaching surface water features.
- Equipment and hazardous materials will be stored 50 feet away from surface water features.
- Vehicles and equipment used during construction will receive proper and timely maintenance to reduce the potential for mechanical breakdowns leading to a spill of materials. Maintenance and fueling will be conducted within an adequate fueling containment area.

5.1.4 Conservation Measure #4—Prevention of Spread of Invasive Species

The following measures will be implemented to prevent the spread of invasive species in the project area:

- All equipment used for off-road construction activities will be weed-free prior to entering the project area.
- If project implementation calls for mulches or fill, they will be weed-free.
- Any seed mixes or other vegetative material used for revegetation of disturbed sites will consist of locally adapted native plant materials to the extent practicable.
- Non-native and invasive species removed during project construction will be properly disposed of to prevent the spread of non-native and invasive species.

5.1.5 Conservation Measure #5—Cultural Resources and Human Remains

Surface surveys are not infallible and buried resources may be overlooked. Implementation of the following conservation measures will avoid or minimize the potential for significant effects to newly discovered resources:

- Construction contract documents include provisions to respond to archaeological resources discovered during the project. In the event that previously unknown archaeological resources are discovered during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the discovery will be stopped immediately, and the contractor will notify the LCSD. An archaeologist meeting the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards will be retained to evaluate the discovery and recommend appropriate treatment. The conservation measures will be implemented prior to re-initiation of activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery. If the resource that is discovered is prehistoric or Native American in nature, a Native American monitor will be present during subsequent project ground disturbance.

- If human remains are discovered during project activities, all activities near the find will be suspended and the Trinity County Sheriff–Coroner will be notified. If the coroner determines that the remains may be those of a Native American, the coroner will contact the Native American Heritage Commission. Treatment of the remains will be conducted in accordance with the direction of the County Coroner and/or Native American Heritage Commission as appropriate.

5.1.6 Conservation Measure #6—Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Construction contract documents include provisions to minimize project-related greenhouse gas emissions. The following measures will be implemented to reduce construction-related greenhouse gas emissions:

- Reuse and recycle construction and demolition waste, including but not limited to soil, vegetation, concrete, lumber, metal, and cardboard.

- Ensure that the project enhances and does not disrupt or create barriers to non-motorized transportation (e.g., bicycles, pedestrians) through proper pre-construction planning.

- Protect existing trees to the extent possible and encourage the planting of new trees.

5.1.7 Conservation Measure #7—Wildfire Potential

Construction contract documents include measures to minimize project-related potential for wildfire ignition:

- Per the requirements of PRC Section 4442, LCSD will include a note on all construction plans that internal combustion engines will be equipped with an operational spark arrester, or the engine must be equipped for the prevention of fire.

5.1.8 Conservation Measure #8—Construction Noise

Construction contract documents include provisions to minimize project-related noises. The following measures will be implemented to reduce construction-related noise:

- Construction activities (excluding activities that would result in a safety concern to the public or construction workers) will be limited to between the daylight hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Construction activities will be prohibited on Sundays and holidays officially recognized by LCSD, unless otherwise approved by LCSD.

- Construction equipment will be properly maintained and equipped with noise-reduction intake and exhaust mufflers in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.
- When not in use, motorized construction equipment will not be left idling for more than 5 minutes.
- Stationary equipment (e.g., generators or compressors) will be located at the furthest practicable distance from nearby noise-sensitive land uses. If necessary, noise attenuation measures sufficient to achieve compliance with the Trinity County General Plan Noise Element (Trinity County 2003) will be implemented.

5.2 MITIGATION MEASURES

This MMRP includes the following mitigation measures to be implemented during construction of the project:

5.2.1 Mitigation Measure #1—Yellow Warbler and Yellow Breasted Chat

The following measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for significant impacts on yellow warbler and yellow breasted chat:

- If all necessary approvals have been obtained, potential nesting substrate (e.g., shrubs and trees) will be removed by the Lewiston Community Services District Water Distribution System Project (project) before the onset of the nesting season (i.e., February 15 through August 31), if practicable. This will help preclude nesting and will substantially decrease the likelihood of direct impacts.
- If construction occurs during the nesting season (February 15 through August 31), a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for nesting yellow warbler and yellow breasted chat. The effort will include surveying the project area and within a 50-foot buffer of the project area for nests, where access is permitted. The pre-construction survey will be performed no more than 7 days prior to the implementation of construction activities (including staging and equipment access). If a lapse in construction activities of 7 days or longer occurs between those dates, another pre-construction survey will be performed.
- If an active yellow warbler or yellow breasted chat nest is found, a qualified biologist in consultation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will determine the extent of a construction-free buffer zone to be established around the nest.

Timing/Implementation:	Prior to and during construction
Enforcement:	CDFW, LCSD
Monitoring:	LCSD and/or its contractor

5.2.2 Mitigation Measure #2—Migratory Birds and Raptors

The following measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for adverse impacts on nesting migratory birds and raptors:

- If all necessary approvals have been obtained, potential nesting substrate (e.g., shrubs and trees) that will be removed by the project shall be removed before the onset of the nesting season (February

1 through August 31), if practicable. This will help preclude nesting and will substantially decrease the likelihood of direct impacts.

- If construction occurs during the nesting season (February 1 through August 31), a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey of the project area, as access is available, that will include an assessment for all raptor species and an assessment for all other species within a 50-foot buffer from the outer edges of the project area in order to locate any active bird nests and, if necessary, identify measures to protect the nests. The pre-construction survey will be performed between February 1 and August 31, but no more than 7 days prior to the implementation of construction activities (including staging and equipment access). If a lapse in construction activities of 7 days or longer occurs between those dates, another pre-construction survey will be performed.

- If an active nest is found, a qualified biologist (in consultation with CDFW) will determine the extent of a construction-free buffer zone to be established around the nest.

Timing/Implementation:	Prior to and during construction
Enforcement:	CDFW, LCSD
Monitoring:	LCSD and its contractor

5.2.3 Mitigation Measure #3—Asbestos

The following measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for exposure to asbestos:

- National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) regulations require notification of the demolition be submitted to the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District on behalf of the federal Environmental Protection Agency (NESHAP Section 61.145(b)). Notifications must contain certain specified information including but not limited to the scheduled start and completion date of the work, the location of the site, the names of operators or asbestos removal contractors, methods of removal and the amount of asbestos, and whether the operation is a demolition or renovation.

- After excavation, asbestos cement (AC) pipe shall be wet-cut, wrapped for containment, and removed for disposal to a landfill qualified to receive asbestos waste.

Timing/Implementation:	Prior to and during construction
Enforcement:	LCSD
Monitoring:	LCSD and/or its contractor

5.2.4 Mitigation Measure #4—Lead Abatement and Disposal

The following measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize the potential for exposure to lead:

- Lead-containing materials shall be abated prior to planned construction/demolition by a licensed contractor in accordance with 17 California Code of Regulations (CCR) 3500.

- Lead-containing materials must be transported under a Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest (Title 22 CCR, Section 6626.23). It must be disposed of either at a Class I landfill or at other landfills that have specific permits to accept these wastes.

- Demolition and construction work shall be subject to the applicable work practices for lead hazards including the following:
    - California Construction Order 1532.1(a)
    - Lead-in-Construction Standard
    - Title 17, CCR, Division 1, Chapter 8
    - Work Practices for Lead-Based Paint and Lead Hazards
- If more than 100 square or linear feet of lead-containing materials are disturbed, steps must be taken to prevent worker exposure to lead. The Department of Industrial Relations shall be notified at least 24 hours prior to beginning work.

Timing/Implementation:	Prior to and during construction
Enforcement:	LCSD
Monitoring:	LCSD and/or its contractor

6.0 REPORT PREPARATION

6.1 LEWISTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT CEQA LEAD AGENCY

Mel Deardorff	Board President
Dave Covington	Board Vice President
Cyd Cooper	Board Member
Jenni Brookins	Board Member
Joseph Kasper	Board Member
Katie Quinn	Board Secretary

6.2 PACE ENGINEERING ENGINEERING CONSULTANT

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Nicole Humphreys	Staff Engineer

6.3 UNIVERSITY ENTERPRISES, INC. OFFICE OF WATER PROGRAMS

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Nadine Cross	Administrative Services Manager
Randall Marx	Research Engineer

6.4 STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

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Nabiul Afrooz	Water Resources Control Engineer
Kristen Way	Environmental Scientist

6.5 STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SUBCONSULTANTS

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Gabe Youngblood	Biologist
John Nadolski	Principal Investigator/Archaeologist
Georganne McMaster	Archaeologist
Teri Mooney	GIS Analyst
Sylvia Langford	Formatting
Chris Broderick	Technical Editor

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Appendix A ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBERS, GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATIONS, AND ZONING IN THE PROJECT AREA

Stantec

Accessor Parcel Numbers, General Plan Designations, and Zoning in the Project Area

Accessor Parcel Number	General Plan Designation	Zoning
025-320-53-00	RR	RR1
025-440-04-00	RR	RR1
025-550-01-00	PF	PF
025-550-10-00	C	C2
025-550-14-00	SF-L	R1A
025-550-18-00	SF-L	R1A
025-560-04-00	PF	PF
025-560-05-00	PF	PF
025-560-07-00	SF-L	R1A
025-560-08-00	SF-L	R1A
025-560-09-00	SF-L	R1A
025-570-01-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-02-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-03-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-04-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-05-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-06-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-07-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-08-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-11-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-12-00	SF-L	R1A
025-570-13-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-14-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-15-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-16-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-17-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-18-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-19-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-20-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-21-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-22-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-23-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-24-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-25-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-26-00	SF-H	R1

Stantec

Accessor Parcel Number	General Plan Designation	Zoning
025-570-27-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-28-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-29-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-30-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-31-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-32-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-33-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-34-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-35-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-36-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-37-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-38-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-39-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-40-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-41-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-42-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-43-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-44-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-45-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-46-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-47-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-48-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-49-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-50-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-51-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-52-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-53-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-56-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-57-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-58-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-59-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-60-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-62-00	SF-H	R1
025-570-63-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-01-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-02-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-03-00	SF-H	R1

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Accessor Parcel Number	General Plan Designation	Zoning
025-580-04-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-05-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-06-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-07-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-08-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-09-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-10-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-11-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-12-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-13-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-14-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-15-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-16-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-17-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-18-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-19-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-20-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-21-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-22-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-23-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-24-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-25-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-26-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-27-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-28-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-29-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-30-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-31-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-32-00	SF-H	R1
025-580-33-00	C	C2
025-580-35-00	C	C2
025-580-37-00	C	C2
025-580-40-00	C	C2
025-580-41-00	C	C2
025-580-43-00	C	C2
025-590-01-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-02-00	SF-H	R1

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Accessor Parcel Number	General Plan Designation	Zoning
025-590-03-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-04-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-05-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-06-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-07-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-08-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-09-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-10-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-11-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-12-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-13-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-14-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-19-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-20-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-21-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-22-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-23-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-24-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-25-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-26-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-27-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-28-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-29-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-30-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-31-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-32-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-33-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-34-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-35-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-36-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-37-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-38-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-39-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-40-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-41-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-42-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-43-00	SF-H	R1

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Accessor Parcel Number	General Plan Designation	Zoning
025-590-44-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-45-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-46-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-47-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-48-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-49-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-50-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-51-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-52-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-53-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-54-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-55-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-56-00	SF-H	R1
025-590-57-00	PF	PF
025-590-58-00	C	C2
025-590-59-00	C	C2
025-590-61-00	C	C1
025-590-62-00	C	C1
025-590-63-00	C	C1
025-590-64-00	MF-H	R3
025-330-14-00	RR	RR10
025-580-38-00	C	C2
025-580-39-00	C	C2
025-550-17-00	SF-L	R1A
025-320-52-00	RR	RR1
025-320-52-00	C	C2
025-320-52-00	RR	RR1
025-320-52-00	C	C2
025-560-10-00	SF-L	R1A
025-560-10-00	SF-L	R1A

Notes:

General Plan Designation Codes
RR = Rural Residential
PF = Public Facility
C = Commercial
SF-L = Single Family Residence – Low Density
SF-H = Single Family Residence – High Density
MF-H = Multi-Family Housing

Zoning Codes
RR1 = Rural Residential
PF = Public Facility
C2 = General Commercial
R1A = Single Family Residence – Low Density
R1 = Single Family Residence – High Density
R3 = Multi-Family Residence