

**Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal****Form F**

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: West Side Water Storage Tank ProjectLead Agency: Caruthers Community Services DistrictContact Name: David McIntyreEmail: carutherscsd@sbcglobal.netPhone Number: (559) 864-8189Project Location: Caruthers, Fresno County*City**County*

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

See attached Project Description.

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

See attached Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program Plan.

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

No known areas of controversy.

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

Not applicable.

# CHAPTER 2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## 2.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

### 2.1.1 Project Title

West Side Water Storage Tank Project

### 2.1.2 Lead Agency Name and Address

Caruthers Community Services District  
PO Box 218  
Caruthers, CA 93609

### 2.1.3 Contact Person and Phone Number

#### Lead Agency Contact

David McIntyre  
District Manager  
(559) 864-8189

#### CEQA Consultant

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group  
Jarred Olsen, Environmental Project Manager  
(559) 636-1166

### 2.1.4 Project Location

The Project is located in southern Fresno County, central California, approximately 168 miles southeast of Sacramento and 94 miles northwest of Bakersfield (see [Figure 2-1](#) and [Figure 2-2](#)). The Project site is located at the southeast corner of Caruthers Avenue and Benedict Avenue, west of Marks Avenue on Assessor's Parcel Number 041-280-89. The centroid of the Project site is 36°32'21.8"N 119°50'53.7"W.

### 2.1.5 General Plan Designation and Zoning

Project Area	General Plan Designation	Zoning District
ONSITE	R-A	R-A
ADJACENT LANDS	R-A	R-A

### 2.1.6 Description of Project

#### Project Background and Purpose

The Caruthers Community Services District (District) was formed in 1960 and is responsible for providing both water and sewer service to the unincorporated community of Caruthers in southern Fresno County.

The District's jurisdiction spans approximately 361 acres and includes a domestic water system presently serving approximately 721 residential connections, 33 commercial/industrial connections, and 4 landscape irrigation connections throughout the community.

Existing water supply facilities include two (2) active wells, Well Nos. 5 and 6, whose depths are 630 and 890 feet, respectively. Well No. 3 is available, but not in active service due to a concentration of ethylene dibromide and 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP) at levels exceeding the MCL. Well Nos. 5 and 6 both have arsenic levels in excess of the current MCL of 10 ppb, and Well No. 5 is now also out of compliance for TCP. Construction is nearly complete for an arsenic treatment facility at the Well No. 6 site to provide arsenic treatment for both existing wells. A pipeline has been constructed from Well No. 5 to the Well No. 6 site for the purpose of consolidating the treatment location. A storage tank has also been constructed, which will store treated water and allow for blending of raw water and treated water.

Currently, all of the active water supply sources are located on the east side of the District boundary, resulting in uneven flow and pressure distribution. This Project would be constructed on the west side to provide more even flow and pressure distribution. The water storage tank would be filled during low demand periods, and be available for distribution during high demands, providing improved water supply and pressure reliability.

The District water distribution system includes several dead-end runs and ranges from 4 inch to 12-inch water lines. The small water lines are old (constructed in the early 1960's, pipelines are steel) and have exceeded their anticipated useful life.

### **Project Description**

The West Side Water Storage Tank Project would construct a 500,000-gallon water storage tank whose dimensions would be approximately 22-feet high and 65-feet in diameter. Appurtenant infrastructure includes electrical equipment, on-site lighting, booster pumps, an emergency backup generator, seven-foot-tall slatted perimeter fencing, and a basin for stormwater and storage tank backwash purposes. The facility would replace the existing 6-inch water main in Caruthers Avenue between the western edge of the District and Marks Avenue to a 10-inch transmission main. In a second phase, improvements would include a groundwater well and a granulated activated carbon (GAC) treatment process to increase system reliability and redundancy, should a well on the east side of the District go offline and another source of clean, reliable water is needed.

### **Construction Schedule**

Construction of the Project is anticipated to be completed within nine months, which would include grading, site preparation, construction of a water tank and associated infrastructure, and connection to the existing distribution system. Completion of phase two is unknown at this time.

Generally, construction would occur between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Post-construction activities would include system testing, commissioning, and site clean-up. Construction would require temporary staging and storage of materials and equipment. Staging areas would be located onsite.

### **Equipment**

Construction equipment would likely include an excavator, drill rigs, backhoes, graders, skid steers, loaders, crane, and hauling trucks.

## Operation and Maintenance

Operation and maintenance of the facility would be performed by the existing maintenance staff.

### 2.1.7 Site and Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

**Table 2-1: Existing Uses, General Plan Designation, & Zone Districts of Surrounding Properties**

Direction from Project Site	Existing Use	General Plan Designation	Zone District
<b>NORTH</b>	Agriculture	Agriculture	AE-20 (Exclusive Agriculture)
<b>EAST</b>	Residential	Residential	R-A (Single-Family Residential, Agricultural)
<b>SOUTH</b>	Residential	Residential	R-A (Single-Family Residential, Agricultural)
<b>WEST</b>	Residential	Residential	R-A (Single-Family Residential, Agricultural)

### 2.1.8 Other Public Agencies Whose Discretionary Approval May Be Required

- State Water Resources Control Board
- County of Fresno

### 2.1.9 Consultation with California Native American Tribes

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

The Lead Agency has not received any written correspondence from any Tribe pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 requesting notification of the proposed project.

# CHAPTER 5 MITIGATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING PROGRAM

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been formulated based upon the findings of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Project. The MMRP lists mitigation measures recommended in the IS/MND for the Project and identifies monitoring and reporting requirements.

**Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting** Program presents the mitigation measures identified for the Project. Each mitigation measure is numbered with a symbol indicating the topical section to which it pertains, a hyphen, and the impact number. For example, AIR-2 would be the second mitigation measure identified in the Air Quality analysis of the IS/MND.

The first column of **Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting** Program identifies the mitigation measure. The second column, entitled “When Monitoring is to Occur,” identifies the time the mitigation measure should be initiated. The third column, “Frequency of Monitoring,” identifies the frequency of the monitoring of the mitigation measure. The fourth column, “Agency Responsible for Monitoring,” names the party ultimately responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented. The last columns will be used by the Lead and Responsible Agencies to ensure that individual mitigation measures have been complied with and monitored.

**Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program**

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program						
Item	Mitigation Measure	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
<b>Biological Resources</b>						
<b>BIO-1</b>	The project’s construction activities should occur, if feasible, between September 15 and January 31 (outside of the nesting bird season) to avoid impacts to nesting birds.	Prior to commencement of construction	During construction	Caruthers CSD		
<b>BIO-2</b>	If activities must occur within the nesting bird season (February 1 to September 14), a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for Swainson’s hawk nests onsite and within a 0.5-mile radius. This one time take avoidance survey 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), or current guidance. The pre-construction survey would also provide a presence/absence survey for all other nesting birds within the project site, and up to 100 feet outside of the project site for nesting migratory birds and up to 500 feet outside of the project site for nesting raptors. Raptor nests would be considered “active” upon the nest-building stage. If no active nests are observed, no further mitigation is required.	Prior to commencement of construction	During construction	Caruthers CSD		
<b>BIO-3</b>	On discovery of any active nests or breeding colonies near work areas, a qualified biologist will determine appropriate avoidance buffer distances based on applicable CDFW and/or USFWS guidelines, the biology of the species, conditions of the nest(s), and the level of project disturbance. If necessary, avoidance buffers will be identified with flagging, fencing, or other easily visible means, and will be maintained until the biologist has determined that the nestlings have fledged.	Upon discovery of active nests or breeding colonies near work areas	During construction	Caruthers CSD		

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program						
Item	Mitigation Measure	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
<b>Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources</b>						
<b>CUL-1</b>	Should archaeological remains or artifacts be unearthed during any stage of project activities, work in the area of discovery shall cease until the area is evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If mitigation is warranted, the project proponent shall abide by recommendations of the archaeologist.	Upon unearthing of archaeological remains or artifacts	During construction	Caruthers CSD		
<b>CUL-2</b>	In the event that any human remains are discovered on the Project site, the Tulare County Coroner must be notified of the discovery (California Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5) and all activities in the immediate area of the find or in any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains must cease until appropriate and lawful measures have been implemented. If the Coroner determines that the remains are not recent, but rather of Native American origin, the Coroner shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours to permit the NAHC to determine the Most Likely Descendent of the deceased Native American.	Upon discovery of human remains	During construction	Caruthers CSD		