

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: Main Intake Canal Siphons ProjectLead Agency: Tulare Irrigation DistrictContact Name: Aaron FukudaEmail: akf@tulareid.orgPhone Number: (559) 686-3425Project Location: Ivanhoe
*City*Eastern Tulare County
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 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attachment.

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.

None.

Project Location

The Project is located on two sites in the eastern portion of Tulare County, along the St. Johns River and the Kaweah River approximately 53-miles southeast of Fresno and 56 miles northwest of Bakersfield within Tulare Irrigation District (District). The Project sites are located on Assessor's Parcel Numbers 158-040-019 and 158-040-004. The area of potential effect (APE) for the St. Johns River siphon site is approximately 2.9 acres in size and the Kaweah River siphon site is approximately 3.4 acres in size, which equals a total Project size of approximately 6.3 acres. This includes all construction staging and access areas needed for construction equipment.

The approximate centroid of the Project site along the St. Johns River is 36° 21' 33.31" North, 119°10'26.22" West, while the approximate centroid of the site along the Kaweah river is 36°21'10.03" North, 119°10'47.28" West.

Project Description

The District is pursuing the construction of the two reinforced concrete pipe or box siphons, each connecting to the MIC. The Project proposes to install two new reinforced concrete pipe or box siphons adjacent and upstream of the existing siphons at each site. The new siphons will address the structural concerns of the existing siphons and will also enhance the maximum capacity to approximately 1,100 CFS. The Project will be completed in multiple construction phases. The initial phase will involve clearing and grubbing outside of the St. Johns and Kaweah River channels at the individual siphon sites, which could include minor vegetation removal. Upon completion of the first phase, the second phase of Project construction will be the excavation of the sending and receiving pits, one pit on either side of the Rivers at each siphon site. These pits are utilized for the jack and bore drilling installation method. In the sending pit, a boring machine and auger will drill into the earth beneath each river, installing pipe casing along the way to the receiving pit. It is anticipated the sending and receiving pits will be gravel or rock lined to stabilize the operation of the pipelines. This phase will also see the installation of head walls and wing walls on upstream and downstream sides as well as trash racks on the upstream side of the siphon intakes. The third phase of the Project will consist of reconditioning the water flow into the new siphons and into the MIC. The existing box culvert siphons will remain in place once construction of the new siphons is complete. A new bulkhead and control gate(s) will be installed to direct flow to the new siphons, unless high flows require the use of the existing siphon. Keeping the existing siphons in place in the riverbeds will provide added erosion protection for the new siphons in the Rivers by stabilizing the river bottom sediment in place.

Benefits associated with the Project include:

- Enhanced facility and system reliability
- Increased facility capacity
- Protection of functionality of the St. Johns River and Kaweah River
- Surface water reliability for irrigation and groundwater service

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 Irrigation District. 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 Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
Biological Resources					
General					
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 and sensitive habitats such as wetlands with potential to occur onsite, 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	TID		
BIO-2 BMPs					
(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: i. Vehicles will observe a 15-mph speed limit on unpaved access routes. ii. 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.	Prior to the start of any construction activities	During Construction	TID		

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
Northern California Legless Lizard					
BIO –3 (Pre-construction Survey)					
If activities must occur in areas that contain loose soil and leaf litter a qualified biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys within 48 hours prior to beginning any Project activities. Any loose substrate in which lizards could bury themselves will be gently raked with a hand tool (e.g., a garden rake) to a depth of two inches to locate any lizards that could be under the surface. Lizards that are detected will be allowed to leave the work area of their own volition or will be moved out of harm's way by a qualified biologist to suitable habitat at least 50 feet away from the Project work site.	48 hours prior to construction activities	Prior to construction activities	TID		
Roosting Bats and Special Status Bats, Including the Pallid Bat					
BIO – 4 (Avoidance)					
Project activities should not occur during the maternity roosting bat season (March 1 through August 31). Project activities will not occur during the pallid bat overwintering season (December 1 through February 28). Project activities should occur, if feasible, between September 1 and November 30 (outside of the maternity roost and overwintering seasons).	September 1 and November 30	Prior to construction activities	TID		
BIO – 5 (Pre-Construction Survey)					
If Project activities must occur within the maternity roosting bat season (March 1 to August 31), a pre-construction survey should be performed within five days of construction. A qualified biologist will inspect the trees for active roosts and if the trees are determined to be clear of bats, construction and tree removal can begin.	March 1 to August 31	Prior to tree removal activities and the start of construction	TID		
BIO –6 (Avoidance Buffers)					
On discovery of any active maternity roosts in the Project sites, a qualified biologist should determine appropriate construction setback distances (avoidance buffers) based on the biology of the species, conditions of the maternity roost(s), and the level of Project disturbance. Buffers will be removed once a qualified biologist has determined the maternity bat roosts are no longer occupied.	Prior to construction activities	Once , Prior to tree disturbing activities and the start of construction	TID		
San Joaquin Kit Fox					
BIO – 7 (Pre-construction Survey)					
Within seven (7) 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, Prior to ground disturbing activities and the start of construction	TID		

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
BIO – 8 (Establish Buffers)					
<p>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.</p> <p>1. At least 100 feet around dens;</p> <p>2. At least 200 feet around natal dens (which SJKF young are reared); and</p> <p>3. At least 500 feet around any natal dens with pups (except for any portions of the buffer zone that is already fully developed)</p>	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to ground disturbing activities and the start of construction	TID		
BIO - 9 (Avoidance and Minimization).					
The Project will observe all avoidance and minimization measures during construction and on-going operational activities as required by the qualified biologist and the USFWS's Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (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	Daily, During construction activities	TID		
Migratory Birds, Raptors, and Special Status Birds, including Swainson's Hawks and Tricolored Blackbird					
BIO – 10 (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.	September 16- January 31	During construction	TID		
BIO – 11 (Pre-construction Survey)					
If activities must occur within the nesting bird season (February 1 to September 15), a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for active nests within five (5) calendar days prior to the start of construction. The qualified biologist will survey for Swainson's hawk nests onsite and within a 0.5-mile radius for both sites. 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 qualified biologist will survey for tricolored blackbird nests onsite and within a 300-foot	During active nesting season February 1- September 15	Once, 5 days prior to initiating any construction activities	TID		

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
radius at the St. Johns River site. This one-time take avoidance survey will be conducted in accordance with the Staff Guidance Regarding Avoidance of Impacts to Tricolored Blackbird Breeding Colonies on Agricultural Fields (California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2015), or current guidance. The pre-construction survey would also provide a presence/ absence survey for all other nesting birds within both Project sites, and up to 100 feet outside of the Project sites for nesting migratory birds and up to 500 feet outside of the Project sites for nesting raptors. All raptor nests would be considered "active" upon the nest-building stage. If no active nests are observed, no further mitigation is required.					
BIO – 12 (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	As determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	TID		
Western Pond Turtle					
BIO-13 (Pre-construction Survey and Avoidance Buffers)					
Within seven (7) days prior to the start of construction, a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for western pond turtle within the Project site and surrounding areas within up to 330 feet from each Project site. Pre-construction surveys will be conducted in accordance with the draft Western Pond Turtle (<i>Emys marmorata</i>) Visual Survey Protocol for the Southcoast Ecoregion (United States Geological Survey 2006). If no western pond turtles are observed during the pre-construction survey, then construction activities may begin. If construction is delayed or halted for more than seven (7) days, another pre-construction survey for western pond turtle will be conducted. If the surveys result in the identification of a western pond turtle or an individual is found on the site during construction activities, it will be allowed to leave the site on its own and the qualified biologist shall determine appropriate buffers to be implemented to avoid impacts to the individual(s).	7 days prior to construction activities	As determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	TID		

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
BIO-14 (Monitor)					
If western pond turtles are observed on the Project site, a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-activity clearance survey each day and remain onsite to oversee all vegetation clearing and ground disturbing activities.	During Construction activities	Daily, during all vegetation clearing and ground disturbing activities	TID		
Special Status Plant Species Including California Satintail, Sanford's Arrowhead, and Spiny-sepaed Button-celery					
BIO-15 (Focused Botanical Survey)					
A qualified botanist/biologist will conduct focused botanical surveys during the appropriate blooming seasons for alkali-sink goldfields, Coulter's goldfields, Greene's tuctoria, Hoover's spurge, San Joaquin adobe sunburst, San Joaquin Valley Orcutt grass, Sanford's arrowhead, and spiny-sepaed button-celery, according to CDFW's Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities (2018) for areas where ground disturbance will occur and prior to the start of construction. Reference sites for these plants will be visited prior to completing surveys within the Project site.	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to construction activities	TID		
BIO-16 (Avoidance)					
If California satintail, Sanford's arrowhead, or spiny-sepaed button-celery are identified during the focused botanical surveys, an avoidance buffer and, if necessary, use of exclusion fencing, will be placed around the area as to not disturb the plants or its root system.	Prior to construction activities	As determined needed by qualified biologist during construction activities	TID		
BIO-17 (Consultation)					
If California satintail, Sanford's arrowhead, or spiny-sepaed button-celery are detected within the Project work sites during the focused botanical surveys, and the plants cannot be avoided, the Project proponent will consult with CNPS, CDFW, and/or USFWS to determine next steps for relocation.	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to construction activities	TID		
Project-Related Impacts to Regulated Waters, Wetlands, and Water Quality					
BIO-18 (Aquatic Resources Delineation)					
If USACE determines that waters of the United States will be impacted as a result of Project activities, then an Aquatic Resource Delineation (ARD) will be performed to determine the extent of the rivers and riparian habitats on the Project sites. The ARD will be conducted in accordance with the USACE's Wetland Delineation Manual (1987) and Arid West Regional Supplement (1987), and the State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State (State Water Resources Control Board 2021).	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to construction activities	TID		

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
BIO-19 (Permits)					
Permits with USACE, RWQCB, CVFPB, and CDFW will be obtained if required. These permits, certifications, and agreements would ensure there are no indirect downstream effects to jurisdictional waters.	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to construction activities	TID		
BIO-20 (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan)					
Since construction would involve ground disturbance over an area greater than one acre, the Project would also be required to obtain a Construction General Permit under the Construction Storm Water Program administered by the RWQCB. A prerequisite for this permit is the development of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan to ensure construction activities do not adversely affect water quality. This plan will be prepared in support of the Construction General Permit application.	Prior to construction activities	Once, Prior to construction activities	TID		
Project-Related Impacts to Wildlife Movement Corridors and Native Wildlife Nursery Sites					
BIO-21 (Operational Hours)					
Construction activities would be limited to a half hour after sunrise through a half hour before sunset to reduce potential impacts to wildlife movement corridors.	During construction activities	During construction activities	TID		
BIO-31 (Wildlife Access)					
Access will not be blocked outside of construction hours or during overnight hours or weekends. If construction must block both sides of a wildlife access route, an alternative route through the construction area should be identified by a qualified biologist and maintained throughout the construction schedule timeframe	During Construction activities	During construction activities	TID		
BIO-32 (Cover Excavations)					
Pipeline/culvert/siphon excavations and vertical pipes will be covered each night to prevent wildlife from falling in and becoming trapped or injured during migratory or dispersal movements.	During Construction	During Construction	TID		
Cultural Resources					
CUL – 1 (Archaeological Remains)					
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.	During Construction Activities	During Construction Activities	TID		
CUL – 2 (Human Remains)					

Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
<p>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 Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento within 24 hours to permit the NAHC to determine the Most Likely Descendent of the deceased Native American.</p>	<p>During Construction Activities</p>	<p>During Construction Activities</p>	<p>TID</p>		
Tribal Cultural Resources					
TCR-1					
<p>(Cultural Awareness Training): Prior to construction or any ground disturbing activities, a Cultural Awareness Training Program shall be provided to all construction managers and construction personnel prior to commencing ground disturbance work at the Project site. The training shall be prepared and conducted by a qualified archaeologist to the satisfaction of the District. The training shall be a length of time adequate to explain applicable statutes, regulations, enforcement provisions; the prehistoric and historic environmental setting and context, local tribal groups; show sample artifacts; and what prehistoric and historic archaeological deposits look like at the surface and when exposed during construction. The training may be discontinued to new workers to the site when ground disturbance is completed. Construction personnel shall not be permitted to operate equipment within the construction area unless they have attended the training. A list of the names of all personnel who attended the training, and copies of the signed acknowledgement forms shall be submitted to the District for their review and approval.</p>	<p>Prior to Construction or Ground Disturbing Activities</p>	<p>One Cultural Awareness Training prior to construction activities</p>	<p>TID</p>		