

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: Recharge Basin Phase III ProjectLead Agency: Fresno Irrigation DistrictContact Name: Laurence KimuraEmail: LKimura@fresnoirrigation.comPhone Number: (559) 233-7161Project Location: see attached Project Description for intersections and nearest cross streets, 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 MMRP.

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

No controversy. Beneficial water recharge project.

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

Not applicable

Fresno Irrigation District Recharge Basin Phase III Project

Project Description

Fresno Irrigation District (FID or District) is proposing to construct three recharge basins in Fresno County within District boundaries. The basins will range in size from 19 to 53 acres and will all connect to the FID Thompson No. 54 canal, and a pipeline running north to Barstow Ave on adjacent private land connecting to the Herndon No. 39 Canal which is an existing District water conveyance facility. All three sites may have extraction wells and recovery wells constructed. All the proposed basins will have perimeter fencing. The total Project Area of Potential Affect (APE) for biological and cultural surveys is identified as 93 acres for all three sites.

The proposed benefits of all three basins includes recharge, new storage of floodwater, providing new habitat for waterfowl and to assist the District to maintain its commitments to the Kings River fisheries management program by providing place for fish management water to be diverted in dry years. These basin sites are all in a critical location for the District to perform recharge and would capture and use storm and flood water supplies available to FID.

The following components would be consistent at each basin site:

- For turnout construction, the Project will cut a notch approximately 8 x 8 feet in the canal wall (like a box culvert) that water will go through. Then a gate outside the existing FID canal will be constructed that will measure and control flow.
- Basin depth would be up to 20 feet below ground surface. (Vertical APE)
- Up to two monitoring wells, placed approximately ¼ mile from existing wells at each basin site,
- Each basin will have an automated gate with flow measurement and/or a canal gate with downstream metering stand,
- Perimeter fencing- cattle fence, any fencing will not impact the existing canal infrastructure
- Excavation would be balanced onsite or exported offsite, as needed to a District approved location,
- Up to two recovery wells and discharge pipeline to deliver ~5 cfs to adjacent existing FID canal infrastructure, placed approximately ¼ mile from existing wells at each basin site.
- Maximum berm height of six (6) feet measured from the lowest point at the downstream toe of the berm to its maximum storage elevation, which is typically the spillway crest.
- No weirs or turnouts will be removed at any basin site location.

Specific details that are unique to each recharge basin are outlined below.

Metzler Recharge Basin:

The Project includes construction of a new 19-acre recharge basin, including earthwork and structures located at the intersection of N. Jameson Avenue and W. Shaw Avenue, identified as APN 016-450-71S in Fresno County. The property is currently vacant and clear of vegetation. The proposed basin cells will use up the majority of the site with a berm buffer at the perimeter inside the proposed fencing. The District owns the conveyance canal, Thompson No. 54, crossing the Project site. The Project would provide approximately 220 AF of flood water surface storage and recharge approximately 1,320 AF/year annual average. There will be no impacts to the headgate in the southeast corner of the APE. The Project includes the following construction components that would connect to Thompson No. 54 Canal which exists to the east.

- Two basin outlet structures with connections to Thompson No. 54 Canal and the proposed Schmall Recharge Basin.
- Vehicular access would be off of Shaw Avenue.

Schmall Recharge Basin

The Project includes construction of a new 53-acre recharge basin including earthwork and structures near the intersection of N. Jameson Avenue and W. Shaw Avenue, identified as APNs 016-450-33, 51, and 62 in Fresno County. The land has been previously cleared of vines and the APE would extend along the east side of the Thompson No. 54 District-owned canal and potentially to the Herndon No. 39 canal to the north. The proposed basin cells will use up the majority of the site with a berm buffer at the perimeter inside the proposed fencing. The Project would provide approximately 300 AF of flood water surface storage and recharge approximately 1,800 AF/year annual average. The Project includes the following construction components that would connect to Thompson No. 54 canal which exists to the west.

- Two basin outlet structures.
- Vehicular access would be off of Jameson Ave.
- Pipeline running north to Barstow Ave on adjacent private land connecting to the Herndon No. 39 Canal (an easement would be needed by FID) may be constructed. If this connection is made, a pipeline connection between the proposed Schmall Basin and Metzler Basin may also be made.
- If the proposed basin will connect to the Thompson No. 54 canal, the pipeline would be within an open cut trench or jack and bore underneath.

Schneider Recharge Basin

The Project includes construction of a new 21-acre recharge basin including earthwork and structures, near the intersection of N. Jameson Avenue and W. Gettysburg Avenue, identified as APN 016-091-58, in Fresno County. The APE is located south of the Thompson No. 54 Canal. The proposed basin cells will use up the majority of the site with a berm buffer at the perimeter inside the proposed fencing. The Project would provide approximately 80 AF of flood water surface storage and recharge approximately 480 AF/year annual average. There will be no impacts to the private residential farm bridge. The Project includes the following construction components that would connect to Thompson No. 54 Canal which exists to the east.

- Basin outlet structure.
- Vehicular access would be off Jameson.

Construction

Construction of the Project is assumed to be completed over the course of approximately three years, with each of the three basins being constructed over approximately six months, starting each fall from the years 2025-2027. The Project parcels have been and/or would be cleared of vegetation, fencing, structures, and other debris. The Project includes mobilization, site preparation, berm construction surrounding the basins; earthwork and structures placement; Project turnout(s), metering stands, diversion check structures, intrabasin and basin outfall structures. New berm construction would not exceed six feet, measured from the exterior toe to the top of new levee. For the canal connections to the proposed basins, FID would cut a notch (less than 50-ft wide) in the existing District canal wall, insert a pipeline, and put up one outlet structure, pre-cast concrete ideally or cast in place into canal. The Project may include ponds/cells within the basins separated by berms/levees. After construction completion, performance testing and demobilization would occur.

Equipment

Construction equipment would likely include the following equipment used during construction:

- Excavators,
- Backhoes,
- Graders,
- Skid steers,

- Loaders,
- Hauling trucks,
- Scrapers,
- Sheep's foot compactors (Large and Small dependent on area conditions),
- D9 dozer,
- large tractor and large discing unit,
- Water trucks supplying water for dust control and conditioning soil for compaction, and
- Large watercannon and hoses.

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.

Operation and Maintenance

Each of the proposed basin sites include construction of a recovery well and monitoring wells to assist the District with monitoring and managing the groundwater recharge basins and levels. The District's operation of the basins would be consistent with the District's other similar facilities in that groundwater conditions would be monitored to minimize negative impacts on the surrounding areas (such as nearby wells, crops, and septic systems).

CHAPTER 5 MITIGATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING PROGRAM

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been formulated based upon the findings of the IS/MND for the Recharge Basin Phase III Project (Project) located in Fresno Irrigation District in Fresno County (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	<p>(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 APEs. 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 APEs, 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.</p>	Prior to the start of any construction activities	As needed for any new construction personnel during construction activities	FID		
BIO-2	<p>(BMPs): The project proponent will ensure that all workers employ the following best management practices (BMPs) in order to avoid and minimize potential impacts to special status species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All open structures within the APEs must be filled, covered, or removed from the APEs. Prior to filling, covering, or removing the 	Prior to the start of any construction activities	During Construction	FID		

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
	<p>structures, they must be inspected by a biologist.</p> <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. 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 					
Project-Related Mortality and/or Disturbance to Burrowing Owl						
BIO-3	<p>(Pre-construction Take Avoidance Survey): Within seven (7) days prior to the start of construction activities a qualified biologist (someone familiar with the identification and sign of this species) will conduct a pre-construction take avoidance survey for BUOW and suitable burrows at each APE in accordance with CDFW’s <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (2012). The surveys shall include the APEs and surrounding lands up to 500 feet. If no BUOW individuals or active burrows are observed, no further mitigation is required.</p>	<p>Within seven (7) days prior to the start of construction activities</p>	<p>As determined by qualified biologist during construction activities</p>	<p>FID</p>		

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
BIO-4	(Avoidance): If an active BUOW burrow is detected avoidance buffers will be implemented. A qualified biologist will determine appropriate avoidance buffer distances based on CDFW's <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (2012), 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 APE.	Prior to construction activities	Daily	FID		
BIO-5	(Passive Relocation): If avoidance of an active BUOW burrow is not feasible, passive relocation may be completed during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) 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 would 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 documents the methods and results of these efforts.	Passive relocation may be completed during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) or during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31)	As determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	FID		
Project-Related Mortality and/or Nest Abandonment of Migratory Birds, Raptors, and Special Status Birds Including Swainsons Hawk						
BIO-6	(Avoidance): The project's construction activities will occur, if feasible, between September 16 and January 31 (outside of the nesting bird season) to avoid impacts to nesting birds.	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to ground disturbing activities and the start of construction	FID		
BIO-7	(Pre-construction Surveys): If activities must occur within the nesting bird season (February 1 to September 15), a qualified biologist (someone familiar with these species and nesting birds) will conduct a single pre-construction take avoidance survey for Swainson's hawk nests onsite and within a 0.5-mile radius within seven (7) calendar days prior to the start	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to ground disturbing activities and the start of construction	FID		

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
	of construction at all APEs. The Swainson’s hawk survey will not be completed between April 21 to June 10 due to the difficulty of identifying nests during this time of year. The survey would also include inspecting for nesting migratory birds within and up to 50 feet outside of each APE and for other nesting raptors within up to 450 feet outside of each APE. All raptor nests would be considered “active” upon the nest-building stage. If no active nests are observed, no further mitigation is required.					
BIO-8	(Avoidance Buffers): 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.	During construction activities	As determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	FID		
Project-Related Impacts to Wildlife Movement Corridors and Native Wildlife Nursery Sites						
BIO-9	(Operational Hours): The Project’s construction activities will occur in the canal habitat, if feasible, between a half hour after sunrise and a half hour before sunset (i.e., day-time hours) to avoid impacts to wildlife movement corridors.	Between a half hour after sunrise and a half hour before sunset	During construction activities	FID		
BIO-10	(Wildlife Access): Should construction activities in the canal habitat occur between a half hour before sunset and a half hour after sunrise (i.e., night-time hours) each canal will not be blocked, if feasible, during night-time hours. If construction must block one or both sides of the canal habitat during night-time hours, an alternative route through the construction area to allow wildlife to move through the area shall be identified by a qualified biologist and maintained throughout the construction schedule timeframe in the canal habitat.	Between a half hour after sunrise and a half hour before sunset	During construction activities	FID		

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
BIO-11	(Covers and Inspections): Project pipes, culverts, siphons, excavations, and vertical pipes along the canal/ditch habitat will be covered each night to prevent wildlife from falling in or entering and becoming trapped or injured during migratory or dispersal movements. All pipelines, culverts, siphons, excavations, and vertical pipes along the canal/ditch habitat will be inspected for trapped wildlife before moving, burying, or capping.	Daily during construction activities	Daily during construction activities	FID		
Cultural Resources						
CUL-1	(Archaeological Remains) In the event that archaeological remains are encountered at any time during development or ground-moving activities within the entire project area, all work in the vicinity of the find shall halt until a qualified archaeologist can assess the discovery. The District shall implement all recommendations of the archaeologist necessary to avoid or reduce to a less than significant level potential impacts to cultural resource. Appropriate actions could include a Data Recovery Plan or preservation in place.	During construction	Daily during construction activities	FID		
CUL-2	(Human Remains) In the event human remains are uncovered, or in any other case when human remains are discovered during construction, the Fresno County Coroner is to be notified to arrange their proper treatment and disposition. If the remains are identified—on the basis of archaeological context, age, cultural associations, or biological traits—as those of a Native American, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 and Public Resource Code 5097.98 require that the coroner notify the NAHC within 24 hours of discovery. The NAHC will then identify the Most Likely Descendent who will determine the manner in which the remains are treated.	During construction	Daily during construction activities	FID		
Tribal Cultural Resources						
	See CUL-1 and CUL-2 above					