



CLAY PIT

STATE VEHICULAR RECREATION AREA

Final Environmental Impact Report



State Clearinghouse Number 2010092003

Prepared for:

California State Parks
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
Twin Cities District
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June 2012

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CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

**Final
Environmental Impact Report**

June 2012

State Clearinghouse Number 2010092003



Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor

John Laird
Secretary, The Natural Resources Agency

Ruth Coleman
Director, California State Parks
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BCFD	Butte County Fire Department
Board	Central Valley Flood Protection Board
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
DFG	California Department of Fish and Game
DMA	Drainage Management Area
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EIR	Draft Environmental Impact Report
ESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
IE	Interpretation and Education
NRM	Natural Resource Management
OHMVR	Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division
OM	Operations and Management
RTC	Response to comment
State Parks	California Department of Parks and Recreation
SVRA	State Vehicular Recreation Area
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Chapter 1.0 – Introduction



Clay Pit SVRA sunset

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Chapter 1.0 – Introduction

On February 8, 2012, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHMVR) Division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) released to the general public and public agencies the Draft General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Clay Pit State Vehicular Recreation Area (Clay Pit SVRA or the SVRA). The proposed General Plan will guide development and future management of the SVRA. It contains a comprehensive and integrated set of goals and guidelines for the development and long-term management of the SVRA that focuses on activities and facilities at the SVRA, protection of environmental resources, provisions of visitor use and opportunities, administration and operations, and integration with the surrounding community.

The Draft EIR that accompanied the General Plan contains an environmental analysis of potentially significant effects that could result from implementation of the General Plan. Together, the Draft EIR and this document, including the response to comments, constitute the Final Environmental Impact Report for the SVRA General Plan.

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21091 and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15087, a 45-day public review period for the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR was provided. The public was advised of the availability of the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR through legal notices placed in local newspapers, emails, direct mailings, and notification on the OHMVR Division planning web site. A public notice (Notice of Availability) was posted with the Butte County clerk/recorder, and was published in the Chico Enterprise-Record, and the Oroville Mercury-Register. Copies of the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR were also made available for review at the following locations: the Oroville and Chico Public Libraries, State Parks Northern Buttes District Office, Twin Cities District Office at Prairie City SVRA, the California State Parks OHMVR Division Headquarters, and on the OHMVR Division web site.

The public review period for the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR ended on March 24, 2012. During the public review period comments were received from several agencies and individuals. This document provides responses to the written comments received during the public review period. The focus of the response to comments is on the disposition of environmental issues that have been raised in the comments, as specified by CEQA Guidelines Section 15088(b). The response to comments also includes issues related to planning considerations of the General Plan.

This document is organized as follows:

Chapter 1 (Introduction) provides a brief overview of the public review process of the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR, and describes the organization of the Final EIR.

Chapter 2 (List of Commenters) provides a list, in table format, of all written comments received on the SVRA Draft General Plan and Draft EIR during the public review period.

1.0 Introduction

Chapter 3 (Comments and Responses) provides a complete copy of, and responses to, all written comments on the SVRA Draft General Plan and Draft EIR received during the public review period.

Chapter 4 (Recommended Changes to the General Plan and EIR) provides a reproduction of portions of the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR with proposed revisions to text made in response to comments. These changes will be incorporated in the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR to be submitted to the OHMVR Commission for approval.

2.0 – List of Commenters



Shade in the cottonwood trees

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Chapter 2.0 – List of Commenters

This chapter provides a list of all public comments received on the Clay Pit SVRA Draft General Plan and Draft EIR during the public review period. Table 2-1 indicates the commenter/organization that submitted written comments and the date the comment(s) were received.

TABLE 2-1: LIST OF WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED			
Letter Number	Commenter	Agency/Organization/ Individual Represented	Date Received
1	James Herota, Staff Environmental Scientist	Central Valley Flood Protection Board, Floodway Projects Improvements Branch	February 23, 2012
2	Rob Cone, Division Chief	CAL FIRE, Butte County Fire and Rescue	February 9, 2012
3	Daniel C. Moench, Assistant Manager	Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District	March 23, 2012
4	Steven Seidenglanz	Steven Seidenglanz	March 15, 2012
5	Patrick A. Fox	Visitor	February 8, 2012
6	Kelly Miller, District Manager	Butte County Resource Conservation District	February 8, 2012
7	Russ Fowler, Battalion Chief	CAL FIRE, Butte County Fire Department	March 3, 2012
8	Bill Cochran, Chief	Department of Water Resources, License Coordination Branch, Oroville Field Division, Division of Operation and Maintenance	March 26, 2012
9	Dan Love	Feather River Rockcrawlers	February 13, 2012
10	Scott Morgan, Director	Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse	March 27, 2012

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3.0 – Comments and Responses



Reflection

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Chapter 3.0 – Comments and Responses

This chapter provides a complete copy of the written comments received on the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR for the Clay Pit SVRA, and presents responses to significant environmental issues raised in the comments, as required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15132. Comments pertaining to the Draft General Plan are also addressed.

Each letter received is reproduced in its entirety. The responses to comments directly follow each letter.

3.1 Letter 1 James Herota

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD
 3310 El Camino Ave., Rm. 151
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95821
 (916) 574-0609 FAX: (916) 574-0682
 PERMITS: (916) 574-2380 FAX: (916) 574-0682

EDMUND G

Letter 1



February 23, 2012

Ms. Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia
 State Parks OHMVR Division
 13300 White Rock Road
 Rancho Cordova, California 95742

Subject: Clay Pit General Plan SCH Number: 2010092003 Notice of Completion of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Ms. Buckingham-Garcia:

Staff for the Central Valley Flood Protection Board has reviewed the subject document and provides the following comments:

The proposed project is located within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board. The Board is required to enforce standards for the construction, maintenance, and protection of adopted flood control plans that will protect public lands from floods. The jurisdiction of the Board includes the Central Valley, including all tributaries and distributaries of the Sacramento River and the San Joaquin River, and designated floodways (Title 23 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 2).

A Board permit is required prior to starting the work within the Board's jurisdiction for the following:

- The placement, construction, reconstruction, removal, or abandonment of any landscaping, culvert, bridge, conduit, fence, projection, fill, embankment, building, structure, obstruction, encroachment, excavation, the planting, or removal of vegetation, and any repair or maintenance that involves cutting into the levee (CCR Section 6);
- Existing structures that predate permitting or where it is necessary to establish the conditions normally imposed by permitting. The circumstances include those where responsibility for the encroachment has not been clearly established or ownership and use have been revised (CCR Section 6);
- Vegetation plantings that will require the submission of detailed design drawings; identification of vegetation type; plant and tree names (i.e. common name and scientific name); total number of each type of plant and tree; planting spacing and irrigation method that will be utilized within the project area; a complete vegetative management plan for maintenance to prevent the interference with flood control, levee maintenance, inspection and flood fight procedures (Title 23, California Code of Regulations CCR Section 131).

1-1



February 23, 2012
 Ms. Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia
 Page 2 of 2

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15130 "Discussion of Cumulative Impacts. (a) An EIR shall discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable, as defined in section 15065(a)(3). Where a lead agency is examining a project with an incremental effect that is not "cumulatively considerable," the lead agency need not consider that effect significant, but shall briefly describe its basis for concluding that the incremental effect is not cumulatively considerable."

1-2

Vegetation requirements in accordance with Title 23, Section 131(c) states, "Vegetation must not interfere with the integrity of the adopted plan of flood control, or interfere with maintenance, inspection, and flood fight procedures."

The accumulation and establishment of woody vegetation that is not managed has a negative impact on channel capacity and increases the potential for levee over-topping and flooding. When a channel develops vegetation that then becomes habitat for wildlife, maintenance to initial baseline conditions becomes more difficult as the removal of vegetative growth is subject to federal and state agency requirements for on-site mitigation within the floodway.

1-3

Hydraulic impacts – Hydraulic impacts due to encroachments could impede flows, reroute flood flows, and/or increase sediment accumulation. The Draft EIR should include mitigation measures for channel and levee improvements and maintenance to prevent and/or reduce hydraulic impacts. Off-site mitigation outside of the State Plan of Flood Control should be used when mitigating for vegetation removed within the project location.

The permit application and Title 23 CCR can be found on the Central Valley Flood Protection Board's website at <http://www.cvfpb.ca.gov/>. Contact your local, federal and state agencies, as other permits may apply.

Should you have any further questions, please contact me by phone at (916) 574-0651, or via email at jherota@water.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



James Herota
 Staff Environmental Scientist
 Floodway Projects Improvement Branch

cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research
 State Clearinghouse
 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
 Sacramento, California 95814

Letter **James Herota**
1 **Central Valley Flood Protection Board**
Response **February 23, 2012**

- 1-1** Prior to moving forward with any site specific implementation projects, the OHMVR Division will coordinate with local, state and federal agencies, including the Central Valley Flood Protection Board as necessary, to obtain permits as required and abide by all permit conditions and management recommendations when implementing projects. Water Guideline 4.5 has been added to page 4-21 of the Draft General Plan to clearly articulate this coordination with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board.
- 1-2** The discussion of potential cumulative hydrology and water quality impacts has been revised to clarify the basis for concluding that the project's potential incremental effect on flooding is not cumulatively considerable.
- 1-3** Vegetation plantings for restoration activities and landscaping proposed at the Clay Pit SVRA will be minor relative to the water storage capacity of the Clay Pit SVRA site. Planting efforts are not anticipated to interfere with flood control efforts. Implementation of Guidelines 4.1-4.5 would anticipate and accommodate flooding issues during site specific planning. In addition, as stated under response to comment (RTC) 1-1 above, prior to moving forward with any site specific implementation projects, the OHMVR Division will coordinate with local, state and federal agencies, including the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, to obtain permits as required and abide by all permit conditions and management recommendations.

3.2 Letter 2 Rob Cone

Letter 2

From: Buckingham, Jennifer [JBUCK@parks.ca.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 4:15 PM
To: Fettke, Kim; LeFlore, Rick
Subject: FW: Clay Pit SVRA NOA
Attachments: Clay Pit NOA_20120206.pdf

From: Cone, Rob [mailto:Rob.Cone@fire.ca.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 5:55 PM
To: Buckingham, Jennifer
Subject: FW: Clay Pit SVRA NOA

Jennifer,
Attached are some comments from Butte County Fire

Rob Cone
Division Chief
CAL FIRE
Butte County Fire Rescue
176 Nelson Ave
Oroville, CA 95965
530-521-8713 Cell
Subject: FW: Clay Pit SVRA NOA

Re BCFD in this Document:

Infrequent vehicle fires have occurred in the Clay Pit, typically associated with OHV "play".

Infrequent Vegetation (grass) fires have occurred in the Clay Pit, most commonly spreading from the DFG Shooting Range on a South wind. Occasionally vehicle and OHV caused fires within the Clay Pit have spread to the vegetation.

Most often BCFD responds to injury accidents involving OHV mishaps, as the provider of BLS and closest resource. The BCFD closest fire engine responds from the BCFD / CAL FIRE headquarters in the City of Oroville (47 miles).

2-1

Least common are Hazardous Materials incidents, The BCFD supports the BCFC Hazmat Team with HM Specs. and responds in support of SPPO who have incident Command. Infrequent Hazmat dumping has occurred.

The Clay Pit is in an approach to the Oroville Airport, at least one plane has crashed nearby with fatal results for the occupants. (East, NE .25 miles from the main Larkin Rd. entrance)

The Clay Pit & DFG range are often confused as one site creating modest confusion on access and legal jurisdiction. DFG gets CHP, While Clay Pit gets SPPO.

2-2

(E63, E71, E72 & E73 are the closest BCFD 24/7 resources)

cont.
2-1

MB



Letter	Rob Cone
2	CAL FIRE, Butte County Fire and Rescue
Response	February 9, 2012

- 2-1** Thank you for this information. Edits have been made to Section 2.4.2 Public Safety of the General Plan as appropriate.
- 2-2** The OHMVR Division is aware of this confusion. The Division hopes to provide clarity on this issue in the future by specifying jurisdiction of the two facilities on public information materials (e.g. newsletters, signage, website) that it produces, by specifying who to contact in case of emergency on informational materials, and by working with staff from the adjacent Department of Fish and Game (DFG) wildlife area (including the shooting range) to encourage appropriate uses at the wildlife area and the Clay Pit SVRA. These intentions are reflected in IE Guideline 4.7 and 4.8 in the General Plan.

3.3 Letter 3 Daniel C. Moench

Letter 3



Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District

5117 Larkin Road • Oroville, CA 95965-9250
Phone: 530-533-6038 • Fax: 530-534-9916
www.BCMVCD.com

Matthew C. Ball
Manager

March 22, 2012

Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia
California State Parks
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
c/o Twin Cities District
13300 White Rock Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Dear Jennifer,

Re: EIR to Draft General Plan, for the Oroville Clay Pit (SVRA)

The Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) has reviewed the EIR for the Oroville Clay Pit Recreational Off Road Vehicle Park. The District would like to submit the following comments regarding potential public health concerns and mosquito-breeding issues on the site, as well as, offer comments and suggestions for consideration in Design and Drainage features.

West Nile virus (WNV) is a mosquito borne disease that effects hundreds if not thousands of California residents each year. WNV is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Since its arrival in 2004, Butte County has identified 93 WNV human infections with 7 fatalities. The District strongly discourages any land management design, function, and/or practice that can promote increase mosquito breeding sites.

3-1

Historically in the past the District has made public health pesticide applications to control mosquitoes in and along the existing Airport Drain Channel that flows under Larkin Road and through the project site. This drain comes from the Table Mountain Golf Course and holds water during the summer months, which is conducive to breeding high populations of mosquitoes. The District has on occasion treated the source with Cal EPA approved larvicides. The Northern Hardpan Vernal Pools that are located throughout the project area have not been an issue for mosquito breeding since most of these pools are dry by the time the general mosquito season is declared, and the warmer summer temperatures arrive. However, the Airport Drainage Channel and the shallow Oxbow Lake located in the center of the project area has been and remains a concern to the District. This channel often holds standing water well into the summer months, due to airport golf course summer irrigations. Changes to the existing drainage features such as ATV crossings, culvert installations, retention basins, sediment traps, and Bioswells have the potential to collect and hold standing water which could breed mosquitoes.

3-2

The EIR also mentions the construction of a Headquarters and a maintenance building requiring the engineering and construction of a septic system. As stated in the EIR the system will most likely be designed with an above ground leach system possibly using an open leach pit 100ft. wide by 100ft. long, by 10ft. in depth to collect and treat sewage from the facilities. It is the Districts recommendation

3-3



to avoid this open system design feature and utilize a below surface containment tank. Open leach pits holding sewage effluent treated or untreated has a high potential to breed mosquitoes. | cont. 3-3

The District intends to monitor, inspect and apply public health pesticides to mosquito breeding sources in the project area, as it has done in the past and to seek reimbursement for all mosquito related control costs associated with the project. Invoices will be sent to the California Department of Fish and Game for payment since the project area is in the realms of the Oroville Wildlife Area. The District has a Memorandum of Understanding with CA. F&G as an agreement for obtaining reimbursement for mosquito control costs. If the California Department of Water Resources, or California State Parks have accepted Jurisdictional responsibilities or financial management over the (SVRA) project, the financial reimbursement responsibility may be shifted to their state agency. | 3-4

The District would be interested in receiving future notices and correspondences pertaining too, or related to this project. | 3-5

If you have any questions regarding our comments or suggestions, Please contact the District at (530)-533-6038 or mail to, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District, 5117 Larkin Road, Oroville, Ca. 95965

Respectfully,



Daniel C. Moench
Assistant Manager



Letter 3 Response	Daniel C. Moench Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District March 23, 2012
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- 3-1** Water Guideline 4.3 requires that facilities envisioned in the General Plan be designed to avoid unwanted ponding and flooding. Implementation of this guideline would reduce the potential of establishing new mosquito breeding sites within the SVRA. Language has been added to this guideline to specifically state that ponding and flooding should be avoided to minimize potential mosquito breeding.
- 3-2** The “shallow Oxbow Lake” is not located in the Clay Pit SVRA, but rather, in the adjacent wildlife area under the jurisdiction of the DFG. Consistent with Water Guideline 4.3, any improvements (e.g. culvert installations, vegetation rehabilitation) made to the “Airport Drainage Channel” that bisects the Clay Pit SVRA would be designed to avoid unwanted ponding and flooding. Overall drainage of the site would be expected to improve under the proposed managed conditions.
- 3-3** No open sewage treatment facilities (e.g. treatment ponds) are proposed in the General Plan. The proposed Headquarters facilities would require the use of an engineered septic system, but the system would be enclosed and would not provide potential mosquito breeding habitat.
- 3-4** Thank you for providing this information. Upon adoption of the General Plan, the OHMVR Division will coordinate with the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District to discuss any responsibilities of the Division related to mosquito control.
- 3-5** The District has been added to the Clay Pit SVRA mailing list.

3.4 Letter 4 Steven Seidenglanz

Letter 4

Steven Seidenglanz
585 Elliott Road
Paradise, CA 95969
530.518.8846

California State Parks
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
C/o Twin Cities District
13300 White Rock Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

RE: Proposed Clay Pit State Vehicular Recreation Area DRAFT General Plan

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the DRAFT EIR for the proposed project referenced above.

Here in the North state, many State Parks facilities are closing due to funding issues with the State budget. It is inconceivable that the expenses associated with the proposed facility are available for this project instead of being utilized for existing facilities like Bidwell Mansion for instance. The facility as it exists could be augmented with little cost for minimal improvements and the funding better utilized at existing facilities.

4-1

There are several proposed improvements that are vaguely described in the DRAFT General Plan and glossed over in the DRAFT EIR that we believe need further consideration: specifically, the expense and size of the proposed new headquarters building and maintenance yards. These facilities will require staffing, which is not necessary at this facility. It is currently a facility that is unsupervised and staffing is not necessary, even with some minimal, necessary improvements like additional vault toilets, shade armadas, picnic areas and culvert crossings. The documents describe poor soils in the area proposed for the headquarters and maintenance yard and the likelihood of an engineered sewage disposal system being a necessity.

4-2

4-3

Additionally, the installation of one or two wells and water storage facilities is not appropriate when public facilities are near the site. Butte County was sued over the General Plan issues of groundwater availability and this project appears to require 25.5 million gallons of water annually (MGA) for dust abatement and mud features. We find the wells to be inappropriate with the proposed amount of water. There currently exists vernal pools and mud features on the property for many months of the year, thus additional mud features and the required "new" water are not needed.

4-4

4-5

4-6

The plan also indicates that fencing and culverts for protection and crossing of the existing water feature bisecting the site will be constructed but no protection of the vernal pools will be included. Private development is required to mitigate impacts to vernal pools and wetlands, possibly by as much as 200%

4-7



replacement. We do not find this requirement in the DRAFT General Plan or the EIR and believe this to be a requirement unless the state can exempt itself in which case we object even more.

cont.
4-7

It seems a wiser use of public funds to scale back this project substantially, avoiding the sensitive areas, minimizing staff facilities altogether, thus eliminating the need for the engineered sewage disposal system and minimizing the need for water on the site to the tune of 25.5 MGA.

Please consider revisions to the plan in these regards and provide adequate mitigation for the identified impacts that seem to be missing from the EIR.

Thank you again for the considerations.

Kind Regards,

Steven Seidenglanz

Letter	Steven Seidenglanz
4	
Response	March 15, 2012

- 4-1** Funding for Clay Pit SVRA is provided from the Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund. The use of this funding is restricted by Public Resource Code Section 5090.61 to be used solely for the support of the off-highway motor vehicle recreation program. The funding is not available for operation of other State Park Units like Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park.
- 4-2** The size and other details of the proposed headquarters building and maintenance yard are specified in section 4.3.3 “Proposed Facilities” of the General Plan.
- 4-3** The Clay Pit SVRA is currently staffed by State Park Peace Officers who provide law enforcement and emergency services seven days per week, as specified in section 2.4.2 “Public Safety” in the General Plan. As described in section 4.3.3 “Proposed Facilities,” the proposed headquarters facilities “will play an important role in enabling other proposed facilities and visitor uses in the future. These buildings will include the materials and staff needed to maintain Clay Pit SVRA at a higher intensity of use.”
- 4-4** The source of water supply required in the future for anticipated facilities has not yet been determined. As described in the “Operations and Maintenance” subsection of section 4.3.4 “Anticipated Facilities and Services,” water needed for anticipated facilities “could be supplied from onsite well(s), or could be brought to the site from water supply facilities serving the Oroville Municipal Airport.” In addition, Water Guideline 3.2 encourages the use of recycled water “for dust control and irrigation as allowed by water quality and health regulations and as available at the site or nearby.”
- 4-5** As stated in the EIR, Impact 3.8-3, “Because the water supply source that will be used to support future development envisioned in the General Plan has not yet been determined, both surface water and groundwater are evaluated herein.” The analysis concluded that there was sufficient water supply available via groundwater to meet the long-term needs of the project “without causing the supply to be depleted (i.e., a net deficit of aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level).” Likewise, the analysis concluded that because Butte County has been unable to use their entire State Water Project allocation within the County and has sought to find in-county uses for its entire allocation, “this water would be suitable to meet the long-term water demand required to implement the General Plan.” In addition, as described in Impact 3.8-3, General Plan Water Guideline 3.1 requires that when the OHMVR Division develops detailed plans for facilities envisioned in the future that “they assess available water sources that will yield sufficient water supplies needed for operation and maintenance of the facilities, and that they develop this water supply as appropriate in compliance with state regulatory requirements at that time.” Your comments regarding the potential use of well water will be taken into account when a decision is being made about the source of water supply for the future water demand at the SVRA.
- 4-6** The majority of the water demand that would be required to implement the General Plan is anticipated to be used for dust control rather than for watering “mud features.” The comment that created mud features are not needed because mud features currently exist on the property for many months of the year (i.e., features such as ponds and swales that exist during the rainy season) will be taken into account when the specifics of anticipated facilities are being developed.

- 4-7 The site and layout of the proposed headquarters was chosen to avoid loss of vernal pools. Likewise, the Use Areas and conceptual locations of anticipated facilities were designed to avoid loss of vernal pool habitat to the greatest extent possible by placing these facilities in areas that have the lowest densities of vernal pools within the SVRA. A number of Goals and Guidelines included in the General Plan require the protection of natural resources such as vernal pool habitats and water quality (e.g. NRM Goal 1 and accompanying Guidelines, NRM Goal 2 and accompanying Guidelines, Water Goals 1 and 2 and accompanying Guidelines, DMA Goal 1 and accompanying Guidelines). In particular, Water Guideline 1.2 states that “if impacts on jurisdictional features cannot be fully avoided, determine the acreage of direct impacts (i.e., fill of wetlands) and indirect impacts (i.e., alterations to wetland hydrology) that would result,” obtain the appropriate permits, and implement all conditions of these agreements such that the functions and values of all affected wetlands and other waters of the United States (e.g. vernal pools) are replaced, restored, or enhanced on a “no net loss” basis. All of these measures would serve to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any potential impacts to vernal pool habitat. These measures are consistent with the types of mitigation of any other project undertaken by private or public entities in California.

3.5 Letter 5 Patrick A. Fox

Letter 5

From: Buckingham, Jennifer [JBUCK@parks.ca.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 4:12 PM
To: paddy
Subject: RE: CLAY PIT AREA

Thank you for your email regarding Clay Pit SVRA. We will take your comments into consideration and we appreciate your feedback. The shooting range is owned by the Department of Fish and Game and is not included in our improvement plan.

Regards,
Jennifer

-----Original Message-----

From: paddy [<mailto:pfflyer13@comcast.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 10:31 AM
To: Buckingham, Jennifer
Subject: CLAY PIT AREA

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE IMPROVEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE ABOUT THE CLAY PIT AREA, I'VE USED THIS AREA TO RECREATE FOR SEVERAL YEARS ,WOULD THESE IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE THE SHOOTING RANGE TO THE SOUTH OF THE OFF-ROAD PLAY AREA?? I REALLY FEEL, NO IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED IN THE OFF-ROAD AREA, NO PARKY STYLE ATMOSPHERE WOULD BE APPRECIATED IN THE AREA, THE PIT GROUNDS ARE JUST WHAT USERS LIKE, ROUGH AND CHALLENGING TO USE, I THINK KEEPING THE AREA PRIMITIVE OR UNIMPROVED WOULD BE THE WAY THE AREA IS ENJOYED, NO COST, NO HOOPLA IS WHY SO MANY USE THE PIT TO ENJOY , SO PLEASE LEAVE IT ALONE AND LET LET US HAVE A PLACE TO PLAY THAT IS NATURAL AND UNINHIBITED BY BUILDINGS, RULES AND A FINISHED PARK LIKE AREA.. HOWEVER THE SHOOTING RANGE COULD USE SOME REFINEMENTS, LIKE COVERED AREAS TO GET OUT OF THE SUN AND MORE TRASH BINS, MAYBE SOME PAVEMENT TO KEEP THE DUST DOWN!! THANK.. PATRICK A. FOX

5-1
5-2
5-1 cont



**Letter
5
Response**

**Patrick A. Fox
Visitor
February 8, 2012**

- 5-1** The shooting range located south of the Clay Pit SVRA managed by the DFG and is not part of the General Plan area.
- 5-2** Implementation of the Clay Pit SVRA General Plan would include the retention of much of the Clay Pit SVRA (the Open OHV Recreation Area) in its current unimproved state.

3.6 Letter 6 Kelly Miller

Letter 6

From: Buckingham, Jennifer [JBUCK@parks.ca.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 4:14 PM
To: Kelly Miller
Subject: RE: Clay Pit OHV

Hi Kelly,

We have added your contact information to the distribution list. Thank you for your interest in the Clay Pit SVRA planning process.

Regards,

Jennifer

From: Kelly Miller [<mailto:bc-rcd@carcd.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 6:01 PM
To: Buckingham, Jennifer
Subject: Clay Pit OHV

Hi,

Can you please add me to your email distribution list for information pertaining to the Clay Pit OHV general planning process?

6-1

Thanks,

Kelly Miller, District Manager
Butte County Resource Conservation District
150 Chuck Yeager Way, Suite A
Oroville, CA, 95965
Phone: (530) 534-0112 ext. 122
FAX: (530) 533-4936
E-mail: bc-rcd@carcd.org

No virus found in this message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 10.0.1424 / Virus Database: 2112/4796 - Release Date: 02/08/12



**Letter
6
Response**

**Kelly Miller
Butte County Resource Conservation District
February 8, 2012**

- 6-1** Kelly Miller, District Manager of the Butte County Resource Conservation District, has been added to the project mailing list.

3.7 Letter 7 Russ Fowler

Letter 7

From: Buckingham, Jennifer [JBUCK@parks.ca.gov]
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 5:41 PM
To: Fowler, Russ
Cc: Fettke, Kim
Subject: RE: Clay Pit SVRA draft general plan

Russ,

This is great information and we appreciate the comments - thank you. We will incorporate them appropriately.

Regards,

Jennifer

From: Fowler, Russ [Russ.Fowler@fire.ca.gov]
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 4:24 PM
To: Buckingham, Jennifer
Cc: Fowler, Russ
Subject: Clay Pit SVRA draft general plan

Jennifer,

The Clay Pit SVRA is located within my operational battalion. Please see my comments in red below, in reference to the draft general plan for the Clay Pit State Vehicle Recreational Area:

2.4.2. PUBLIC SAFETY

From pages 61 and 62

Fire Protection

Butte County Fire Department (BCFD) is the jurisdictional agency responsible for responding to fires within Clay Pit SVRA; however, fire management is provided through California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). Butte County contracts with CAL FIRE to provide staffing to the BCFD through an annual cooperative agreement. Under the terms of this agreement, Butte County funds CAL FIRE professional command, fire-fighting, and administrative staff for operations. Through this arrangement, CAL FIRE and the BCFD function together as a fully consolidated fire protection agency and provide cost-effective fire protection service for Butte County (Butte County 2007:7-22). The closest Butte County fire station, **Station 63, located at 176 Nelson Ave, Oroville, is 4.7 miles northeast of Clay Pit SVRA** ~~Station 72, is located at 2290 Palermo Road in Palermo, approximately 5 miles southeast of Clay Pit SVRA.~~ No fire incidents have been recorded at Clay Pit SVRA (Buckingham-Garcia, pers. comm., 2010). **Occasionally, vegetation fires spread into the Clay Pit SVRA from the adjacent Rabe Road Shooting Range. There have been occasional, although infrequent, vehicle fires at the Clay Pit SVRA.**

7-1

Medical Aid

BCFD **as well as** ~~responds to 911 calls,~~ and Oroville Ambulance responds to 911 medical aid calls originating from within Clay Pit SVRA. On-site SPPOs are trained in emergency responder medical



aid and typically occasionally serve as first responders to medical emergencies. Medical equipment kept on-site in law enforcement vehicles includes oxygen, trauma kits, and equipment to assess the extent of injuries, such as blood pressure gauges and stethoscopes.

Emergency Access/Egress

Regional emergency access to Clay Pit SVRA is provided by State Route 70 and State Route 99, while direct access is provided by Larkin Road. There are no formal internal access roads within Clay Pit SVRA boundary. However, an existing entrance road and parking lot at the northeastern most portion of the SVRA provide primary access for emergency responders. Overall, Clay Pit SVRA is dominated by open dirt areas that are accessible by all law enforcement vehicles and most emergency response vehicles. During the rainy season there are significant portions of the Clay Pit SVRA that are not accessible for road type vehicles, even if four wheel drive (the soil is too soft and they have a tendency to "sink"). Cal Fire/Butte County Fire Department has a Polaris Ranger available for off-road response, as well as fire bull dozers.

7-1
cont.

Here are some general comments:

- The Clay Pit SVRA is located within the air approach to the Oroville Airport; at least one plane has crashed nearby with fatal results for the occupants.
- The Clay Pit SVRA and the Rabe Road Shooting Range are often confused as one site, creating modest confusion on access and legal jurisdiction.

Thanks,

Russ Fowler

Battalion Chief (Bat-6)

CAL FIRE/Butte County Fire Dept

176 Nelson Ave

Oroville, CA 95965

(530) 521-8056

russ.fowler@fire.ca.gov

Letter	Russ Fowler
7	CAL FIRE, Butte County Fire Department
Response	March 3, 2012

7-1 Thank you for this information. Edits have been made to Section 2.4.2 Public Safety of the General Plan as appropriate.

3.8 Letter 8 Bill Cochran

Letter 8

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

EDM

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

OROVILLE FIELD DIVISION
460 GLEN DRIVE
OROVILLE, CA 95966



March 26, 2012

Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia
California State Parks
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
c/o Twin Cities District
13300 White Rock Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Subject: DWR Comments re: Draft Clay Pit SVRA General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report (02/08/12)

Ms. Buckingham-Garcia,

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has been a long time partner with the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) in providing recreation opportunities for the Oroville Area. We were pleased to review the *Draft Clay Pit SVRA General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report, February 8, 2012*, as the improvements proposed will significantly enhance Off Highway Vehicle recreation at this site. We are submitting this letter to convey our comments regarding this document.

The Clay Pit State Vehicular Recreation Area (Clay Pit SVRA) occurs on California State Water Project lands, and as explained in existing DWR/DPR agreements, DWR reserves the use of this property for "...the construction, reconstruction, repair, operation or maintenance of the Oroville Division of the State Water Project. including, but not limited to, the removal of materials by WATER RESOURCES from such real property and the inundation by WATER RESOURCES of such real property."

8-1

Although the Clay Pit SVRA is not within the boundary of our Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license boundary, it may impact our FERC license as it borders a section of the Oroville Wildlife Area (OWA), which is within our FERC license boundary. In addition, the Clay Pit SVRA drains into the Oroville Wildlife Area. Therefore, the proposed project should be designed to:

- Control contaminants from entering the OWA, such as that which may come from the vehicles and equipment operating in the Clay Pit SVRA, as well as the materials used for the operations and maintenance of the Clay Pit SVRA.
- Install and/or maintain appropriate fencing and signage necessary to keep vehicles from entering the OWA from the Clay Pit SVRA.
- Provide appropriate law enforcement and area supervision to ensure compliance with all Clay Pit SVRA regulations, policies, and procedures.

8-2

8-3

8-4

The Drainage Management Area (DMA) Goal 1 refers to improving the quality of surface water entering and exiting the Clay Pit SVRA Drainage Management Area, and DMA Guideline 1.1 calls for coordination with the various entities related to the quality of the surface water entering the Clay Pit SVRA. We request that this section be expanded accordingly:

- A Guideline should be added or amended to clearly include the consideration of water exiting the Clay Pit SVRA Drainage Management Area.

8-5



- All water exiting the Clay Pit SVRA should be considered, not just the water from the Drainage Management Area. For example, this could include surface water that drains from the Clay Pit SVRA to vernal pools on adjacent lands.
- DWR and the California Department of Fish and Game (OWA) be added to the list of coordinating entities.

8-6

8-7

As identified in various sections of the Draft EIR, vernal pool habitat exists in the Clay Pit SVRA and the surrounding areas, as do sensitive and listed species associated with this habitat. For your information, we have provided a report (attached) prepared by DWR in 2005, documenting the results of Fairy and Tadpole Shrimp Surveys conducted at that time. In addition, vernal pool habitat occurs outside of the Clay Pit SVRA boundary, such as the area along the southern border. DWR has created vernal pool habitat in this area and it is important that this area not be impacted by Clay Pit SVRA OHV use, as well as operations and maintenance activities.

8-8

DWR recommends that DPR consider incorporating an information kiosk describing how the area relates to the State Water Project and the historic construction of Oroville Dam, as the site of the Clay Pit SVRA occurs on California State Water Project lands. If requested, DWR could work with DPR on the State Water Project information for the kiosk.

8-9

Should you have any questions regarding this subject, please contact me at the letterhead address, email (bcochran@water.ca.gov), or 530-534-2376.

Sincerely,



Bill Cochran, Chief
 License Coordination Branch
 Oroville Field Division
 Division of Operations and Maintenance

Cc: Pete Scheele, DWR - Oroville Field Division
 Dave Van Baren, DFG – Oroville Wildlife Area
 Michael Fehling, DPR – Northern Buttes District



Letter
8
Response

Bill Cochran
Department of Water Resources, Division of Operation and Maintenance
March 26, 2012

- 8-1** This information is reflected in Section 1.3 “Purpose Acquired” in the General Plan.
- 8-2** Many General Plan Goals and Guidelines address water quality both within the SVRA and for water leaving the SVRA, as outlined in EIR Impact 3.8-2. In particular, DMA Goal 1 and accompanying Guidelines require the development of a “parkwide water quality management plan to address the quality of all surface waters entering the SVRA, traveling through the SVRA, and leaving the SVRA through the Drainage Management Area.” Drainage Management Area (DMA) Guideline 1.2 requires that this plan “identify, design, and implement measures in Clay Pit SVRA that would eliminate or minimize potential impacts on water quality, including erosion and sedimentation. Define or outline all practices to be used parkwide that could affect water quality. These practices could include practices to be used at fueling and maintenance sites; cleanup practices in case of accidental release of pollutants; maintenance practices for sediment traps, basins, and swales; and steps to follow when adaptive management requires voluntary closures or mandatory closures of sensitive areas.” Implementation of these Goals and Guidelines would improve the quality of water that drains into the downstream Oroville Wildlife Area.
- 8-3** The outcome requested in this comment is reflected in IE Guideline 4.8. of the General Plan.
- 8-4** This outcome reflected in this comment is reflected in OM Guideline 1.4. of the General Plan.
- 8-5** As noted in the comment, DMA Goal 1 refers to improving the quality of surface water entering the SVRA, traveling through the SVRA, and leaving the SVRA. The Goal requires the development of a “parkwide water quality management plan” thus capturing water quality issues across the entire SVRA, including water exiting the park. Implementing supporting Guidelines 1.1-1.3 would help achieve this goal. DMA Guideline 1.1 addresses water quality issues related to run-on to the SVRA, while DMA Guideline 1.2 and 1.3 address water quality issues related to on-site surface waters. Addressing water quality issues from all sources would improve the quality of water leaving the SVRA. However, language has been added to DMA Guideline 1.2 to specifically note “on-site and downstream” water quality.
- 8-6** Please refer to RTC 8-2 and RTC 8-5 above. According to the Clay Pit SVRA Watershed Analysis and Action Plan (State Parks 2011a, p. 16 Section 9 Hydrology), Clay Pit has one discharge point located at the end of “the main canal that bisects the SVRA from west to east.” This discharge point is contained within the Drainage Management Area outlined in the General Plan. Because the vast majority of water leaving the SVRA flows to and through this main canal, DMA Goal 1 and supporting guidelines which require the development of a parkwide water quality management plan are described within the Drainage Management Area section of the General Plan. However, this management plan is applicable parkwide across the entire SVRA, not just to the Drainage Management Area. In addition, many other goals and guidelines (as outlined in EIR Impact 3.8-2) address water quality across the entire SVRA, so the water quality of all water exiting the Clay Pit SVRA will be managed during implementation of the General Plan.
- 8-7** The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the DFG have been added to the list of coordinating entities in DMA Guideline 1.1.

- 8-8** Thank you for providing the report. No activities are anticipated in the General Plan that would directly impact this off-site created vernal pool habitat, and implementation of water quality improvement guidelines included in the General Plan would ensure that no indirect impacts to this habitat would occur as a result of implementation of the General Plan.
- 8-9** Clay Pit SVRA contains a three-sided interpretive sign, one panel of which describes the relation of Clay Pit SVRA to the creation of Oroville Dam. This comment is also reflected in the Interpretation and Education section and related goals and guidelines in the General Plan. Thank you for the offer to help; if additional interpretive materials are developed around this subject, the OHMVR Division would welcome DWR input.

3.9 Letter 9 Dan Love

Letter 9

From: Buckingham, Jennifer [JBUCK@parks.ca.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2012 1:14 PM
To: Fettke, Kim
Subject: FW: Clay Pits Development

From: Buckingham, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 12:00 PM
To: Crystal Love
Subject: RE: Clay Pits Development

Greetings Mr. Love,

Thank you for your email regarding Clay Pit SVRA. We will take your comments into consideration and I greatly appreciate your insight and feedback.

Jennifer

From: Crystal Love [mailto:crystal.b.love@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 10:12 PM
To: Buckingham, Jennifer
Subject: Clay Pits Development

2/13/2012
 Dear Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia,

My name is Dan Love, we spoke previously at one of the development meetings here in Oroville. I am a member of the Feather River Rockcrawlers, I announce the WE Rock and Icoal mud and crawl events, and have lived in Oroville my entire life. I am very involved in rock crawling, and four wheel drive. As such, I am very interested in the development plans you are helping to create.

I have reviewed the the proposal on the link provided and I would like to offer some practical input as one who is familiar with the Clay Pits. Figure 4-2 of the proposal shows the map of the proposed lay out. I suggest that the 4x4 Trails Area be positioned in the bottom left-hand corner of the map (where the texts reads "existing informal OHV rec area"). This space already has a topographical area conducive to four wheeling. There are crevices, ravines, hill-climbs and flat areas for mud drags and bogs. The proposed Trails Area only has hill climbs and limited space to include rocks or trails. I also believe it would be safer to physically separate the trucks from the bikes to avoid possible collisions, this is currently a problem at the Clay Pits.

9-1

I believe that it would be easier, safer, and more challenging for the drivers to move the Trails Area to this space. This would also allow different courses for different skill levels (Beginner, Intermidiary, Advanced) Additionally, I believe if we utilize the existing landscape it will be more cost effective. If you would like additional input I am always available at 530-990-6433. This topic is very important to me and my peers. If I may be of any help (including setting courses or helping position features) I would love to do so. I greatly appreciate what you are doing and thank you for your service.

Have a good day,
 Dan Love

Letter	Dan Love
9	Feather River Rockcrawlers
Response	February 18, 2012

- 9-1** Thank you for your input. Extensive public input was received during the development of the General Plan, including input regarding the layout of potential new facilities. Although the areas of anticipated project improvements depicted in Figure 4-2 “Anticipated Facilities” of the General Plan are conceptual and subject to change, the general locations shown were determined to be the most beneficial for a variety of visitor groups, and for achieving a balance between recreational use of the site and resource protection. The OHMVR Division welcomes your input and assistance, and your comments will be taken into account when the specifics of anticipated facilities are being developed.

3.10 Letter 10 Scott Morgan



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Letter 10



KEN ALEX
DIRECTOR

March 26, 2012

Jennifer Buckingham
California Department of Parks and Recreation - OHMVR Division
13300 White Rock Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Subject: Clay Pit General Plan
SCH#: 2010092003

Dear Jennifer Buckingham:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIR to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on March 23, 2012, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

10-1

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency

1400 10th Street P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812-3044
(916) 445-0613 FAX (916) 323-3018 www.opr.ca.gov



**Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

SCH# 2010092003
Project Title Clay Pit General Plan
Lead Agency Parks and Recreation, Department of

Type EIR Draft EIR
Description Preparation of a General Plan and associated EIR to determine land use and resource management provisions. A CA State Park must have an adopted general plan prior to the development of new facilities that may result in the permanent commitment of resources. The proposed General plan analyzed in this EIR is the first prepared for Clay Pit SVRA. The proposed General Plan outlines goals and guidelines that apply to the entire SVRA to address existing issues and to provide ongoing guidance for management of the park. The proposed General Plan will be implemented to achieve the long-term vision for Clay Pit SVRA to provide a safe and convenient place for individuals, families, and groups from the local and regional communities in the greater Oroville area to enjoy high-quality outdoor experiences.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Jennifer Buckingham
Agency California Department of Parks and Recreation - OHMVR Division
Phone (916) 985-1096 **Fax**
email jbuck@parks.ca.gov
Address 13300 White Rock Road
City Rancho Cordova **State** CA **Zip** 95742

Project Location

County Butte
City Oroville
Region
Lat / Long 39° 28' 50.29" N / 121° 37' 7.56" W
Cross Streets Larkin Road
Parcel No. Various
Township **Range** **Section** **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways Hwy 99
Airports Oroville Municipal
Railways Amtrak
Waterways Feather River
Schools Oroville SD
Land Use (SVRA) Off Highway Vehicle Park Unit

Project Issues Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Geologic/Seismic; Noise; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Wetland/Riparian; Landuse; Cumulative Effects

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Game, Region 2; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Water Resources; Caltrans, Division of Aeronautics; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 3; Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5 (Redding); Department of Toxic Substances Control; Native American Heritage Commission

Date Received 02/08/2012 **Start of Review** 02/08/2012 **End of Review** 03/23/2012

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.

Letter
10
Response

Scott Morgan
Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse
March 27, 2012

- 10-1** The State Clearinghouse has indicated that the Draft EIR was routed to selected state agencies for review and acknowledges that the OHMVR Division has complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements pursuant to CEQA. No response is necessary.

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4.0 Recommended Changes



The OHMVR Division will respond to changing and future recreation demand.

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Chapter 4.0 – Recommended Changes to the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR

This chapter contains recommended revisions to the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR following the public review process. Revisions are the result of responses to comments detailed in Chapter 3 of this document. Text revisions are organized by section and page numbers in the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR. Revisions to text are shown with a strikethrough or underline. Text that has a ~~strikethrough~~ has been deleted from the Draft General Plan or Draft EIR. Text that has been added is presented as single underlined. The Final General Plan may include additional minor revisions to ensure accuracy of information presented in the plan.

GENERAL PLAN REVISIONS

The following guideline has been added to page 4-21 of the Draft General Plan:

Water Guideline 4.5 : When designing and locating facilities and restoration projects envisioned in the General Plan, consult with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board) to ensure that improvements would not contribute to flooding risks, and obtain a Board permit as necessary.

Water Guideline 4.3 on page 4-20 of the Draft General Plan has been revised as follows:

Water Guideline 4.3: When designing facilities and restoration projects envisioned in this General Plan, consider the impervious nature of the native clay soils. Design facilities improvements to avoid unwanted ponding and flooding, and resulting mosquito breeding at new facilities as a result of poor drainage and soil infiltration.

DMA Guideline 1.2 on page 4-35 of the Draft General Plan has been revised as follows:

DMA Guideline 1.2: Identify, design, and implement measures in Clay Pit SVRA that would eliminate or minimize potential impacts on water quality, including erosion and sedimentation. Define or outline all practices to be used parkwide that could affect water quality on-site and downstream. These practices could include practices to be used at fueling and maintenance sites; cleanup practices in case of accidental release of pollutants; maintenance practices for sediment traps, basins, and swales; and steps to follow when adaptive management requires voluntary closures or mandatory closures of sensitive areas.

DMA Guideline 1.1 on page 4-34 of the Draft General Plan has been revised as follows:

DMA Guideline 1.1: Coordinate with the Butte County Division of Environmental Health, State Water Resources Control Board, Central Valley RWQCB, DWR, DFG, Oroville Municipal Airport, and Table Mountain Golf Course to identify potential sources of pollutants, including nonpoint sources, entering the SVRA from off-site. Develop management strategies for control of these

4.0 Recommended Changes

pollutants, including sediment, lubricants, debris from tire wear, heavy metals, fertilizers, and herbicides related to operations at the airport and the golf course, and runoff from Larkin road and the adjacent shooting range.

Section 2.4.2 Public Safety starting on page 2-41 has been revised as follows:

2.4.2 Public Safety

One hazard (a gully) is present on the site and is marked with a hazard sign. Vehicle collisions at Clay Pit SVRA are relatively infrequent; one collision was recorded in 2010 and four collisions were recorded in 2009 (State Parks 2011b). Infrequent dumping of hazardous materials has occurred at the SVRA, and the SVRA is located within an approach of the adjacent Oroville airport (Cone, pers. Comm., 2012).

Fire Protection

Butte County Fire Department (BCFD) is the jurisdictional agency responsible for responding to fires within Clay Pit SVRA; however, fire management is provided through California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). Butte County contracts with CAL FIRE to provide staffing to the BCFD through an annual cooperative agreement. Under the terms of this agreement, Butte County funds CAL FIRE professional command, fire-fighting, and administrative staff for operations. Through this arrangement, CAL FIRE and the BCFD function together as a fully consolidated fire protection agency and provide cost-effective fire protection service for Butte County (Butte County 2007:7-22). The closest Butte County fire station, Station ~~7263~~, is located 4.7 miles northeast of the Clay Pit SVRA at 2290 Palermo Road in Palermo-176 Nelson Ave in Oroville (Fowler, pers. Comm., 2012), approximately 5 miles southeast of Clay Pit SVRA. ... No fire incidents have been recorded at Clay Pit SVRA (Buckingham-Garcia, pers. comm., 2010). Infrequent grass fires have spread from the DFG shooting range located to the south. Infrequent vehicle fires also have occurred in the Clay Pit SVRA, and occasionally have spread to vegetation (Cone, pers. comm., 2012).

Medical Aid

~~BCFD responds to 911 calls, and Oroville Ambulance responds to 911 medical aid calls originating from within Clay Pit SVRA. On-site SPPOs are trained in emergency responder medical aid and typically also serve as first responders to medical emergencies. Medical equipment kept on-site in law enforcement vehicles includes oxygen, trauma kits, and equipment to assess the extent of injuries, such as blood pressure gauges and stethoscopes.~~

Emergency Access/Egress

Regional emergency access to Clay Pit SVRA is provided by State Route 70 and State Route 99, while direct access is provided by Larkin Road. There are no formal internal access

roads within Clay Pit SVRA boundary. However, an existing entrance road and parking lot at the northeastern-most portion of the SVRA provide primary access for emergency responders. Overall, Clay Pit SVRA is dominated by open dirt areas that are usually accessible by all law enforcement vehicles and most emergency response vehicles. During the rainy season sometimes conditions are too wet for typical emergency vehicles to access all parts of the SVRA. BCFD has special vehicles available for off-road emergency response under these circumstances (Fowler, pers. comm., 2012).

Chapter 5.0, References, starting on page 5-1 has been revised as follows:

Cone, Rob. Division Chief. CAL FIRE, Butte County Fire Rescue, Oroville, CA. February 9, 2012—email to Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia of the OHMVR Division providing comments on the Clay Pit SVRA Draft General Plan.

Fowler, Russ. Battalion Chief (Bat-6). CAL FIRE, Butte County Fire Rescue, Oroville, CA. March 3, 2012—email to Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia of the OHMVR Division providing comments on the Clay Pit SVRA Draft General Plan.

Buckingham-Garcia, Jennifer. District Services Manager. CA State Parks OHMVR Division, Twin Cities District, Rancho Cordova, CA. November 17, 2010—telephone conversation with Kim Fettke of AECOM regarding fire history of the Clay Pit SVRA.

EIR REVISIONS

The following revision was made to section 4.4.8 Hydrology and Water Quality on page 4-17 of the Draft EIR:

Water quality and hydrology impacts can have widespread effects throughout an entire watershed, hydrologic unit, and additional downstream locations. For this reason, the analysis of potential cumulative impacts on water quality and hydrology uses the cumulative project list and regional growth projections.

With anticipated regional growth in Butte County, new urban development is likely to occur to support the increase in population, creating new impervious surfaces, runoff, erosion potential, flooding potential, and pollutant loads. Similar to most other development, new facilities at Clay Pit SVRA would also create increased impervious surfaces and could result in additional non-point-source runoff and pollution or increased risks associated with flooding. In the pit, runoff flows into depressions caused by vehicles, creating drainage connections between vernal pools along the riding trails. Eventually the water drains to the main drainage canal (State Parks 2011a). Sediment transported during precipitation events would decrease water quality within the various drainages (particularly the main drainage channel) and vernal pools within the SVRA and off-site in the abandoned oxbow of the Feather River, located along the east property boundary. As

4.0 Recommended Changes

described in Section 3.8, “Hydrology and Water Quality,” future development and improvements within the SVRA would not cause substantial adverse effects on hydrology and water quality if the direction is followed from the *OHV BMP Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control* (State Parks 2007), the OHMVR Division’s *2008 Soil Conservation Standard and Guidelines* (State Parks 2008), ~~and~~ Guidelines DMA 1.1 through 1.3, ~~and~~ Guidelines DMA 2.1 through 2.3, and Guidelines 4.1-4.5 of the Clay Pit SVRA General Plan. This direction would serve to maintain soil stability and reduce the potential for erosion and sedimentation and flooding. All development projects would be required to adhere to all applicable permitting requirements regarding water quality and flood reduction, such as preparation and implementation of a storm water pollution prevention plan and measures required by a Central Valley Flood Protection Board permit, thus minimizing the potential for water quality impacts. For these reasons, implementation of the General Plan, including construction and operation of the headquarters facilities, would not cause a considerable contribution to a cumulatively significant impact on water quality.