# Buena Vista Water Storage District

# Belridge Pipeline Project

## MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) is a CEQA-required component of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) process for the Belridge Pipeline Project (Project). The results of the environmental analyses, including proposed mitigation measures, are documented in the Final MND. CEQA requires that agencies adopting MNDs take affirmative steps to determine that approved mitigation measures are implemented subsequent to project approval. As part of the CEQA environmental review procedures, Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21081.6 requires a public agency to adopt a monitoring and reporting program to ensure efficacy and enforceability of any mitigation measures applied to a proposed project. The lead agency must adopt an MMRP for mitigation measures incorporated into the project or proposed as conditions of approval. The MMRP must be designed to ensure compliance during project implementation. As stated in PRC Section 21081.6(a)(1):

> 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. For those changes which have been required or incorporated into the project at the request of a responsible agency or a public agency having jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by the project, that agency shall, if so requested by the lead agency or a responsible agency, prepare and submit a proposed reporting or monitoring program.

The MMRP is provided in **Table 1**. The table lists each of the mitigation measures proposed in the Final MND and specifies the agency responsible for implementation of the mitigation measure and the time period for the mitigation measure.

**Table 1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, Corn Camp Groundwater Recharge Pond Project**

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| **Air Quality** | | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure AQ-1: District Regulation VIII Fugitive PM10 Prohibitions Best Management Practices.** All projects are subject to SJVAPCD rules and regulations in effect at the time of construction. Control of fugitive dust is required by SJVAPCD Regulation VIII. The District will implement or require its contractor to implement all of the following measures as identified by SJVAPCD:<br>▪ Apply water to unpaved surfaces and areas<br>▪ Use non-toxic chemical or organic dust suppressants on unpaved roads and traffic areas<br>▪ Limit or reduce vehicle speed on unpaved roads and traffic areas<br>▪ Maintain areas in a stabilized condition by restricting vehicle access<br>▪ Install wind barriers<br>▪ -During high winds, cease outdoor activities that disturb the soil<br>▪ Keep bulk materials sufficiently wet when handling<br>▪ Store and hand material in a three-sided structure<br>▪ When storing bulk material, apply water to the surface or cover the stage pile with a tarp<br>▪ Don't overload haul trucks. Overlanded trucks are likely to spill bulk materials | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | ▪ Cover haul trucks with a tarp or other suitable cover. Or, wet the top of the load enough to limit visible dust emissions<br>▪ Clean the interior of cargo compartments on emptied haul trucks prior to leaving the site<br>▪ Prevent track-out by installing a track-out control device<br>▪ Clean up track-out at least once a day. If along a busy road or highway, clean up track-out immediately<br>▪ Monitor dust-generating actives and implement appropriate measures for maximum dust control | | |
| **Biological** | | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Implement Best Management Practices during Project Construction to Minimize Impacts on Biological Resources.**<br>To generally minimize potential effects of Project construction on biological resources, the District will ensure that the following BMPs are implemented:<br>▪ BMP-1: All project personnel working on the project site will attend a worker training program before beginning on-site work. The program will be presented by a qualified biologist with knowledge of sensitive biological resources known or with potential to occur on the project site. The program will address applicable state and federal laws and regulations; sensitive habitats on and adjacent to the project site; biology, habitat needs, and distribution of special-status species on and adjacent to the project site; regulatory status of each resource and its associated protections; measures required to | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | avoid and reduce impacts to these resources during project construction; potential penalties for non-compliance; and procedures to be followed if dead or injured wildlife are found during project activities. Upon completion of the orientation, employees will sign a form stating that they attended the program, understand all required measures, and received a hardhat sticker or other means of identifying that they have attended the program. No untrained personnel will be allowed to work onsite except delivery personnel that are solely dropping off or picking up materials or equipment under the direct supervision of trained project personnel.<br>▪ BMP-2: A biological monitor approved by USFWS and CDFW will be present onsite or available as necessary during all project activities that could result in "take" of listed species to assist with implementation of required species-specific avoidance and minimization measures. The biological monitor will have the authority to halt all non-emergency actions in an area in which imminent threat to a listed species arises or if avoidance and minimization measures are not being properly implemented. Work will proceed only after the biological monitor deems it appropriate.<br>▪ BMP-3: Before on-site project activities begin on non-agricultural lands, work areas will be marked with fencing, stakes with rope or cord, or other means of clearly delineating the work limits and access routes. All fencing, stakes, etc. will be maintained until project | | |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | construction is complete and then removed from the project site. Project activities will be restricted to within marked or otherwise designated areas.<br>▪ BMP-4: Project activities will only occur during the day (between 30 minutes before sunrise and 30 minutes after sunset).<br>▪ BMP-5: All construction traffic will be restricted to designated access routes, work areas, storage areas, and staging and parking areas. Off-road traffic in habitat suitable for listed species and outside designated project boundaries will be prohibited. Vehicles and equipment will adhere to an on-site speed limit of 10 miles per hour during the period when blunt-nosed leopard lizards are likely to be active (March 15–October 15; air temperatures of 77-113 degrees Fahrenheit [°F]). At other times, the on-site speed limit will be 20 miles per hour.<br>▪ BMP-6: Construction vehicles and equipment will be cleaned inside and out at an authorized washing facility before arrival at the project site. Exterior cleaning will include pressure washing vehicles and equipment, with close attention paid to the tracks, feet, and/or tires and all elements of the undercarriage. Vehicle cabs will be swept out and refuse will be disposed at an approved off-site location. Vehicles and equipment will be inspected before entering the site to ensure they are free of soil and debris that could harbor nonnative plant seeds, roots, or rhizomes. | | |

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| | ▪ BMP-7: All equipment and materials storage, staging, and parking will be confined to the construction corridors or other previously disturbed areas that do not provide habitat for special-status species, as determined by the biological monitor. Workers will check for wildlife under parked vehicles and equipment prior to operation. If wildlife is observed, vehicles/equipment will not be moved until such wildlife has moved out of harm's way. If necessary and authorized under project permits and approvals, the biological monitor may move wildlife from under/near vehicles/equipment.<br>▪ BMP-8: All project materials that could pose a hazard to wildlife (as determined by the biological monitor) will be contained in closed containers either in the work area or on/in vehicles. Loose items (e.g., rags, hose, etc.) will not be stored on the project site unless they are inaccessible to wildlife. Accidental project-related spills of hazardous materials, fuels, lubricants, or solvents will be cleaned up and removed from the project site as soon as possible, according to applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Any spills of hazardous liquids will not be left unattended until clean-up has been completed.<br>▪ BMP-9: Project-related use of rodenticides and herbicides on the project site will be prohibited.<br>▪ BMP-10: Dust control measures will be implemented throughout construction activities. The amount of water used will be kept to a minimum as to avoid forming puddles. | | |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | ▪ BMP-11: To prevent wildlife entrapment during construction, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 2-feet-deep will be covered with plywood or similar material when work is not actively being conducted in the excavation. If the trenches cannot be closed, one or more escape ramps of no more than a 1:1 (45-degree) slope will be constructed of earthen fill or created with wooden planks at no greater than 500-foot-long intervals. All covered or uncovered excavations will be inspected at the beginning, middle, and end of each day. Before trenches are filled, they will be inspected for trapped animals. If a trapped or injured animal is discovered, project activities will stop, and escape ramps or structures will be installed immediately to allow the animal(s) to escape voluntarily before construction activities begin/resume. A biological monitor may remove wildlife from an excavation or other entrapment if the immediate welfare of the individual is in jeopardy and appropriate agency permits/approvals are in place. If a federally or state-listed species that is not covered by take authorization (e.g., a fully protected species) becomes entrapped and measures have not been previously developed to address the situation, USFWS and/or CDFW will be contacted to determine the appropriate actions.<br>▪ BMP-12: All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures laid in trenches overnight or stored onsite overnight will be capped. If an open pipe is subsequently | | |

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| | discovered, the pipe will be visually inspected for wildlife, if feasible. After it is confirmed that no state or federally listed species are present in the pipe, the pipe will be capped. If the pipe cannot be visually inspected (buried, bent, too long, etc.), it will be monitored with tracking medium and/or an infrared camera. If after no less than 3 consecutive nights of monitoring, no sign of state or federally listed species is observed, the pipe will be capped. All pipe will be thoroughly inspected for wildlife before the pipe is buried or otherwise used or moved in any way. If an animal is discovered inside a pipe, the pipe will not be moved, and the animal will be allowed to leave voluntarily before construction activities begin/resume. A biological monitor may remove an animal from a pipe or other entrapment if appropriate agency permits/approvals are in place and the immediate welfare of the individual is in jeopardy or the animal does not vacate the pipe on its own accord within a reasonable timeframe. If a federally or state-listed species that is not covered by take authorization (e.g., a fully protected species) becomes entrapped and measures have not been previously developed to address the situation, USFWS and/or CDFW will be contacted to determine the appropriate actions.<br>▪ BMP-13: All food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, micro-trash, and food scraps generated by project activities will be disposed of in closed containers | | |

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| | and removed at least once each week from the site. Deliberate feeding of wildlife will be prohibited.<br>▪ BMP-14: Project personnel will be prohibited from having firearms or domestic pets on the project site.<br>▪ BMP-15: Any project personnel who inadvertently kills or injures an animal or finds any animal dead, injured, or entrapped on the project site will be required to report the incident immediately to a designated site representative (e.g., foreman, manager, biological monitor, etc.). The site representative must then notify a biological monitor if one has not already been notified. All project work in the immediate vicinity of any such finding will cease until a biological monitor determines the appropriate action and deems it appropriate for work to resume. USFWS will be notified of injury or mortality of any federally listed species, and CDFW will be notified of injury or mortality of any state-listed or other special-status species. Instructions provided by USFWS and/or CDFW for the care of any injured animal and potential transfer of any mortalities will be implemented.<br>▪ BMP-16: All construction refuse, including, but not limited to, fencing, stakes, flagging, broken equipment parts, wrapping material, cords, cables, wire, rope, strapping, twine, buckets, containers, forms, wood, rebar, pipe, pallets, and boxes will be removed within 14 days of completing construction activities. | | |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Minimize Impacts on Special status Plants.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on special status plants, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ SSP-1: Initial ground disturbance within 50 feet of special-status plant populations will be timed to occur after seed set and prior to germination, to the extent feasible. This period is generally May to October but may vary depending on annual precipitation and temperature conditions.<br>▪ SSP-2: Within habitat occupied by special-status plants, the top 4 inches of soil will be excavated and temporarily stockpiled separately from soils excavated from deeper in the trench. After the pipeline is installed, the trench will first be backfilled with soil excavated from below 4 inches, then soil excavated from the top 4 inches of the trench will be returned to the trench surface as close to the original location as possible and contoured to blend with surrounding grades. Topsoil will not be stockpiled for longer than the beginning of the next growing season. | BVWSD | During construction |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Minimize Impacts on Crotch's Bumble Bee.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on Crotch's bumble bee, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ CBB-1: A qualified biologist will conduct a survey to determine the presence of suitable foraging, nesting, or | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | over-wintering habitat for Crotch's bumble bee within or immediately adjacent to the project site. If suitable habitat is present, surveys will be conducted within 1 year of vegetation removal/initial ground disturbance to detect foraging individuals and active nest colonies. Surveys will be conducted by a biologist familiar with Crotch's bumble bee behavior and life history and in accordance with *Survey Considerations for California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Candidate Bumble Bee Species* (CDFW 2023b) or alternative current agency protocols and requirements. Crotch's bumble bees will only be handled for identification and if appropriate agency permits/approvals are in place. If no Crotch's bumble bee or their nests are detected, no further measures will be necessary if vegetation removal/initial ground disturbance occurs before March 1 of the year following the negative survey.<br>▪ CBB-2: If Crotch's bumble bee individuals or nests are detected during the surveys, a Crotch's bumble bee Mortality Reduction Plan will be prepared and submitted to CDFW no less than 30 days before project initiation. The plan will identify measures to avoid and minimize impacts on Crotch's bumble bee and may include measures such as the following:<br>○ 50-foot-wide no disturbance buffers will be implemented around active Crotch bumble bee nests, to the extent feasible | | |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | ○ If Crotch bumble bee nests cannot be avoided, vegetation removal/initial ground disturbance will be limited to periods when fewer individual Crotch bumble bees are likely to be underground (e.g., after nests have become inactive)<br>○ Vegetation removal/initial ground disturbance will be timed to minimize potential mortality of overwintering Crotch bumble bee queens, and small mammal burrows that may harbor queens will be excavated by hand to the extent feasible.<br>○ Procedures for handling and disposition of individual Crotch bumble bees, if encountered on the project site during construction activities (including burrow hand-excavation), will be identified and implemented. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-4: Install Wildlife Exclusion Fencing.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on special-status wildlife, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ WEF-1: Wildlife exclusion fencing (WEF) will be installed and maintained during pipeline installation. A minimum of 60 days before WEF is installed, a WEF plan that includes fence specifications (smooth material such as aluminum flashing, heavy gauge polyvinyl chloride, or high-density polyethylene matrix material with anti-climbing guards), a map of WEF location, and timing of WEF installation in relation to construction activities will | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | be prepared and submitted to CDFW and USFWS. Fencing will meet all species-specific requirements. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-5: Minimize Impacts on Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on blunt-nosed leopard lizard, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ BNLL-1: Surveys following the *Approved Survey Methodology for the Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard* (CDFW 2019) or alternative current CDFW protocols for detection of blunt-nosed leopard lizard will be conducted and completed no more than 1 year before project construction activities begin.<br>▪ BNLL-2: Blunt-nosed leopard lizard take avoidance and minimization measures will be implemented during project construction, such as methods to ensure individuals are not struck by project vehicles and equipment or crushed in burrows within the project disturbance footprint. Means of escape from the work limits when WEF is in place will also be provided. If blunt-nosed leopard lizard is detected on the project site during surveys completed within 1 year of when project activities would begin, a Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard Avoidance Plan describing these measures will be prepared and submitted to CDFW.<br>▪ BNLL-3: A biological monitor will be available during all work activities with potential to result in take of blunt- | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | nosed leopard lizard to ensure take avoidance and minimization measures are properly implemented. If a blunt-nosed leopard lizard is observed during project construction, work activities within 250 feet of the individual will be limited to those activities that will not result in injury or mortality to the individual until it leaves the area of its own accord. A qualified biologist may move the blunt-nosed leopard lizard to outside the project site if appropriate agency permits/approvals are in place and the immediate welfare of the individual is in jeopardy or the blunt-nosed leopard lizard does not vacate the site on its own accord within a reasonable timeframe. Work activities will not resume until the biological monitor deems it appropriate. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-6a: Conduct Focused Surveys for Burrowing Owls and Avoid Loss of Occupied Burrows.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on burrowing owl and avoid destruction of occupied burrows, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented.<br>▪ BUOW-1: Measures specified in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFG 2012) or alternative current CDFW protocols and requirements will be implemented to avoid and/or minimize impacts on burrowing owl.<br>▪ BUOW-2: A take avoidance survey will be conducted within 14 days before on-site project activities begin in each portion of the site. | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | ▪ BUOW-3: If any occupied burrows are observed, a qualified biologist will establish and confirm implementation of an appropriate protective buffer around each occupied burrow until the biologist determines the burrow is no longer occupied. The size of the buffer will generally follow recommendations in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFG 2012) or alternative current CDFW protocols and requirements but may be adjusted by a qualified biologist depending on type and intensity of project disturbance, presence of visual buffers, and other variables that could affect susceptibility of the owls to disturbance. A qualified biologist will monitor occupied burrows during project activities to confirm effectiveness of the buffer.<br>▪ BUOW-4: If it is not feasible to implement a buffer of adequate size to avoid disturbance and it is determined, in consultation with CDFW, that eviction of owls from the project site is necessary, a burrow eviction plan will be developed and implemented in coordination with CDFW. Eviction will be conducted by a qualified biologist and only during the non-breeding season (September 1 – January 31), unless a qualified biologist verifies through noninvasive means (such as surveillance) that either (1) the birds have not begun egg laying or (2) juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival.<br>▪ BUOW-5: If passive exclusion is conducted, each occupied burrow that is destroyed will be replaced with | | |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | at least one artificial burrow at a suitable location in similar habitat within or adjacent to the project alignment. The artificial burrow(s) will be installed within 500 feet of the occupied burrow, if possible, and before passive relocation occurs. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-6b: Conduct Focused Surveys for Nesting Swainson's Hawk.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on nesting Swainson's hawk and avoid Project-related take of the species, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ SWHA-1: If construction activities would occur during the Swainson's hawk nesting season (April through August), a qualified biologist will conduct surveys of accessible potential Swainson's hawk nesting trees within 0.5 mile of the project site. To the extent practicable, depending on timing of project initiation, surveys will be conducted in accordance with the *Recommended Timing and Methodology for Swainson's Hawk Nesting Surveys in California's Central Valley* (Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee 2000). At a minimum, at least one survey will be conducted within 10 days before project activities begin during the nesting season.<br>▪ SWHA-2: If an active Swainson's hawk nest is found, a qualified biologist will prepare a site-specific take avoidance plan to comply with the California Endangered Species Act and CFGC. Measures may include but are not limited to nest-specific no disturbance buffers, biological | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | monitoring, rescheduling construction activities around sensitive periods for the species (e.g., nest establishment), and/or implementing construction best practices, such as staging equipment out of the species' line of sight from the nest tree. The avoidance/protection measures will be established before construction activities begin and continue until the adult and young birds are no longer reliant on the nest site. A qualified biologist will monitor construction activities and behavior of the nesting birds and young to ensure project activities do not cause disturbance that could result in nest abandonment, reduced care of eggs or young, or premature fledging. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-6c: Conduct Focused Surveys for Nesting White-tailed Kite.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on nesting white-tailed kite and avoid Project-related take of the species, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ WTKI-1: If construction would begin during the white-tailed kite nesting season (March through August), a qualified biologist will conduct a survey of accessible potential white-tailed kite nesting trees within 0.5 mile of the project site. At a minimum, at least one survey will be conducted within 10 days before project activities begin during the nesting season.<br>▪ WTKI-2: If an active white-tailed kite nest is found, a qualified biologist will prepare a site-specific take | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | avoidance plan to comply with CFGC. Measures may include but are not limited to nest-specific no disturbance buffers, biological monitoring, rescheduling construction activities around sensitive periods for the species (e.g., nest establishment), and/or implementing construction best practices, such as staging equipment out of the species' line of sight from the nest tree. The avoidance/protection measures will be established before construction activities begin and continue until the adult and young birds are no longer reliant on the nest site. A qualified biologist will monitor construction activities and behavior of the nesting birds and young to ensure project activities do not cause disturbance that could result in nest abandonment, reduced care of eggs or young, or premature fledging. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-6d: Conduct Focused Surveys for Other Nesting Birds.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on other nesting birds, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ BIRD-1: A qualified biologist will conduct surveys of suitable nesting habitat that would be directly disturbed by project activities and suitable nesting habitat for loggerhead shrike, Le Conte's thrasher, California thrasher, and common raptors, in accessible potential habitat within 500 feet of project activities. Surveys will be conducted within 10 days before project activities | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

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| | begin near suitable nesting habitat during the nesting season (February-August).<br>▪ BIRD-2: If an active nest is observed, a qualified biologist will prepare a site-specific take avoidance plan to comply with applicable state and federal regulations. Measures for other species may include but are not limited to nest-specific no disturbance buffers, biological monitoring, rescheduling construction activities around sensitive periods for the species (e.g., nest establishment), and/or implementing construction best practices, such as staging equipment out of the species' line of sight from the nest tree. The avoidance/protection measures will be established before construction activities begin and continue until the adult and young birds are no longer reliant on the nest site. A qualified biologist will monitor construction activities and behavior of the nesting birds and young to ensure project activities do not cause disturbance that could result in nest abandonment, reduced care of eggs or young, or premature fledging. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-7: Minimize Impacts on Tipton Kangaroo Rat and Giant Kangaroo Rat.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on Tipton and giant kangaroo rats, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ TKR-1: Exclusion and mortality reduction measures for Tipton kangaroo rat and giant kangaroo rat, including fencing, trapping, and translocation requirements, will be developed and submitted to CDFW and USFWS. | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | ▪ TKR-2: Translocation of Tipton and giant kangaroo rats will be implemented as follows, unless otherwise determined in consultation with CDFW and USFWS:<br>○ Trapping will be conducted by qualified biologists within portions of the project site known or anticipated to be occupied by Tipton kangaroo rat or giant kangaroo rat for at least 5 consecutive nights commencing no more than 48 hours after WEF encloses that portion of the work limits.<br>○ Trapping will be conducted when weather conditions are conducive to trapping success and kangaroo rats can be safely handled following methods in Survey Protocol for *Determining Presence of San Joaquin Kangaroo Rats* (USFWS 2013) or alternative current agency protocols and requirements.<br>○ If any Tipton kangaroo rat or giant kangaroo rat are encountered during daylight hours or during construction, they will either be hand- captured by a Service-approved biologist or traps will be deployed in the vicinity of the observation until capture.<br>○ Artificial burrows 3 feet long will be constructed using a hand-held soil auger at least 3 inches in diameter and angled into the ground at no | | |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | greater than 30°. Artificial burrows will avoid existing active kangaroo rat burrows by 50 feet.<br>○ Each captured kangaroo rat will be translocated by a qualified biologist using a modified soft-release approach to an artificial burrow at the closest location outside of the work limits/WEF as possible, but at least 50 feet from anticipated project excavation activities. Captured Tipton kangaroo rats and giant kangaroo rats will be released as soon as practicable after capture and under weather conditions described above for trapping. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-8: Minimize Impacts on San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on San Joaquin antelope squirrel, the District will ensure that the following measure is implemented:<br>▪ SJAS-1: Exclusion and mortality avoidance measures for San Joaquin antelope squirrel, including fencing, trapping, and translocation requirements, will be developed and submitted to CDFW. San Joaquin antelope squirrels translocated as part of the mortality reduction measures, will be released in suitable habitat adjacent to the project site. | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-9: Minimize Impacts on San Joaquin Kit Fox.** | BVWSD | Prior to and during construction |

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| | To minimize potential effects of Project construction on San Joaquin kit fox, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ SJKF-1: Measures specified in the Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (USFWS 2011) or alternative current agency protocols and requirements will be implemented to avoid and/or minimize impacts on San Joaquin kit fox.<br>▪ SJKF-2: Preconstruction surveys will be conducted no more than 30 days before on-site construction activities begin. Surveys will include all work areas and a minimum buffer of 250 feet. Survey protocols and den definitions, buffer zones, and excavation procedures will be consistent with the Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (USFWS 2011) or alternative current agency protocols and requirements.<br>▪ SJKF-3: Den avoidance, monitoring, blocking/unblocking and excavation will be implemented as follows, unless otherwise determined in consultation with CDFW and USFWS:<br>○ Appropriate buffers will be implemented to avoid disturbance of active natal/pupping dens.<br>○ Potential, known, and inactive natal/pupping dens will be monitored by a qualified biologist for no less than 3 nights by placing tracking material, or other verified means of detecting kit fox | | |

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| | presence (remote-sensing cameras, etc.), at each den entrance and checking for evidence of kit fox each morning.<br><br>○ If no kit fox activity is documented and the den will not be directly destroyed during project construction, it may be temporarily blocked to discourage individuals from denning during construction activities. Within 48 hours of completing construction activities, blocked dens will be reopened. If the den will be destroyed during project construction and vacancy has been confirmed, the den will be excavated. Inactive natal/pupping dens will only be excavated between August 1 and December 14 and provided that pups have demonstrated behaviors that indicate they are no longer dependent on the adults.<br><br>○ If kit fox occupation is documented (but not being used by pups) and disturbance of the occupied den cannot be avoided according to current standards. The following procedures will be implemented upon receiving authorization from CDFW and USFWS:<br><br>▪ Den use will be discouraged by partially plugging the entrance(s) with vegetation.<br>▪ After either 3 consecutive nights of no recorded kit fox occupation or 5 days of vegetation/soil soft-plugging, the den may be excavated when, in the judgment of a | | |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | qualified biologist, the den is vacant. Hand excavation is the preferred method; however, mechanical excavation equipment (e.g., backhoe) may be used if required due to soil conditions. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-10: Obtain Take Authorization and Provide Compensatory Mitigation for Take of Federally and/or State-listed Species.**<br>The District will obtain authorization from USFWS and/or CDFW for take of federally and state-listed species (including candidates for state listing) that would occur during project implementation, including take that may occur as a result of implementing mitigation measures described above. The District will coordinate with USFWS and/or CDFW to develop and implement an appropriate mitigation strategy to avoid, minimize, and compensate for take of listed species. An appropriate compensation ratio will be determined in consultation with USFWS and/or CDFW but is anticipated to be 1.1 acre of compensation habitat for each acre of habitat that is impacted, based on avoidance of permanent habitat loss. Compensatory mitigation may be implemented on parcels purchased by the District to facilitate project implementation. If this is not feasible or adequate on-site habitat is not available to fulfill compensatory mitigation requirements, mitigation may be implemented at an appropriate alternative location agreed to by USFWS and/or CDFW or through purchase of credits at a USFWS- and/or CDFW-approved bank. If habitat compensation is not provided at an established bank or existing mitigation site with habitat maintenance and protection mechanisms in place, the | BVWSD | Prior to construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | mitigation strategy will specify funding, monitoring, management, and protection requirements to ensure the compensation habitat is protected and appropriately managed in perpetuity. | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure BIO-11: Minimize Impacts on Existing Mitigation Land and Restore Habitat Adversely Affected by Project Construction.**<br>To minimize potential effects of Project construction on existing mitigation land owned and managed by CNLM, the District will ensure that the following measures are implemented:<br>▪ Before project activities begin on the CNLM parcel, a habitat restoration plan will be developed to address potential adverse impacts of project construction. The plan will document pre-project conditions on the portion of the parcel to be impacted by project construction and identify post-construction revegetation and monitoring efforts to be implemented. The plan will also identify potential remedial actions to be taken if restoration efforts do not meet performance standards. Restoration performance standards will require habitat values for the species for which the mitigation lands were established are restored to equivalent or better than pre-project conditions documented in the restoration plan. The plan will be provided to CNLM for review and the District will work with CNLM to resolve CNLM comments.<br>▪ Impacts on the mitigation land, including vegetation removal and other ground disturbance will be minimized | BVWSD | Prior to, during, and after construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | to the maximum extent feasible during project construction.<br>▪ After project construction is complete, the restoration plan will be implemented and restored habitat will be monitored as specified in the restoration plan. Remedial actions will be implemented, if necessary. Restoration, monitoring, and potential remedial actions may be implemented by qualified personnel retained by the District, by CNLM, or through alternative means agreed to by the District and CNLM. The District will provide funding for restoration plan implementation. | | |
| **Cultural** | | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure CR-1: Address Previously Undiscovered Historic Properties, Archaeological Resources, and Tribal Cultural Resources.**<br>If cultural resources are identified during Project-related ground-disturbing activities, all potentially destructive work in the immediate vicinity of the find will cease immediately and the District will be notified. In the event of an inadvertent discovery, additional review will be conducted to make a determination on a properties' eligibility for listing in the CRHR and identify any actions that may be necessary to avoid adverse effects. A qualified archaeologist will assess the significance of the find, make a preliminary determination, and if appropriate, provide recommendations for treatment. Ground-disturbing activities will not resume near the find until treatment, if any is recommended, is complete or if the qualified archaeologist determines the find is not significant. | BVWSD | During construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | **Mitigation Measure CR-2: Avoid Potential Effects on Undiscovered Burials.**<br>If human remains are found, the District will be immediately notified. The California Health and Safety Code requires that excavation be halted in the immediate area and that the county coroner be notified to determine the nature of the remains. The coroner is required to examine all discoveries of human remains within 48 hours of receiving notice of a discovery on private or state lands (Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5[b]). If the coroner determines that the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) by telephone within 24 hours of making that determination (Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5[c]).<br>Once notified by the coroner, the NAHC shall identify the person determined to be the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) of the Native American remains. With permission of the legal landowner(s), the MLD may visit the site and make recommendations regarding the treatment and disposition of the human remains and any associated grave goods. This visit should be conducted within 24 hours of the MLD's notification by the NAHC (Public Resources Code [PRC], Section 5097.98[a]). If a satisfactory agreement for treatment of the remains cannot be reached, any of the parties may request mediation by the NAHC (PRC, Section 5097.94[k]). Should mediation fail, the landowner or the landowner's representative must reinter the remains and associated items with appropriate dignity on the property in a | BVWSD and Kern County Sheriff's Office | During construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | location not subject to further subsurface disturbance (PRC, Section 5097.98[b]). | | |
| **Geology** | | | |
| | **Mitigation Measure GEO-1: Avoid and Minimize Potential Effects on Paleontological Resources.**<br>In the event that a paleontological resource is uncovered during project implementation, all ground-disturbing work within 165 feet (50 meters) of the discovery will be halted. A qualified paleontologist will inspect the discovery and determine whether further investigation is required. If the discovery can be avoided and no further impacts will occur, no further effort will be required. If the resource cannot be avoided and may be subject to further impact, a qualified paleontologist will evaluate the resource and determine whether it is "unique" under CEQA, Appendix G, part VII. If the resource is determined not to be unique, work may resume in the area. If the resource is determined to be a unique paleontological resource, work will remain halted, and the paleontologist and the District will identify methods to ensure that no substantial adverse change would occur to the significance of the resource pursuant to CEQA. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred method of mitigation for impacts to paleontological resources and will be required unless there are other equally effective methods. Other methods may be used but must ensure that the fossils are recovered, prepared, identified, catalogued, and analyzed according to current professional standards under the direction of a qualified paleontologist. All recovered fossils will be curated at an accredited and permanent scientific institution | BVWSD | During construction |

| Potential Environmental Impact | Mitigation Measure | Responsible Agency | Timing |
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| | according to Society of Vertebrate Paleontology standard guidelines. Work may resume upon completion of resource treatment, as verified by a qualified paleontologist. | | |