

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: Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement ProjectLead Agency: Richgrove Community Services DistrictContact Name: Diego PaniaguaEmail: richgrovewater1977@gmail.comPhone Number: (661) 725-5632Project Location: Richgrove
*City*Tulare
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.

Project Title

Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project

Lead Agency Name and Address

Richgrove Community Services District
20986 Grove Drive
Richgrove, CA 93261

Lead Agency Contact

Diego Paniagua
General Manager
(661) 725-5632

Project Location

The Project is located northeast of the community of Richgrove, approximately seven miles east of the City of Delano, and along the eastern side of the San Joaquin Valley in Tulare County, California. The Project site spans approximately 92 acres and is located on Assessor's Parcel Numbers 339-130-024 and -025. The centroid of the Project site is 35° 42' 42.57" N, 119° 05' 37.17" W.

General Plan Designation and Zoning

Project Area	General Plan Designation	Zoning District
ONSITE	Valley Agricultural	AE-20 (Exclusive Agricultural, 20-acre minimum)
ADJACENT LANDS	Valley Agricultural	AE-20 (Exclusive Agricultural, 20-acre minimum)

Description of Project

Project Description

The Project proposes to make necessary improvements to the existing WWTP in order to effectively serve its existing and planned population. The proposed Project would construct a standard aeration pond system, an influent lift station and headworks structure, new electrical and control facilities, and minor improvements to the existing effluent disposal site. These Project components are described in more detail below.

Aeration Ponds

The proposed aeration ponds consist of three lined aeration ponds within the footprint of the two existing treatment ponds. The ponds would be equipped with surface aerators designed to provide aeration and mixing. The ponds would include one complete mix pond, followed by a partial mix pond and an oxidation pond in series. The complete mix pond would be designed to be intensely aerated and mixed, which would eliminate the risk of temperature overturn or algae growth.

Each existing treatment pond is approximately 4.85 million gallons (MG). The complete mix pond footprint would be reduced to approximately 0.9 MG and would be equipped with four to five (4-5) 10 HP aerators. The remaining area of the existing Pond 1 would be converted to a partial mixed pond equipped with four (4) 10 HP aerators. The second existing pond would be kept as an oxidation pond with an option of two (2) 5 HP aerators. The complete mix pond would be concrete lined, such that it could potentially

be used for a Biolac system in the future. The partial mix pond and oxidation pond would have a polyethylene liner.

The new treatment facilities would be constructed by temporarily isolating one of the treatment ponds at a time to complete the work while still allowing the existing facilities to process and treat wastewater.

Lift Station and Headworks

A new lift station would be installed at the southwest corner of the existing WWTP site. The new lift station would be designed with three lift pumps rated to provide the peak hour flow of 730 gallons per minute (gpm), and capable of providing the maximum daily flow with one pump out of service. Each lift pump is anticipated to have a design capacity of approximately 350 gpm. Typically, only one pump would operate at any given time, with a second pump to meet peak flows. The third pump would provide redundancy and firm capacity during peak flow events.

The associated sewer force main would have a minimum velocity of approximately 2.0 feet per second (FPS) to keep solids suspended so as not to accumulate at the bottom of the pipe. A peak flow velocity of at least 3.5 FPS is desirable to re-suspend solids that have settled within the pipe. The force main sizing would be re-evaluated once actual pump performance is known. The new sewer force main from the lift station to the treatment system would be 8-inch diameter constructed of C900 PVC pipe.

The proposed headworks structure would be constructed to accommodate the hydraulic requirements of the other Project features. A new automatically cleaned screen and a bypass channel with a manual bar screen would be installed. A new flow meter would be installed on the influent pipeline, after the influent lift station to measure influent flows to the WWTP.

Electrical and Controls

New electrical service would be required and coordinated with Southern California Edison. A new motor control center and standby generator would be included. In addition, the Project would include a radio or cellular based monitoring and control system to provide remote monitoring and alarm capabilities, as well as providing automatic reporting of critical information.

Storage and Disposal Facilities

Continued storage and use of effluent for alfalfa irrigation is planned, with some improvements to the existing disposal site.

Area of Project Ground Disturbance

The majority of ground disturbance will be at the existing WWTP site, which is approximately 9.2 acres. This would involve earthwork to modify and construct new treatment ponds, construction of new lift station and headworks, and onsite piping. Work on the 80-acre disposal site is limited to constructing a small berm along the eastern side of the property, and the potential addition of a second effluent storage pond. The area of ground disturbance for the berm would be approximately 25,000 square feet.

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 in the Tulare County. 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
Biological Resources						
General Project-Related Impacts						
BIO-1	(WEAP Training): Prior to initiating construction activities (including staging and mobilization), all personnel associated with project construction will attend a mandatory Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training, conducted by a qualified biologist, to aid workers in identifying special status resources that may occur in the project site. The specifics of this program will include identification of the sensitive species and suitable habitats, a description of the regulatory status and general ecological characteristics of sensitive resources, and review of the limits of construction and mitigation measures required to reduce impacts to biological resources within the work area. This training will discuss special status species, describe the laws and regulations in place to provide protection of these species, identify the penalties for violation of applicable environmental laws and regulations, and include a list of required protective measures to avoid “take.” A fact sheet summarizing this information, along with photographs or illustrations of sensitive species with potential to occur on the project site, will also be prepared for distribution to all contractors, their employees, and all other personnel involved with construction of the project. All trainees will sign a form documenting that they have attended WEAP training and understand the information presented to them.	Prior to the start of any construction activities	As needed for any new construction personnel during construction activities	RCS D with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	
BIO-2	(BMPs): The project proponent will require that all workers employ the following best management practices (BMPs) in order to avoid and minimize potential impacts to special status species:	Prior to the start of any construction activities	During Construction	RCS D	Biologist Report	

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
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicles will observe a 15-mph speed limit while on unpaved access routes. Workers will inspect areas beneath parked vehicles, equipment, and materials prior to mobilization. If special status species are detected, the individual will either be allowed to leave of its own volition or will be captured by the qualified biologist (must possess appropriate collecting/handling permits) and relocated out of harm's way to the nearest suitable habitat beyond the influence of the project work area. "Take" of a state or federal special status (rare, California Species of Special Concern, threatened, or endangered) species is prohibited. <p>The presence of any special status species will be reported to the project's qualified biologist who will submit the occurrence to the CNDDDB. If necessary, the biologist will report the occurrence to CDFW and/or USFWS.</p>					
Project-Related Mortality and/or Disturbance to Burrowing Owl						
BIO-3	(Pre-construction Take Avoidance Survey): A qualified biologist will conduct a single pre-construction take avoidance survey for BUOW and suitable burrows, in accordance with CDFW's <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (2012)</i> , within seven days prior to the start of construction activities. The survey shall include the proposed work area and surrounding lands up to 500 feet. If no BUOW individuals or active burrows are observed, no further mitigation is required.	7 days prior to construction	Once, Prior to ground disturbing activities and the start of construction	RCSD with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	
BIO-4	(Avoidance): If an active BUOW burrow is detected, the occurrence will be reported to the CNDDDB, and avoidance buffers shall be implemented. A qualified	During construction activities	As determined needed by qualified biologist	RCSD with assistance of a	Biologist Report	

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
	biologist will determine appropriate avoidance buffer distances based on applicable CDFW guidelines, the biology of the species, conditions of the burrow(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 and all BUOW have left the project site.		during construction activities	qualified biological subconsultant		
BIO-5	(Passive Relocation): If avoidance of an active BUOW burrow is not feasible, passive relocation during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) could be utilized or during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31) if a qualified biologist determines that there are no young in the burrow. Prior to completion a qualified biologist will prepare a passive relocation plan that will detail the methods to be used. It will include the tools to exclude the BUOW from its burrow (i.e., one-way doors or other devices) and excavate the burrow (hand tools and machinery, if needed). Following completion of passive relocation, a report will be prepared that will document the methods and results of these efforts.	September 1 to January 31 or February 1 to August 31	Once, as determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	RCSD with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	
Project-Related Mortality and/or Disturbance of Nesting Migratory Raptors and Birds						
BIO-6	(Avoidance): The project's construction activities will occur, if feasible, between August 31 and January 31 (outside of the nesting bird season) to avoid impacts to nesting birds.	August 31 to January 31	Once, as determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	RCSD with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	
BIO-7	(Pre-construction Surveys): If activities must occur within the nesting bird season (February 1 to August 31), a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for active migratory bird nests no more than seven days prior to the start of the	7 days prior to construction	Once, Prior to ground disturbing activities and the start of construction	RCSD with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	

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
	construction within the project site and surrounding lands up to 100 feet from the project site and for active raptor nests within the project site and all accessible lands up to 500-feet from the project site. All raptor nests would be considered “active” upon the nest-building stage.					
BIO-8	(Avoidance Buffers): On discovery of any active nests near work areas, the biologist will determine appropriate construction setback distances (avoidance buffers) based on applicable CDFW and/or USFWS guidelines, the biology of the species, and work and site conditions. 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.	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to ground disturbing activities and the start of construction	RCSD with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	
Project-Related Mortality and/or Disturbance to San Joaquin Kit Fox						
BIO-9	(Pre-Construction Survey): Within seven days prior to the start of construction a pre-construction survey for San Joaquin kit fox will be conducted on and within 200 feet of proposed work areas.	7 days prior to construction	Once, as determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	RCSD with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	
BIO-10	(Establish Buffers): On discovery of any SJKF dens near the project area a qualified biologist will determine appropriate construction setback distances (buffer zones) based on applicable CDFW and/or USFWS guidelines (see below). If needed, construction buffers will be identified with flagging, fencing, or other easily visible means. They will be maintained until the biologist has determined that the den will no longer be impacted by construction. The buffer zones shall be at least 100 feet around den(s), at least 200 feet around natal dens (which SJKF young are reared), and at least 500 feet around	Upon discovery of SJKF dens	Once, as determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	RCSD with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	

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
	any natal dens with pups (except for any portions of the buffer zone that is already fully developed).					
BIO-11	(Avoidance and Minimization): The project will observe all avoidance and minimization measures in the USFWS's <i>Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance</i> (2011), including, but not limited to: maintaining buffer zones, construction speed limits, covering of pipes, installation of escape structures, restriction of herbicide and rodenticide use, proper disposal of food items and trash, prohibition of pets and firearms, and completion of an employee education program (see BIO-1).	During construction activities	During construction activities	RCS D with assistance of a qualified biological subconsultant	Biologist Report	
Cultural Resources						
CUL-1	(Archaeological Remains) Should archaeological remains or artifacts be unearthed during any stage of project activities, work in the area of the 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.	During construction	Daily during construction activities	RCS D		
CUL-2	(Human Remains) In the event that human remains are discovered on the Project site, the Tulare County Coroner must be notified of that discovery (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5) and all activities in the immediate area if the find or in any nearby area reasonably suspected of 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.	During construction	Daily during construction activities	RCS D		
Tribal Cultural Resources						
TCR-1	See CUL-1 and CUL-2 above.					