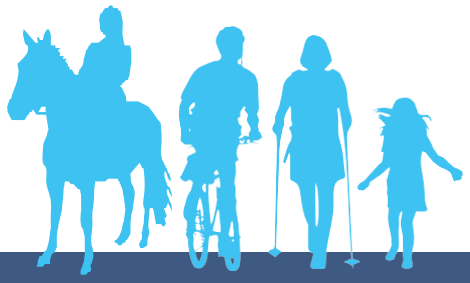

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park

Road & Trail Management Plan

Initial Study/Negative Declaration

September 21, 2022

California State Parks
Gold Fields District

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1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction and Regulatory Guidance

This Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) has been prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed Road and Trail Management Plan (RTMP) Project at the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area (FLSRA) and the Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park (FPSHP) in the Sierra Nevada foothills of El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties. The proposed RTMP is herein referred to as the "proposed Project." FLSRA and FPSHP are herein individually referred to as a "unit" and together referred to as the "Plan Area."

The RTMP is a planning document that conveys goals, actions, and priorities to implement a comprehensive road and trail management program. It provides management recommendations (for identified roads, trails, and non-system routes) to increase visitor safety and enjoyment, while protecting natural and cultural resources. The final plan includes overarching recommendations that apply to the park's entire trail system, such as the need to make all new trails and trail alterations accessible to the extent possible, to remove, adopt, or require further planning for non-system trails, and to maintain all trails to the appropriate standard. In addition to parkwide recommendations, the RTMP includes area-specific recommendations for six identified areas of the park: Lower Lake Natoma, Upper Lake Natoma, Browns Ravine, Beals Point/Granite Bay, South Fork American River, North Fork American River. A full description of the planning recommendations can be found in Chapter 6.2, *Area-Specific Recommendations and Maps,* of the RTMP.

This IS/ND is a program-level document. A programmatic IS/ND is prepared on a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project and are related either geographically, as logical parts in the chain of contemplated actions, in connection with issuance of rules, regulations, plans or other general criteria to govern the conduct of a continuing program (California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA] Guidelines Section 15168). As the proposed Project would implement a management plan for roads and trails within the park unit, it consists of logical parts in a chain of actions and, therefore, a programmatic analysis is the appropriate form of environmental analysis for the proposed Project. This program-level document differs from a project-level document, which would be required for the review of a single project development to analyze site-specific impacts.

Because the Plan Area includes federal land managed by the Department through a managing partnership agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Reclamation has determined that since the RTMP is a State planning document and that the concept of an RTMP has already been considered programmatically in the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan* (General Plan) and associated Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for FLSRA/FPSHP, there is no federal action regarding the RTMP and hence no NEPA required at this time. However, subsequent projects implemented under the guidance of the RTMP could be considered major Federal discretionary actions under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Section 1508.1). As specific projects are planned, proposed, and funded, subsequent Federal actions of approving specific projects can be anticipated. NEPA, Section 106, and Section 7 processes (as necessary) may need to be initiated and completed for each of these subsequent actions identified in the RTMP and would also require preparation of an EA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Section 1501.1). While NEPA is not being prepared for the RTMP, Reclamation has had the opportunity to review the Plan itself and provide comments on the content of the Plan.

This document has been prepared in accordance with CEQA (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations [CCR] Section 15000 et seq.).

An Initial Study (IS) will be used to determine if the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment (CEQA Guidelines Section 15063[a]). If there is substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064(a). However, if the lead agency determines that there is no substantial evidence that the project or any of its aspects may cause a significant effect on the environment, a Negative

Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) may be prepared. The lead agency prepares a written statement describing the reasons a proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, why an EIR need not be prepared. This IS/ND conforms to the content requirements under CEQA Guidelines Section 15071.

1.2 Lead Agency and Public Comments

The lead agency is the public agency with primary approval authority over the proposed Project. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15051(b)(1), "the lead agency will normally be an agency with general governmental powers, such as a city or county, rather than an agency with a single or limited purpose." The lead agency for the proposed Project is the Department.

A hard copy of the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park RTMP and associated IS/ND is available at the following location:

Folsom Sector Office
Folsom Lake State Recreation Area
7755 Folsom-Auburn Road
Folsom, CA 95630
Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday - Friday

Electronic versions of the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park RTMP and associated IS/ND are available for review and download at https://www.parks.ca.gov/FolsomSRA-RTMP

The contact person for the lead agency regarding specific project information is:

Jason Spann, Associate Landscape Architect
California State Parks
Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division
PO Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001
trails@parks.ca.gov

Public questions and/or comments regarding this IS/ND should be submitted to:

California Department of Parks and Recreation, Recreation Planning Section
Attn: Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park RTMP
PO Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001
trails@parks.ca.gov

Submissions must be made in writing and postmarked or received by email no later than October 30, 2022. Email submissions must include commenters' full names and addresses. Please include "FLSRA and FPSHP RTMP" in the email subject line. All comments will be included in the final environmental document for the proposed Project and will become part of the public record.

1.3 Purpose and Document Organization

The purpose of this document is to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed Project, which provides specific guidance and direction for implementing some of the goals and objectives of the park's approved general plan under the CEQA requirements. No significant or potential impacts were identified and thus no mitigation measures were necessary or incorporated to eliminate potentially significant impacts or reduce them to a less-than-significant level.

This document is organized as follows:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction.** This chapter introduces the proposed Project and describes the purpose and organization of this document.
- **Chapter 2: Project Description.** This chapter describes the reasons, scope, and objectives of the proposed Project.
- **Chapter 3: Environmental Checklist.** This chapter provides a summary of the Project details and determination of the Project impacts, based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Chapter 4: Evaluation Setting and Impact Analysis.** This chapter identifies the significance of potential environmental impacts, explains the environmental setting for each environmental issue, and evaluates the potential impacts identified in the CEQA Environmental Checklist. These issue areas include: Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise and Vibration, Parks and Recreation, Population and Housing, Public Services, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire. While the proposed Project has the potential to generate significant environmental impacts in a number of areas, it would have no significant impact on the issue areas of Agriculture and Forestry Resources and Mineral Resources due to existing conditions of the project site and surrounding area. These issues have therefore not been analyzed further in this IS. This chapter also includes applicable Standard Project Requirements (SPR), although the list is not exhaustive and other SPRs identified under Section 2.9, *Standard Project Requirements*, may apply.
- **Chapter 5: Mandatory Findings of Significance.** This chapter identifies and summarizes the overall significance to natural and cultural resources of any potential impacts, cumulative impacts, and/or impacts to humans, as identified in the IS.
- **Chapter 6: Organizations and Persons Consulted.** This chapter provides a list of those people involved in the preparation of this document.

1.4 Summary of Findings

Chapters 3 and 4 of this document contain the Environmental Checklist component of the IS, including identification of the environmental setting and incorporation of the impact analysis that identifies the potential environmental impacts (by environmental issue) and a brief discussion of each impact resulting from implementation of the proposed Project.

Based on the IS and supporting environmental analysis provided in this document, the proposed RTMP would result in less-than-significant impacts for the following issues:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources*
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources*
- Noise and Vibration
- Parks and Recreation
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

*These topics were not evaluated in the RTMP IS/ND.

Based on the available project information and the environmental analysis presented in this document, there is no substantial evidence that the proposed Project would have a significant effect on the environment. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15063(b)(2), a lead agency shall prepare an ND if there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project or any of its aspects may cause a significant effect on the environment.

2 Project Description

2.1 Introduction

This IS/ND has been prepared by the Department to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed RTMP at FLSRA and FPSHP, which are located in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada range. The proposed Project would implement a management plan for roads and trails within the Plan Area to provide guidance and direction for implementing the goals and objectives of the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan.* The RTMP describes the existing road and trail conditions in a park and provides a roadmap for future management, including specific actions for individual roads and trails.

2.2 Project Location

As shown on Figure 1, *Regional and Vicinity Map*, the Plan Area is located at the confluence of the North and South forks of the American River in the Sierra Nevada foothills, about 25 miles east of Sacramento. The Plan Area extends across the boundaries of El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties, as well as the City of Folsom and the communities of Orangevale, El Dorado Hills, and Granite Bay. Interstate 80 (I-80) and U.S. Highway 50 (US-50) provide regional access to the Plan Area.

The Plan Area consists of approximately 20,000 acres of both federal and state lands and waters. The federal land is managed by the Department through a Managing Partnership Agreement with Reclamation. The Plan Area is bordered by Auburn State Recreation Area (El Dorado and Placer Counties) to the north; residential, commercial, and agricultural land uses within El Dorado County to the east; public and quasi-public facilities, open space, and residential land uses to the south within Folsom (Sacramento County); natural preserve, recreation, and residential land uses within Sacramento County to the south, and residential and open space land uses within Placer County to the west.[1, 2, 3] Situated within the westernmost extent of the Sierra Nevada Foothills, the Plan Area consists of two reservoirs, Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma, surrounded by rolling oak-studded foothills, upland plateaus and river canyons carved by the North and South Forks of the American River. The dams and reservoirs, which are the unit's dominant physical features, were created as part of the Central Valley Water Project and the primary function of the reservoirs is to provide flood control, water supply and power generation.

The administrative offices are located at the base of Folsom Dam at the corner of Folsom-Auburn Road and Folsom Dam Road in Folsom. Access to FLSRA entrances and facilities is provided via numerous local roads including Folsom Boulevard, Douglas Boulevard, East Natoma Street, Green Valley Road, Salmon Falls Road, and Hazel Avenue. With an average of 2.8 million visitors a year, FLSRA is one of the most popular units in the California State Park System. Additionally, there are many informal access points to FLSRA trails from local roads. This popularity is largely due to the location of the SRA within a large and growing metropolitan area, good highway access, and opportunities for year-round recreation use, although 75 percent of all visits occur during the warmer spring and summer months. Recreation facilities include a marina, boat launches, swimming beaches, picnic areas, campgrounds, food and equipment concessions, day use amenities, and trailhead facilities. Recreation opportunities include fishing, whitewater boating, rowing and paddle sports, and scenic overlooks. FLSRA contains more than 120 miles of dirt and paved trails that serve hikers, trail runners, equestrians, mountain bikers and road cyclists.

FPSHP is located at 9980 Greenback Lane, approximately 7 miles southwest of Folsom Lake, along the shoreline of Lake Natoma near downtown Folsom. The 35-acre FPSHP, which consists primarily of historic structures and a visitor center, is contiguous to FLSRA along the southern shoreline of Lake Natoma. FLSHP was designated as a

[1] El Dorado County, December 2015. Land Use Diagram, https://www.edcgov.us/government/planning/adoptedgeneralplan/figures/documents/LU-1.pdf, accessed April 13, 2022.

[2] Sacramento County, 2022. Online Map, https://generalmap.gis.saccounty.gov/JSViewer/county_portal.html#, accessed April 13, 2022.

[3] County of Placer, 2022. Land Information Search, https://maps.placer.ca.gov/Html5viewer/Index.html?viewer=LIS_Public.LIS_Base-Public, accessed April 13, 2022.

separate unit from FLSRA in 1995 in acknowledgement of its historical significance. The park features one of the world's oldest hydroelectric facilities and the nation's first power systems to provide high-voltage alternating current over long-distance transmission lines. FPSHP is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as a National and California Historic Landmark, a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, and a National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark.[4] FPSHP provides docent-led tours of the historic buildings and educational opportunities for school groups. Recreational facilities in the park include footpaths around the historic core of the park unit and trails along the historic canal that once brought water to the Powerhouse from the original Folsom Dam.

The Plan Area supports nine major vegetation communities typical of the lower foothills of the Central Valley. Vegetation communities include blue oak woodland/savanna, interior live oak woodland, chemise chaparral, California annual grasslands, cottonwood/willow riparian, northern claypan and northern hardpan vernal pools, lake shoreline fluctuation zones, seasonal wetlands ruderal and barren zones and freshwater marsh. These communities provide habitat for a diverse mix of terrestrial and aquatic fauna, including several special-status plant and animal species.[5] The Plan Area is dominated by rolling hills and upland plateaus separated by major river canyons. The elevation range is between 100 feet to 800 feet. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) designates fire hazard severity zones (FHSZ).[6] Areas to the west and southeast of the Plan Area are classified as a moderate FHSZ. The northeast portion of the Plan Area is classified as a high FHSZ and borders a very high FHSZ to the east.

Fire protection for the area varies depending on the location. Federal Responsibility Areas (FRA) are defined as lands upon which the United States federal government is financially responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires. State Responsibility Areas (SRA) are defined as lands upon which the State of California is financially responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires. Local Responsibility Areas (LRA) are defined as land upon which local governments are financially responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires. The Plan Area includes both Federal and State lands. The Federal lands are FRA. Some of the State lands are SRA and some of the state lands fall within the boundaries of the City of Folsom or other local jurisdictions and are LRA. Generally, the land to the west of the Plan Area is within the LRA and to the east is within the SRA.

The outer boundaries of the Plan Area include Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), which is an area of transition between wildland (unoccupied land) and land with human development (occupied land).[7]

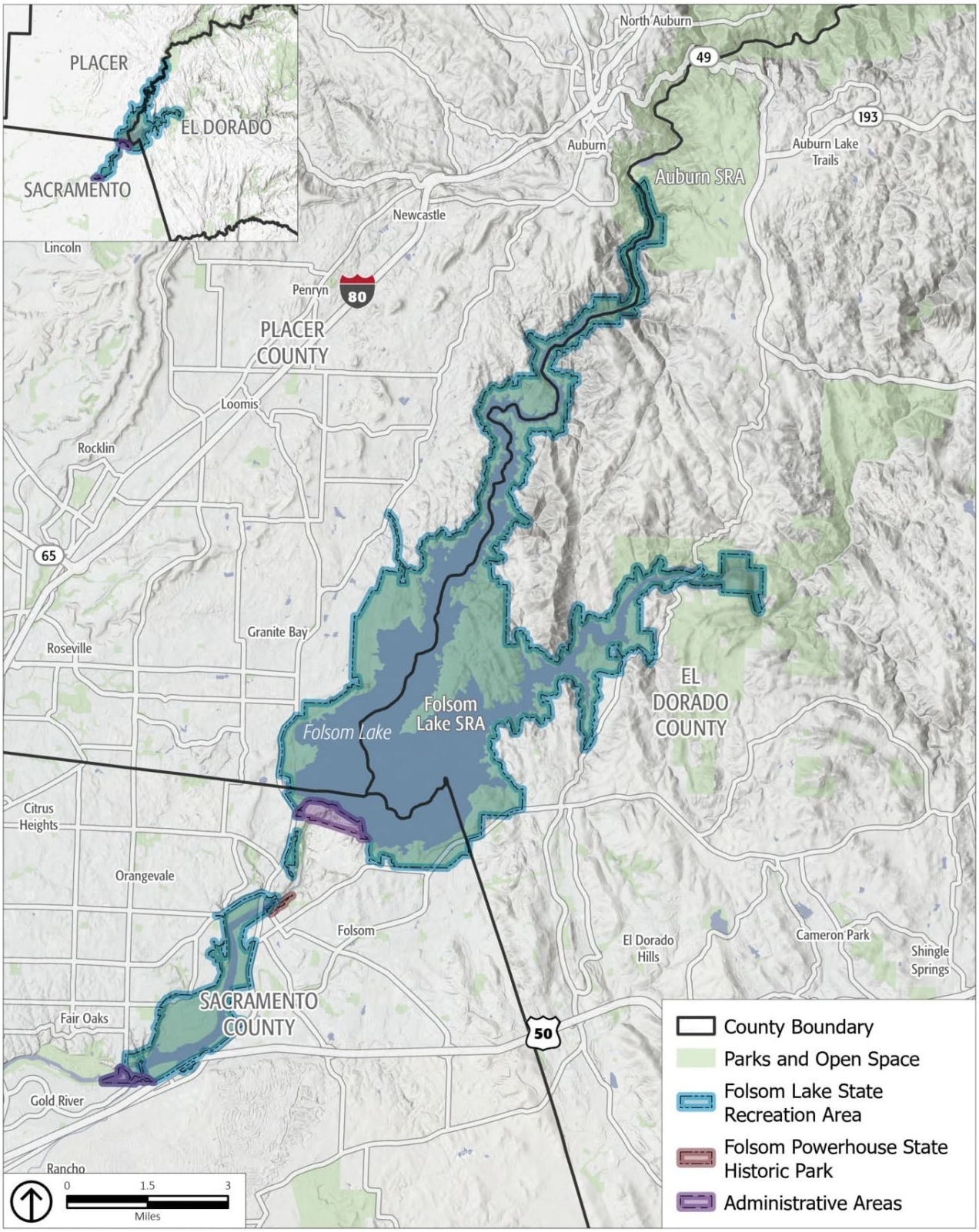
[4] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 1: Chapters I-III, Final General Plan & Resource Management Plan*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol1_Final_Plan.pdf, accessed April 8, 2022.

[5] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 1: Chapters I-III, Final General Plan & Resource Management Plan*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol1_Final_Plan.pdf, accessed April 8, 2022.

[6] California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2022. Fire Hazard Severity Zones Viewer, https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/, accessed April 8, 2022.

[7] California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2022. GIS Data, Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), https://frap.fire.ca.gov/mapping/gis-data, accessed April 13, 2022.

Figure 1 **Regional and Vicinity Map**



The *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan* (General Plan) divides the unit into 34 management zones. These zones reflect the consideration of a number of factors, including existing and potential type/intensity of land use and visitor experience, existing and potential resource values, and the practicalities of day-to-day management/operation.[8] The management zones are further designated as one of four broad land use designations: Recreation, Low Intensity Recreation/Conservation, Preservation, and Administration. Each land use designation is described as follow:

- **Recreation:** Areas that can accommodate more intensive recreational use in a developed and structured setting. These areas accommodate the highest levels of visitor use, provide easy access to a full range of recreational and interpretive activities and facilities, and are of sufficient size to locate parking, utilities, and infrastructure needed to support public use. The Recreation designation is further classified by intensity of use.
  - **High Intensity Recreation:** Most extensively developed areas and the major gateway for visitors.
  - **Medium Intensity Recreation:** Areas that are also significant visitor gateways but are less developed and offer fewer facilities than those with a High Intensity Recreation designation.
- **Low Intensity Recreation/Conservation:** Areas whose natural and cultural resource values will be protected and restored while accommodating lower intensity recreation and interpretation that is compatible with and dependent on the resource values. Recreation use and facilities occur in these areas, but with a lower intensity of land use compared to those with a Recreation designation. Resource management in Low Intensity Recreation/Conservation areas emphasizes protecting and restoring natural processes with only minor modification of non-sensitive resources permitted to accommodate additional visitor use as appropriate.
- **Preservation:** Areas with unique, fragile, or important natural and cultural resource values that need to be protected and preserved. Access, management, and use of these areas are controlled to protect the resources for which the area was designated. Limited interpretive facilities and activities may be provided as appropriate to the observation, understanding, and protection of the key preserve resources.
- **Administration:** Areas with facilities associated with the operation and maintenance of Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma for the purposes of flood control, water supply, power generation, or FLSRA itself. Access to these areas is generally restricted to staff and related personnel associated with facilities operations.

2.3 Background and Need for the Project

California PRC Sections 5019.56 and 5019.59 provide directive on the use and management of trails in a State Recreation Areas and State Historic Parks.

Section 5019.56 states:

> "State recreation units consist of areas selected, developed, and operated to provide outdoor recreational opportunities. The units shall be designated by the commission by naming, in accordance with Article 1 (commencing with Section 5001) and this article relating to classification.
>
> In the planning of improvements to be undertaken within state recreation units, consideration shall be given to compatibility of design with the surrounding scenic and environmental characteristics.
>
> State recreation units may be established in the terrestrial or nonmarine aquatic (lake or stream) environments of the state and shall be further classified as one of the following types:

[8] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 1: Chapters I-III, Final General Plan & Resource Management Plan*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol1_Final_Plan.pdf, accessed April 8, 2022.

(a) State recreation areas, consisting of areas selected and developed to provide multiple recreational opportunities to meet other than purely local needs. The areas shall be selected for their having terrain capable of withstanding extensive human impact and for their proximity to large population centers, major routes of travel, or proven recreational resources such as manmade or natural bodies of water. Areas containing ecological, geological, scenic, or cultural resources of significant value shall be preserved within state wildernesses, state reserves, state parks, or natural or cultural preserves, or, for those areas situated seaward of the mean high tide line, shall be designated state marine reserves, state marine parks, state marine conservation areas, or state marine cultural preservation areas.

Improvements may be undertaken to provide for recreational activities, including, but not limited to, camping, picnicking, swimming, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, boating, waterskiing, diving, winter sports, fishing, and hunting.

Improvements to provide for urban or indoor formalized recreational activities shall not be undertaken within state recreation areas."

Section 5019.59 states:

"Historical units, to be named appropriately and individually, consist of nonmarine areas established primarily to preserve objects of historical, archaeological, and scientific interest, and archaeological sites and places commemorating important persons or historic events. The areas should be of sufficient size, where possible, to encompass a significant proportion of the landscape associated with the historical objects. The only facilities that may be provided are those required for the safety, comfort, and enjoyment of the visitors, such as access, parking, water, sanitation, interpretation, and picnicking. Upon approval by the commission, lands outside the primary historic zone may be selected or acquired, developed, or operated to provide camping facilities within appropriate historical units. Upon approval by the State Park and Recreation Commission, an area outside the primary historic zone may be designated as a recreation zone to provide limited recreational opportunities that will supplement the public's enjoyment of the unit. Certain agricultural, mercantile, or other commercial activities may be permitted if those activities are a part of the history of the individual unit and any developments retain or restore historical authenticity. Historical units shall be named to perpetuate the primary historical theme of the individual units."

Roads and trails in the Plan Area provide park visitors the primary means to access park features and facilities. They also help the Department fulfill its mission by meeting the recreational needs of the public. Properly sited, designed, constructed, maintained, and managed roads and trails can provide quality recreation while also protecting sensitive natural and cultural resources. Frequently, in the State Park System, a park's trail system has evolved from trails and unpaved roads that existed when the lands compromising it were acquired. They were constructed to meet the needs of the original property owners, such as farming, ranching, mining, or logging, and seldom adequately serve the needs of the park unit or meet trail standards currently identified in the Department's *Trails Handbook*.[9] Prior to the Department's formalized trails training program, trails added during the early years of many State Park units were often improperly sited and poorly designed and constructed. Lack of adequate maintenance also has often been an issue. These older trails may unnecessarily restrict accessibility, fail to meet the recreational needs of park users, and/or impact the park's natural or cultural resources.

General Plan

The RTMP is intended to be a sub-component of the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*, addressing the specific transportation management issues of the unit within the context of the plan's goals and objectives. The General Plan envisions a trail system

[9] California Department of Parks and Recreation, revised 2019. *Trails Handbook*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=29674, accessed May 10, 2022.

that provides the broadest possible public benefit; balances the demands of a diverse and constantly growing user population; is flexible enough to respond to changes in recreational demand over time; is part of a larger, integrated regional system with connections to and access from other trail systems; and balances the need to expand with enhancement of the existing facilities.[10] The General Plan provides guidelines for the development of a trails management plan, emphasizing the following goals:

- Inventory and classify trails for the purposes of trail maintenance standards and priorities. Trail classifications are based on a variety of criteria, including types of uses, proximity to other facilities, access and connection, and user patterns.
- Assess the existing allowed uses on the trails and analyze any proposed changes. Decisions regarding changes to allowed uses on specific trails consider many factors, including, but not limited to, trail condition, trail use, terrain, safety, access and connectivity, location, trail sustainability, recreation demand, impacts to natural and cultural resources.

Road and Trail Management Plan

Developing an RTMP is a dynamic process. It must address guidelines provided by the unit's General Plan; meet specific trail user needs; acknowledge and coordinate with regional and State planning documents; adhere to existing laws and regulations; include input from the public and potential user groups; use sustainable design to provide user accessibility and protect resources; and provide mechanisms and tools to monitor roads and trails for adaptive management. Developing a comprehensive RTMP ensures that recreational trail opportunities are made available to full potential, while also providing sufficient and often enhanced protection for cultural and natural resources.

The purpose of the RTMP is to provide a tool to deliver a comprehensive road and trail management program and direct future capital outlay and maintenance funding. While the implementation timeline depends on many factors, such as funding availability and staffing resources, setting implementation priorities within a park unit would facilitate allocation of limited resources and can help place focus on identifying funding for specific projects.

In the absence of an RTMP, road and trail planning, design, construction, and maintenance are addressed on an individual basis, depending on prioritization and perceived need at that time. This can often lead to inconsistent and haphazard road and trail system management. Thus, the RTMP is the preferred and most effective method for identifying and establishing new trail opportunities. See Section 5.5, *Prioritization Matrix*, of the RTMP for more information on how priorities are established. Comprehensive planning also mitigates resource impacts and reduces construction and maintenance costs.

The RTMP is consistent with systemwide plans and policies and with the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*. It serves as a bridge between the desired conditions —stated as goals and guidelines in the General Plan— and the measurable implementation actions.

2.4 Project Objectives

The RTMP will be used as a long-term guiding document and takes into consideration all elements of the units' values, goals, and missions, as defined in the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*. Key components of the RTMP include:

- Maximize visitor use and experiences;
- Reduce potential safety issues;

[10] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 1: Chapters I-III, Final General Plan & Resource Management Plan*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol1_Final_Plan.pdf, accessed April 8, 2022.

- Minimize impacts to natural and cultural resources;
- Coordinate with local and regional planning efforts;
- Provide access to surrounding public lands;
- Reduce maintenance and management costs;
- Provide an appropriate range of recreational opportunities and associated infrastructure;
- Limit impacts on the natural environment to a level acceptable under CEQA;
- Prioritize road and trail projects.

2.5 Project Description

The RTMP is a planning document that conveys goals, actions, and priorities to implement a comprehensive road and trail management program. It provides management recommendations (for identified roads, trails, and non-system routes) to increase visitor safety and enjoyment, while protecting natural and cultural resources. The final plan includes overarching recommendations that apply to the park's entire trail system, such as the need to make all new trails and trail alterations accessible to the extent possible, to remove, adopt, or require further planning for non-system trails, and to maintain all trails to the appropriate standard.

In addition to parkwide recommendations, the RTMP includes area-specific recommendations for six identified areas of the park: Lower Lake Natoma, Upper Lake Natoma, Browns Ravine, Beals Point/Granite Bay, South Fork American River, North Fork American River. A full description of the planning recommendations can be found in Chapter 6.2, *Area-Specific Recommendations and Maps,* of the RTMP.

Specific actions covered by this IS/ND are outlined in Section 2.7, *Projects Requiring and Not Requiring Additional Environmental Documentation*, along with RTMP actions that may require additional environmental review.

2.6 Related Documents

The IS/ND for the proposed Project is tiered from the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan* and associated EIR, as well as the *Road and Trail Change-in-Use Evaluation Process* and associated program environmental impact report (PEIR). As defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15152, "tiering" refers to using the analysis of general matters contained in a broader EIR with later EIRs and ND/MNDs on narrower projects. This allows for incorporation by reference of the general discussions from the broader EIR and concentrates the later EIR or ND/MND solely on the issues specific to the later project.

Tier 1 Environmental Review

An EIR/EIS for the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan* was adopted on October 8, 2009, by the California State Park and Recreation Commission.[11] Additionally, on May 2, 2013, the Department certified a PEIR approving the *Road and Trail Change-in-Use Evaluation Process*.[12] This process established the method by which designated recreational uses, such as bicycling and horseback riding, can be added or removed to roads and trails in the State Park System, and analyzed the various impacts of such use.

The General Plan's EIR and Change-in-Use PEIR represent the first-tier environmental review, consistent with PRC Sections 21093 and 21094 and State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15152 (Tiering) and 15168 (PEIR).

[11] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 2: Chapter IV, Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol2_EIR_EIS.pdf, accessed April 14, 2022.

[12] California Department of Parks and Recreation, May 2013. Change-In-Use Programmatic EIR, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28462, accessed April 13, 2022.

Planning Documents

While general plans define an overall framework for a park's future resource stewardship, visitor use and services, and interpretation, more focused planning is required to address the details that a general plan cannot. Management plans are thus used to identify more definitive objectives and methods and/or designs for attaining the goals set in a general plan. The degree of specificity at this second level of planning is shaped by the complexity of the issues being addressed, regulatory and legal requirements, and Department standards.

For example, the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan* called for the preparation of an RTMP to enhance and expand the existing trail system.[13] It established the broad goals of a trail system that provides broad public benefit, enhances public enjoyment and appreciation of natural, cultural, and scenic resources, promotes awareness of safety and etiquette, and encourages cooperation and collaboration among trail providers, trail advocates, adjacent communities, and neighbors to ensure linkages with a regional trail system. The RTMP, on the other hand, defines the specific objectives, methodologies, and designs for how the Department would accomplish these management goals.

2.7 Projects Requiring and not Requiring Additional Environmental Documentation

Projects that Do Not Require Additional CEQA

Many maintenance and/or reconstruction/reengineering of existing road and trail facilities projects are categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA and do not require the preparation of environmental documents (CCR Section 15300 et seq.). In accordance with CCR Section 15300.4, the Department has produced a list of activities commonly carried out, which, in most cases, would not be subject to CEQA compliance per CCR Section 15060 (c)(2).[14]

The following activities that are proposed in the RTMP would not normally require the preparation of additional CEQA documentation:

- Closure, decommissioning, and restoration of existing roads and system and non-system volunteer trails to natural conditions.
- Maintenance to include reconstruction or reengineering within an existing road or trail prism (i.e., encompasses the existing top of the cut bank to the bottom of the fill slope).
- Minor reroutes necessary to improve road or trail sustainability.
- Addition of interpretation, signage, wayfinding, or other educational components of trail redevelopment.

For these types of actions, a project description of the scope of work to be performed would be developed, which would then be evaluated by Departmental resources staff. The environmental coordinator would identify appropriate project requirements discussed in Section 2.8, *Project Requirements,* and incorporate these into the project. These requirements would be considered subsequent actions that are within the scope of the analysis in this IS/ND and no additional CEQA document would therefore be required. It should be noted that, while these activities are usually not subject to additional CEQA documentation, there are exceptions due to the location of the project and the presence of sensitive resources as determined by resource specialists.

[13] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 1: Chapters I-III, Final General Plan & Resource Management Plan*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol1_Final_Plan.pdf, accessed April 8, 2022.

[14] California Department of Parks and Recreation, June 2003. *DPR Operations Manual: Environmental Review*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/DOM%200600%20Environmental%20Review.pdf, accessed April 21, 2022.

Projects Requiring Additional CEQA

Examples of projects which will require preparation of additional environmental documentation include:

- New trails or roads;
- Major reroutes of road or trail alignments to correct unsustainable road and trail conditions or other purposes;
- Development of appurtenant facilities (e.g., trailhead, point of access, parking improvements/control) where no additional natural landscape disturbance, substantial increase in capacity, or significant environmental effects would occur; and
- Conversion of existing roads to trails.

Using the RTMP and project specific evaluations, a project description would be developed describing the breadth of work in the project, which would then be evaluated by resources staff pursuant to CEQA and Departmental policies. At a minimum, SPRs discussed in Section 2.8 would be identified and incorporated into the project.

2.8 Project Requirements

Under CEQA, the Department has the distinction of being considered both a lead and trustee agency. A lead agency is a public agency that has the primary responsibility for carrying out or approving a project and for implementing CEQA. As a trustee agency, State Parks has jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by projects held in trust for the people of the state of California. With this distinction comes the responsibility to ensure actions that protect both cultural and natural resources are always taken on all projects. Therefore, the Department maintains a list of project requirements ("Standard Project Requirements" or "SPRs") that are included in project design to reduce impacts to resources. SPRs are not mitigation measures. They are *required* elements of the design of any Department project and are intended to eliminate impacts to natural and cultural resources. Mitigation measures are imposed on a designed project to minimize impacts to "less than significant levels." SPRs are also distinct from Best Management Practices (BMPs), which are *recommended* policies and procedures for project implementation. Required SPRs are listed in Section 2.9, *Standard Project Requirements*.

SPRs are assigned as appropriate to all projects. For example, a project that includes ground-disturbing activities, such as constructing a trail reroute, will always include SPRs to address the inadvertent discovery of archaeological artifacts. However, for a project that entails only brush removal for which ground disturbance would not be necessary, SPRs for ground disturbance would not be applicable and would not be assigned to the project. When evaluating a project, a Department environmental coordinator or others assigned the task of evaluating the project will apply only the relevant SPRs and complete those sections of the project requirements detailing such things as the individual responsible for implementing the requirement and the resource being protected. Not all resource sections have individual SPRs and some of the resource sections are addressed under existing SPRs (e.g., tribal consultation is addressed under Cultural). Additionally, some resource sections did not require SPRs. These include agriculture, energy, land use and planning, mineral, population and housing, public services and utilities, recreation, and wildfire. The Department also makes use of "project-specific requirements." These requirements are developed to address impacts for covered projects that have unique issues. However, these requirements would more typically be generated on projects that were not analyzed in the IS/ND, including actions such as the construction of a new trail.

2.9 Standard Project Requirements

The following SPRs, will be incorporated, as appropriate, for specific projects located in the proposed Project Area and are designed to avoid potential impacts associated with construction created by projects identified in the RTMP.

General

GEN-1: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, a **[insert who]** will consult with the contractor and/or project manager to identify all resources that must be protected.

GEN-2: At the discretion of **[insert who]**, mechanized vehicles on **[insert discipline]** resource sites will be restricted to a short-term use of low-ground pressure vehicles only. All such vehicles must enter and exit the area via the same route of travel (by backing up). Vehicles are strictly prohibited from turning on the surface of site(s).

GEN-3: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, a Department-qualified **[insert discipline]** resources specialist will train construction personnel in **[insert discipline]** resource identification and protection procedures.

GEN-4: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, the project manager will determine the minimum area required to complete the work and define the boundaries of the work area on the project drawings and/or with flagging or fencing on the ground, as appropriate.

GEN-5: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, and at the discretion of a **[insert who]**, a **[insert who]** will flag and/or fence or otherwise demarcate all **[insert discipline or resource]** with a buffer of **[insert distance]** for avoidance during on-site construction activities. The **[insert who]** will remove the demarcation from around the Environmentally Sensitive Area after project completion.

GEN-6: Prior to any earthmoving activities, a Department-qualified **[insert who]** will approve all subsurface work, including the operation of heavy equipment within **[insert distance]** of the identified Environmentally Sensitive Area.

GEN-7: Prior to the start of **[insert type]** work, **[insert who]** will notify the **[insert office name and who]** or **[insert alternative office name and who]** a minimum of three weeks in advance, unless other arrangements are made, to schedule **[insert discipline or resource]** monitoring.

GEN-8: A Department-qualified **[insert who]** will monitor all ground-disturbing phases of this project at his/her discretion.

GEN-9: The **[insert who]** will post information signs near project areas with restricted access or closures lasting longer than three months. The signs will include an explanation for and description of the project, and the anticipated completion date.

GEN-10: District staff will employ “Adaptive Use Management” for change-in-use projects as a strategy to avoid significant effects on the environment. It involves a standard procedure of defining (1) use levels and use and resource conditions as a baseline during the preparation of the Change-in-Use Survey at the start of the process and (2) performance standards for maintaining use at levels that do not result in significant effects on the environment. The performance standards will be tailored to each change-in-use proposal/trail. They will describe desired use and resource conditions necessary to maintain impacts at less-than-significant levels. All performance standards will relate to use conditions or resources that are observable in the field by park staff.

GEN-11: To eliminate an attraction to predators, all food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps will be disposed of in closed containers; these containers will be removed at least once every day from the entire project site.

GEN-12: No pets of any kind are permitted on construction sites by contractors or other personnel.

Aesthetics and Views Standard Project Requirements

AES-1: Projects will be designed to incorporate appropriate scenic and aesthetic values of FLSRA and FPSHP, including the choices for: specific building sites, scope and scale; building and fencing materials and colors; use of compatible aesthetic treatments on pathways, retaining walls or other ancillary structures; location of and materials used in parking areas, campsites and picnic areas; development of appropriate landscaping. The park's scenic and aesthetic values will also consider views into the park from neighboring properties.

AES-2: **[Insert who]** will store all project-related materials outside of the viewshed of **[insert name of street/place/building].**

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standard Project Requirements

Dust Control Measures

AQ-1: No more than 1.0 acre of ground disturbance (e.g., earth moving, grading, excavation, land clearing) will occur in any single day.

AQ-2: Prior to any ground disturbance, including grading, excavating, and land clearing, sufficient water must be applied to the area to be disturbed to minimize fugitive dust emissions if existing ground moisture is insufficient.

AQ-3: Unpaved areas subject to vehicle travel and areas subject to mechanical grading, excavation, land clearing, or other forms of ground disturbance will be stabilized by being kept wet, treated with a chemical dust suppressant, or covered if existing ground moisture is insufficient to minimize fugitive dust emissions. Exposed areas will not be overwatered such that watering results in runoff. Unpaved areas subject to vehicle travel could also be stabilized through the effective application of gravel or through watering.

AQ-4: Suitable vegetative ground cover will be established on exposed, disturbed surfaces through seeding and watering as soon as possible (consistent with the Departments Genetic Integrity Policy for revegetation), except for areas intended to be used as roads/trails or for parking or staging. If a vegetated ground cover is not suitable to the area then this requirement does not apply.

AQ-5: Storage piles and disturbed areas not subject to vehicular traffic must be stabilized by being kept wet, treated with a chemical dust suppressant, or covered when material is not being added to or removed from the pile.

AQ-6: The speed of construction-related trucks, vehicles, and equipment traveling on unpaved areas will be limited to 15 miles per hour (mph).

AQ-7: All trucks or light equipment hauling soil, sand, or other earthen materials on public roads to or from the site will be covered or required to maintain at least two feet of freeboard.

AQ-8: Off-road construction equipment and on-road haul trucks leaving the park will be cleaned onsite to prevent silt, mud, and dirt, from being released or tracked off-site, as dictated by controlling agencies.

AQ-9: All visible dust, silt, or mud tracked-out on to public paved roadways as a result of construction-related activities will be removed at the conclusion of each construction workday, or a minimum of every 24 hours for continuous construction operations.

AQ-10: Excavation, grading, land clearing, other mechanical ground disturbance, and demolition activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 15 mph and/or instantaneous gusts exceed 25 mph or when dust from construction might obscure driver visibility on public roads.

AQ-11: Where a change-in-use results in vehicle travel on unpaved roads and other unpaved services, signs shall be posted limiting vehicle travel to 15 mph.

AQ-12: Construction-related ground disturbance activities will not be performed in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos (NOA)" according to maps and guidance published by the California Geological Survey (CGS), formerly the California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology. This determination would be based on a CGS publication titled A General Location Guide for Ultramafic Rocks in California – Areas More Likely to Contain Naturally Occurring Asbestos (Churchill and Hill 2000), or whatever more current guidance from CGS exists at the time the change-in-use project is evaluated. Work shall comply with the guidelines of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for conducting work in NOA areas. Any NOA-related guidance provided by the applicable local air district shall also be followed. If a site-specific investigation identifies the presence of NOA, then an Asbestos Dust Control Plan will be developed and implemented in accordance with Section 93105 of the California Health and Safety Code.

AQ-13: New trail or road alignments will not be located in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos" according to maps and guidance published by the CGS unless a site-specific investigation performed by a Registered Geologist confirms that NOA-containing rock or dirt is not exposed at the surface of the trail. Alternatively, any trail or road alignments that are not located over areas where NOA is exposed at the surface will be covered with an appropriate material, depending on the intended use of the trail that would prevent entrainment of asbestos-containing dust into the air. Possible methods of covering NOA-containing material on the surface include paving and graveling with non-NOA-containing gravel.

Exhaust Emissions Control Measures

AQ-14: Operation of large diesel- or gasoline-powered construction equipment (i.e., greater than 50 horsepower) will not exceed 60 equipment-hours per day, where an equipment-hour is defined as one piece of equipment operating for one hour (daily CAPs, TACs, GHGs).

AQ-15: All diesel- and gasoline-powered equipment will be properly maintained according to manufacturer's specifications, and in compliance with all State and federal emissions requirements. Maintenance records will be available at the construction site for verification.

AQ-16: Whenever possible, removed vegetative material will be either left in place (e.g., for use as mulch) or chipped on site. If approved, an air curtain burner may be used. When pile burning is deemed necessary, a burn permit would be obtained from the local air quality management district and burn piles would be no larger than 10x10x5 feet and ignited on approved burn days only.

Mobile-Source Emissions Related Measures

TRAN-3: **[insert who]** will assess parking capacity prior to implementing a proposed recommendation. After implementation of the proposed recommendation, Department staff will monitor parking levels as part of the Adaptive Use Management process. If monitoring indicates an exceedance of parking capacity (i.e., increased use of undesignated on-street parking or increased illegal parking due to overflow of parking lot facilities), the **[insert who]** will implement a management response to resolve the parking capacity issue. Measures in the management response may include, but would not be limited to re-designing parking facilities (including minor parking lot expansions in areas where environmental resources will not be affected), installing parking meters and/or applying time limits, working with local transportation departments to increase nearby off-site parking availability, directing users to other existing lots, and/or working with local transit operators to increase transit to the trail facility. Department District personnel will determine which actions are feasible at the park unit.

TRAN-4: Prior to initiating any construction activities with the potential to significantly or permanently disrupt traffic flows, the construction manager will have a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), prepared by a qualified professional that will provide measures to reduce potential traffic obstruction or service level degradation at affected traffic facilities. The scope of the CTMP will depend on the type, intensity, and duration of the specific construction activities associated with the project. Measures included in the CTMP could include (but are not limited to) construction signage, flaggers for lane closures, construction schedule and/or delivery schedule restrictions, etc. The CTMP will be submitted to the local agency having jurisdiction over the affected traffic facilities.

General Biological Resource Standard Project Requirements

BIO-1: All construction, improvement, modification, or decommissioning of road/trails, and conversion of roads-to-trails, will be consistent with Department BMPs, Departmental Operations Manuals (DOMs), Vegetation Management Guidelines, and Trail Handbook guidelines.

BIO-2: Construction activities that could spread invasive plants/animals, noxious weeds, or pathogens, such as sudden oak death, will be subject to the following actions:

- Construction operators will ensure that clothing, footwear, and equipment used during construction is free of soil, seeds, vegetative matter or other debris or seed-bearing material before entering the park or from an area with known infestations of invasive plants and noxious weeds.
- All heavy equipment will be pressure washed prior to entering the park or from an area with known infestations of invasive plants, invertebrates, noxious weeds, or pathogens. Anti-fungal wash agents will be specified if the equipment has been exposed to any pathogen that could affect park resources.
- All earth-moving equipment, gravel, fill, or other materials will be inspected to certify that material is weed free, to the extent feasible.

BIO-3: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, a Department-approved biologist will hold a pre-construction training with on-site construction personnel on the identification and life history of the pertinent sensitive species, work constraints, and any other pertinent information related to the species.

BIO-4: At the discretion of **[insert who]**, project activities will be monitored to ensure that impacts to sensitive biological resources are avoided or minimized.

BIO-5: No trees, brush, soil, or other material shall be felled, placed, or deposited into an identified Environmentally Sensitive Area without pre-construction approval of a Department-qualified biologist.

BIO-6: All project-related vehicle traffic will be restricted to established roads and other designated areas. Designated areas would be included in pre-construction surveys and, to the maximum extent possible, would be established in locations disturbed by previous activities.

BIO-7: To prevent inadvertent entrapment of wildlife during construction, all excavated, steep-walled holes, or trenches will be covered at the close of each working day with plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wood planks. Before such holes or trenches are filled, the on-site biologist will thoroughly inspect the opening for trapped animals. If at any time a trapped listed animal is discovered, the on-site biologist will immediately place escape ramps or other appropriate structures to allow the animal to escape from the opening.

Projects with Potential Impacts to Listed Species

BIO-8: For projects that have potential for impacts to federally listed species and that have a federal nexus, the lead federal permitting or funding agency will be required to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as specified under Section 7 of the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA). Authorization for proceeding with the project or activity would then be subject to conditions identified in consultation with the USFWS.

BIO-9: For projects that have potential for impacts to federally listed species and that do not have a federal nexus, a Department-approved biologist will initiate Technical Assistance with USFWS as specified under Section 7 FESA. Authorization for proceeding with the project or activity would then be subject to conditions identified in a letter of Technical Assistance.

BIO-10: For projects that have a potential for impacts to state listed species, a Department-approved biologist will initiate consultation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) in order to obtain a Section 2081 Incidental Take Permit (or equivalent) or a Consistency Determination for state-listed species when all species are State and federally listed.

BIO-11: Construction activities occurring in [species] habitat during the breeding season, March 24 through September 15, and that generate noise above the ambient level, shall not occur without obtaining technical assistance from the USFWS and/or consultation with the CDFW. For activities occurring within a quarter mile of [species] habitat, buffer areas shall be established around activities that may result in an increase above ambient noise.

Natural Community Standard Project Requirements

BIO-12: During the design and/or review of project activities, a Department-approved biologist will evaluate the project area for sensitive natural communities.

BIO-13: Projects will be designed to avoid direct or indirect effects on all sensitive natural communities to the maximum extent practicable.

BIO-14: Projects will avoid or minimize impacts to both federally and state protected wetlands to the extent practicable.

BIO-15: Natural wetland habitat such as marsh, riparian, and vernal pools will not be filled by stream-crossing construction projects unless approved by the regulatory agencies. Equipment will remain on existing road or trail alignments to the maximum extent practicable.

BIO-16: Trail or road alignments will be designed to avoid or minimize effects on riparian habitats. Disturbance to riparian areas and habitat for aquatic- or riparian-dependent species will be minimized by aligning crossings perpendicular to and in narrow riparian areas to the extent feasible and incorporating elevated crossing features such as boardwalks and bridge crossings in riparian areas and sensitive meadows.

BIO-17: Signage, fencing, planting, or other features will be used to discourage users from leaving trails and roads and entering wetland, riparian, meadow, and other sensitive habitats; any fencing will be designed to avoid interference with hydrology and wildlife movement.

Vegetation Standard Project Requirements

BIO-18: A Department-approved biologist will conduct focused pre-construction surveys for special-status plant species and sensitive natural communities with potential to be affected by a project. Surveys will be conducted in accordance with the CDFW Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities (CDFG 2009). Species with potential to be affected and requiring pre-construction surveys will be determined based on the

species' distribution and known occurrences relative to the project area and the presence of suitable habitat for the species in or near the project area.

BIO-19: If special-status plant species are located within the project area, they will be avoided to the extent feasible with a plant protection buffer delineated with high visibility flagging. Plant protection buffers will be 25 feet in size unless otherwise agreed upon by regulatory agencies. A Department -approved biologist will periodically inspect the fenced or flagged areas to ensure impacts are being avoided. California Native Plant Society Rank 3 and 4 plants will be avoided when feasible; however, avoidance is not required.

BIO-20: No special-status plant species will be removed, transplanted, damaged in any way, cut, pruned, or pulled back without prior approval from a Department -approved biologist in consultation with USFWS and/or CDFW. Recommended transplanting and/or seed collection will occur in nearby suitable habitat during the dormant season.

BIO-21: All projects will be designed to minimize the removal of native trees. Specifically, projects will be designed to retain and protect trees 24 inches diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) or greater to the maximum extent practicable. Limbs of these trees will be removed if required for access or safety considerations. Trees smaller than 24 inches DBH will be retained whenever practicable. Equipment operators will be required to avoid striking retained trees to minimize damage to the tree structure or bark.

BIO-22: Within the root health zone (5 times DBH) of any native tree with a DBH of 12 inches or greater, no roots with a diameter of 2 inches or greater will be severed by project activities, unless authorized in advance by a Department -approved biologist.

BIO-23: No ground disturbance or staging will be allowed within the root health zone (5 times the DBH) of retention trees, unless approved in advance by a Department -approved biologist, forester, or certified arborist. Staging areas within existing compacted road or trail surfaces are exempted as they are already well compacted from use.

BIO-24: A **[insert who]** will be present during all ground-disturbing activities within the root health zone (5 times the DBH) of retained trees when requested by a Department -approved biologist.

BIO-25: To maintain genetic integrity, only plant stock collected consistent with the Department's Genetic Integrity Policy will be used for re-vegetation in the project area.

BIO-26: The design of road and trail improvements will consider desired snag retention needs for wildlife. All snags will be retained unless they are determined to be a safety hazard through consultation with a Department -approved biologist. Where this occurs, a minor reroute of the road and/or trail alignment will be considered.

BIO-27: Install signage at key trailheads and other locations, as applicable and relevant, that informs the public about protecting natural resources (e.g., protecting sensitive vegetation, identification of noxious weeds, how invasive plant species are spread, reduce erosion and sediment delivery) by staying on trail.

Terrestrial Wildlife Standard Project Requirements

BIO-28: All Projects will be designed to avoid take of wildlife species listed or proposed for listing under the FESA, candidates for possible future listing under the FESA, wildlife species listed or candidates for listing under the CESA, and species designated as Fully Protected under the California Fish and Game Code. If take of listed species cannot be avoided, an Incidental Take Permit (ITP), or equivalent, will be obtained. For other special-status wildlife species (e.g., species of special concern), project impacts will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable.

BIO-29: Project activities that could affect a special-status wildlife species, bats, migratory birds, or raptors will be scheduled to avoid the breeding season and/or other sensitive life-history periods of the species (e.g., breeding, hibernation, denning, etc.) to the extent feasible as determined by a Department -approved biologist.

BIO-30: If work is required during the breeding or other sensitive life-history period of a special-status species that could be affected, impacts will be avoided or minimized by establishing non-disturbance buffers around the nests, dens, roosts, or other activity centers (depending on the species). The appropriate size and shape of the buffer zone will be determined by a Department approved biologist, based on potential effects of project-related habitat disturbance, noise, dust, visual disturbance, and other factors. No project activity will commence within the buffer area until a Department -approved biologist confirms that the nest, den, or other activity center is no longer active/occupied during the critical life-history period.

BIO-31: Trees with nests or cavities that may provide nesting or denning opportunities will not be felled without the pre-construction review and approval of a Department -approved biologist. If such trees are located during operations, then operations within 50 feet of the tree will cease until reviewed by a Department -approved biologist.

BIO-32: Minor reroutes will be established away from basal hollows or so that basal hollows cannot be seen from trail.

BIO-33: If special-status species are known to occur in the project area, immediately prior to the start of work each day, a Department -approved biologist will conduct a visual inspection of the construction zone and adjacent areas, as appropriate.

BIO-34: If a special-status species is found on the project site, work in the vicinity of the animal will be delayed until the species moves out of the site on its own, or is temporarily relocated by a Department -approved biologist. A Department -approved biologist, or other staff trained by a Department -approved biologist will inspect work area for special-status species at the beginning of each workday. If a trapped animal is discovered, they will be released in suitable habitat at least **[insert distance]** from the project area.

BIO-35: Project activities will not remove any trees equal to or greater than 24 inches DBH unless first inspected by a Department -approved biologist and determined to be non-essential breeding habitat for special-status bird or other species.

Aquatic Biological Resources Standard Project Requirements

BIO-36: Construction activities in close proximity to potential special-status aquatic species' habitat will be limited to the dry season to the extent feasible to avoid specific periods of animal activity (e.g., breeding, larval/juvenile development, etc.).

BIO-37: For project activities that could affect special-status aquatic species, a Department-approved biologist will conduct a survey to determine if the special-status species occurs within **[insert distance**] of the project area.

BIO-38: If special-status aquatic species are known to occur in the vicinity of the project area, a Department -approved biologist, will conduct surveys for those aquatic species within the project area, and surrounding area as deemed appropriate, immediately prior to the start of project-related activities each day.

BIO-39: If a special-status aquatic species is found on the project site, work in the vicinity of the animal will be delayed until the species moves out of the site on its own accord, or is temporarily relocated by a Department -approved biologist.

BIO-40: To prevent trapping of special-status aquatic species that spend a portion of their lives in terrestrial habitats (e.g., salamanders, frogs, snakes, turtles), all holes and trenches will be covered with plywood or similar materials at the close of each working day, or escape ramps will be constructed of earth fill or wooden planks; all pipes will be capped. A Department -approved biologist, or other staff trained by a Department -approved biologist will inspect trenches and pipes for special-status species at the beginning of each workday. If a trapped animal is discovered, they will be released (by a Department -approved biologist) in suitable habitat at an appropriate distance from the project area as determined by a Department -approved biologist.

BIO-41: All new stream crossings will be designed to convey the flow and associated debris of a 100-year, 24-hour storm event. All stream crossings that are part of the project will be designed to maintain both upstream and downstream fish passage when located on fish-bearing streams. Pedestrian bridges across stream habitats will be designed in a manner that does not impede stream flow and ensures year-round passage of anadromous and other aquatic species through the area.

BIO-42: If water drafting becomes a necessary component of the proposed Project, drafting sites will be planned to avoid adverse effects to special-status aquatic species and associated habitat, in-stream flows, and depletion of pool habitat. Screening devices that create low entry velocity will be used for water drafting pumps to minimize removal of aquatic species, including juvenile fish, amphibian egg masses and tadpoles from aquatic habitats.

BIO-43: Avoid vegetation removal that could reduce shaded areas and increase stream temperatures. Minor reroutes, where needed, will not be designed to travel adjacent to streams to the maximum extent practicable.

BIO-44: For any project requiring a permit from USACE, RWQCB, CDFW, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), USFWS, or other agency for potential impacts to aquatic and wetland resources restrictions, construction timing, BMPs, and other protective measures will be developed and specified in consultation with the agencies during the permitting process.

BIO-45: Staging areas will be located outside of sensitive habitats at an appropriate distance as determined by a Department -approved biologist, from vernal pools, seasonal wetlands, ponds, streams, riparian habitat, and other aquatic habitats.

BIO-46: When determined necessary by a Department -approved biologist, exclusionary fencing, flagging, staking, or signage will be installed around all Environmentally Sensitive Areas as an initial construction task. The Environmentally Sensitive Areas will be delineated to limit encroachment by construction personnel and equipment into sensitive aquatic habitats without affecting public access routes.

BIO-47: To avoid indirect construction-related impacts to aquatic habitats, BMPs will be implemented to minimize soil disturbance. Where soil disturbance is necessary, stabilization techniques (including the use of silt fences, fiber rolls or blankets, gravel bag berms, geotextiles, plastic covers, erosion control blankets/mats, covering of exposed areas with mulch, and temporary vegetation or permanent seeding) will be implemented.

BIO-48: Construction activities near water courses and riparian areas will be monitored daily. Monitoring will include checking silt fences, erosion and sediment control BMPs, and Environmentally Sensitive Area fencing to make sure they are functioning properly to avoid project impacts.

General Project Requirements for the Treatment of Cultural Resources and Tribal Cultural Resources

CUL-1: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, the **[insert who]** will notify the Supervisor of the District Cultural Resources Program who will in turn notify Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area, unless other arrangements are made in advance, a minimum of three weeks to schedule a Cultural Resources Specialist to monitor work, as necessary, to ensure that pre-approved removal and reconstruction of historic fabric will occur in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.

CUL-2: Before, during, and after construction, a **[insert who]** will photo-document all aspects of the project and will add the photos to the historical records (archives) for the park if the Department -qualified historian or archaeologist, or Tribal Liaison Contact deems necessary.

CUL-3: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, and to the extent not already completed, a **[insert who]** will map and record all cultural features (archaeological and built environment) within the proposed Area of Potential Effects (APE) to a level appropriate to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

CUL-4: Increase public awareness of local and tribal history, site stewardship, archaeology, and the need to protect cultural resources. Ways to accomplish this awareness include highlighting certain cultural resources along the road or trail with interpretive signs and information kiosks, and/or by placement of a historical marker along a segment of a road or trail, which provides information to the user about the importance of the site and/or the event. If the subject matter pertains to Native Americans, consultation with Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area shall be necessary.

Historian's Specific Project Requirements

CUL-5: When there is potential to impact historic resources, A Department -qualified historian will survey roads and/or trails prior to the start of any proposed improvements or changes in use to identify potentially significant historic resources. To determine the historic significance of road and trail alignments, a Department -qualified historian will conduct comparisons of current road and trail alignments with historic documentation of historic alignments.

CUL-6: A Department -qualified historian shall use flags, protective fencing, or other methods to identify and provide a buffer zone for any resources discovered during trail survey. The historian shall establish a specific buffer zone around the features based on the type of resources and the proposed scope of work.

Historian's Standard Requirements

CUL-7: All historic work on built environment resources will comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

CUL-8: Historic character will be retained and preserved; where safe, original materials that still maintain structural integrity will be retained; and where replacement is required, materials and features will be replaced "in kind."

CUL-9: A qualified historian familiar with the project site's cultural/historic resources will monitor all construction activities at his/her discretion. All historic resources uncovered during the project will be recorded in place with a photograph and/or drawing showing any new or recovered material and archived, at the discretion of the monitor.

Archaeologist's and Tribal Specific Project Requirements

CUL-10: To prevent disturbance to high value archaeological resource or tribal cultural areas, redirect visitors away from the resources employing appropriate placement of trails, creating barriers, or other suitable methods to discourage access.

CUL-11: Decommission and/or reroute roads and trails away from high value archaeological or tribal cultural resources whenever possible and/or feasible.

CUL-12: Prior to implementing any project that would involve ground disturbance, cultural resource staff, in coordination with Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area, will determine if the project area is located in an of area of high archaeological or tribal cultural value. If the area is determined sensitive, the area will require field survey by a Department-qualified archaeologist, in consultation with a tribal representative, who will make recommendations and develop proposals for procedures deemed appropriate to further investigate and/or avoid adverse impacts to those resources.

CUL-13: Prior to implementing any project that would involve ground disturbance, cultural resource staff will consult Department cultural resource data files, and if deemed necessary, contact the appropriate Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System to request a record search of known cultural resources located within and adjacent to the proposed Project area.

CUL-14: Department will conduct the tribal consultations prior to implementing any project that involves new ground disturbances related to road and trail construction; in previously disturbed soil where archaeological sensitivity is high and trail work is proposed; or for projects which require CEQA review. The consultation protocol will follow the steps identified in the Department Operations Manual 0400 Cultural Resources.

CUL-15: Where road and trail activities cannot avoid sensitive archaeological resources, the project actions will require modifications to incorporate the resources into the RTMP and provide a resource protection plan, in consultation with tribal representatives as appropriate, for its maintenance and future protection.

Archaeological and Tribal Cultural Resources – Standard Project Requirements

CUL-16: Prior to the start of any ground-disturbing activities, a qualified archaeologist in consultation with a tribal representative as appropriate will complete preconstruction investigations to determine specific avoidance areas within the proposed APE that contains known significant or potentially significant archaeological resources. If necessary, a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist will prepare a research design, including appropriate trenching and/or preconstruction excavations.

CUL-17: Based on preconstruction testing, project design and/or implementation will be altered, as necessary, to avoid impacts to significant archaeological or tribal cultural resources or reduce the impacts to a less than significant level, as determined in consultation with a Department-qualified archaeologist who, in turn, has consulted with tribal representatives as appropriate.

CUL-18: In an archaeologically or tribal culturally sensitive area, **[insert who]** will manually remove or flush cut vegetation to avoid ground-disturbing activities; removal of roots will not be allowed.

CUL–19: In an APE considered highly sensitive for the discovery of buried archaeological features or deposits, including human remains, **[insert who]** will review and approve monitoring by a Department-qualified Cultural Resources Specialist and tribal representative of any subsurface disturbance, including but not limited to grading, excavation or trenching.

CUL-20: **[Insert who]** will coordinate monitoring of subsurface disturbance by a Native American monitor.

CUL-21: If anyone discovers previously undocumented cultural resources during project construction or ground-disturbing activities, work within 50 to 100 feet of the find will be temporarily halted. The Department State Representative will be notified immediately, and work will remain halted until a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist or archaeologist, in consultation with a tribal representative as appropriate, evaluates the significance of the find and determines and implements the appropriate treatment and disposition in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation or tribal values.

If ground-disturbing activities uncover cultural artifacts or features (including but not limited to dark soil containing shellfish, bone, flaked stone, groundstone, or deposits of historic ash), when a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist is not onsite, **[insert who]** will contact the Supervisor of the District Cultural Resources Program immediately and **[insert who]** will temporarily halt or divert work within the immediate vicinity of the find until a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist and tribal representative as appropriate evaluates the find and determines and implements the appropriate treatment and disposition of the find.

If feasible, **[insert who]** will modify the project to ensure that construction or ground-disturbing activities will avoid the unanticipated discovery of a significant cultural or tribal cultural resources (historical resources) upon review and approval of a **[insert who]**.

CUL-22: In the event anyone discovers human remains or suspected human remains, work will cease immediately within 100 feet of the find and the project manager/site supervisor will notify the appropriate Department personnel. The human remains and/or funerary objects will not be disturbed and will be protected by covering with soil or other appropriate methods. The Department representative will notify the County Coroner, in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, and the Native American Heritage Commission; the Department representative will also notify the local Tribal Representative. If a Native American monitor is onsite at the time of the discovery, the monitor will notify his/her affiliated tribe or group. The local County Coroner will make the determination of whether the human bone is of Native American origin. If the Coroner determines the remains represent Native American interment, the Native American Heritage Commission will be consulted to identify the most likely descendant and appropriate disposition of the remains. Work will not resume in the area of the find until proper disposition is complete (PRC Section 5097.98). No human remains or funerary objects will be cleaned, photographed, analyzed, or removed from the place of discovery prior to determination.

If it is determined the find indicates a sacred or religious site, the site will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Formal consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and review by the Native American Heritage Commission, as well as appropriate Tribal Representatives, will occur as necessary to define additional site mitigation or future restrictions.

Geology, Soils, and Minerals Standard Project Requirements

Construction General Permit and SWPPP Measures

GEO-1: Prior to the start of construction involving ground-disturbing activities totaling one acre or more, Department will direct the preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) by a Qualified Stormwater Pollution Plan Developer (QSD) for Department approval that identifies temporary BMPs (e.g., tarping of any stockpiled materials or soil; use of silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls, etc.) and permanent BMPs (e.g., structural containment, preserving or planting of vegetation, etc.) for use in all construction areas to reduce or eliminate the discharge of soil, surface water runoff, and pollutants during all excavation, grading, trenching, repaving, or other ground-disturbing activities.

Construction-Related Measures

GEO-2: All construction, improvement, modification, or decommissioning of road/trails, and conversion of roads-to-trails, will be consistent with Department BMPs, Departmental Operations Manuals (DOMs), Vegetation Management Guidelines, and Trail Handbook guidelines.

GEO-3: A qualified or California licensed geologist will review road decommissioning, new routes, road-to-trail conversion sites, and landslide repairs during project planning to determine if any geologic or soil conditions exist that require additional assessment or alteration of prescriptions. If unique features do exist or conditions so require, a California licensed geologist or their designee will conduct a geologic assessment/investigation and make appropriate design recommendations, and, if needed, define the boundaries of the work area on project drawings.

GEO-4: Heavy equipment operators will be cautioned to minimize their exposure to unstable slopes that may occur naturally or result from the earthmoving process. Qualified inspectors will continually evaluate slope geometry and earth materials and caution operators if unstable conditions are indicated.

GEO-5: No high ground pressure vehicles will be driven through project areas during the rainy season or when soils are wet and saturated to avoid compaction and/or damage to soil structure. Undisturbed areas will be avoided by vehicles to the extent practicable during all seasons. If vehicles must be driven through previously undisturbed areas during moist conditions, then the path of travel will be distributed and/or the travel way will be decompacted upon project completion. Existing compacted road or trail surfaces are exempted as they are already well compacted from use.

GEO-6: Topsoil excavated during initial construction will be segregated and used as a finishing surface over other fill to help conserve topsoil and promote revegetation.

GEO-7: Excavated spoil from project work will be placed in a stable location where it will not cause or contribute to slope failure, or erode and enter a stream channel or wetland. Spoil areas will be compacted in lifts and blended into the surrounding landscape to promote uniform sheet drainage. Stream or concentrated overland flow will not be allowed to discharge onto spoil areas, regardless of discharge rate.

GEO-8: Bare ground will be mulched with native vegetation removed during the work, or with other non-exotic plant-bearing mulch materials, to the maximum extent practicable to minimize surface erosion. Sufficient openings will be left in the mulch to allow revegetation.

GEO-9: Immediately following reconstruction, roads and trails will be closed for a period following construction that allows for one wet-dry cycle (e.g., one winter's duration) to allow the soil and materials to settle and compact before the route opens to the public. Routine maintenance will also be performed on the road or trail as necessary to reduce erosion to the extent possible and to repair weather-related damage that could contribute to erosion.

GEO-10: If anyone discovers potential paleontological resources during project construction or ground-disturbing activities, work within 100-feet of the find will be temporarily halted, the Department Representative will be notified immediately, and work will remain halted until a qualified paleontologist or geologist evaluates the significance of the find and recommends appropriate salvage or further mitigation procedures.

Project Design-Related Measures

GEO-11: Road and trail stream crossings will have any new drainage structures designed for the 100-year storm flow event or be capable of passing the 100-year peak flow, debris, and sediment loads without significant damage.

GEO-12: Road and trail stream crossings will be designed and constructed without the potential for stream diversion.

GEO-13: Department staff will install appropriate energy dissipaters and employ other erosion control measures at water discharge points, as appropriate.

GEO-14: Install armored rock crossings at ephemeral drainages, micro drainages and swales to harden the trail tread in areas of potential interface between trail users and natural topographic drainage features.

GEO-15: All drainages (including micro drainages) will not be captured, diverted or coupled with other drainages by the road or trail.

GEO-16: Water will not be accumulated on a road or trail and drained off onto landforms where natural drainages do not exist.

GEO-17: Road and trail fillslopes will be designed with stable slope gradients as defined in Department trail construction manuals, guidelines, and handbooks, or as recommended by a qualified professional reviewing site-specific conditions. Unstable fillslopes will be stabilized or removed.

GEO-18: Road and trail surfaces and ditches will be hydrologically disconnected from wetlands, streams and stream crossings to the extent feasible.

GEO-19: Provide outslope to the road bed or trail tread and remove any outer edge berm to facilitate sheet flow off the road or trail where the dispersed flow can be filtered by vegetation and organic litter.

GEO-20: When outsloping road or trail surfaces is not feasible, such as steep linear grades, construct rolling dips to direct runoff safely off the route to prevent buildup of surface runoff and subsequent erosion. Water bars will be used as a last resort if outsloping and rolling dips, or minor rerouting are not feasible, or on routes receiving minimal use. Water bars will be constructed to divert water to controlled points along the route and with rock armor at the downslope end for energy dissipation.

GEO-21: If soils and parent material geologic capability are not sustainable, overly steep grades will be mitigated with surface hardening techniques. Hardening techniques (such as compacted aggregate or trail structures such as steps or retaining walls) will keep the surface sustainable, firm and stable.

GEO-22: Department staff will develop a rehabilitation plan for decommissioned routes that includes using brush and trees removed from the new or existing route alignment for bio-mechanical erosion control (bundling slash and keying it in to fall line of the route, filling damaged sections with soil and duff removed from the new or existing alignment, constructing water bars if necessary, and replanting native trees and shrubs).

GEO-23: Both ends of a decommissioned road or trail, road-to-trail conversion or abandoned trail segment will be clearly blocked, and scatter its length with vegetative debris from new route construction to discourage continued use and degradation of the decommissioned portion of the road or trail.

GEO-24: Seasonally close roads and trails to all users when soils are saturated and softened.

GEO-25: Install “pinch points” to reduce downhill bicycle speed and increase the line of sight at curves.

GEO-26: Construct or repair barriers at switchbacks to discourage shortcuts and user-created trails.

Event-Related Measures

GEO-27: After a large earthquake event in the region (i.e., magnitude 5.0 or greater centered within 75 miles of the project site or Cascadia subduction zone event in excess of magnitude 7.5 that ruptures south from Brookings, Oregon), Department staff will inspect all project structures and features for

damage, as soon as is possible after the event. Any damaged structures or features, including landslides, will be closed to park visitors, volunteers, residents, contractors, and staff until such features or structures have been evaluated by a qualified or licensed professional and/or repaired. Seismically generated ground cracks along ridgecrests or other landforms removed from, but potentially affecting, the infrastructure will be evaluated as part of the investigation.

GEO-28: After or during a large storm or rainfall event (i.e., equal to or more than: six inches in 24 hours; 12 inches in 72 hours; or 15 inches in 120 hours, as measured at the Cuneo Campground weather station, or peak stream flows measured at the Bull Creek stream gage in excess of 6500 cubic feet per second), Department staff will inspect all project structures and features for damage, as soon as is safely possible after or during the event. Any damaged structures or features will be closed to park visitors, volunteers, residents, contractors, and staff until such features or structures have been evaluated by a qualified or licensed professional and/or repaired.

Greenhouse Gas/Climate Change/Sea-Level Rise Standard Project Requirements

Construction-Related Emission Control Measures

AQ-1: No more than one acre of ground disturbance (e.g., earth moving, grading, excavating, land clearing) will occur in any single day.

AQ-10: Operation of large diesel- or gasoline-powered construction equipment (i.e., greater than 50 horsepower [hp]) will not exceed 60 equipment-hours per day, where an equipment-hour is defined as one piece of equipment operating for one hour.

AQ-11: All diesel- and gasoline-powered equipment will be properly maintained according to manufacturer's specifications, and in compliance with all State and federal emissions requirements

AQ-12: Whenever possible, removed vegetative material will be either left in place (e.g., for use as mulch) or chipped on site. If approved, an air curtain burner may be used. When pile burning is deemed necessary, a burn permit would be obtained from the local air quality management district. Burn piles would be no larger than 10x10x5 feet and ignited on approved burn days only.

AQ-13: Haul truck trips to and from the site will be limited to 40 one-way trips per day. This includes trips for hauling gravel, materials, and equipment to and from the site.

AQ-14: The maximum number of construction worker-related commute trips for any project at a park will not exceed 60 one-way worker commute trips per day.

AQ-15: All motorized construction equipment will be shut down when not in use. Idling of equipment and haul trucks will be limited to five minutes.

Measures Pertinent to Carbon Sequestration

BIO-16: Natural wetland habitat such as marsh, riparian, and vernal pools will not be filled by stream-crossing construction projects unless approved by the regulatory agencies. Equipment will remain on existing road or trail alignments to the maximum extent practicable.

BIO-22: All projects will be designed to minimize the removal of native trees. Specifically, projects will be designed to retain and protect trees 24 inches diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) or greater to the maximum extent practicable. Limbs of these trees will be removed if required for access or safety considerations. Trees smaller than 24 inches DBH will be retained whenever practicable. Equipment operators will be required to avoid striking retained trees to minimize damage to the tree structure or bark.

BIO-23: Within the root health zone (5 times DBH) of any native tree with a DBH of 12 inches or greater, no roots with a diameter of 2 inches or greater will be severed by project activities, unless authorized in advance by a Department -approved biologist.

BIO-24: No ground disturbance or staging will be allowed within the root health zone (5 times the DBH) of retention trees, unless approved in advance by a Department -approved biologist, forester, or certified arborist. Staging areas within existing compacted road or trail surfaces are exempted as they are already well compacted from use.

BIO-25: A **[insert who]** will be present during all ground-disturbing activities within the root health zone (5 times the DBH) of retained trees when requested by a Department -approved biologist.

Measures Pertinent to Resiliency to Climate Change

HAZ-10: Prior to the start of construction, **[insert who]** will develop a Fire Safety Plan for **[insert name]** approval. The plan will include the emergency calling procedures for both the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) and local fire department(s).

HAZ-11: All heavy equipment will be required to include spark arrestors or turbo chargers that eliminate sparks in exhaust and have fire extinguishers on-site.

HAZ-12: Construction crews will park vehicles **[insert distance]** from flammable material, such as dry grass or brush. At the end of each workday, construction crews will park heavy equipment over a non-combustible surface to reduce the chance of fire.

HAZ-13: Department personnel will have a Department radio at the park unit, which allows direct contact with Cal Fire and a centralized dispatch center, to facilitate the rapid dispatch of control crews and equipment in case of a fire.

HAZ-14: Under dry conditions, a filled water truck and/or fire engine crew will be onsite during activities with the potential to start a fire.

GEO-27: After or during a large storm or rainfall event (i.e., equal to or more than: six inches in 24 hours; 12 inches in 72 hours; or 15 inches in 120 hours, as measured at the Cuneo Campground weather station, or peak stream flows measured at the Bull Creek stream gage in excess of 6500 cubic feet per second), Department staff will inspect all project structures and features for damage, as soon as is safely possible after or during the event. Any damaged structures or features will be closed to park visitors, volunteers, residents, contractors, and staff until such features or structures have been evaluated by a qualified or licensed professional and/or repaired.

HYDRO-4: All construction activities will be suspended during heavy precipitation events (i.e., more than one inch of precipitation in a 24-hour period) or when heavy precipitation events are forecast. If the construction manager must suspend work the construction manager will install drainage and erosion controls appropriate to site conditions, such as covering (e.g., tarping) stockpiled soils, mulching bare soil areas, and by constructing silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls, or other control structures around stockpiles and graded areas, to minimize runoff effects.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials Standard Project Requirements

HAZ-1: Avoid locating route modifications in areas that could have been used previously for industrial/manufacturing uses, or other uses that could have involved use, handling, transport, or storage of hazardous materials (including but not limited to auto maintenance, gas station, equipment yard, dry cleaner, railroad, agriculture, mining, etc.). If such areas cannot be avoided, prior to any construction within such areas, **[insert implementing party]** shall hire a qualified professional to conduct a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA), limited to the area of

proposed ground disturbance, that will identify the presence of any soil contamination at concentrations that could pose health risk to construction workers. If such levels of soil contamination are identified, the **[insert implementing party]** shall follow the recommendations in the Phase 1 ESA, which may include removal of contaminated soil in compliance with all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and Department of Toxic Substances Control requirements.

HAZ-2: If any construction will occur directly below overhead power poles with transformers, prior to construction, the soil directly beneath the transformers will be inspected for staining. If staining is present, the **[insert implementing party]** will avoid the stained soil, coordinate with the utility company for clean-up, or hire a qualified professional to provide recommendations that will be implemented.

HAZ-3: Prior to any excavation in the vicinity of underground utility easements, **[insert implementing party]** shall coordinate with the utility company to ensure avoidance of the utility line.

HAZ-4: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, **[insert who]** will inspect all equipment for leaks and regularly inspect thereafter until equipment is removed from the project site. All contaminated water, sludge, spill residue, or other hazardous compounds will be contained and disposed of outside the boundaries of the site, at a lawfully permitted or authorized destination.

HAZ-5: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, **[insert who]** will prepare a Spill Prevention and Response Plan (SPRP) as part of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for **[insert who]** approval to provide protection to on-site workers, the public, and the environment from accidental leaks or spills of vehicle fluids or other potential contaminants. This plan will include (but not be limited to):

- a map that delineates construction staging areas, where refueling, lubrication, and maintenance of equipment will occur;
- a list of items required in a spill kit on-site that will be maintained throughout the life of the project;
- procedures for the proper storage, use, and disposal of any solvents or other chemicals used in the construction process;
- and identification of lawfully permitted or authorized disposal destinations outside of the project site.

HAZ-6: **[Insert who]** will develop a Materials Management Plan to include protocols and procedures that will protect human health and the environment during remediation and/or construction activities that cause disturbances to the native soil and/or mine and mill materials causing potential exposure to metals and dust resulting from materials disturbances. All work will be performed in accordance with a Site Health and Safety Plan. The Materials Management Plan will include the following (where applicable):

- Requirement that staff will have appropriate training in compliance with 29 CFR, Section 1910.120;
- Methods to assess risks prior to starting onsite work;
- Procedures for the management and disposal of waste soils generated during construction activities or other activities that might disturb contaminated soil;
- Monitoring requirements;
- Storm water controls;
- Record-keeping; and,
- Emergency response plan.

HAZ-7: **[Insert who]** will set up decontamination areas for vehicles and equipment at Department unit entry/exit points. The decontamination areas will be designed to completely contain all wash water generated from washing vehicles and equipment. BMPs will be installed, as necessary, to prevent the dispersal of wash water beyond the boundaries of the decontamination area, including over-spray.

HAZ-8: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, **[insert who]** will clean and repair (other than emergency repairs) all equipment outside the project site boundaries.

HAZ-9: **[Insert who]** will designate and/or locate staging and stockpile areas within the existing maintenance yard area or existing roads and campsites to prevent leakage of oil, hydraulic fluids, etc. into **[insert where i.e., native vegetation, sensitive wildlife areas, creek, river, stream, etc.]**.

HAZ-10: Prior to the start of construction, **[insert who]** will develop a Fire Safety Plan for **[insert name]** approval. The plan will include the emergency calling procedures for both the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) and local fire department(s).

HAZ-11: All heavy equipment will be required to include spark arrestors or turbo chargers that eliminate sparks in exhaust, and have fire extinguishers on-site.

HAZ-12: Construction crews will park vehicles **[insert distance]** from flammable material, such as dry grass or brush. At the end of each workday, construction crews will park heavy equipment over a non-combustible surface to reduce the chance of fire.

HAZ-13: Department personnel will have a Department radio at the park unit, which allows direct contact with Cal Fire and a centralized dispatch center, to facilitate the rapid dispatch of control crews and equipment in case of a fire.

HAZ-14: Under dry conditions, a filled water truck and/or fire engine will be onsite during activities with the potential to start a fire.

Hydrology, Water Quality, and Sedimentation Standard Project Requirements

Construction General Permit and SWPPP Measures

HYDRO-1: Prior to the start of construction involving ground-disturbing activities totaling one acre or more, **[insert who]** will prepare and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for Department approval that identifies BMPs (e.g., tarping of any stockpiled materials or soil; use of silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls) and permanent BMPs (e.g., structural containment, preserving or planting of vegetation) for use in all construction areas to reduce or eliminate the discharge of soil, surface water runoff, and pollutants during all excavation, grading, trenching, or other ground-disturbing activities. The SWPPP will include BMPs for hazardous waste and contaminated soils management and a Spill Prevention and Control Plan (SPCP), as appropriate.

Basin Plan Requirement Measures

HYDRO-2: The project will comply with all applicable water quality standards as specified in the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Basin Plan.

Construction-Related Measures

HYDRO-3: All construction, improvement, modification, or decommissioning of road/trails, and conversion of roads-to-trails, will be consistent with Department BMPs, Departmental Operations Manuals (DOMs), Vegetation Management Guidelines, and Trail Handbook guidelines.

HYDRO-4: All construction activities will be suspended during heavy precipitation events (i.e., more than one inch of precipitation in a 24-hour period) or when heavy precipitation events are forecast. If the construction manager must suspend work the construction manager will install drainage and erosion controls appropriate to site conditions, such as covering (e.g., tarping) stockpiled soils, mulching bare soil areas, and by constructing silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls, or other control structures around stockpiles and graded areas, to minimize runoff effects.

HYDRO-5: For construction activities extending into or occurring during the rainy season, or if an un-seasonal storm is anticipated, Department staff will properly winterize the site by covering (e.g. tarping) any stockpiled materials or soils, mulching bare soil areas, and by constructing silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls, or other structures around stockpiles and graded areas.

HYDRO-6: Treat rehabilitated, reengineered, or rerouted road or trail segments that have less than a 50-foot natural buffer to stream channels with mulch applied to provide 50 percent to 70 percent surface coverage. Filter windrows (structures made of slash, forest debris, and logs to protect forest streams from sediment) shall be added to the toe of fill slopes for any treated alignment where the vegetated or mulched buffer is located closer to a watercourse than is recommended for the steepness of the hillslope, as described in the table below:

Recommended minimum distance between the vegetated or mulched buffer of wildland roads/trails and streams	
Slope of land between road/trail and stream (%)	Minimum distance of vegetated/mulched buffer (ft)
0	50
10	90
20	130
30	170
40	210
50	250
60	290
70	330

These setbacks or windrow designs may be modified based on concurrence from a qualified geologist after reviewing vegetation and soil conditions on the slope between the alignment and the watercourse. The windrows shall not provide structural support to the fills.

HYDRO-7: Salvage trees and brush removed prior to excavation for mulching bare soil areas after construction.

HYDRO-8: During dry, dusty conditions, all unpaved active construction areas will be wetted using water trucks, treated with a non-toxic chemical dust suppressant (e.g., emulsion polymers, organic material), or covered. Any dust suppressant product used must be environmentally benign (i.e., non-toxic to plants and shall not negatively impact water quality) and its use shall not be prohibited by the California Air Resources Board, U.S. EPA, or the State Water Resources Control Board. Exposed areas will not be over-watered such that watering results in runoff. Unpaved areas subject to vehicle travel could also be stabilized through the effective application of wood chips, gravel, or mulch. The type of dust suppression method shall be selected by the contractor from the SWPPP options, if applicable, or based on soil, traffic, and other site-specific conditions.

HYDRO-9: Excavation and grading activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 25 miles per hour (mph), instantaneous gusts exceed 35 mph, or when dust occurs from remediation related activities where visible emissions (dust) cannot be controlled by watering or conventional dust abatement controls.

HYDRO-10: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, all equipment will be inspected for leaks and regularly inspected thereafter until equipment is removed from the project site. All contaminated water, sludge, spill residue, or other hazardous compounds will be contained and disposed of outside the boundaries of the site, at a lawfully permitted or authorized destination.

HYDRO-11: Staging and stockpile areas will be designated and/or located, and suitable barriers installed, within the existing maintenance yard area or existing roads and campsites to prevent leakage of oil, hydraulic fluids, or other chemicals into lakes, streams, or other water bodies.

HYDRO-12: Decontamination of heavy equipment shall occur prior to delivery onto State Park lands. Heavy equipment shall be thoroughly power washed prior to delivery to the job site. Equipment shall be free of woody and organic debris, soil, grease, and other foreign matter. The engine compartment, cab, and other enclosed spaces shall also be free of the aforementioned debris. Equipment shall be thoroughly inspected by Department's State Representative upon delivery and may be rejected if in the opinion of the Department representative the equipment does not meet decontamination standards. If a piece of equipment is removed from the park for unrelated work or work not identified as part of the project, it will be re-inspected upon re-entry to the park. Upon demobilization decontamination shall take place off-site.

HYDRO-13: All heavy equipment parking, refueling, and service will be conducted within designated areas with suitable barriers outside of the 100-year floodplain to avoid watercourse contamination.

Project Design-Related Measures

HYDRO-14: Project planning will identify public water supply and park water systems that could be affected. Persons responsible for the maintenance of these water systems will be consulted and if negative effects are anticipated, mutually agreeable modifications will be developed.

HYDRO-15: Department staff will install appropriate energy dissipaters and employ other erosion control measures at water discharge points, as appropriate.

HYDRO-16: Routes will be designed and constructed so that they do not significantly disrupt or alter the natural hydraulic flow patterns of the landform.

HYDRO-17: Routes located within 100-year flood hazard zones will be designed and constructed so that they do not significantly disrupt or alter natural flood flows.

HYDRO-18: For decommissioning and restoration projects, existing (altered) drainage patterns will be restored to pre-disturbance patterns. In some cases where pre-disturbance patterns cannot be restored, conversion work may require the realignment of a stream segment. To ensure that channel stability will be maintained, project planners will establish new drainage segments only after thorough review by a qualified geologist, geomorphologist, or hydrologist.

HYDRO-19: Install armored rock crossings at ephemeral drainages, micro drainages and swales to harden the tread in areas of potential interface between trail users and natural topographic drainage features.

HYDRO-20: Provide outslope to the roadbed or trail tread and remove any outer edge berm to facilitate sheet flow off the road or trail where the dispersed flow can be filtered by vegetation and organic litter.

HYDRO-21: When outsloping road or trail surfaces is not feasible, such as steep linear grades, construct rolling dips to direct runoff safely off the route to prevent buildup of surface runoff and subsequent erosion. Water bars will be used as a last resort, if outsloping and rolling dips or rerouting are not feasible or on routes receiving no use. Water bars will be constructed to divert water to controlled points along the route and with rock armor at the downslope end for energy dissipation, where needed.

HYDRO-22: Install gravel surfacing on routes in areas with saturated or unstable soils, and on bridge or ford approaches to provide a stable tread surface.

HYDRO-23: Seasonally close multi-use trails to all users when soils are saturated and softened.

HYDRO-24: Install "pinch points" on multi-use trails where necessary to reduce downhill bicycle speed and increase the line of sight at curves.

HYDRO-25: Construct or repair barriers at switchbacks on multi-use trails to discourage shortcuts and the creation of user-created trails.

Land Use and Planning Standard Project Requirements

The SPRs do not include a category of provisions specifically related to land use and planning.

Mineral Resources Standard Project Requirements

The SPRs do not include a category of provisions specifically related to mineral resources use.

Noise Standard Project Requirements

N-1: Operation of noise-generating construction activity (equipment and power tools and haul truck delivery of equipment and materials) will abide by the time-of-day restrictions established by local jurisdictions (i.e., city and/or county) if such noise would be audible to receptors (e.g., residential land uses, schools, hospitals, places of worship) located in Nevada or Placer Counties or surrounding communities. Cities and counties in California typically restrict construction-noise to particular daytime hours. If the local, applicable jurisdiction does not have a noise ordinance or policy restricting the time-of-day when noise-generating construction activity can occur, then noise-generating construction activity will be limited to the hours of 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday.

N-2: All powered construction equipment and power tools will be used and maintained according to manufacturer specifications. All diesel- and gasoline-powered construction equipment will be properly maintained and equipped with noise-reduction intake and exhaust mufflers and engine shrouds, in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.

N-3: Equipment engine shrouds will be closed during equipment operation.

N-4: All construction equipment and equipment staging areas will be located as far as possible from nearby noise-sensitive land uses (e.g., residential land uses, schools, hospitals, places of worship) located outside the park.

N-5: All motorized construction equipment will be shut down when not in use. Idling of equipment and haul trucks will be limited to five minutes.

N-6: No pile driving, blasting, or drilling will occur in areas that may adversely affect sensitive receptors outside the park unit.

N-7: Written notification of construction activities will be provided to any and all off-site noise-sensitive receptors (e.g., residential land uses, schools, hospitals, places of worship) located within 1,500 feet of locations where powered construction equipment and/or power tools will be operated. Notification will include anticipated dates and hours during which construction activities are anticipated to occur and contact information, including a daytime telephone number, of the project representative. Recommendations to assist noise-sensitive land uses in reducing interior noise levels (e.g., closing windows and doors) will also be included in the notification.

N-8: Construction activities involving heavy equipment (i.e., 50 horsepower [hp] or greater) will not operate within 50 feet of land uses that are potentially sensitive to ground vibration, including residential buildings, schools, hospitals, and places of worship. Heavy construction equipment will also not be operated within 30 feet of historically significant structures that could be vulnerable to structural damage from ground vibration, and known archaeological sites, which could be vulnerable to vibration-induced changes to the stratigraphic relations of the soil layers that are important to archaeological study.

Population and Housing Standard Project Requirements

AQ-14: The maximum number of construction worker-related commute trips for any project at a park will not exceed 60 one-way worker commute trips per day.

Public Services and Utilities Standard Project Requirements

The SPRs do not include a category of provisions specifically related to public services and utilities management.

Recreation Standard Project Requirements

The SPRs do not include a category of provisions specifically related to recreation use management.

Transportation and Traffic Standard Project Requirements

TRAN-1: For proposed addition of bicycle use, stop signs for cyclists will be installed at all locations where the trail crosses a roadway (including maintenance roads). Appropriate warning signs will be installed along the roadways and on pavement (as necessary) at the approach of bicycle crossings to warn drivers of potential crossing bicyclists.

TRAN-2: For proposed addition of equestrian use, **[insert who]** will ensure driveways/access points to parking facilities have adequate line-of-sight for horse trailers and that parking facilities are either designed to be “pull through” or include a designated “turn-around” for horse trailers (where vehicle parking is restricted). Parking and access for parking facilities accommodating vehicles with horse trailers will be designed per American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials standards.

TRAN-3: **[insert who]** will assess parking capacity prior to implementing a proposed recommendation. After implementation of the proposed recommendation, Department staff will monitor parking levels as part of the Adaptive Use Management process. If monitoring indicates an exceedance of parking capacity (i.e., increased use of undesignated on-street parking or increased illegal parking due to overflow of parking lot facilities), the **[insert who]** will implement a management response to resolve the parking capacity issue. Measures in the management response may include, but would not be limited to, re-designing parking facilities (including minor parking lot expansions in areas where environmental resources will not be affected), installing parking meters and/or applying time limits, working with local transportation departments to increase nearby off-site parking availability, directing users to other existing lots, and/or working with local transit operators to increase transit

to the trail facility. Department District personnel will determine which actions are feasible at the park unit.

TRAN-4: Prior to initiating any construction activities with the potential to significantly or permanently disrupt traffic flows, the construction manager will have a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), prepared by a qualified professional that will provide measures to reduce potential traffic obstruction or service level degradation at affected traffic facilities. The scope of the CTMP will depend on the type, intensity, and duration of the specific construction activities associated with the project. Measures included in the CTMP could include (but are not limited to) construction signage, flaggers for lane closures, construction schedule and/or delivery schedule restrictions, etc. The CTMP will be submitted to the local agency having jurisdiction over the affected traffic facilities.

2.10 Project Implementation

As noted previously, the RTMP will provide focus for management of paved and unpaved roads and trails. Subsequent work undertaken pursuant to the RTMP would generally occur Monday through Friday during daylight hours. Weekend or holiday work could be implemented to accelerate the construction schedule or address emergencies or unforeseen circumstances.

2.11 Visitation to Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Park

With an average of 2.8 million visitors a year, FLSRA is one of the most popular units in the California State Park System. Combined free day use, paid day use, and camping attendance has steadily increased. The heaviest recreational use occurs during the warmer spring and summer months. Additionally, surrounding El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties combined are predicted to grow from the 2020 California Department of Finance population estimates by 272,428 people, an approximately 12 percent increase, by 2035, suggesting that park use will also continue to increase.[15]

2.12 Consistency with Local Plans and Policies

The RTMP is consistent with the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*. It serves as a bridge between the desired conditions stated as goals and guidelines in the General Plan and measurable implementation actions. The RTMP defines the objectives, methodologies, and/or designs on how management goals will be accomplished. This document is focused on specific management topics, goals, or issues applying to all roads and trails within FLSRA and FPSHP. Other source documents used in preparing the RTMP include the *Bureau of Reclamation/California State Parks Managing Partner Agreement* (2012), *El Dorado County General Plan* (2004), *Sacramento County 2030 General Plan* (2011), *Placer County Parks and Trails Master Plan* (2022), *El Dorado County's Bikeway Master Plan and Hiking and Equestrian Trails Master Plan* (1979), *American River Parkway Plan* (1985), *River Corridor Management Plan for the Lower American River* (2001), *City of Folsom Bikeway Master Plan* (2007), *Sacramento Area Council of Governments' Regional Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Master Plan* (2003), *U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Sierra Resource Management Plan* (2007), and *Reclamation Manual: Directive and Standards*.

2.13 Discretionary Approvals

The Department has approval authority for subsequent projects under the RTMP within the boundaries of FLSRA and FPSHP. The following permits and/or consultations may be required to allow implementation of components of the RTMP:

- A Section 404 Clean Water Act permit from the U.S. Corps of Engineers (Corps or USACE) Regulatory Branch, if the project is determined to be within USACE jurisdiction.
- A Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board

[15] California Department of Finance, January 2020. Projections, P-2: County Population Projections (2010-2060): P-2A Total Population for California and Counties, https://dof.ca.gov/forecasting/demographics/projections/, accessed April 13, 2022.

- A Section 402 NPDES Construction General Permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- A Streambed Alternation Agreement (Section 1602) from the CDFW.
- Section 7 consultation with the USFWS for the special-status species and/or their critical habitat will be conducted, in compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act.
- 2081 take permit or Consistency Determination for state-listed species in compliance with the California Endangered Species Act.

2.14 Related Projects

The Department often has other smaller maintenance programs and rehabilitation projects planned for a park unit. These projects include the American River Bike Path (Jedediah Smith Memorial Trail) Rehabilitation Project, the Lake Natoma Fuels Reduction Project, and the Brown's Ravine Trail Change-In-Use Project. The American River Bike Path (Jedediah Smith Memorial Trail) Rehabilitation Project is of particular importance because this regional trail connects the Plan Area with downtown Sacramento and includes many miles of trail along the shore of Lake Natoma.

These projects would be considered under the "independent utility" function, as separate from the Road and Trail Management Plan. Del Mar Terrace Conservancy, Inc. v. City Council (1992) 10 Cal. App. 4th 712: EIR project description on roadway segment could exclude related roadway when the segments had independent utility and selection of the first segment did not foreclose alternatives for the other roadway.

3 Environmental Checklist

3.1 Initial Study Checklist

1.	**Project Title:**	Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park Road and Trail Management Plan
2.	**Lead Agency Name and Address:**	California Department of Parks and Recreation California State Parks Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division PO Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94297-0001
3.	**Contact Person and Email:**	Jason Spann trails@parks.ca.gov
4.	**Project Location:**	Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park. See Section 2.2, *Project Location*.
5.	**Project Applicant's Name and Address:**	Jason Spann, Associate Landscape Architect California State Parks Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division PO Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94297-0001
6.	**General Plan Land Use Designation:**	State Park – Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan
7.	**Zoning:**	Public Lands/Public Resource
8.	**Description of Project:**	Refer to Section 2.5, *Project Description*
9.	**Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:**	Refer to Section 4.10, *Land Use and Planning*
10.	**Other Public Agencies whose Approval is Required:**	Refer to Section 2.13, *Discretionary Approvals*

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

The Department has (not) received requests from Tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the Folsom area and the documented consultation is included in Section 4.16, *Tribal Cultural Resources,* of this IS/ND.

3.2 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by the proposed Project, involving at least one impact that is a potentially significant impact without mitigation, as indicated by the checklist.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Geology and Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials
☐ Noise & Vibration	☐ Parks & Recreation	☐ Population & Housing
☐ Public Services	☐ Transportation	☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
☐ Utilities & Services Systems	☐ Wildfire	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

3.3 Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☒ I find that the proposed Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION/FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT will be prepared.

☐ I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION/MITIGATED FINDING OF NO SIGNFICIANT IMPACT will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed Project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION/FINDING OF NO SIGNFICANT IMPACT pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier ENIVORNMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION/FINDING OF NO SIGNFICANT IMPACT, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed Project, nothing further is required.

Approved by: Barry L. Smith _____ 9/21/2022

Barry Smith, Gold Fields District Superintendent Date

4 Environmental Setting and Impact Analysis

4.1 Aesthetics

Regulatory Setting

California Scenic Highway Program

California's Scenic Highway Program was created by the State of California legislature in 1963 and is maintained by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).[16] Its purpose is to protect and enhance the natural scenic beauty of California highways and adjacent corridors through special conservation treatment. The Scenic Highway Program lists highways that are either eligible for designation as scenic highways or have been officially designated. The State laws governing the Scenic Highways Program are found in the Streets and Highways Code, Section 260 through 263.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to aesthetics are listed in Table 4.1-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Aesthetics*.

Table 4.1-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Aesthetics

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goal: Protection and enhancement of views and distinctive landscape features that contribute to the SRA's setting, character, and visitor experience.	
VISUAL-1	Expand recreation and interpretation opportunities associated with the visual and scenic resources of the SRA. Opportunities include view-oriented day use facilities and interpretive programming in key locations (e.g., Lake Overlook on Lake Natoma) and enhanced interpretation of distinctive landscape features (e.g., Natoma Bluffs, dredge tailings along Lake Natoma, and the Peninsula).
VISUAL-2	Work with local jurisdictions in the land use planning and development process to protect key views in the SRA from continued visual intrusion from surrounding development. This will include appropriate general plan land use designations, zoning to regulate such matters as building height and setbacks, ridgeline protection ordinances that help protect visual resources of the SRA, and rigorous development review and enforcement.
VISUAL-3	Coordinate the protection and enhancement of visual resources in the SRA with strategic efforts to enhance SRA holdings through land acquisition. Priority areas for protection and enhancement include undeveloped ridgelines and slopes facing the SRA to prevent visual intrusion from adjacent development. Such areas include the North and South Forks of the American Rivers and the Peninsula. Refer to the Park-wide Goals and Guidelines for Park Operations as they relate to land acquisition in the SRA.
VISUAL-4	Minimize existing elements that detract from the quality of views and scenic character of the SRA, including visual intrusion from adjacent development as well as facilities within the SRA. Strategies could include: - Planting to screen adjacent development, such as at Lake Overlook, Blue Ravine area of Lake Natoma, North Granite Bay, Brown's Ravine, and Folsom Point. - Planting and landscaped islands to mitigate the visual impact of large parking areas, such as at Granite Bay beach. - Planting to screen corporation yards within the SRA, such as at Nimbus Dam and Park Headquarters complex. - Removing or screening temporary storage containers used by concessionaires at several locations. Well-designed permanent structures could be used to replace containers. In locations where new restrooms or other facilities are being built, storage could be integrated.

[16] California Department of Transportation, 2022. Scenic Highways, https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways, accessed April 20, 2022.

Table 4.1-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Aesthetics

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
	- Improving and/or relocating security fencing to improve appearance and enhance views, such as at Lake Overlook, Folsom Powerhouse, and corporation yards. - Removing or reducing underutilized parking areas and other hard-surfaced areas as appropriate and restore with native vegetation. - Underground overhead electrical utilities as appropriate.
VISUAL-5	Buildings, structures, and landscaping developed within the park unit should be sited to be sensitive to scenic views from and into the park. Site facilities should minimize the impact on views from key viewpoints (e.g., Nimbus Flat, Lake Overlook, Black Miners Bar, Beals Point, Granite Bay, Brown's Ravine, and Folsom Point). Landscape design and planting should be used to visually buffer developed areas, enhance visual quality, and integrate the surrounding native landscape.
VISUAL-6	The maximum height for buildings and structures developed within the park unit generally shall be one story. Two-story structures may be permitted in limited instances (e.g., lifeguard tower, boathouse, visitor center, multi-use facility, etc.) consistent with the protection of scenic views.
VISUAL-7	Night lighting should generally be restricted to developed areas of the SRA (i.e., buildings, paths, parking lots, etc.) consistent with security and safety needs.
VISUAL-8	Lighting levels (i.e., intensity/foot-candles) should generally be kept as low as possible, consistent with public safety standards. Lighting should be hooded and focused downward to prevent the splay of ambient light to other areas. Where appropriate, consider the use of path-level or bollard-type fixtures to keep the light source close to the ground.
VISUAL-9	Work with local jurisdictions in the land use planning and development process to protect the SRA from existing and future ambient light sources in development adjacent to the SRA. This will include zoning to regulate lighting, submittal of lighting plans, and "dark sky" ordinances that help protect the visual resources of the SRA.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

Affected Environment

Located at the edge of the expanding Sacramento metropolitan area, the Plan Area is a significant visual and scenic resource that provides a natural and recreational respite from the region's urban and suburban character. Numerous scenic resources such as panoramic views, vista points, landscape features, and built features contribute to the visual experience for visitors. Public views of the Plan Area from external viewpoints are limited due to topography and heavy vegetation within the Plan Area and the nature of land ownership around it. There are no designated scenic highways within the Project area. State Route 49, approximately 5.5 miles east of the Plan Area, runs north to south and has been classified as eligible for designation.[17] There are many miles of trails throughout the Plan Area that link park facilities and accommodate a variety of users including walkers and hikers, horseback riders, cyclists, and mountain bikers. Currently, there are 122 miles of total system trails, of which 19.1 miles are paved.

Views and Vista Points

The Plan Area offers scenic panoramas of open grasslands, rolling hills, the Sierra Nevada range, the Sacramento Valley, and far field views of Mount Diablo to the west. The winding lake shoreline and varied topography provide a variety of viewpoint orientations and viewsheds. Lake Overlook, above Nimbus Dam, is the highest and best-known vista point within the park and provides sweeping views of Lake Natoma and the Sierra Foothills to the north, while the view south extends to the Sacramento Valley and Mount Diablo in the Bay Area.

[17] California Department of Transportation, 2018. California State Scenic Highway System Map, https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aacaa, accessed April 20, 2022.

Landscape Features

Lakes Folsom and Natoma serve as the basis of FLSRA. The scenic steep-walled gorge below Folsom Dam links the two lakes. The rugged Peninsula that separates the North and South Forks of the American River is visible from many parts of the Plan Area and contributes to a sense of wild undeveloped countryside due to limited development. Iron Mountain stands out on the eastern shore of Folsom Lake and a significant ridgeline rises above the water between North Granite and Horseshoe Bar on the western shore. Steep gorges on the North and South Forks extend towards the Sierra Foothills. The heavily vegetated shoreline along Lake Natoma is also an important landscape that shapes the character of the surrounding area and the Plan Area.

Distinctive Built Features

The damming of the American River at Folsom by Reclamation has resulted in a number of distinctive built features within the Plan Area, including Folsom Dam and Nimbus Dam. Associated structures include earthen levees that emerge from Folsom Dam and form the eastern and western shores at the south end of Folsom Lake. Other distinctive built features include the Historic Truss Bridge, the Rainbow Bridge, and the Lake Natoma crossing that cross the American River in Folsom. Located downstream of these three bridges is FPSHP. However, given its downslope location from the main roadway and the wooded condition of the site, it is not highly visible from surrounding areas.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	❒	❒	❒	■
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway?	❒	❒	❒	■
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	❒	❒	■	❒
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) If a road or trail alignment was altered to the degree that the existing views are changed or no longer accessible, there could be a potential impact. If a conspicuous structure were to be placed in a visually prominent location that is currently part of a scenic view, or if the landscape were to be substantially altered (e.g., removal of large sections of vegetation or geologic features), such that the scenic view would be substantially degraded, there could be a potential impact. The RTMP does not include any projects that propose buildings or other conspicuous structures. Furthermore, incorporation of SPR AES-1 would ensure that design and materials of road and trail modifications are consistent with the surrounding visual setting, including scenic views. Equipment and materials storage during construction would occur outside existing scenic viewsheds (SPR AES-2). There would be no impact.

b) There is no designated Scenic Highway within the Plan Area or adjacent to it. Therefore, would be no impact to scenic resources and historic buildings within a State scenic highway.

c) The visual character of the Plan Area varies greatly with the seasons and generally exhibits high scenic, and in many cases, substantial visual features (i.e., large trees, riparian areas, water bodies, etc.) that enhance the visual character of the park's roads and trails. The RTMP will serve as a management tool that will be used to manage the roads and trails to minimize impacts to the natural and cultural resources. New trails and route modifications, including re-engineering, minor realignments, and/or decommissioning (restoration to natural conditions) could be necessary for subsequent projects done pursuant to the RTMP. These road and trail improvements would be designed to minimize effects to the physical environment. For example, SPR BIO-21 requires minimizing removal of native trees, and avoidance of trees over 24 inches DBH. Also, qualifying projects would be designed to avoid substantial alteration to existing geological features and water bodies (see HYDRO and GEO SPRs). Therefore, subsequent projects would not substantially affect the existing visual character or features of the scenic landscape. Furthermore, SPRs AES-1 and AES-2 would ensure that design and materials used for road and/or trail modifications, as well as new trails, would be consistent with the surrounding visual character and that equipment and materials storage during construction would occur outside prominent viewsheds.

Projects qualifying for conditional approval could include minor physical alterations to existing roads and trails. Under the process, physical changes would be limited to decommissioning, minor trail widening or realignment, and other minor design improvements. Design improvements would avoid tree removal to the extent feasible, especially trees over 24-inches DBH (SPR BIO-21). Furthermore, qualifying conditional approval projects would not require removal or major alteration of existing landscapes or geologic features and the addition or removal of a user type from an existing road or trail would not substantially change visual character.

Future actions that are included in the RTMP include potential changes in use, reroutes, new connecter trail segments, and/or parking facilities. Detailed work plans for future road and trail segments and parking facilities will be prepared at the time when funding is available. Therefore, subsequent environmental review will be required to assess potential impacts on visual character resulting from physical changes to the routes to accommodate the change-in-use or new route alignments and features. In general, any impacts resulting from physical alterations to the routes or landscape will be addressed through implementation of SPRs AES-1 and AES-2 as noted above. The impact would be less than significant.

d) No additional permanent light source (e.g., lighting for a new emergency call box or trail head-area path lighting) will be installed as part of any road, trail segment or parking area improvements. Construction would generally occur only during daytime hours. Therefore, no temporary impacts from construction lighting would occur. Overall, light and glare generated by qualifying projects approved under the RTMP will not change substantially from existing conditions, and no impact would occur.

Applicable SPRs

AES-1: Projects will be designed to incorporate appropriate scenic and aesthetic values of FLSRA and FPSHP, including the choices for: specific building sites, scope and scale; building and fencing materials and colors; use of compatible aesthetic treatments on pathways, retaining walls or other ancillary structures; location of and materials used in parking areas, campsites and picnic areas; development of appropriate landscaping. The park's scenic and aesthetic values will also consider views into the park from neighboring properties.

AES-2: **[Insert who]** will store all project-related materials outside of the viewshed of **[insert name of street/place/building].**

BIO-21: All projects will be designed to minimize the removal of native trees. Specifically, projects will be designed to retain and protect trees 24 inches diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) or greater to the maximum extent practicable. Limbs of these trees will be removed if required for access or safety considerations. Trees smaller than 24 inches DBH will be retained whenever practicable. Equipment operators will be required to avoid striking retained trees to minimize damage to the tree structure or bark.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.2 Air Quality

Regulatory Setting

Ambient Air Quality Standards

The federal Clean Air Act (CAA; 42 USC Sections 7401 – 7671q) was passed in 1963 by the United States Congress and has been amended several times. The 1970 federal CAA amendments strengthened previous legislation and laid the foundation for the regulatory scheme of the 1970s and 1980s. In 1977, Congress again added several provisions, including nonattainment requirements for areas not meeting National Ambient Air Quality Standards (AAQS) and the Prevention of Significant Deterioration program. The 1990 amendments represent the latest in a series of federal efforts to regulate the protection of air quality in the United States. The CAA allows states to adopt more stringent standards or to include other pollution species. The California CAA, signed into law in 1988, requires all areas of the State to achieve and maintain the California AAQS by the earliest practical date. The California AAQS tend to be more restrictive than the National AAQS.

The National and California AAQS are the levels of air quality considered to provide a margin of safety in the protection of the public health and welfare. They are designed to protect "sensitive receptors" most susceptible to further respiratory distress, such as asthmatics, the elderly, very young children, people already weakened by other disease or illness, and persons engaged in strenuous work or exercise. Healthy adults can tolerate occasional exposure to air pollutant concentrations considerably above these minimum standards before adverse effects are observed.

Both California and the federal government have established health-based AAQS for seven air pollutants, which are shown in Table 4.2-1, *Ambient Air Quality Standards for Criteria Pollutants*. These pollutants are ozone (O_3), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), coarse inhalable particulate matter (PM_{10}), fine inhalable particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$), and lead (Pb). In addition, the State has set standards for sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, vinyl chloride, and visibility-reducing particles. These standards are designed to protect the health and welfare of the populace with a reasonable margin of safety.

California has also adopted a host of other regulations that reduce criteria pollutant emissions, including:

- AB 1493 (Pavley): Pavley Fuel Efficiency Standards
- Title 20, CCR: Applicant Energy Efficiency Standards
- Title 24, Part 6, CCR: Building Energy Efficiency Standards
- Title 24, Part 11, CCR: Green Building Standards Code

Table 4.2-1 Ambient Air Quality Standards for Criteria Pollutants

Pollutant	Averaging Time	California Standard	Federal Primary Standard	Major Pollutant Sources
Ozone (O_3)[c]	1 hour	0.09 ppm	*	Motor vehicles, paints, coatings, and solvents.
	8 hours	0.070 ppm	0.070 ppm	
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1 hour	20 ppm	35 ppm	Internal combustion engines, primarily gasoline-powered motor vehicles.
	8 hours	9.0 ppm	9 ppm	
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)	Annual Arithmetic Mean	0.030 ppm	0.053 ppm	Motor vehicles, petroleum-refining operations, industrial sources, aircraft, ships, and railroads.
	1 hour	0.18 ppm	0.100 ppm	
Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2)	Annual Arithmetic Mean	*	0.030 ppm	Fuel combustion, chemical plants, sulfur recovery plants, and metal processing.
	1 hour	0.25 ppm	0.075 ppm	

	24 hours	0.04 ppm	0.14 ppm	
Respirable Coarse Particulate Matter (PM_{10})	Annual Arithmetic Mean	20 µg/m^3	*	Dust and fume-producing construction, industrial, and agricultural operations, combustion, atmospheric photochemical reactions, and natural activities (e.g., wind-raised dust and ocean sprays).
	24 hours	50 µg/m^3	150 µg/m^3	
Respirable Fine Particulate Matter ($PM_{2.5}$)[d]	Annual Arithmetic Mean	12 µg/m^3	12 µg/m^3	Dust and fume-producing construction, industrial, and agricultural operations, combustion, atmospheric photochemical reactions, and natural activities (e.g., wind-raised dust and ocean sprays).
	24 hours	*	35 µg/m^3	
Lead (Pb)	30-Day Average	1.5 µg/m^3	*	Present source: lead smelters, battery manufacturing & recycling facilities. Past source: combustion of leaded gasoline.
	Calendar Quarter	*	1.5 µg/m^3	
	Rolling 3-Month Average	*	0.15 µg/m^3	
Sulfates (SO_4)[e]	24 hours	25 µg/m^3	*	Industrial processes.
Visibility Reducing Particles	8 hours	ExCo =0.23/km visibility of 10≥ miles	No Federal Standard	Visibility-reducing particles consist of suspended particulate matter, which is a complex mixture of tiny particles that consists of dry solid fragments, solid cores with liquid coatings, and small droplets of liquid. These particles vary greatly in shape, size and chemical composition, and can be made up of many different materials such as metals, soot, soil, dust, and salt.
Hydrogen Sulfide	1 hour	0.03 ppm	No Federal Standard	Hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) is a colorless gas with the odor of rotten eggs. It is formed during bacterial decomposition of sulfur-containing organic substances. Also, it can be present in sewer gas and some natural gas, and can be emitted as the result of geothermal energy exploitation.
Vinyl Chloride	24 hours	0.01 ppm	No Federal Standard	Vinyl chloride (chloroethene), a chlorinated hydrocarbon, is a colorless gas with a mild, sweet odor. Most vinyl chloride is used to make polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic and vinyl products. Vinyl chloride has been detected near landfills, sewage plants, and hazardous waste sites, due to microbial breakdown of chlorinated solvents.

Notes: ppm: parts per million; µg/m3; micrograms per cubic meter; *Standard has not been established for this pollutant/duration by this entity.

a. California standards for O3, CO (except 8-hour Lake Tahoe), SO2 (1 and 24 hour), NO2, and particulate matter (PM10, PM2.5, and visibility reducing particles), are values that are not to be exceeded. All others are not to be equaled or exceeded. California ambient air quality standards are listed in the Table of Standards in Section 70200 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations.

b. National standards (other than O3, PM, and those based on annual arithmetic mean) are not to be exceeded more than once a year. The O3 standard is attained when the fourth highest 8-hour concentration measured at each site in a year, averaged over three years, is equal to or less than the standard. For PM10, the 24-hour standard is attained when the expected number of days per calendar year with a 24-hour average concentration above 150 µg/m3 is equal to or less than one. For PM2.5, the 24-hour standard is attained when 98 percent of the daily concentrations, averaged over three years, are equal to or less than the standard.

c. On October 1, 2015, the national 8-hour ozone primary and secondary standards were lowered from 0.075 to 0.070 ppm.

d. On December 14, 2012, the national annual PM2.5 primary standard was lowered from 15 µg/m3 to 12.0 µg/m3. The existing national 24-hour PM2.5 standards (primary and secondary) were retained at 35 µg/m3, as was the annual secondary standard of 15 µg/m3. The existing 24-hour PM10 standards (primary and secondary) of 150 µg/m3 also were retained. The form of the annual primary and secondary standards is the annual mean, averaged over 3 years.

e. On June 2, 2010, a new 1-hour SO2 standard was established and the existing 24-hour and annual primary standards were revoked. The 1-hour national standard is in units of parts per billion (ppb). California standards are in units of parts per million (ppm). To directly compare the 1-hour national standard to the California standard the units can be converted to ppm. In this case, the national standard of 75 ppb is identical to 0.075 ppm.

Sacramento Area Council of Governments 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the 28 cities of the Sacramento region, which includes El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties. SACOG adopted the *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy (MTP/SCS)* on November 18, 2019.[18] The *2020 MTP/SCS* lays out a transportation investment and land use strategy to support of prosperous region, with access to jobs and economic opportunity, transportation options, and affordable housing that works for all residents. The plan also lays out a path for improving air quality, preserving open space and natural resources, and helping California achieve its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. One of the key goals of the *2020 MTP/SCS* is to foster the next generation of mobility solutions to improve travel times, traffic congestion, air quality, and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

California Air Resources Board and Air Quality Control Districts

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) coordinates and oversees both State and federal air quality control programs in California. Air quality within the Project site is administered by three air quality control districts: the El Dorado County Air Pollution Control District, the Placer County Air Pollution Control District, and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. These three air quality control districts are responsible for regulation air pollution from stationary and indirect sources and for monitoring ambient air pollutant emissions.

The 2008 federal 8-hour ozone National AAQS lowered the health-based limit for ambient ozone. In July 2017, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District adopted the *Sacramento Regional 2008 NAAQS 8-Hour Ozone Attainment and Further Reasonable Progress Plan* and CARB adopted the *2018 Updates to the California State Implementation Plan* in October 2018 in response to court decisions that the 2017 Plan required updates.[19, 20] The three air districts the Project site falls in defers to these Plans, as they are part of the designated nonattainment area referred to as the Sacramento Federal Nonattainment Area (SFNA). The Plans demonstrate how the SFNA will meet the CAA reasonable further progress requirements and demonstrate attainment of the 2008 ozone National AAQS.

In 1994, the USEPA classified Sacramento County as a moderate nonattainment area for the 24-hour PM_{10} National AAQS. In order to be reclassified as an attainment area, the CAA Section 175 requires attainment and maintenance of the National AAQS for 20 years, demonstrated in two consecutive 10-year maintenance periods. In October 2010, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District prepared the *PM_{10} Implementation/Maintenance Plan and Redesignation Request for Sacramento County* and followed with the *Second 10-Year PM_{10} Maintenance Plan for Sacramento County* in August 2021, showing maintenance of the 24-hour PM_{10} National AAQS from 2013 through 2023 and 2024 through 2033, respectively.[21, 22]

[18] Sacramento Area Council of Governments, November 2019. *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS)*, https://www.sacog.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/2020_mtp-scs.pdf?1580330993, accessed April 25, 2022.

[19] Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, July 24, 2017. *Sacramento Regional 2008 NAAQS 8-Hour Ozone Attainment and Further Reasonable Progress Plan*, http://www.airquality.org/ProgramCoordination/Documents/Sac%20Regional%202008%20NAAQS%20Attainment%20and%20RFP%20Plan.pdf, accessed April 28, 2022.

[20] California Air Resources Board, October 25, 2018. *2018 Updates to the California State Implementation Plan,* https://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/sip/2018sipupdate/2018update.pdf?_ga=2.9972277.1604140644.1651775000-1469481572.1631726899, accessed May 5, 2022.

[21] Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, October 28, 2010. *PM_{10} Implementation/Maintenance Plan and Redesignation Request for Sacramento County,* http://www.airquality.org/ProgramCoordination/Documents/10)%20%20PM10%20Imp%20and%20MP%202010.pdf, accessed May 5, 2022.

[22] Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, July 2021. *Second 10-Year PM_{10} Maintenance Plan for Sacramento County*, http://www.airquality.org/ProgramCoordination/Documents/PM10%20Second%20MP%20Final%20Draft%202021-07-23.pdf, accessed May 5, 2022.

Affected Environment

Air quality at the Plan Area is not only affected by various emissions sources (mobile, industry, etc.) but is also affected by atmospheric conditions such as wind speed and direction, temperature, and rainfall. California is divided geographically into air basins for which districts have the purpose of managing the air resources of the state on a local and regional basis. An air basin generally has similar meteorological and geographic conditions throughout that area. The Plan Area is located within the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB) and Mountain Counties Air Basin (MCAB). These basins are under the jurisdiction of the USEPA Region IX.[23] In recent years, these basins have experienced seasonal smokey periods as wildfires increase in the region, resulting in poorer air quality.

CARB coordinates and oversees State air pollution control management agencies and programs. It maintains air quality monitoring stations in areas throughout the State in conjunction with the USEPA and local air districts. An area is designated in attainment when it complies with the National or State AAQS. El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties each have nonattainment status for PM10 and Ozone pollutants according to California standards.

Sacramento Valley Air Basin

Air quality in the SVAB is heavily influenced by weather conditions. Winters in the SVAB are generally wet and cool while summers are hot and dry. The SVAB is surrounded by the Cascade mountain range to the north, Sierra Nevada mountain range to the east, and the Coastal Range to the west. Wind from the coastal area is channeled northward from the south of Sacramento County, transporting pollutants from the Sacramento metropolitan area into Placer County and other northern counties. The primary source of emissions in the Sacramento metropolitan area is on-road vehicles.[24] The vertical dispersion of air pollutants in the SVAB is limited by the presence of persistent temperature inversions.

The prevailing wind in Sacramento County is from the south due to marine breezes through the Carquinez Strait, a sea-level gap between the Coast Range and the Diablo Mountain ranges. However, during the winter, sea breezes diminish and winds originating from the north occur more frequently. Between late spring and early fall, a layer of warm air often covers a layer of cool air from the Delta and San Francisco Bay, resulting in an inversion.

The other portion within the SVAB is located within Placer County. Summer months in the County are characterized by moderate dry days and cool nights. During the summer, the temperature varies between low-lying valley and high-country areas. Valley temperatures are typically higher than mountain temperatures. The rainy season in Placer County occurs between November and April, but excessive rainfall and damaging windstorms are rare.

Mountain Counties Air Basin

The MCAB lies along the northern Sierra Nevada Mountain range, close to the Nevada border. The climate of the MCAB is influenced by the foothill and mountainous terrain, varying considerably with elevation and proximity to the Sierra ridge. The topography of mountains and hills causes a wide variation of rainfall, temperature, and localized wind throughout the MCAB. Regional air flows are affected by the mountains and hills, which direct surface flows, cause shallow vertical mixing and hinder dispersion, creating areas of high pollutant concentrations. In the summer, the strong upwind valley of air flowing from the Central Valley to the west into the MCAB transports ozone precursors and ozone generated in the Bay Area and Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys, contributing significantly to the region's inability to attain mandated ambient air quality standards (AAQS). These

[23] United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2020. EPA Region 9 (Pacific Southwest), https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-9-pacific-southwest, accessed May 5, 2022.

[24] California Air Resources Board, 2019. 2012 Estimated Annual Average Emissions, https://www.arb.ca.gov/app/emsinv/2017/emseic1_query.php?F_DIV=-4&F_YR=2012&F_SEASON=A&SP=SIP105ADJ&F_COAB=Y&F_AREA=CO&F_CO=34&F_DD=Y, accessed May 5, 2022.

transported pollutants are the predominant cause of ozone in the MCAB and are largely responsible for the exceedances of State and federal AAQS, resulting in their designation of "ozone impacted."[25]

A portion of the Plan Area lies within the MCAB portion in El Dorado County. The climate is marked by hot, dry summers and cool, moist winters. The western portion of El Dorado County that encompasses the Plan Area has higher temperature and lower annual rainfall than the central and eastern portions.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	❒	❒	❒	■
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under applicable federal or State ambient air quality standard?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	❒	❒	■	❒
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) The proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the *Sacramento Regional 8-Hour Ozone Attainment and Reasonable Further Progress Plan* prepared by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and it's accommodating *2018 Updates to the California State Implementation Plan* prepared by CARB. The main objective of these plans is to demonstrate how existing and new control strategies will provide the necessary future emission reductions to meet the federal CAA requirements for reasonable further progress and attainment of the 1997 8-hour ozone National AAQS for the Sacramento region.[26] The proposed Project would also not conflict with or obstruct the *Second 10-Year PM_{10} Maintenance Plan for Sacramento County* prepared by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality District. The plan includes updated emission inventories, demonstrates maintenance of the PM_{10} standards, provides an updated control measure evaluation, and establishes new motor vehicle emissions budgets.[27] Therefore, because the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of an applicable air quality plan, there would be no impact.

[25] El Dorado County Air Pollution Control District, February 2002. El Dorado County APCD – CEQA Guide, Chapter 2, Air Quality of El Dorado County, https://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/documents/Chapter2_RF6.pdf, accessed May 5, 2022.

[26] Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, July 24, 2017. *Sacramento Regional 2008 NAAQS 8-Hour Ozone Attainment and Further Reasonable Progress Plan*, http://www.airquality.org/ProgramCoordination/Documents/Sac%20Regional%202008%20NAAQS%20Attainment%20and%20RFP%20Plan.pdf, accessed April 28, 2022.

[27] Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, July 2021. *Second 10-Year PM_{10} Maintenance Plan for Sacramento County*, http://www.airquality.org/ProgramCoordination/Documents/PM10%20Second%20MP%20Final%20Draft%202021-07-23.pdf, accessed May 5, 2022.

b) The Plan Area is located within a region of nonattainment for ozone according to Federal and State AAQS and PM_{10} according to State AAQS.[28] The major sources of PM_{10} are combustion (e.g., wood smoke, emissions from industry, automobiles, and diesel engines) and dust (e.g., airborne soil, road dust caused by vehicle travel), both of which have the potential to be emitted during subsequent maintenance and construction activities carried out pursuant to the RTMP. Additionally, ozone is a secondary pollutant formed by chemical reactions in the presence of sunlight between pollutants emitted by cars, power plants, industrial boilers, refineries, chemical plants, and other sources.

As maintenance and construction activities under the RTMP would include temporary usage of construction equipment, material transport, clearing of vegetation or excavation for new trails, emissions of ozone precursors and generation of fugitive dust is anticipated. Regardless, maintenance and construction activities already occur and will continue to occur with or without approval of the RTMP.

Minor increases in criteria pollutants could also result from additional vehicle trips if the RTMP results in an increase in visitation. As discussed in Section 2.11, *Visitation to Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park*, it is estimated that the park use will see an approximately 12 percent increase by the year 2035. However, the RTMP works to address capacity issues addressed in the General Plan. The RTMP is a management tool to identify and prioritize future improvements to existing facilities. The timing and implementation of projects under the RTMP would shape the location and timing of additional visits. One of the parkwide recommendations of the RTMP is to acquire lands or access rights to Folsom area parks and regional trails. External trail connections would allow for new means of access to the park and would encourage non-vehicular access.

Additionally, activities undertaken pursuant to the RTMP are temporary in nature and likely spread out over a long period of time. With the inclusion of appropriate air quality SPRs (SPR AQ-1 through AQ-15), the proposed Project would not have a cumulative net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Plan Area is in nonattainment under applicable federal or State AAQS. Impacts would be less than significant.

c) The proposed Project consists of a guiding document for park managers, staff, and volunteers who construct trail improvements, maintain or repair existing roads and trails, or are otherwise involved with road and trail issues. While trail maintenance, conversions, removal, and construction would happen with or without approval of the RTMP, this document establishes orderly goals for the overall trail system. Additionally, the RTMP establishes guidelines for appropriate trail uses, trail closures and reroutes, road and trail maintenance and repair activities, trail interpretation, and a route monitoring system. There are no sensitive receptors such as schools, hospitals, or hospice care facilities within the Plan Area. Nearby sensitive receptors within communities and cities that surround the Plan Area are all separated from the park by roadways, freeways, or urban development. For this reason, the impact from the proposed actions would be less than significant.

d) The proposed Project consists only of a guiding document for road and trail planning, management, and maintenance. Subsequent trail construction that may result from approval of this document will not create objectionable odors for any individuals. Therefore, there would be no impact.

Applicable SPRs

AQ-1: No more than 1.0 acre of ground disturbance (e.g., earth moving, grading, excavation, land clearing) will occur in any single day.

[28] California Air Resources Board, 2022. Maps of State and Federal Area Designations, https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/maps-state-and-federal-area-designations, accessed May 5, 2022.

AQ-2: Prior to any ground disturbance, including grading, excavating, and land clearing, sufficient water must be applied to the area to be disturbed to minimize fugitive dust emissions if existing ground moisture is insufficient.

AQ-3: Unpaved areas subject to vehicle travel and areas subject to mechanical grading, excavation, land clearing, or other forms of ground disturbance will be stabilized by being kept wet, treated with a chemical dust suppressant, or covered if existing ground moisture is insufficient to minimize fugitive dust emissions. Exposed areas will not be overwatered such that watering results in runoff. Unpaved areas subject to vehicle travel could also be stabilized through the effective application of gravel or through watering.

AQ-4: Suitable vegetative ground cover will be established on exposed, disturbed surfaces through seeding and watering as soon as possible (consistent with the Departments Genetic Integrity Policy for revegetation), except for areas intended to be used as roads/trails or for parking or staging. If a vegetated ground cover is not suitable to the area, then this requirement does not apply.

AQ-5: Storage piles and disturbed areas not subject to vehicular traffic must be stabilized by being kept wet, treated with a chemical dust suppressant, or covered when material is not being added to or removed from the pile.

AQ-6: The speed of construction-related trucks, vehicles, and equipment traveling on unpaved areas will be limited to 15 miles per hour (mph).

AQ-7: All trucks or light equipment hauling soil, sand, or other earthen materials on public roads to or from the site will be covered or required to maintain at least two feet of freeboard.

AQ-8: Off-road construction equipment and on-road haul trucks leaving the park will be cleaned onsite to prevent silt, mud, and dirt, from being released or tracked off-site, as dictated by controlling agencies.

AQ-9: All visible dust, silt, or mud tracked-out on to public paved roadways as a result of construction-related activities will be removed at the conclusion of each construction workday, or a minimum of every 24 hours for continuous construction operations.

AQ-10: Excavation, grading, land clearing, other mechanical ground disturbance, and demolition activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 15 mph and/or instantaneous gusts exceed 25 mph or when dust from construction might obscure driver visibility on public roads.

AQ-11: Where a change-in-use results in vehicle travel on unpaved roads and other unpaved services, signs shall be posted limiting vehicle travel to 15 mph.

AQ-12: Construction-related ground disturbance activities will not be performed in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos" according to maps and guidance published by the California Geological Survey (CGS), formerly the California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology. This determination would be based on a CGS publication titled A General Location Guide for Ultramafic Rocks in California – Areas More Likely to Contain Naturally Occurring Asbestos (Churchill and Hill 2000), or whatever more current guidance from CGS exists at the time the change-in-use project is evaluated. Work shall comply with the guidelines of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for conducting work in NOA areas. Any NOA-related guidance provided by the applicable local air district shall also be followed. If a site-specific investigation identifies the presence of NOA, then an Asbestos Dust Control Plan will be developed and implemented in accordance with Section 93105 of the California Health and Safety Code.

AQ-13: New trail or road alignments will not be located in areas identified as “moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos” according to maps and guidance published by the CGS unless a site-specific investigation performed by a Registered Geologist confirms that NOA-containing rock or dirt is not exposed at the surface of the trail. Alternatively, any trail or road alignments that are not located over areas where NOA is \exposed at the surface will be covered with an appropriate material, depending on the intended use of the trail that would prevent entrainment of asbestos-containing dust into the air. Possible methods of covering NOA-containing material on the surface include paving and graveling with non-NOA-containing gravel.

AQ-14: Operation of large diesel- or gasoline-powered construction equipment (i.e., greater than 50 horsepower) will not exceed 60 equipment-hours per day, where an equipment-hour is defined as one piece of equipment operating for one hour (daily CAPs, TACs, GHGs).

AQ-15: All diesel- and gasoline-powered equipment will be properly maintained according to manufacturer's specifications, and in compliance with all State and federal emissions requirements. Maintenance records will be available at the construction site for verification.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.3 Biological Resources

Regulatory Setting

Federal Endangered Species Act

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) are responsible for implementation of the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA; 16 USC Section 1531 et seq.). The act protects fish and wildlife species that are listed as threatened or endangered, and their habitats. “Endangered” species, subspecies, or distinct population segments are those that are in danger of extinction through all or a significant portion of their range, and “threatened” species, subspecies, or distinct population segments are likely to become endangered in the near future.

Section 9 of the FESA prohibits the “take” of any fish or wildlife species listed as threatened or endangered, including the destruction of habitat that prevents the species’ recovery. “Take” is defined as an action or attempt to hunt, harm, harass, pursue, shoot, wound, capture, kill, trap, or collect a species. Although the ESA Section 9 take prohibition applies only to fish and wildlife species, Section 9 does prohibit the unlawful removal and reduction to possession, or malicious damage or destruction, of any endangered plant from federal land. Section 9 prohibits acts to remove, cut, dig up, damage, or destroy an endangered plant species in nonfederal areas in knowing violation of any State law or in the course of criminal trespass. Candidate species and species that are proposed or under petition for listing receive no protection under FESA Section 9.

Essential Fish Habitat

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) was defined by the U.S. Congress in the 1996 amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 USC Section 1801 et seq.), or Magnuson-Stevens Act, as "those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity." Implementing regulations clarified that waters include all aquatic areas and their physical, chemical, and biological properties; substrate includes the associated biological communities that make these areas suitable for fish habitats, and the description and identification of EFH should include habitats used at any time during the species' life cycle. EFH includes all types of aquatic habitat, such as wetlands, coral reefs, sand, seagrasses, and rivers.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA; 16 USC Section 703) prohibits killing, possessing, or trading of migratory birds except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. The MBTA protects whole birds, parts of birds, and bird eggs and nests; and prohibits the possession of all nests of protected bird species whether they are active or inactive. An active nest is defined as having eggs or young, as described by the Department of the Interior in its April 16, 2003, *Migratory Bird Permit Memorandum*.[29] Nest starts (nests that are under construction and do not yet contain eggs) are not protected from destruction. All native bird species that occur on the project site are protected under the MBTA.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (16 USC Sections 668 – 668c) provides for the protection of bald eagles and golden eagles by prohibiting the take, possession, sale, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, of any bald or golden eagle, alive or dead, including any part, nest, or egg, unless allowed by permit. The USFWS may authorize take of bald eagles and golden eagles for activities where the take is associated with, but not the purpose of, the activity and cannot practicably be avoided.

[29] United States Department of the Interior, April 15, 2003. *Migratory Bird Permit Memorandum*, https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/m0208.pdf, accessed April 21, 2022.

Clean Water Act

The federal Clean Water Act (CWA; 33 USC Section 1251 et seq.) is the primary federal law regulating water quality. Implementing the CWA is the responsibility of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The USEPA depends on other agencies, such as individual state governments and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), to assist in implementing the CWA. The objective of the CWA is to "restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." Sections 401 and 404 apply to activities that would impact waters of the United States (such as creeks, ponds, wetlands, etc.).

The USACE, the federal agency charged with investigating, developing, and maintaining the country's water and related resources, is responsible under Section 404 of the CWA for regulating the discharge of fill material into waters of United States.[30] Their lateral limits are defined in Part 328.3(a) of Title 33 of the CFR and include streams that are tributaries to navigable waters and adjacent wetlands. The lateral limits of jurisdiction for a non-tidal stream are measured at the line of the Ordinary High-Water Mark or the limit of adjacent wetlands. Any permanent extension of the limits of an existing water of the United States, whether natural or human-made, results in a similar extension of USACE jurisdiction.

In general, a USACE permit must be obtained before an individual project can place fill or grade in wetlands or other waters of the United States and mitigation for such actions will be required based on the conditions of the USACE permit. The USACE is required to consult with the USFWS and/or the NMFS under Section 7 of the FESA if the action being permitted under the CWA could affect federally listed species.

Pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, projects that require a USACE permit for discharge of dredge or fill material must obtain a water quality certification or waiver that confirms the project complies with State water quality standards, or a no-action determination, before the USACE permit is valid.[31] State water quality is regulated and administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). In order for the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) to issue a 401 certification, a project must be evaluated in compliance with CEQA.

California Fish and Game Code

The California Fish and Game Code (FGC) establishes the jurisdiction of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) over conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainability of protected species populations.[32] Under the California FGC, the CDFW provides protection from "take" for a variety of species. FGC Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515 designate wildlife species as Fully Protected in California and prohibits "take" and possession of any of the listed species. FGC Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 protect native birds and prohibits "take," possession, or destruction of nest of eggs of any birds.

The CDFW also protects streams, water bodies, and riparian corridors through the Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement process under FGC Section 1602. The California FGC stipulates that it is "unlawful to substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel or bank of any river, stream or lake" without notifying the CDFW, incorporating necessary mitigation, and obtaining a Streambed Alteration Agreement. CDFW's jurisdiction extends to the top of banks and often includes the outer edge of riparian vegetation canopy cover.

[30] United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Jurisdictional-Determination/Section-404-of-the-Clean-Water-Act/#:~:text=Section%20404%20of%20the%20Clean%20Water%20Act%20requires%20authorization%20from,the%20United%20States%2C%20including%20wetlands., accessed April 21, 2022.

[31] United States Environmental Protection Agency, Overview of CWA Section 401 Certification, https://www.epa.gov/cwa-401/overview-cwa-section-401-certification, accessed April 21, 2022.

[32] California Legislative Information, 2022. Fish and Game Code – FGC, https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codesTOCSelected.xhtml?tocCode=FGC&tocTitle=+Fish+and+Game+Code+-+FGC, accessed April 21, 2022.

California Endangered Species Act

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA; FGC Section 2050 et seq.) establishes State policy to conserve, protect, restore, and enhance threatened or endangered species and their habitats. The CESA mandates that State agencies should not approve projects that jeopardize the continued existence of threatened or endangered species if reasonable and prudent alternatives are available that would avoid jeopardy. For projects that would affect a species that is on the federal and State lists, compliance with the FESA satisfies the CESA if the CDFW determines that the federal incidental take authorization is consistent with the CESA under FGC Section 2080.1. For projects that would result in take of a species that is only State listed, the project proponent may apply for a take permit under FGC Section 2081(b).

California Native Plant Protection Act

The California Native Plant Protection Act of 1977 (FGC Sections 1900 – 1913), prohibits importation of rare and endangered plants into California, "take" of rare and endangered plants, and sale of rare and endangered plants. The CESA defers to the California Native Plant Protection Act, which ensures that State-listed plant species are protected when State agencies are involved in projects subject to CEQA. In this case, plants listed as rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act are not protected under the CESA but rather under CEQA.

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a non-governmental conservation organization that has developed a list of plants of special concern in California. The following explains the designations for each plant species:[33]

- Rank 1A – Plants Presumed Extirpated in California and Either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere
- Rank 1B – Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere
- Rank 2A – Plants Presumed Extirpated in California, But Common Elsewhere
- Rank 2B – Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, But More Common Elsewhere
- Rank 3 – Plants About Which More Information is Needed - A Review List
- Rank 4 – Plants of Limited Distribution – A Watch List

Although the CNPS is not a regulatory agency and plants on these lists have no formal regulatory protection, plants with a Ranking of 1A through 2B may be considered to meet the definition of endangered, rare, or threatened species under Section 15380(d) of CEQA and impacts to these species may be considered "significant."

In addition, the CDFW recommends, and local governments may require, protection of species which are regionally significant, such as locally rare species, disjunct populations, essential nesting and roosting habitat for more common wildlife species, or plants with a CNPS Ranking of 3 and 4.

California Natural Communities

Sensitive natural communities are natural community types considered to be rare or of a "high inventory priority" by the CDFW.[34] Although sensitive natural communities have no legal protective status under the federal ESA or CESA, they are provided some level of consideration under Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines identifies potential impacts on a sensitive natural community as one of six criteria to consider in determining the significance of a proposed project. While no thresholds are established as part of this criterion, it serves as an acknowledgement that sensitive natural communities are an important resource and, depending on their rarity, should be recognized as part of the environmental review process. The level of significance of a project's impact on any particular sensitive natural community will depend on that natural community's relative abundance and rarity.

[33] California Native Plant Society, 2022. CNPS Rare Plant Ranks, https://www.cnps.org/rare-plants/cnps-rare-plant-ranks, accessed April 21, 2022.

[34] California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022. Natural Communities, https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/VegCAMP/Natural-Communities, accessed April 21, 2022.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code [WAT] Section 13000 et seq.) authorizes the RWQCB to regulate the discharge of waste that could affect the quality of the State's waters. Projects that do not require a federal permit may still require review and approval by the RWQCB. The RWQCB focuses on ensuring that projects do not adversely affect the "beneficial uses" associated with waters of the State. In most cases, the RWQCB requires the integration of water quality control measures into projects that will require discharge into waters of the State. For most construction projects, the RWQCB requires the use of construction and post-construction best management practices (BMP).

Placer Legacy Open Space and Agricultural Conservation Program

Placer Legacy is intended to protect and conserve open space and agricultural lands in Placer County.[35] Objectives include maintaining a viable agricultural segment of the economy, conserving natural features necessary for access to a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities, retaining important scenic and historic areas, preserving the diversity of plant and animal communities, protecting endangered and other special status plant and animal species, separating urban areas into distinct communities, and ensuring public safety.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan/Resource Management Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to biological resources are listed in Table 4.3-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Biological Resources*.

Table 4.3-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Biological Resources

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goal: Preserve and restore native plant communities within the unit.	
PLANTS-1	Pre-screen potential locations of new construction or site alteration activities based on the potential for special status plants to occur. Conduct site-specific surveys by a qualified biologist in areas with potential habitat for special status plants. If special status plants are present, the goal is to avoid impacts to populations of special status species. If avoidance is not possible, mitigate as required and appropriate.
PLANTS-2	Develop and implement vegetation management plans, programs and actions for the unit that will achieve the following: - Protect threatened and under-protected vegetation communities such as chapparal, oak woodlands and savanna, vernal pools, and riparian areas. - Develop and implement proactive management strategies to protect unit resources against exotic invasive pathogens such as sudden oak death syndrome; - Locate, plan and design future facility development to avoid or minimize impacts to chaparral, oak woodlands and savanna, vernal pools, and riparian communities; and - Protect special status plant species and their habitats that occur within the unit.
PLANTS-3	Implement a prescribed fire program within the unit that utilizes the Unit-wide Prescribed Fire Management Plan to set priorities and to develop and implement recommended burn plans. Prescribed fire within the unit should be used primarily to maintain and restore native vegetation communities and to control invasive exotic species. Fuel reduction to reduce wildfire risk is a secondary benefit. In urban/wildland interfaces use shaded fuel breaks and other strategies that balance fuel management with the protection of native plant communities.
PLANTS-4	Where prescribed burning is determined infeasible, develop appropriate alternative management actions for grasslands and woodlands.

[35] County of Placer, Community Development Resource Agency, June 2000. *Placer Legacy Open Space and Agricultural Conservation Program*, https://www.placer.ca.gov/3420/Placer-Legacy, accessed April 20, 2022.

Table 4.3-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Biological Resources

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
PLANTS-5	Rare, threatened, endangered or other special status plant species will not be used for revegetation unless the revegetation is part of a restoration plan for that species. Native species extirpated from the unit may be restored when the following conditions are met: there is adequate habitat to support the species and eventually allow it to be self-perpetuating; the genetic type used in restoration most nearly approximates the extirpated genetic type; and the extirpation of the species was the result of human induced change rather than natural process. The most likely areas for special status or extirpated native plant restoration are the Conservation and Preservation Areas.
Goal: Prevent the introduction and control the spread of invasive exotic plants within the unit. Eradicate invasive exotic species where practicable and feasible.	
PLANTS-6	Develop a long-term invasive exotic plant management plan and implementation program for both natural and disturbed areas in the unit in accordance with the guidelines in Appendix B. The program should: - Build on the Resources Inventory to identify and more specifically map invasive species; - Prioritize areas for treatment; and - Recommend methods of treatment and long term management, including manual, mechanical, biological, and chemical removal.
PLANTS-7	Implement a proactive aquatic weed management program that identifies and treats infestations before they have an opportunity to spread, in accordance with the guidelines in Appendix B.
PLANTS-8	Where necessary and as appropriate, coordinate with other agencies (e.g., Western Area Power Administration), weed management groups and organizations, and adjacent Counties and jurisdictions in developing and implementing programs and projects to treat and control invasive exotic plant species.
Goal: Preserve and restore wildlife habitat and wildlife populations.	
WILDLIFE-1	Pre-screen potential locations of new construction or site alteration activities based on the potential for special status wildlife to occur. Conduct site-specific assessments or protocol-level surveys by a qualified biologist in areas with potential habitat for special status wildlife. If special status wildlife species or their habitats are found to be present, the goal is to avoid impacts to the extent feasible, as may be required by California Department of Fish and Game and/or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If avoidance is not feasible, mitigate as required and appropriate.
WILDLIFE-2	Ensure that wildlife management and protection plants, programs, and actions are consistent with State Parks goals for biodiversity.
WILDLIFE-3	Protect and restore important, under-protected, and sensitive habitat resources, including vernal pools and wetlands, riparian areas, and wildlife corridors.
WILDLIFE-4	Monitor, develop, and implement protective actions and strategies for heron/egret rookeries and roosting sites, as per RIPARIAN-15 through RIPARIAN-17.
WILDLIFE-5	Conduct field surveys within designated Conservation and Preservation areas to determine presence of special status animal species that may exist in the park, including California horned lizard; burrowing owl; loggerhead shrike; vernal pool fairy shrimp; tadpole shrimp; valley elderberry longhorn beetle; western pond turtle; and red-legged frog foothill yellow-legged frog. Prioritize surveys by likelihood of presence and potential threats.
WILDLIFE-6	Collaborate with other agencies, organizations, and volunteers on wildlife protection and management activities and programs.
WILDLIFE-7	Manage lake wildlife corridor zones to optimize their utility for wildlife movement particularly during periods of high lake water levels.
WILDLIFE-8	Develop and implement a unit-wide program to control and management nuisance wildlife species to protect unit resources and public health in accordance with the guidelines contained in Appendix C. Appendix C provides guidance and priorities for the elimination of non-native nuisance species form the unit to the extent feasible and practicable, and the management of native nuisance species where warranted by public safety and other park management requirements.
WILDLIFE-9	Assess, control, manage, and eradiate invasive exotic species, as appropriate and needed to protect park resources in accordance with the guidelines contained in Appendix B.

Table 4.3-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Biological Resources

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goal: Support the protection and restoration of native anadromous fisheries below Nimbus Dam including special status species such as Central Valley Steelhead and Chinook Salmon.	
FISHERY-1	Continue coordination of actions and policies relating with the Lower American River Fisheries and Instream habitat (FISH) working group, Reclamation, California Department of Fish and Game, and other stakeholders.
FISHERY-2	As feasible, support the on-going summer and fall releases of cold water from Folsom Lake to favorably influence the populations of naturally-reproducing fall/late fall-run Chinook salmon and Central Valley steelhead in the Lower American River.
Goal: Maintain a centralized biological resource database and maps that is accessible to both State Parks and Reclamation.	
BIODATA-1	Regularly update the GIS database by expanding the layers associated with special status plants and animals and invasive exotic plant infestations. Incorporate new observations form park personnel, and from such sources as: the Reclamation, California Natural Diversity Database, U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, Audubon Society bird counts, and studies conducted under CEQA/NEPA documentation for projects inside and near to the SRA.
BIODATA-2	Facilitate long-term habitat restoration and management efforts in the SRA, particularly with regard to special status biota and invasive exotic species, by maintain current GIS system for each layer. Include the following key attributes in the GIS database for each community: Vegetation Attributes - Dominant overstory plant species - Dominant understory plant species - Dominant ground cover - Common plant species - Observed special status plant species - Potential special status plant species - Invasive exotic plant species - Typical overstory density - Typical understory density - Typical ground cover density Faunal Attributes - Common animal species - Observed special status animal species - Potential special status animal species - Observed nuisance species - Introduced animal species - Observed nesting and burrowing sites - Observed roosting sites - Other notable species - Special habitat features
Goals: • **Protect water quality in Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma and the streams within the SRA that feed into these water bodies. Protect water quantity in the creeks that feed into Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma.** • **Identify water quality problems and work with regulatory agencies, adjacent jurisdictions, and property owners to correct water quality problems from storm water runoff and other causes in the surrounding watershed.**	
WATER-1	Protect watershed and streams within the SRA by avoiding adverse impacts to streambank and bed morphology, floodplain features, and riparian vegetation.
WATER-2	Ensure that unit operations, facilities, and uses avoid or minimize impacts to water quality.
Goal: To the degree feasible, employ sustainable design and construction practices in the development of park facilities.	
SUSTAIN-1	*Sustainable Sites*: Minimize the negative environmental impacts associated with site enhancement, development, maintenance, and operations activities by considering the following guidelines when implementing the Plan:

Table 4.3-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Biological Resources

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
	- Reuse or rehabilitate previously disturbed or developed sites, and, to the degree feasible, avoid developing greenfield sites or sites that contain sensitive species, habitats, or wetlands. - Facilitate access to public transportation in order to provide an alternative to the private automobile. - Minimize impact during construction. Prepare and implement site sedimentation and erosion control plans. Limit heavy equipment access. - Emphasize utilizing existing native vegetation in the planning, design and construction of new facilities. Preserve and protect existing native vegetation during construction. - Limit the area of parking, paving, and lawns to the minimum that will actually be used. - Design new plantings as diverse communities of species well-adapted to the site. Use primarily native species that require less maintenance and less water than exotics. Reserve exotics for accents. Avoid use of any plant that is invasive. Use plants that attract desirable wildlife. - Employ integrated pest management (IPM) against weeds, insects and other pests, with biological controls (e.g., parasitic insects, pheromone traps, natural pesticides, and companion-planting) as the first line of defense. - Use mulching, alternative mowing, and composting to maintain plant health. Organic mulch around plantings conserves water and maintains favorable soil temperatures. - Use animal-proof waste and food storage systems to prevent impacts to wildlife.

Note: Table does not include goals and guidelines pertinent to specific plant communities. References to Appendices are to those in the General Plan.
Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

The following section provides an overview of plants and animals found within the Plan Area and is based on information provided by the California Natural Diversity Database, as well as the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan,* published in June 2010. The information includes estimated acreages for vegetation communities, which in turn support the animal life found within the Plan Area. The acreages provided are generalized, to provide an overview of existing site conditions. The onset of increasingly higher ambient temperatures combined with extreme drought conditions, can affect plant and animal life and can cause shifts in the variety of habitat types as well as the presence (or absence) of certain animal species. Therefore, prior to implementation of projects and appropriate maintenance activities under the RTMP, biological field surveys will be conducted to identify and assess baseline habitat conditions. Biological field surveys will be followed by implementation of appropriate Standard Project Requirements (SPRs) (described below in the Environmental Consequences section) prior to, during and after completion of the specific activity, as appropriate to the identified plant and animal species.

Plant Life

The Plan Area is located within the California Floristic Province and supports nine major vegetation communities typical of the lower foothills of California's Central Valley. These vegetation communities provide habitat for a diverse mix of terrestrial and aquatic species, including several special-status species. None of these vegetation communities are considered special status by the CDFW.

Special-status plant species that have the potential to occur within the vegetation communities of the Plan Area are listed in Table 4.3-2, *Special-Status Plant Species*. Vegetation communities within the Plan Area include: [36]

[36] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 1: Chapters I-III, Final General Plan & Resource Management Plan*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol1_Final_Plan.pdf, accessed April 8, 2022.

- **Chamise Chaparral:** The chamise chapparal community is dominated by chamise, an evergreen shrub that accounts for more than 60 percent of the vegetative cover. Roughly 450 acres of chapparal can be found in the Plan Area, primarily along the steep south- and southwestern- facing slopes of the upper reaches of the South Fork of the American River. Eleven special-status plant species have the potential to occur in the chapparal community within the Plan Area, particularly where it occurs on fabric or serpentine soil types. Five of these plant species are federally listed as Threatened or Endangered.
- **Interior Live Oak Woodland and Blue Oak Woodland/Savanna:** The interior live oak woodland covers about 3,900 acres of the Plan Area and ranges in appearance from closed canopy forest to open canopied woodland with a shrub layer of varying density and height. The blue oak woodland/savanna covers about 1,900 acres of the Plan Area and ranges in appearance from closed canopy forest to open canopied savanna with only a few trees per acre and a dense shrub layer or open grassland understory. Both communities provide a structurally diverse habitat that is attractive to wider range of resident species than found in other upland habitats. Fourteen special-status plant species have the potential to occur in the Plan Area's oak woodland and savanna communities.
- **California Annual Grassland:** The 1,100-acre California annual grassland in the Plan Area is typically dominated by non-native annual grass species such as brachypodium (*Brachypodium*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), soft chess (Bromus hordeaceus), and wild oats (*Avena fatua*). However, in a few locations, native grasses such as deergrass (*Trichophorum*), purple needlegrass (*Nassella pulchra*), and various native wildflowers are present in varying degrees. Invasive exotic species like medusa head (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*), mustard (*Brassica*), and yellow star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) are rapidly diminishing the habitat quality of the Plan Area's grasslands and associated and savanna areas. No special status plant species associated solely with grasslands are known to occur in the Plan Area.
- **Cottonwood/Willow Riparian:** The cottonwood/willow riparian community covers about 390 acres of the Plan Area and is dominated by arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), black willow (*Salix nigra*), Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), and narrowleaf willow (*Salix exigua*). These species occur along rivers, streams, and portions of the lake shoreline where moist soils support different vegetation. Although many riparian habitats in the Plan Area have been disturbed and/or fragmented, the structural diversity of this community supports a greater diversity of wildlife species. The only special-status plant species known to occur in this community is the Northern California black walnut (*Juglans hindsii*).
- **Freshwater Marsh:** Roughly 10 acres of freshwater marsh exist in the Plan Area, characterized by dense strands of perennial, emergency marsh vegetation, such as cattails (*Typha*) and bulrush (*Scirpus*) up to 5 meters in height. Dense strands of shorter-statured marsh plants are found at marsh edges, while the interiors are often broken by open patches of water, choked with smartweed and floating pond weeds. A number of exotic non-native species, including giant reed grass (*Arundo donax*), pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*), and yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), are known to occur within freshwater marsh. No special-status plant species associated solely with freshwater marsh habitats are known to occur within the Plan Area.
- **Northern Claypan and Northern Hardpan Vernal Pools:** The northern claypan and northern hardpan vernal pools covers between 0.5 acres and 2 acres of the Plan Area and are identified by low herbaceous vegetation of hydrophytic species and a shallow layer of impermeable clay soil that forms a water-tight basin. In early- to mid-spring, relatively undisturbed pools are dominated by native annuals such as downingia (*Downingia*), Sacramento pogogyne (*Pogogyne zizyphoroides*), and vernal pool buttercup (*Ranunculus bonariensis var. trisepalus*). These species give way in late spring/early summer to annual coyote thistle (*Eryngium vaseyi*), goldfields (*Lasthenia californica*), and hairgrass (*Deschampsia*). Since vernal pools contain a large number of species that occur in no other habitat, this community constitutes one of the most sensitive in the Plan Area and may support up to seven special-status plant species, including three that are federal and/or state listed species.
- **Seasonal Wetlands:** Seasonal wetlands comprise roughly 3-5 acres of the Plan Area, primarily along streams. These seasonal wetlands are characterized by limited periods of surface water no deeper than 2 feet and/or soil saturation during the rainy season. These conditions support a plant community dominated by sedges,

rushes, and spike rush. All of the special-status plant species that may occur in vernal pools may also occur in seasonal wetlands, depending on degree of disturbance and hydrological conditions.

- **Lake Shoreline Fluctuation Zones:** Lake shoreline fluctuation zones on Folsom Lake support a mix of plant species that are adapted to wet environments and to drier, ruderal conditions. Following the annual drop in lake level, stands of common broadleaf forbs colonize the newly exposed soils, producing wildflower displays from species such as miniature lupine, butter and eggs, mustard, and pearly everlasting. Later in the season, sparse non-native annual grasses including ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), wild oat (*Avena fatua*), and Italian ryegrass (*Lolium multiflorum*) dominate. Most of the shoreline plant community is arrested in an early successional stage by seasonal changes in water level and human activities, such as driving vehicles below waterline during low pool periods. No special-status plant species are associated with this community.
- **Ruderal and Barren Areas:** Roughly 1,040 acres of ruderal and barren areas exist along roadsides, in boat-launch aprons, in camping and picnic areas, and in other areas where human activity has compacted the soil or otherwise heavily impacted the vegetation. These areas also include the dredge deposits along the shores of Lake Natoma that resulted from placer gold-mining activities. This community is dominated by a mix of weedy plant species typical of Northern and Central California. Common species include those found in the non-wetland areas of the lake shoreline fluctuation zones, as well as invasive plant species such as yellow star thistle, Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), and white sweet clover (*Melilotus albus*). No special-status plant species are associated with this community.

Table 4.3-2 Special-Status Plant Species

Species	Common Name	Federal Listing	State Listing	CNPS Rank	Potential Occurrences
Balsamorhiza macrolepis	Big-scale balsaroot	None	None	1B.2	Possibly Extirpated
Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeeae	Brandegee's clarkia	None	None	4.2	Presumed Extant
Ceanothus roderickii	Pine Hill ceanothus	Endangered	Rare	1B.1	Presumed Extant
Calystegia stebbinsii	Stebbins' morningglory	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1	Presumed Extant
Crocanthemum suffrutescens	Bisbee Peak rush-rose	None	None	3.2	Presumed Extant
Wyethia reticulata ears	El Dorado County mule ears	None	None	1B.2	Presumed Extant
Chlorogalum grandiflorum	Red Hills soaproot	None	None	1B.2	Presumed Extant
Orcuttia viscida	Sacramento Orcutt grass	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1	Extirpated
Galium californicum ssp. sierrae	El Dorado bedstraw	Endangered	Rare	1B.2	Presumed Extant

Notes:
CNPS Rare Plant Codes: 1A: Plants presumed extinct in California and rare/extinct elsewhere; 1B. Plant rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere; 2A. Plants presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere; 2B. Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere; 3. Plants about which we need more information; 4. Plants of limited distribution
CNPS Rare Plant Threat Ranks: 1: Seriously threatened in California; 2: Fairly threatened in California; 3: Not very threatened in California

Other plant species that are known to occur in the vicinity of the park include: San Joaquin spearscale (*Atriplex joaquiniana*), hispid bird's-beak (*Cordylanthus*), dwarf downingia (*Downingia pulsilla*), Butte County fritaillary (*Fritillaria eastwoodiae*), El Dorado bedstraw (*Galium californicum*), Bogg's Lake hedge-hyssop (*Gratiola heterosepala*), Bisbee Peak rush road (*Helianthemum suffrutescens*), Ahart's dwarf rush (*Juncus leiospermus*), dubious pea (*Lathyrus sulphureus*), legenere (*Legenere limosa*), pincushion navarretia (*Navarretia myersii*), slender orcutt grass (*Orcutti tenuis*), Stanford's arrowhead (*Sagittaria sanfordii*), Layne's ragwort (*Senecio layneae*), and El Dorado County mule (*Wyethia reticulata*).

Animal Life

The vegetation communities described above provide habitat for a diverse mix of terrestrial and aquatic fauna, including several special-status species. The Plan Area also contains substantial aquatic habitats that support abundant fish species and other aquatic organisms.

Special-status plant species that have the potential to occur within the boundaries of the Plan Area are listed in Table 4.3-3, *Special-Status Animal Species*. Animal life within the Plan Area, outlined by habitat type, includes:[37]

- **Chamise Chapparal:** Chamise chapparal provides habitat for animal species that rely on dense vegetation to provide cover. Most species are likely to forage in nearby woodlands and grasslands where palatable plant species and prey are more common and accessible. Common amphibian and reptile species include the California whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis*), Western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), and Western rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus*). Birds foraging for seeds include the American goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*), Western scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), and white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*). The vegetation also provides foraging habitat for predatory birds like the American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), and turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*). Numerous mammals inhabit this area, including various species of moles, mice, and rabbits. Large species include bobcats (*Lynx rufus*), coyotes (*Canis latrans*), and mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*). Four special-status animal species are known or likely to occur in the vicinity of the Plan Areas' chapparal community, including the Bell's sage sparrow (*Artemisiospiza belli*), California horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), and Prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*).
- **Interior live oak woodland and Blue oak woodland/savanna:** Trees and shrubs of interior live oak woodland and blue oak woodland/savanna provide habitat for animal species. Longhorn beetles (*Cerambycidae*) and underwing moths (*Catocala*) hiding in tree bark area source of food for Western fence lizards, acorn woodpeckers (*Melanerpes formicivorus*), and white-breasted nuthatches (*Sitta carolinensis*). Trees allow for bird perching, food, and nesting. Large trees provide nesting sites for the bald eagles, golden eagles, and red-tailed hawks. Herons and egrets use foothill pines as nesting sites. The dense vegetation in oak woodlands also provides concealment for large predators, such as mountain lions and bobcats, as they hunt. Six special-status animal species are known or likely to occur in the vicinity of the Plan Area's woodland community, including the Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), Long-eared owl (*Asio otus*), Sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), and Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*).
- **California annual grassland:** California annual grassland within the Plan Area supports similar fauna as the oak savanna habitats. The large number of herbivores and insectivores foraging in grasslands and savannas provide a substantial prey base for many predatory species such as coyotes, Common king snake (*Lampropeltis getula*), and Red-tailed hawk. Most species of raptors, including Golden eagle, Red-tailed hawk, and White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), will forage in these habitats and occasionally nest in nearby trees. Introduced animal species observed in this habitat include the Starling (*Sturnidae*), Rock dove (*Columba livia*), Wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), and Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*).
- **Cottonwood/willow riparian:** The cottonwood/willow communities in the Plan Area provide significant food, shelter, cover, and nesting opportunities for wildlife. Compared to the drier oak woodlands, the riparian woodland's insect diversity, dense understory vegetation, and presence of relatively mature canopy are better suited to migratory bird species like the Blue-gray gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*), Common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*), Tree swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*), and Western kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*). Species such as the Red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) and Duskyfooted woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes*) are adapted to live in the denser canopies and willow thickets of the riparian habitat. Common raptor species found in riparian woodlands include Cooper's hawk, Red-tailed hawk, and Sharp-shinned hawk.

[37] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 1: Chapters I-III, Final General Plan & Resource Management Plan*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol1_Final_Plan.pdf, accessed April 8, 2022.

Where riparian woodlands pass through grassland or savanna habitats, the dense vegetation and taller trees provide the only suitable retreat for species such as the Mule deer and Gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*. Ten special-status animal species are known or likely to occur in the vicinity of the Plan Area's riparian areas, including the Bald eagle, Cooper's hawk, Golden eagle, Sharp-shinned hawk, Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), Western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), Willow fly catcher (*Empidonax traillii*), Yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*), and Yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*).

- **Freshwater marsh:** Freshwater marsh provides habitat for many species of wildlife with its unique combination of land, shallow water, and dense vegetation. The water in marsh habitats supports the micro-invertebrates that serve as the base of most aquatic food chains while the presence of extensive vegetation supports many of the herbivorous species that begin the terrestrial food chain. Several species of bird nest only in the dense vegetation of emergent marsh, including the American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) and red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*). Five special-status animal species are known or likely to occur in the vicinity of the Plan Area's freshwater marsh areas including the California red-legged frog, Western pond turtle, white-tailed kite, Northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), and tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*).
- **Seasonal wetlands and vernal pools:** Since seasonal wetlands and vernal pools typically do not contain fish, several amphibians, like the Pacific treefrog (*Pseudacris regilla*) and Western spadefoot toad (*Spea hammondii*), use vernal pools for egg laying and larval habitat. Herbivores such as mule deer and California vole (*Microtus californicus*) that feed on grassland forage will take advantage of the greener vegetation growing in seasonal wetlands as the grass and other forage in upland areas dries out. Several species of crustacean are able to survive the conditions of these habitats, primarily in vernal pools, with an accelerated life cycle that is completed within the short period of time that water persists in the pools. Additionally, several species of solitary bees are specialized to pollinate only vernal pool flowers during their blooming period. Two special-status animal species are known or likely to occur in the vicinity of the Plan Area's seasonal wetlands and vernal pools areas, including the Western spadefoot toad and vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*).
- **Lake shoreline fluctuation zones and Ruderal and barren area:** Lake shoreline fluctuation zones and ruderal and barren areas are typically frequented by wildlife species associated with open habitats, such as grasslands, and oak savannas. Several species of birds, such as the rock wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) and rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps*), are commonly seen foraging in these areas. Ground squirrels (*Marmotini*) will commonly burrow into exposed soils and shorebirds like the killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), spotted sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*), and Western sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) will forage in the shallow water along the barren shoreline. Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*) forage within areas of turf and lawn, and larger mammals such as mule deer, black bear (*Ursus americanus*), and Mountain lion (*Puma concolor*) have been observed using these areas as wildlife movement corridors. The shoreline of Folsom Lake is the most significant wildlife movement corridor, particularly where the shoreline interconnects several oak woodland, grassland, and riparian woodland habitats. These habitat areas are isolated until the water levels recede, allowing for wildlife to resume movement along the exposed lake shoreline zones. Although no special-status plant species are associated with this community, there is a potential habitat for the Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, a federal Threatened species.

Table 4.3-3 Special-Status Animal Species

Species	Common Name	Status
Reptiles and Amphibians		
Emys marmorata	Western pond turtle	SSC
Rana draytonii	California red-legged frog	FT; SSC
Spea hammondii	Western spadefoot	SSC
Birds		
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	WL
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	ST
Elanus leucurus	White-tailed kite	CFP

Table 4.3-3 Special-Status Animal Species

Species	Common Name	Status
Falco columbarius	Merlin	WL
Falco peregrinus anatum	American peregrine falcon	CFP
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald eagle	SE; FP
Nannopterum auritum	Double-crested cormorant	WL
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden eagle	FP
Fish		
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus	Steelhead	FT
Insects		
Desmocerus californicus dimorphus	Valley elderberry longhorn beetle	FT
Crustaceans		
Branchinecta lynchi	Vernal pool fairy shrimp	FT
Mammals		
Antrozous pallidus	Pallid bat	SSC
Lasiurus blossevillii	Western red bat	SSC

Notes: FT: Federally Threatened; FP: Federally Protected; ST: State Threatened; SE: State Endangered; CFP: California Fully Protected; SSC: Species of Special Concern; WL: Watchlist

Other animal species that occur in the vicinity of the park include invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptile, birds, and mammals. Invertebrate species include the vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardi*). Fish species include the delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*), Central Valley steelhead (*Oncorhynchus tshaqytscha*), and Sacramento Spittail (*Pogonichthys macrolepidotus*). Amphibian species include the California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), and Foothill yellow legged frog (*Rana boylii*). Reptile species include the California horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum frontale*), and giant garter snake (*Thamnophis couchi gigas*). Bird species include the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), Northern harrier (*circus cyneus*), sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), ferruginous hark (*Buteo regalis*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), Prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*), greater sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypogea*), short-eared owl (*Asio otus*), willow flycatcher (*Empdonax traillii*), loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), purple martin (*Progne subis*), yellow warbler (*Denroica petechia*), yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*), and Bell's sage sparrow (*Amphispiza belli belli*). Mammal species include the Townsend's western big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*), California mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), big brown bat (*Eptescicus fuscus*), silver-haired bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*), long-legged myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*), canyon bat (*Parastrellus hesperus*), and Mexican free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*).

Animal Life and Structures

Various buildings, dams, water control facilities, bridges, and related facilities in the Plan Area provide refuge for animal species that have adapted to survival in built landscapes and/or require the dark, cave-like recesses of bridges and abandoned buildings. In developed areas, species such as the rock dove, raccoon (*Procyon lotor)*, and striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) forage on human-associated refuse. Other species like the Brazilian free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*), cliff swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*), and myotis bat (*Myotis*) will use built structures as refuge if they are located far away enough from human activity for at least part of the day. The special-status species associated with structures in the Project site are the pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) and western red bat (*Lasiurus blossevillii*).

Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma

Due to thermal stratification during the summer months, Folsom Lake is able to support both warm water and cold water fish species. Warm water sport fish present in the lake are non-native and include the black and white crappie (*Pomoxis annularis* and *Pomoxis nigromaculatus*), largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*), spotted bass (*Micropterus punctulatus*), and sunfish (*Mola mola*). Cold water sport fish include the brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and rainbow trout

(*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). Native warmwater fishes include the California roach (*Hesperoleucus symmetricus*), hardhead (*Ariopsis felis*), Sacramento squawfish (*Ptychocheilus grandis*), and Sacramento sucker (*Catostomus occidentalis*).

Lake Natoma is not a particularly productive fishery due to the water temperature variability associated with the lake's function as a regulating afterbay for Folsom Dam. Water released from Folsom Dam gradually warms as it spreads over the wider portions of Lake Natoma, creating conditions more favorable for warm water fish species like those found in Folsom Lake.

While no special-status fish species are known to occur in Folsom Lake or Lake Natoma, the cold water releases from the reservoirs are critical to creating favorable flow and temperature conditions for two special-status anadromous salmonids that are found in the Lower American River below Nimbus Dam, Chinook salmon and Rainbow trout both occur seasonally in the river, including in the Nimbus Shoals area of the Plan Area just below Nimbus Dam.

Ponds, Creeks, and Streams

There are many creeks and streams at the Plan Area, including countless tributaries of the American River. There are many ponds throughout the Plan Area. Avery's Pond is a significant pond that receives a high volume of visitors due to its easy access and scenery. Key species live in these riparian areas, including the western pond turtle and red-legged frog.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant**	**No Impact**
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plan, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	❒	❒	■	❒
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	❒	❒	■	❒

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	❒	❒	❒	■
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

Project activities identified in the RTMP, which are covered by this IS/ND, include road or trail closure, restoration to natural conditions including removal and rehabilitation of non-system trails, rebuilding/re-engineering of existing roads and trails (including minor reroutes where needed), road-to-trail conversion, and construction of new facilities such as trailheads and parking improvements. The RTMP also provides management recommendations for change-in-use requests, new trail connections, and maintenance priorities with the goal of minimizing impacts to natural and cultural resources.

The Plan Area supports a diverse assemblage of plant communities and habitats that in turn provide a suitable environment for numerous special-status plant and wildlife species. Project activities have the potential to impact sensitive biological resources both directly (e.g., removal, injury, or death) and indirectly (e.g., habitat modification). Negative impacts produced by each activity or project needs to be assessed on a case-by-case basis in order to develop the appropriate CEQA compliance determination. Measures and/or requirements to avoid, minimize or eliminate impacts are described below.

a) Special-status plant species: As described in the "Affected Environment" Section above, there are 10 special-status plant species have the potential to occur within the Plan Area. Road and trail projects have the potential to impact special-status plant species through direct removal, soil disturbance, mechanical disturbance (e.g., brushing, mowing), or changes in hydrology or solar radiation. Without knowing the distribution of sensitive plants, activities along roads and trails under the proposed Project has the potential to result in significant adverse effects. As sensitive plant populations can pioneer in new areas, sensitive plant surveys must be kept current. Integration of SPRs GEN-4, BIO-3 through BIO-5, BIO-13, BIO-14, and BIO-19 through BIO-21 would ensure that impacts from project activities would remain at a less-than-significant level.

   Special-status animal species: As described in the "Affected Environment" Section above, there are 12 special-status animal species have the potential to be located within the park. Integration of SPRs BIO-12 through BIO-17 would ensure that impacts from project activities would remain at a less-than-significant level.

b) CDFW does not designate any vegetation communities within the Plan Area as special-status. However, with additional surveys, other alliances may be detected.

   Although project activities identified in the RTMP would unlikely cause significant impacts to special-status natural communities, compliance with SPRs BIO-13 through BIO-18 would ensure that impacts on natural communities from project activities would remain at a less-than-significant level.

   Sensitive riparian areas exist within the park and activities under the proposed Project could create impacts. Compliance with SPRs BIO-2 and BIO-13 through BIO-19 would require consultation with biologists prior to construction to avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive habitats and thereby these impacts to a level of less-

than-significant. Projects may also be subject to additional conditions identified in a CDFW 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement as described in Criteria C below.

c) Numerous permanent and intermittent streams and USACE-jurisdictional wetlands occur within the Plan Area. As described in the Affected Environment above, the RTMP identifies activities that could be subject to the jurisdictional authority of the USACE, RWQCB, and/or CDFW. These activities may require 401 and 404 permits and a CDFW 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement prior to the start of work.

In addition to BMPs and SPRs identified in the Section 4.9, *Hydrology*, all permits necessary to conduct the proposed project would be obtained prior to the start of any work. All permit/agreement conditions would be implemented, reducing any potential impacts to a less-than-significant level.

d) The nature of the projects identified in the RTMP would not interfere with the movement of any native resident wildlife species, or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

Although unlikely, depending on location, construction activities identified in the RTMP could temporarily affect fish passage. As there are listed fish and lamprey species in the park, any potential impact would be addressed by conditions identified in consultations with USFWS and CDFW and in a CDFW 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement. Implementation of applicable SPRs and 1602 Agreement conditions would reduce any potential impacts to a less-than-significant level.

e) The Department is not subject to local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policies or ordinances; however, Department policy and authorizing legislation incorporate the protection of natural resources into the short- and long-term management goals for its park units. Therefore, there would be no impact.

f) The Plan Area is not within the boundaries of any relevant conservation plans. Therefore, the proposed Project would not interfere with any relevant adopted conservation plans, and there would be no impact.

Applicable SPRs

GEN-4: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, the project manager will determine the minimum area required to complete the work and define the boundaries of the work area on the project drawings and/or with flagging or fencing on the ground, as appropriate.

BIO-2: Construction activities that could spread invasive plants/animals, noxious weeds, or pathogens, such as sudden oak death, will be subject to the following actions:

- Construction operators will ensure that clothing, footwear, and equipment used during construction is free of soil, seeds, vegetative matter or other debris or seed-bearing material before entering the park or from an area with known infestations of invasive plants and noxious weeds.
- All heavy equipment will be pressure washed prior to entering the park or from an area with known infestations of invasive plants, invertebrates, noxious weeds, or pathogens. Anti-fungal wash agents will be specified if the equipment has been exposed to any pathogen that could affect park resources.
- All earth-moving equipment, gravel, fill, or other materials will be inspected to certify that material is weed free, to the extent feasible.

BIO-3: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, a Department -approved biologist will hold a pre-construction training with on-site construction personnel on the identification and life history of the pertinent sensitive species, work constraints, and any other pertinent information related to the species.

BIO-4: At the discretion of **[insert who]**, project activities will be monitored to ensure that impacts to sensitive biological resources are avoided or minimized.

BIO-5: No trees, brush, soil, or other material shall be felled, placed, or deposited into an identified Environmentally Sensitive Area without pre-construction approval of a Department-qualified biologist.

BIO-12: During the design and/or review of project activities, a Department -approved biologist will evaluate the project area for sensitive natural communities.

BIO-13: Projects will be designed to avoid direct or indirect effects on all sensitive natural communities to the maximum extent practicable.

BIO-14: Projects will avoid or minimize impacts to both federally and state protected wetlands to the extent practicable.

BIO-15: Natural wetland habitat such as marsh, riparian, and vernal pools will not be filled by stream-crossing construction projects unless approved by the regulatory agencies. Equipment will remain on existing road or trail alignments to the maximum extent practicable.

BIO-16: Trail or road alignments will be designed to avoid or minimize effects on riparian habitats. Disturbance to riparian areas and habitat for aquatic- or riparian-dependent species will be minimized by aligning crossings perpendicular to and in narrow riparian areas to the extent feasible, and incorporating elevated crossing features such as boardwalks and bridge crossings in riparian areas and sensitive meadows.

BIO-17: Signage, fencing, planting, or other features will be used to discourage users from leaving trails and roads and entering wetland, riparian, meadow, and other sensitive habitats; any fencing will be designed to avoid interference with hydrology and wildlife movement.

BIO-18: A Department-approved biologist will conduct focused pre-construction surveys for special-status plant species and sensitive natural communities with potential to be affected by a project. Surveys will be conducted in accordance with the CDFW Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities (CDFG 2009). Species with potential to be affected and requiring pre-construction surveys will be determined based on the species' distribution and known occurrences relative to the project area and the presence of suitable habitat for the species in or near the project area.

BIO-19: If special-status plant species are located within the project area, they will be avoided to the extent feasible with a plant protection buffer delineated with high visibility flagging. Plant protection buffers will be 25 feet in size unless otherwise agreed upon by regulatory agencies. A Department -approved biologist will periodically inspect the fenced or flagged areas to ensure impacts are being avoided. California Native Plant Society Rank 3 and 4 plants will be avoided when feasible; however, avoidance is not required.

BIO-20: No special-status plant species will be removed, transplanted, damaged in any way, cut, pruned, or pulled back without prior approval from a Department -approved biologist in consultation with USFWS and/or CDFW. Recommended transplanting and/or seed collection will occur in nearby suitable habitat during the dormant season.

BIO-21: All projects will be designed to minimize the removal of native trees. Specifically, projects will be designed to retain and protect trees 24 inches diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) or greater to the maximum extent practicable. Limbs of these trees will be removed if required for access or safety considerations. Trees smaller than 24 inches DBH will be retained whenever practicable. Equipment

operators will be required to avoid striking retained trees to minimize damage to the tree structure or bark.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.4 Cultural Resources

Regulatory Setting

National Environmental Policy Act

NEPA requires that federal agencies assess the environmental impacts, including "significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources," which may not rise to the level of significance that would warrant inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). Under NEPA, the term "cultural resources" covers a wider range of resources than just "historic properties." It includes resources like sacred sites, archaeological sites, and artifact collections that are not otherwise eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Accordingly, the NEPA process must take into account potential effects to both significant and non-significant resources in the cultural environment prior to making a decision on a major federal action, including new and continuing activities, project, and programs entirely or partly financed, assisted, conducted, regulated, or approved by federal agencies (40 CFR Section 1508.18). Therefore, NEPA requires consideration of a broader field of cultural resources than Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act**.**

In determining whether or not a project will have a significant impact on cultural resources, NEPA requires consideration of both context and intensity. Context means that the significance of an action must be analyzed in several contexts such as society as a whole (human, national), the affected region, the affected interests, and the locality. Intensity refers to the severity of impacts; both beneficial and adverse. This requires determining the degree the proposed action will affect public health or safety; the uniqueness of the geographic area; the controversial nature of the impact to the quality of the human environment; degree of unique or unknown risks; precedence for a future action; degree of adverse effects to historic properties and non-significant cultural resources; cumulative impacts; and risk of violating federal, state and local law or requirements for the protection of the environment (which includes cultural resources).

National Historic Preservation Act

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC Section 470 et seq.) established the National Register of Historic Places as the official designation of historical resources, including districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. For a property to be eligible for listing in the National Register, it must be significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture, and must retain integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Resources less than 50 years in age, unless of exceptional importance, are not eligible for the National Register. Though a listing in the National Register does not prohibit demolition or alteration of a property, CEQA requires the evaluation of project effects on properties that are listed in the National Register.

Executive Order 13007

EO 13007 states that "each executive branch agency with statutory or administrative responsibility for the management of Federal lands shall, as appropriate, promptly implement procedures for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of section 1 of this order, including, where practicable and appropriate, procedures to ensure reasonable notice is provided of proposed actions or land management policies that may restrict future access to or ceremonial use of, or adversely affect the physical integrity of, sacred sites. In all actions pursuant to this section, agencies shall comply with the Executive memorandum of April 29, 1994, "Government-to-Government Relations with Native American Tribal Governments" (EO 13175 of May 24, 1996).

Executive Order 13175

EO 13175 acknowledges the right of Native American tribes to self-government and requires that agencies "respect Indian tribal self-government and sovereignty, honor tribal treaty and other rights, and strive to meet the responsibilities that arise from the unique legal relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribal governments." The EO also requires each agency to have an accountable process to ensure meaningful and timely input by tribal officials in the development of regulatory policies that have tribal implications (EO 13175 of Nov 6, 2000).

Archeological Resources Protection Act

The Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA; 16 USC Sections 470aa – 470mm) regulates access to archeological resources on federal lands and/or tribal lands administered by the federal government. Archeological resources are defined as the material remains of past human activities which are over 100 years old. ARPA restricts excavation or removal of archeological resources on federal and/or tribal lands to individuals and groups with permits from the appropriate federal land management agency. It also forbids the sale, purchase, exchange, transport, or receipt of any materials obtained in violation of ARPA and can be used by federal land-managing agencies to prosecute individuals suspected of illegal removal of archeological resources from public lands.

Archeological and Historic Preservation Act

The Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (AHPA; 16 USC Section 469), also known as the Archeological Recovery Act or the Moss-Bennet bill, provides for the preservation of historical and archeological data which might otherwise be irreparably lost or destroyed as the result of flooding, building of access roads, rection of workmen's communities, relocation of railroads and highways, or other alterations of the terrain. Federal agencies are required to notify the Secretary of the Interior of threats of irreparable loss or destruction of significant scientific, prehistorical, historical, or archeological data by federal construction projects. AHPA also allows for any federal agency responsible for a construction project to appropriate a portion of the project funds for archeological survey, recovery, and analysis.

Historic Sites Act

The Historic Sites Act of 1935 (16 USC Section 461) declares national policy to "preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States." It authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to obtain information, survey, conduct research, maintain, and preserve sites with archeological significance and authorizes the National Historic Landmarks Program (36 CFR Part 65).

Antiquities Act

The Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 USC Section 431) established that the preservation and protection of the nation's antiquities was under the purview of the federal government. The Act provides for permits, misdemeanor-level penalties for unauthorized use, and presidential designation of national monuments for long term preservation. The ARPA replaced the Antiquities Act as the authority for special use permits if the resources is 100 years old or older.

California Register of Historic Resources

The California Register of Historic Resources (California Register) establishes a list of properties to be protected from substantial adverse change (PRC Section 5024.1). The State Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) has determined that buildings, structures, and objects 45 years or older may be of historical value. A historical resource may be listed in the California Register if it meets any of the following criteria:

- It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.
- It is associated with the lives of persons important in California's past.
- It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic value.
- It has yielded or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

The California Register includes properties that are listed or have been formally determined eligible for listing in the National Register, State Historical Landmarks, and eligible Points of Historical Interest. Other resources that may be eligible for the California Register, and which require nomination and approval for listing by the State Historic Resources Commission, include resources contributing to the significance of a local historic district, individual historical resources, historical resources identified in historic surveys conducted in accordance with

OHP procedures, historic resources or districts designated under a local ordinance consistent with the procedures of the State Historic Resources Commission, and local landmarks or historic properties designated under local ordinance.

California Environmental Quality Act

Under CEQA, public agencies must consider the effects of their actions on both historical resources and unique archaeological resources. Pursuant to PRC Section 21084.1, a "project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment." Section 21083.2 requires agencies to determine whether proposed projects would have effects on unique archaeological resources.

"Historical resource" is a term with a defined statutory meaning (PRC Section 21084.1). Under CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a), historical resources include the following:

- A resource listed in, or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission, for listing in the California Register (PRC Section 5024.1).
- A resource included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in PRC Section 5020.1(k) or identified as significant in a historical resource survey meeting the requirements of PRC Section 5024.1(g), will be presumed to be historically or culturally significant. Public agencies must treat any such resource as significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant
- Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California may be considered to be a historical resource, provided the lead agency's determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record. Generally, a resource will be considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register.

The fact that a resource is not listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register, not included in a local register of historical resources (pursuant to PRC Section 5020.1(k)), or identified in a historical resources survey (meeting the criteria in PRC Section 5024.1(g)) does not preclude a lead agency from determining that the resource may be an historical resource as defined in PRC Sections 5020.1(j) or 5024.1.

Historical resources are usually 45 years old or older and must meet at least one of the criteria for listing in the California Register, described above (such as association with historical events, important people, or architectural significance), in addition to maintaining a sufficient level of integrity.

Properties of local significance that have been designated under a local preservation ordinance (local landmarks or landmark districts) or that have been identified in a local historical resources inventory may be eligible for listing in the California Register and are presumed to be historical resources for purposes of CEQA unless a preponderance of evidence indicates otherwise (PRC Section 5024.1 and 14 CCR Section 4850). Unless a resource listed in a survey has been demolished, lost substantial integrity, or there is a preponderance of evidence indicating that it is otherwise not eligible for listing, a lead agency should consider the resource to be potentially eligible for the California Register.

CEQA also requires lead agencies to determine if a proposed project would have a significant effect on unique archaeological resources. If a lead agency determines that an archaeological site is a historical resource, the provisions of PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 would apply. If an archaeological site does not meet the CEQA Guidelines criteria for a historical resource, then the site may meet the threshold of PRC Section 21083.2 regarding unique archaeological resources. A unique archaeological resource is an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria.

"Unique archaeological resource" means an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person."

The CEQA Guidelines note that if a resource is neither a unique archaeological resource nor a historical resource, the effects of the project on that resource shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR Section 15064[c][4]).

If the project would result in a significant impact to a historical resource or unique archaeological resource, treatment options under PRC Section 21083.2 include activities that preserve such resources in place in an undisturbed state. Other acceptable methods of mitigation under Section 21083.2 include excavation and curation or study in place without excavation and curation (if the study finds that the artifacts would not meet one or more of the criteria for defining a unique archaeological resource).

In addition to the mitigation provisions pertaining to accidental discovery of human remains, the CEQA Guidelines also require that a lead agency make provisions for the accidental discovery of historical or archaeological resources, generally. Pursuant to Section 15064.5(f), these provisions should include "an immediate evaluation of the find by a qualified archaeologist. If the find is determined to be an historical or unique archaeological resource, contingency funding and a time allotment sufficient to allow for implementation of avoidance measures or appropriate mitigation should be available. Work could continue on other parts of the building site while historical or unique archaeological resource mitigation takes place."

California Historical Building Code

The California Historical Building Code (CHBC; 13 Health and Safety Code [HSC] Sections 18950 – 18961) provides regulations and standards for the rehabilitation, preservation, restoration (including related reconstruction) or relocation of historical buildings, structures and properties deemed by any level of government as having importance to the history, architecture, or culture of an area.

California Health and Safety Code

California HSC Section 7050.5 requires that in the event that human remains are discovered within the project site, disturbance of the site shall halt and remain halted until the coroner has conducted an investigation into the circumstances, manner, and cause of any death, and the recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative. If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and if the coroner recognizes or has reason to believe the human remains to be those of a Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

California Public Resources Code

Archaeological resources are protected pursuant to a wide variety of state policies and regulations enumerated under the California PRC. In addition, cultural resources are recognized as a nonrenewable resource and therefore receive protection under the California PRC and CEQA. PRC Sections 5097.9 through 5097.991 provide protection to Native American historical and cultural resources, and sacred sites and identifies the powers and duties of the NAHC. It also requires notification to descendants of discoveries of Native American human remains and provides for treatment and disposition of human remains and associated grave goods.

State Laws Pertaining to Human Remains

Any human remains encountered during ground-disturbing activities are required to be treated in accordance with CCR Section 15064.5(e), PRC Section 5097.98, and HSC Section 7050.5. California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. Specifically, Section 7050.5 of the California HSC states that in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county in which the remains are discovered has determined whether or not the remains are subject to the coroner's authority. If the human remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the county coroner must contact the California NAHC within 24 hours of this identification. An NAHC representative will then identify a Native American Most Likely Descendant to inspect the site and provide recommendations for the proper treatment of the remains and associated grave goods. In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 specifies the procedures to be followed in case of the discovery of human remains on non-federal land. The disposition of Native American burials falls within the jurisdiction of the NAHC.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to cultural resources are listed in Table 4.4-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Cultural Resources*.

Table 4.4-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Cultural Resources

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goal: Provide well-coordinated cultural resource record-keeping and records management among agencies and organizations that ensures that information necessary for the management of cultural resources in the unit is properly maintained and accessible.	
CULTURE-1	Conduct archival research in all of the relevant land management agencies and interested parties (Reclamation, State Parks, U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Placer, Sacramento, El Dorado Counties, City of Folsom, California State University Sacramento Northern Central Information Center (NCIC), local historical societies in all three counties, and resource interest groups and professional groups).
CULTURE-2	Create a comprehensive "working" map of recorded cultural resources within the unit in coordination with Reclamation's GIS mapping. Make mapped cultural resource data available to Reclamation, NCIC, and State Parks. The location data in the "working" map should be considered tentative until field verification of site locations is completed. The use of this information and availability to the public is subject to limits under State and federal laws in order to protect cultural resources.
CULTURE-3	Develop a database of cultural resources within the unit which is linked to GIS spatial data of the site locations. When cultural resources data is developed for the CAMP program, the District data should be coordinated and consistent with CAMP. The use of this information and availability to the public is subject to the limits under State and federal laws in order to protect cultural resources.
Goal: A comprehensive understanding of the types and locations of cultural resources within the unit and the unit's cultural resource management requirements.	
CULTURE-5	Survey the unit for cultural resources. Surveys are required for those areas that have the potential to be impacted by proposed new facilities. Other priorities include areas where pot-hunters have recently been active, and areas along the Folsom Lake shoreline that are impacted by the operation of the reservoir. Since many sites are located within the "draw-down zone" survey should take place when reservoir water levels are low.
CULTURE-6	Verify the location and content of previously recorded sites. The site location in the existing site record should be verified and the adequacy of the information contained in the site should be reviewed. Complete new site records if the existing information is not adequate or accurate. Known, but unrecorded sites should be found and recorded.
CULTURE-7	Implement standardized reporting procedures and format. Record surface artifacts and features on DPR 523 forms and site maps.

Table 4.4-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Cultural Resources

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
CULTURE-8	Document sites in the unit that sustain damage and/or degradation resulting from reservoir operation – including exposure, erosion, illegal grazing, and vandalism – using State Parks "ASCAR" forms. If verifiable vandalism is evident, then a qualified Cultural Resource Specialist should notify the appropriate law enforcement unit and develop and implement protective measures. Theft or vandalism of artifacts on federal land is a violation of ARPA and in these instances Reclamation staff will be notified.
CULTURE-9	Research, locate, and record the extensive web of linear features in the unit, including historic ditches and roads and trails. Orchards, mine tailings, rock walls, and trash scatters should also be recorded.
CULTURE-10	Forward all completed site records and continuation sheets and documentation to Reclamation, the regional Information Center and other agencies as appropriate.
Goal: Determine integrity, significance, and eligibility of sites for placement on the State or National registers of Historic Places.	
CULTURE-11	Evaluate each site for its potential National Register eligibility and its ability to yield information. Evaluation should also entail the tailored use of the Evaluation Checklists detailed in *Research Design for Prehistoric, Ethnographic and Historic Cultural Resources at Folsom Reservoir, California* (Waechter and Miskell 1994). Evaluation criteria should be based on the Bulletin 15 *"Guidelines for Applying National Register Criteria for Evaluation"* (NPS 1982). State Parks will consult with Reclamation regarding eligibility determinations on Reclamation lands.
CULTURE-12	Evaluate each site in context with nearby sites for its potential to contribute to a National Register District or Cultural Resource Landscape.
Goal: Protect cultural resources that are eligible or potentially to be placed on the State or National Register of Historic Places from adverse impacts.	
CULTURE-13	Protect cultural resources from adverse effects unit the site is recorded, evaluated and eligibility for the National or State Register of Historic Places has been determined. Until the site is properly recorded and studied with firm vertical and horizontal boundaries established, any potential adverse impact within the site boundaries could require mitigation in the form of full recordation followed by full data recovery.
CULTURE-14	Prior to new facility construction or other ground disturbing activities to follow federal (36 CFR 800) and State regulations and processes to identify cultural resources. Unless site-specific surveys by a qualified archeologist have been completed which verify that cultural resources are absent, areas with known cultural resources should be avoided.
CULTURE-15	Reclamation and State Parks are required to follow the Section 106 (36 CFR 800) and PRC 5024 processes for reviewing projects and actions occurring on federal and State lands respectively. For projects and actions on federal land (whether initiated by the State Parks or Reclamation) which have the potential to adversely affect historic properties, Reclamation must consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer. Any action or project, including the construction of new facilities or improvements to existing facilities, with the potential to impact cultural resources will require review by a qualified cultural resources specialist. Generally, it is desirable to avoid impacts to cultural resources through project design or modification. If potential adverse effects to significant cultural resources are identified, the State (5024) and federal (106) process have different requirements for consultation with SHPO. DPR and Reclamation, respectively, are responsible for implementing each of these processes, depending upon whether the project is occurring on State or federal land. This may include complete recordation of the site and a determination of eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.
CULTURE-16	Cultural resource features such as ditches and tailings which have been determined to not be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, after they have been fully recorded and their information potential has been exhausted, may be used interpretive purposes, may be used interpretive purpose, trails or other compatible uses.
CULTURE-17	Prioritize cultural resources for protection and management measures and actions. Management actions should focus on the most significant cultural resources and sites, those that contain the most data potential. Significant sites that are being degraded by reservoir operation, erosion, vandalism or other disturbances should be mitigated. An appropriate mitigation strategy should be developed on a case-by-case basis. Any mitigation for cultural resources on Reclamation land is subject to the consultation process in 36 CFR Part 600.
CULTURE-18	Research, plan, and implement protective measures for sites within the draw-down zone of the reservoir. Resources protection signage should be posted at boat launching areas and recreational staging areas.

Table 4.4-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Cultural Resources

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
	Punishment for Archeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) infractions should be detailed in brochures and signs.
CULTURE-19	Develop partnerships and collaborate with site stewardship groups and Native American groups to assist in the monitoring and protection of cultural resources. Prior to implementing any site stewardship program, specific guidelines would need to be developed to ensure protection of resources and public safety.
CULTURE-20	Prohibit metal detector use within the unit.
CULTURE-21	Post information regarding the illegality of activities such as pot-hunting and metal detecting in prominent locations throughout the unit.
CULTURE-22	Prohibit unrestricted off-road vehicle use below high pool on Folsom Lake. Refer to guidelines OFFROAD-1 and OFFROAD-2 for further information.
CULTURE-23	Investigate potential locations in the unit that could qualify for Cultural Preserve status, a State designation. Any proposal for cultural preserve classification would require Reclamation approval to ensure consistency with Reclamation land use policies. This plan proposes to move forward with the designation of a Cultural Preserve along a portion of the South Fork Arm of Folsom Lake within the Darrington and El Dorado Shore Management Zones.
CULTURE-24	As part of the unit Fire Management Plan, develop policies and guidelines which will serve to protect known cultural resources while also meeting the unit fire suppression and management needs. Depending upon fire size, location and longevity, consider integrating a Cultural Resource Specialist into the fire suppression planning in order to minimize damage to known cultural resources. After suppression efforts have concluded, a post-fire survey should be conducted to assess exposure of and damage to cultural resources.
Goal: Develop appropriate long-range management practices and priorities that comply with State and federal cultural resource laws in order to streamline cultural resource management within the unit.	
CULTURE-25	Develop an agreement to clarify the responsibilities of the agencies involved with cultural resources management within the unit. This agreement will also help ensure that the cultural resources management policies of both agencies will be met.
CULTURE-26	Follow the applicable cultural resource laws, regulations and processes for federal and State lands, in some instances these processes differ for State and federal lands. Where permissible, find efficiencies in survey, evaluation and other activities associated with the protection and management of cultural resources.
Goal: Record and leave artifacts in place, unless they need to be collected for research or resource protection. If collected, record, manage and store artifacts in a manner consistent with federal and State laws and Reclamation and State Parks policies.	
CULTURE-29	Apply the parameters and methods for artifact collection and management defined in the renewable Archeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) permit issued by Reclamation to State Parks. Generally, all artifacts collected for research purposes will be sent to the State Archeological Collections Research Facility.
CULTURE-30	Ensure that collected artifacts fit into the broad research domains outlined in Research Design for Prehistoric, Ethnographic and Historic Cultural Resources at Folsom Reservoir, California (Waechter and Miskell, 1994) and defined in the research design developed for the State Parks ARPA permit.
CULTURE-31	Reclamation will ensure that the artifact collection and management guidelines developed through the ARPA permit with State Parks are consistent with the National American Graves and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).
CULTURE-32	Any artifacts acquired through an unplanned collection, by either visitors and staff, will be handled by the District Cultural Resources Specialist or the unit Museum Collections Manager (refer to guideline CULTURE-31) as appropriate. The governing State or federal laws and regulations will be followed in determining the future disposition, inventory, and management of the artifact. Artifacts collected on federal lands within the SRA are subject to federal laws and regulations and after accessioning, must go to a Reclamation approved repository. The unit Collections Manager or Regional Museum Property Lead as necessary. Any artifacts retained on the unit will be managed according to the *State of California Guidelines for the Curation of Archeological Collections*.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

ECORP Consulting, Inc. conducted a cultural resources records search and mitigation measure review for the proposed RTMP Project at FLSRA and FPSHP. ECORP's analysis included a review of cultural resources records and literature on file at the North Central Information Center (NCIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), an examination of cultural resources maps for the property, and a request of a list of interested Native American tribes.

ECORP requested a records search for the property at the NCIC of the CHRIS at California State University-Sacramento on May 4, 2022. The purpose of the records search was to determine whether previously documented pre-contact or historic archaeological sites, architectural resources, or traditional cultural properties exist within the Plan Area. The NCIC staff completed and returned the records search to ECORP on May 6, 2022.

The records search also determined that 333 previously recorded cultural resources are located within the Plan Area. The resources include 163 previously recorded cultural resources, which are believed to be associated with Native American occupation of the vicinity. 146 of the previously recorded cultural resources are associated with early European-American ranching and mining activities as well as early urban development in the Sacramento area. 24 multi-component sites with both pre-contact and historic-era deposits are located within the Plan Area as well. The locations of these resources are considered confidential and cannot be disclosed to the public under state and federal law.

Table 4.4-2, *Cultural Resources within the Plan Area*, shows the number of resources within each of the six Improvement Areas of the park established by the RTMP and should be considered for the planning recommendations in each area. Table 4.4-2 also shows the number of resources within 100 feet of a trail segment listed in the RTMP for maintenance recommendations. It should be noted that several of the large or linear resources span multiple segments within the Plan Area.

Table 4.4-2 Cultural Resources within the Plan Area

	Number of Resources	Number of Resources within 100 feet of proposed trail maintenance
Lower Lake Natoma to Nimbus Dam *	31**	18**
Upper Lake Natoma to Folsom Dam*	63**	26**
FPSHP*	9	9
Browns Ravine*	43	11
Mormon Island Wetlands Natural Preserve*	4**	3
FLSRA – Dam Operations Area*	4	0
Beals Point/Granite Bay*	106	13
Hoffman Property	17	5
South Fork American River*	64	21
North Fork American River	49	11
Anderson Island Natural Preserve	1	0

*A portion of the American River Placer Mining District is within this segment of the Plan Area, and is included in the number of resources.
**This count includes at least one of the 27 mining related features labeled as "P-34-355", documented separate from the district with the same number listed above.

Several of the resources within the Plan Area are eligible for or are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are considered significant historic resources. These resources include, but are not limited to, the Folsom Dam, Nimbus Dam, Folsom Powerhouse, Rainbow Bridge, Historic Truss Bridge, Natomas Ditch, and the American River Placer Mining District.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	❒	❒	■	❒

Discussion

Implementation of the various activities associated with the RTMP could result in changes to identified historical and cultural resources as well as resources considered eligible for registration on the national or State lists of historic resources. According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1), a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource involves the "physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired." Data obtained from the Department's cultural resources files indicate cultural resource surveys have been limited, making it probable that many cultural and historic sites both on and under the surface have yet to be discovered.

Road and trail maintenance and construction could cause adverse changes to cultural and historical resources. Causes of potential adverse changes include ground disturbance related to construction activities (i.e., excavation, grading, trenching). Future road and trail management in unsurveyed areas could unearth and possibly damage such resources.

a, b) As shown in Table 4.4-2, there are multiple historical and archaeological resources exist within 100 feet of various trails within the Plan Area that are scheduled for maintenance per the RTMP. Several of these resources are considered eligible for, or listed on, the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources. There is a potential for maintenance activities included in the RTMP to cause significant adverse changes to these resources. However, implementation of SPRs CUL-1 through CUL-21 would reduce the potential effects to less than significant.

c) According to the record search, there are two cemeteries documented within the FLSRA boundary, the Chung Wah Cemetery in Folsom and the former Mormon Island Cemetery in El Dorado Hills (relocated prior to creation of Folsom Lake). Both cemeteries are located more than 100 feet from any proposed maintenance activities. Additionally, the records search revealed that there are graves at the Goose Flat town site, located on the east side of the lake opposite from Rattlesnake Bar Boat Launch, and there are three archaeological resource sites in El Dorado County listed as containing human remains. These archaeological resources are located more than 100 feet from any proposed maintenance activities discussed in the RTMP. Therefore, it is unlikely that the project will impact any previously recorded human burial location. However, there is always the possibility of encountering human remains in unknown or unmarked graves. Impacting human remains could result in a significant impact. However, with the implementation of SPRs CUL-1 through CUL-3, and CUL-10 through CUL-22, the potential effects would be reduced to less than significant.

Applicable SPRs

CUL-1: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, the **[insert who]** will notify the Supervisor of the District Cultural Resources Program who will in turn notify Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area, unless other arrangements are made in advance, a minimum of three weeks to schedule a Cultural Resources Specialist to monitor work, as necessary, to ensure that pre-approved removal and reconstruction of historic fabric will occur in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.

CUL-2: Before, during, and after construction, a **[insert who]** will photo-document all aspects of the project and will add the photos to the historical records (archives) for the park if the Department -qualified historian or archaeologist, or Tribal Liaison Contact deems necessary.

CUL-3: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, and to the extent not already completed, a **[insert who]** will map and record all cultural features (archaeological and built environment) within the proposed Area of Potential Effects (APE) to a level appropriate to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

CUL-4: Increase public awareness of local and tribal history, site stewardship, archaeology, and the need to protect cultural resources. Ways to accomplish this awareness include highlighting certain cultural resources along the road or trail with interpretive signs and information kiosks, and/or by placement of a historical marker along a segment of a road or trail, which provides information to the user about the importance of the site and/or the event. If the subject matter pertains to Native Americans, consultation with Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area shall be necessary.

CUL-5: When there is potential to impact historic resources, A Department -qualified historian will survey roads and/or trails prior to the start of any proposed improvements or changes in use to identify potentially significant historic resources. To determine the historic significance of road and trail alignments, a Department-qualified historian will conduct comparisons of current road and trail alignments with historic documentation of historic alignments.

CUL-6: A Department -qualified historian shall use flags, protective fencing, or other methods to identify and provide a buffer zone for any resources discovered during trail survey. The historian shall establish a specific buffer zone around the features based on the type of resources and the proposed scope of work.

CUL-7: All historic work on built environment resources will comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

CUL-8: Historic character will be retained and preserved; where safe, original materials that still maintain structural integrity will be retained; and where replacement is required, materials and features will be replaced "in kind."

CUL-9: A qualified historian familiar with the project site's cultural/historic resources will monitor all construction activities at his/her discretion. All historic resources uncovered during the project will be recorded in place with a photograph and/or drawing showing any new or recovered material and archived, at the discretion of the monitor.

CUL-10: To prevent disturbance to high value archaeological resource or tribal cultural areas, redirect visitors away from the resources employing appropriate placement of trails, creating barriers, or other suitable methods to discourage access.

CUL-11: Decommission and/or reroute roads and trails away from high value archaeological or tribal cultural resources whenever possible and/or feasible.

CUL-12: Prior to implementing any project that would involve ground disturbance, cultural resource staff, in coordination with Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area, will determine if the project area is located in an of area of high archaeological or tribal cultural value. If the area is determined sensitive, the area will require field survey by a Department-qualified archaeologist, in consultation with a tribal representative, who will make recommendations and develop proposals for procedures deemed appropriate to further investigate and/or avoid adverse impacts to those resources.

CUL-13: Prior to implementing any project that would involve ground disturbance, cultural resource staff will consult Department cultural resource data files, and if deemed necessary, contact the appropriate Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System to request a record search of known cultural resources located within and adjacent to the proposed Project area.

CUL-14: Department will conduct the tribal consultations prior to implementing any project that involves new ground disturbances related to road and trail construction; in previously disturbed soil where archaeological sensitivity is high and trail work is proposed; or for projects which require CEQA review. The consultation protocol will follow the steps identified in the Department Operations Manual 0400 Cultural Resources.

CUL-15: Where road and trail activities cannot avoid sensitive archaeological resources, the project actions will require modifications to incorporate the resources into the RTMP and provide a resource protection plan, in consultation with tribal representatives as appropriate, for its maintenance and future protection.

CUL-16: Prior to the start of any ground-disturbing activities, a qualified archaeologist in consultation with a tribal representative as appropriate will complete preconstruction investigations to determine specific avoidance areas within the proposed APE that contains known significant or potentially significant archaeological resources. If necessary, a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist will prepare a research design, including appropriate trenching and/or preconstruction excavations.

CUL-17: Based on preconstruction testing, project design and/or implementation will be altered, as necessary, to avoid impacts to significant archaeological or tribal cultural resources or reduce the impacts to a less than significant level, as determined in consultation with a Department-qualified archaeologist who, in turn, has consulted with tribal representatives as appropriate.

CUL-18: In an archaeologically or tribal culturally sensitive area, **[insert who]** will manually remove or flush cut vegetation to avoid ground-disturbing activities; removal of roots will not be allowed.

CUL–19: In an APE considered highly sensitive for the discovery of buried archaeological features or deposits, including human remains, **[insert who]** will review and approve monitoring by a Department-qualified Cultural Resources Specialist and tribal representative of any subsurface disturbance, including but not limited to grading, excavation or trenching.

CUL-20: **[Insert who]** will coordinate monitoring of subsurface disturbance by a Native American monitor.

CUL-21: If anyone discovers previously undocumented cultural resources during project construction or ground-disturbing activities, work within 50 to 100 feet of the find will be temporarily halted. The Department State Representative will be notified immediately, and work will remain halted until a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist or archaeologist, in consultation with a tribal representative as appropriate, evaluates the significance of the find and determines and implements the

appropriate treatment and disposition in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation or tribal values.

If ground-disturbing activities uncover cultural artifacts or features (including but not limited to dark soil containing shellfish, bone, flaked stone, groundstone, or deposits of historic ash), when a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist is not onsite, **[insert who]** will contact the Supervisor of the District Cultural Resources Program immediately and **[insert who]** will temporarily halt or divert work within the immediate vicinity of the find until a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist and tribal representative as appropriate evaluates the find and determines and implements the appropriate treatment and disposition of the find.

If feasible, **[insert who]** will modify the project to ensure that construction or ground-disturbing activities will avoid the unanticipated discovery of a significant cultural or tribal cultural resources (historical resources) upon review and approval of a **[insert who]**.

CUL-22: In the event anyone discovers human remains or suspected human remains, work will cease immediately within 100 feet of the find and the project manager/site supervisor will notify the appropriate Department personnel. The human remains and/or funerary objects will not be disturbed and will be protected by covering with soil or other appropriate methods. The Department representative will notify the County Coroner, in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, and the Native American Heritage Commission; the Department representative will also notify the local Tribal Representative. If a Native American monitor is onsite at the time of the discovery, the monitor will notify his/her affiliated tribe or group. The local County Coroner will make the determination of whether the human bone is of Native American origin. If the Coroner determines the remains represent Native American interment, the Native American Heritage Commission will be consulted to identify the most likely descendant and appropriate disposition of the remains. Work will not resume in the area of the find until proper disposition is complete (PRC Section 5097.98). No human remains or funerary objects will be cleaned, photographed, analyzed, or removed from the place of discovery prior to determination.

If it is determined the find indicates a sacred or religious site, the site will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Formal consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and review by the Native American Heritage Commission, as well as appropriate Tribal Representatives, will occur as necessary to define additional site mitigation or future restrictions.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.5 Energy

Regulatory Setting

Energy Independence and Security Act

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 USC Section 17001 et seq.) seeks to provide the nation with greater energy independence and security by increasing the production of clean renewable fuels; improving vehicle fuel economy; and increasing the efficiency of products, buildings, and vehicles. It also seeks to improve the energy performance of the federal government. The Act sets the Renewable Fuel Standard, appliance energy efficiency standards, and building energy efficiency standards, and accelerated research and development tasks on renewable energy sources (e.g., solar energy, geothermal energy, and marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies), carbon capture, and sequestration.

Energy Policy Act

Passed by Congress in July 2005, the Energy Policy Act (42 USC Section 13201 et seq.) includes a comprehensive set of provisions to address energy issues. This Act includes tax incentives for energy conservation improvements in commercial and residential buildings, fossil fuel production and clean coal facilities, and construction and operation of nuclear power plants, among other things. Subsidies are also included for geothermal, wind energy, and other alternative energy producers.

National Energy Policy

Established in 2001 by the National Energy Policy Development Group, the National Energy Policy is designed to help the private sector and state and local governments promote dependable, affordable, and environmentally sound production and distribution of energy for the future.[38] Key issues addressed by the energy policy are energy conservation, repair and expansion of energy infrastructure, and ways of increasing energy supplies while protecting the environment.

California Energy Commission

The California Energy Commission (CEC) was created in 1974 under the Warren-Alquist Act (PRC Section 25000 et seq.) as the State's principal energy planning organization in order to meet the energy challenges facing the state in response to the 1973 oil embargo. The CEC is charged with six basic responsibilities when designing state energy policy:

- Forecast statewide electricity needs.
- License power plants to meet those needs.
- Promote energy conservation and efficiency measures.
- Develop renewable energy resources and alternative energy technologies.
- Promote research, development and demonstration.
- Plan for and direct the state's response to energy emergencies.

California Public Utilities Commission

In September 2008, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) adopted the *California Long-Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan*, which provides a framework for energy efficiency in California through the year 2020 and beyond.[39] It articulates a long-term vision, as well as goals for each economic sector, identifying specific near-term, mid-term, and long-term strategies to assist in achieving these goals. This Plan sets forth the following four goals, known as Big Bold Energy Efficiency Strategies, to achieve significant reductions in energy demand:

[38] National Energy Policy Development Group, May 2001. National Energy Policy, https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML0428/ML042800056.pdf, accessed April 22, 2022.

[39] California Public Utilities Commission, September 2008. *California Long Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan*, https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/files/legacyfiles/e/5305-eestrategicplan.pdf, accessed April 22, 2022.

- All new residential construction in California will be zero net energy by 2020;
- All new commercial construction in California will be zero net energy by 2030;
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) will be transformed to ensure that its energy performance is optimal for California's climate; and
- All eligible low-income customers will be given the opportunity to participate in the low-income energy efficiency program by 2020.

With respect to the commercial sector, the *California Long-Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan* notes that commercial buildings, which include schools, hospitals, and public buildings, consume more electricity than any other end-use sector in California. The commercial sector's five billion-plus square feet of space accounts for 38 percent of the State's power use and over 25 percent of natural gas consumption. Lighting, cooling, refrigeration, and ventilation account for 75 percent of all commercial electric use, while space heating, water heating, and cooking account for over 90 percent of gas use. In 2006, schools and colleges were in the top five facility types for electricity and gas consumption, accounting for approximately 10 percent of State's electricity and gas use.

The CPUC and CEC have adopted the following goals to achieve zero net energy (ZNE) levels by 2030 in the commercial sector:

- **Goal 1:** New construction will increasingly embrace zero net energy performance (including clean, distributed generation), reaching 100 percent penetration of new starts in 2030.
- **Goal 2:** 50 percent of existing buildings will be retrofit to zero net energy by 2030 through achievement of deep levels of energy efficiency and with the addition of clean distributed generation.
- **Goal 3:** Transform the commercial lighting market through technological advancement and innovative utility initiatives.

Title 24, Part 6, Energy Efficiency Standards

Energy conservation standards for new residential and non-residential buildings were adopted by the California Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (now the CEC) in June 1977 and most recently revised in 2019 (24 CCR Part 6). Title 24 requires the design of building shells and building components to conserve energy. The standards are updated periodically to allow for consideration and possible incorporation of new energy efficiency technologies and methods.

The 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, which were adopted on May 9, 2018, went into effect starting January 1, 2020.[40] The 2019 standards move toward cutting energy use in new homes by more than 50 percent and will require installation of solar photovoltaic systems for single-family homes and multifamily buildings of three stories and less. The 2019 standards focus on four key areas: 1) smart residential photovoltaic systems; 2) updated thermal envelope standards (preventing heat transfer from the interior to exterior and vice versa); 3) residential and nonresidential ventilation requirements; 4) and nonresidential lighting requirements. Under the 2019 standards, nonresidential buildings are generally 30 percent more energy efficient compared to the 2016 standards, and single-family homes are generally 7 percent more energy efficient. When accounting for the electricity generated by the solar photovoltaic system, single-family homes would use 53 percent less energy compared to homes built to the 2016 standards.

Furthermore, on August 11, 2021, the CEC adopted the 2022 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, which were subsequently approved by the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) in December 2021.[41] The 2022 standards become effective and replace the existing 2019 standards on January 1, 2023. The 2022 standards would require mixed-fuel single-family homes to be electric-ready to accommodate replacement of gas appliances

[40] California Energy Commission, 2022. 2019 Building Efficiency Standards, https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/building-energy-efficiency-standards/2019-building-energy-efficiency, accessed April 22, 2022.

[41] California Energy Commission, 2022. 2022 Building Efficiency Standards, https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/building-energy-efficiency-standards/2022-building-energy-efficiency, accessed April 22, 2022.

with electric appliances. In addition, the new standards also include prescriptive photovoltaic system and battery requirements for high-rise, multifamily buildings (i.e., more than three stories) and noncommercial buildings such as hotels, offices, medical offices, restaurants, retail stores, schools, warehouses, theaters, and convention centers.

Title 24, Part 11, Green Building Standards

On July 17, 2008, the CBSC adopted the nation's first green building standards. The California Green Building Standards Code (24 CCR Part 11, known as "CALGreen") was adopted as part of the California Building Standards Code. It includes mandatory requirements for new residential and nonresidential buildings throughout California. CALGreen is intended to (1) reduce GHG emissions from buildings; (2) promote environmentally responsible, cost-effective, healthier places to live and work; (3) reduce energy and water consumption; and (4) respond to the directives by the Governor. The mandatory provisions of CALGreen became effective January 1, 2011, and were last updated in 2019. The CEC adopted amendments to CALGreen on August 11, 2021, which will go into effect January 1, 2023.[42]

Overall, the code is established to reduce construction waste, make buildings more efficient in the use of materials and energy, and reduce environmental impact during and after construction. CALGreen contains requirements for construction site selection, stormwater control during construction, construction waste reduction, indoor water use reduction, material selection, natural resource conservation, site irrigation conservation, and more. The code provides for design options allowing the designer to determine how best to achieve compliance for a given site or building condition. The code also requires building commissioning, which is a process for verifying that all building systems (e.g., heating and cooling equipment and lighting systems) are functioning at their maximum efficiency.

Renewable Portfolio Standard

Senate Bills 1078, 107, X1-2, and Executive Order S-14-08

The California Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) Program was established in 2002 under Senate Bill (SB) 1078 (Sher) and 107 (Simitian). The RPS program requires investor-owned utilities, electric service providers, and community choice aggregators to increase the use of eligible renewable energy resources to 33 percent of total procurement by 2020. Initially under the RPS, certain retail sellers of electricity were required to increase the amount of renewable energy each year by at least 1 percent in order to reach at least 20 percent by 2010. Executive Order S-14-08 was signed on November 11, 2008, which expanded the State's Renewable Energy Standard to 33 percent renewable power by 2020. This standard was adopted by the legislature in 2011 (SB X1-2; Simitian, Kehoe, and Steinberg). The CPUC is required to provide quarterly progress reports on progress toward RPS goals. This has accelerated the development of renewable energy projects throughout the State. For year 2020, the three largest retail energy utilities provided an average of 43 percent of its supplies from renewable energy sources. Community choice aggregators provided an average of 41 percent of its supplies from renewable sources.[43]

Senate Bill 350

Governor Jerry Brown signed SB 350 (de Leon) on October 7, 2015, which expands the RPS by establishing a goal of 50 percent of the total electricity sold to retail customers in California per year by 2030. In addition, SB 350 includes the goal to double the energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas final end uses (such as heating, cooling, lighting, or class of energy uses upon which an energy efficiency program is focused) of retail customers through energy conservation and efficiency. The bill also requires the CPUC, in consultation with the CEC, to establish efficiency targets for electrical and gas corporations consistent with this goal. SB 350 also

[42] California Natural Resources Agency, California Energy Commission, September 27, 2021. State of California Memorandum, Subject: Basis for Finding that Amendments to Part 11 and Parts 2-5 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations Are Exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act, https://www.energy.ca.gov/filebrowser/download/3708, accessed April 22, 2022.

[43] California Public Utilities Commission, May 2021, *2021 Padilla Report: Costs and Savings for the RPS Program (Public Utilities Code Section 913.3)*, https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/industries-and-topics/documents/energy/rps/2021-padilla-report_final.pdf, accessed April 22, 2022.

provides for the transformation of the California Independent System Operator into a regional organization to promote the development of regional electricity transmission markets in the western states and to improve the access of consumers served by the California Independent System Operator to those markets, pursuant to a specified process.

Senate Bill 100

On September 10, 2018, Governor Brown signed SB 100 (de Leon), which replaces the SB 350 requirements. Under SB 100, the RPS for public owned facilities and retail sellers consist of 44 percent renewable energy by 2024, 52 percent by 2027, and 60 percent by 2030. Additionally, SB 100 also established a new RPS requirement of 50 percent by 2026. Furthermore, the bill also establishes an overall State policy that eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources supply 100 percent of all retail sales of electricity to California end-use customers and 100 percent of electricity procured to serve all State agencies by December 31, 2045. Under the bill, the State cannot increase carbon emissions elsewhere in the western grid or allow resource shuffling to achieve the 100 percent carbon-free electricity target.

Senate Bill 1368

On September 29, 2006, SB 1368 (Perata) was signed into law. This law limits long-term investments in baseload generation by the State's utilities to those power plants that meet an emissions performance standard jointly established by the CEC and the CPUC. The CEC has designed regulations that:

- Establish a standard for baseload generation owned by, or under long-term contract to publicly owned utilities, of 1,100 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO_2) per megawatt-hour. This would encourage the development of power plants that meet California's growing energy needs while minimizing their emissions of GHGs;
- Require posting of notices of public deliberations by publicly owned utilities on long term investments on the California Energy Commission website. This would facilitate public awareness of utility efforts to meet customer needs for energy over the long-term while meeting the state's standards for environmental impact; and
- Establish a public process for determining the compliance of proposed investments with the emissions performance standard.

California Energy Benchmarking and Disclosure

2007 Assembly Bill (AB) 1103 (Saldana) requires that electric and gas utilities maintain records of the energy consumption data of all nonresidential buildings to which they provide service and that by January 1, 2009, upon authorization of a nonresidential building owner or operator, an electric or gas utility shall upload all of the energy consumption data for the specified building to the USEPA Energy Star Portfolio Manager in a manner that preserves the confidentiality of the customer. This statute further requires a nonresidential building owner or operator to disclose Energy Star Portfolio Manager benchmarking data and ratings, for the most recent 12-month period, to a prospective buyer, lessee, or lender. Enforcement of the latter requirement began on January 1, 2014.

On October 8, 2015, AB 802 (Williams) was signed into law to revise and recast the above provisions. The new law directs the CEC to establish a statewide energy benchmarking and disclosure program and enhances the CEC's existing authority to collect data from utilities and other entities for the purposes of energy forecasting, planning and program design. Among the specific provisions, AB 802 would require utilities to maintain records of the energy usage data of all buildings to which they provide service for at least the most recent 12 complete months. Beginning no later than January 1, 2017, AB 802 would require each utility, upon the request and the written authorization or secure electronic authorization of the owner, owner's agent, or operator of a covered building, as defined, to deliver or provide aggregated energy usage data for a covered building to the owner, owner's agent, operator, or to the owner's account in the Energy Star Portfolio Manager, subject to specified requirements.

Appliance Efficiency Regulations

California's Appliance Efficiency Regulations (20 CCR Sections 1600 – 1608) contain energy performance, energy design, water performance, and water design standards for appliances (including refrigerators, ice makers, vending machines, freezers, water heaters, fans, boilers, washing machines, dryers, air conditioners, pool equipment, and plumbing fittings) that are sold or offered for sale in California. These standards are updated regularly to allow consideration of new energy efficiency technologies and methods.

Title 13

CCR Section 2449(d)(2) of Article 4.8, *In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets*, regulates the idling time to reduce oxides of nitrogen (NOx), diesel particulate matter (PM), and other criteria pollutant emissions from in-use off-road diesel-fueled vehicles and certain types of motorized equipment. Such practices limit wasteful and unnecessary energy consumption. Article 4.8 is in Division 3, *Air Resources Board*, Chapter 9, *Off-Road Vehicles and Engines Pollution Control Devices*.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to energy are listed in Table 4.5-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Energy*.

Table 4.5-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Energy

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goal: To the degree feasible, employ sustainable design and construction practices in the development of park facilities.	
SUSTAIN-3	*Energy and Atmosphere*: Design improvements to enhance energy efficiency and expand the use of renewable resources by considering the following guidelines when implementing the Plan. - Illuminate the minimum area for the minimum time. Limit illumination to areas with actual night use or extreme security concerns. - Question the "brighter is better" approach when designing park lighting. Clearly identify the actual purpose of lighting to determine minimum acceptable levels. - Use simple timers, motion sensors, or photocells to turn lights on and off at seasonally appropriate times. - Use occupancy sensors within buildings to turn lights on and off. - Use cut-off fixtures, shades, or highly focused low-voltage lamps to avoid spillover and minimize the impacts of light on nocturnal wildlife and the night sky. Linear "tube lights" and fiber-optics can be used to light the way for pedestrians without illuminating a whole area. - Use energy-efficient lamps and ballasts, including low-voltage lighting to decrease power and energy usage. - Use renewable energy sources for lighting and other outdoor power. Photovoltaic (PV) power is generally cost-effective, and can be used for applications such as solar path-lights, streetlights, security lights, pumps, and irrigation systems. - Integrate PV panels into the architectural design of buildings and structures. - Use energy efficient equipment and fixtures. - Integrate facilities for car, transit, bicycle, boat, and pedestrian modes of transport, thus reducing dependence on private cars to access the SRA. - Design site circulation patterns to encourage pedestrian and bicycle movement and reduce the need for automobile use once in the SRA.
SUSTAIN-6	Highlight the principles of sustainable design practices in park facilities, improvements, operations, and maintenance and incorporate into environmental education and interpretive programs in the SRA to demonstrate what sustainable design is and how it can be applied in a park setting. Key concepts and benefits of sustainable design worth interpreting include: - Increased environmental benefit (conservation of natural resources and reduced waste). - Reduced operating costs through reduced energy consumption.

Table 4.5-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Energy

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
	- Increased operating and maintenance efficiency (more durable products, less maintenance with toxic substances, lower maintenance costs form resource and energy conservation, etc.).

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

Utility infrastructure for the Plan Area consists of a State Parks-owned systems that provide electricity services, and utility corridors and easements owner by outside companies and agencies. Electric utilities are provided to the Plan Area by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, Western Area Power Administration, and Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E). Many of the Plan Area's facilities do not have utility constraints and are currently receiving service from public utilities or could be potentially connected to public utilities for power. Additionally, diesel and gasoline fuels are used to operate equipment and vehicles required for routine management operations. Maintenance and monitoring at the Plan Area do not generate a high level of electricity needs. Visitors consume energy by travelling to and from the Plan Area, as well as by engaging in recreational activities such as motorized boating.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Conflict with or obstruct a State or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) Construction of the proposed Project would create a temporary increase in demand for fuel. Transportation energy use depends on the type and number of trips, vehicle miles traveled, fuel efficiency of vehicles, and travel mode. Transportation energy used during construction would come from the transport and use of construction equipment, delivery vehicles, and construction employee vehicles that would use diesel fuel and/or gasoline. The use of energy resources by these vehicles would fluctuate according to the phase of construction and would be temporary. Upon completion of project construction, the use of all construction equipment would cease. Furthermore, the construction workers are anticipated to minimize non-essential idling of construction equipment during construction in accordance with CCR Section 2449. Such required practices would limit wasteful and unnecessary energy consumption.

Construction activities associated with future projects identified in the RTMP could involve the use of heavy-duty construction equipment that would generate substantial noise. These activities include site preparation (e.g., excavation, grading, and vegetation clearing), road and trail reconstruction, slope recontouring to reduce erosion and runoff, drainage structure upgrades, adding or removing aggregate material, and the construction of new trail and/or trail structures such as bridges and boardwalks. To perform these activities, a combination of heavy equipment, small trail construction equipment (e.g.,

compactors, rock drills, chainsaws), and handheld tools are typically used. Excavators are used to prepare the site by removing trees and brush. Dozers are also used to decompact the ground surface and to accumulate and pile ground mulch for use on finished surfaces. Graders and rollers may be used to outslope and reshape road surfaces. Dump trucks are used to import aggregate for surface hardening. Heavy equipment machines may be used separately or simultaneously to complete the work. Handheld tools may include shovels, grub hoes, bow saws, loppers, and drawknifes. The proposed Project would be required to comply with SPRs AQ-1 and AQ-10 through AQ-15 for construction-related emission control measures, which would help ensure that there would not be an inefficient use of energy.

Therefore, overall, construction fuel associated with the proposed project would not be any more inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary than similar projects, and impacts would be less than significant with respect to construction-related energy demands. The project would not result in long-term operational impacts as it does not propose changes to existing infrastructure that would require the extension of energy to the site or otherwise result in the inefficient use of energy. Thus, operation of the project would not result in inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary consumption of energy during operation. Implementation of trail and trail-related projects under the RTMP would result in a less-than-significant impact related to electricity, natural gas, or motor vehicle transportation energy during operation.

b) The RTMP is consistent with all applicable State and local plans, policies, and regulations, including those adopted by the CPUC and CEC to reduce energy consumption and/or greenhouse gas emissions from energy consumption, and the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*. Therefore, because the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct a State or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency, there would be no impact.

Applicable SPRs

AQ-1: No more than 1.0 acre of ground disturbance (e.g., earth moving, grading, excavation, land clearing) will occur in any single day.

AQ-10: Excavation, grading, land clearing, other mechanical ground disturbance, and demolition activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 15 mph and/or instantaneous gusts exceed 25 mph or when dust from construction might obscure driver visibility on public roads.

AQ-11: Where a change-in-use results in vehicle travel on unpaved roads and other unpaved services, signs shall be posted limiting vehicle travel to 15 mph.

AQ-12: Construction-related ground disturbance activities will not be performed in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos" according to maps and guidance published by the California Geological Survey (CGS), formerly the California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology. This determination would be based on a CGS publication titled A General Location Guide for Ultramafic Rocks in California – Areas More Likely to Contain Naturally Occurring Asbestos (Churchill and Hill 2000), or whatever more current guidance from CGS exists at the time the change-in-use project is evaluated. Work shall comply with the guidelines of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for conducting work in NOA areas. Any NOA-related guidance provided by the applicable local air district shall also be followed. If a site-specific investigation identifies the presence of NOA, then an Asbestos Dust Control Plan will be developed and implemented in accordance with Section 93105 of the California Health and Safety Code.

AQ-13: New trail or road alignments will not be located in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos" according to maps and guidance published by the CGS unless a site-specific investigation performed by a Registered Geologist confirms that NOA-containing rock or dirt is not exposed at the surface of the trail. Alternatively, any trail or road alignments that are not located over areas where NOA is \exposed at the surface will be covered with an appropriate

material, depending on the intended use of the trail that would prevent entrainment of asbestos-containing dust into the air. Possible methods of covering NOA-containing material on the surface include paving and graveling with non-NOA-containing gravel.

AQ-14: Operation of large diesel- or gasoline-powered construction equipment (i.e., greater than 50 horsepower) will not exceed 60 equipment-hours per day, where an equipment-hour is defined as one piece of equipment operating for one hour (daily CAPs, TACs, GHGs).

AQ-15: All diesel- and gasoline-powered equipment will be properly maintained according to manufacturer's specifications, and in compliance with all State and federal emissions requirements. Maintenance records will be available at the construction site for verification.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.6 Geology and Soils

Regulatory Setting

Clean Water Act

Under the CWA, the USEPA seeks to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters. The statute employs a variety of regulatory and nonregulatory tools to reduce direct pollutant discharges into waterways, finance municipal wastewater treatment facilities, and manage polluted runoff. The CWA authorizes the USEPA to implement water quality regulations.

Paleontological Resources Preservation Act

The federal Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (16 USC Section 270aaa 1-11) limits the collection of vertebrate fossils and other rare and scientifically significant fossils to qualified researchers who have obtained a permit from the appropriate state or federal agency. Additionally, it specifies these researchers must agree to donate any materials recovered to recognized public institutions, where they will remain accessible to the public and other researchers. The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act incorporates key findings of a report, *Fossils on Federal Land and Indian Lands*, issued by the Secretary of Interior in 2000, which establishes that most vertebrate fossils and some invertebrate and plant fossils are considered rare resources.[44]

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act

The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (PRC Section 2690 et seq.) was passed in 1972 to mitigate the hazard of surface fault rupture to structures used for human occupancy.[45] The main purpose of the act is to prevent the construction of buildings used for human occupancy on top of the traces of active faults. It was passed into law in the wake of the February 1971 magnitude (M_w) 6.5 San Fernando (Sylmar) Earthquake that resulted in over 500 million dollars in property damage and 65 deaths.[46] Although this act addresses the hazards associated with surface fault rupture, it does not address other earthquake-related hazards, such as seismically induced ground shaking, liquefaction, or landslides.

This act requires the State Geologist to establish regulatory zones (formerly known as Special Studies Zones, now referred to as Earthquake Fault Zones) around the surface traces of mapped active faults, and to publish appropriate maps that depict these zones. The maps are made publicly available and distributed to all affected cities, counties, and State agencies for their use in planning and controlling new or renewed construction. In general, the law prohibits construction within 50 feet of an active fault trace.

Seismic Hazards Mapping Act

The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act (PRC Sections 2690 – 2699.6), which was passed by the California legislature in 1990, addresses earthquake hazards related to liquefaction and seismically induced landslides. Under the Act, seismic hazard zones are mapped by the State Geologist in order to assist local governments in land use planning. The Act states that "it is necessary to identify and map seismic hazard zones in order for cities and counties to adequately prepare the safety element of their general plans and to encourage land use management policies and regulations to reduce and mitigate those hazards to protect public health and safety." Section 2697(a) of the act states that "cities and counties shall require, prior to the approval of a project located in a seismic hazard zone, a geotechnical report defining and delineating any seismic hazard."

[44] United States Department of the Interior, May 2000. Fossils on Federal & Indian Lands, https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/programs_paleontology_quick%20links_Assessment%20of%20Fossil%20Management%20on%20Federal%20&%20Indian%20Lands,%20May%202000.pdf, accessed April 22, 2022.

[45] Originally titled the Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zones Act until renamed in 1993

[46] Southern California Earthquake Data Center, 2022. San Fernando Earthquake, https://scedc.caltech.edu/earthquake/sanfernando1971.html, accessed April 22, 2022.

California Building Code

The CBC is found in Part 2 of Title 24 of the CCR. The CBC is updated every three years. It is generally adopted on a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis, subject to further modification based on local conditions. Through the CBC, the State provides a minimum standard to protect property and public safety by regulating the design and construction of excavations, foundations, building frames, retaining walls, and other building elements to mitigate the effects of seismic shaking and adverse soil conditions. They also regulate grading activities, including drainage and erosion control.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to geology and soils are listed in Table 4.6-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Geology and Soils*.

Table 4.6-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Geology and Soils

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goals: • **Protect and manage the integrity of existing geologic features within the unit. Allow geologic processes to operate to the fullest extent feasible** • **Interpret geologic resources where appropriate and consistent with the interpretive themes and plans for the unit.**	
GEO-1	Inventory and monitor geologic features within the unit as needed to protect and manage these resources.
GEO-2	Limit human-caused impacts to important geologic features through design and location of visitor use facilities, educational materials and the use of barriers as appropriate.
GEO-3	Remove non-historic defacements of geologic features as feasible and restore damaged sites to as natural an appearance as possible.
GEO-4	Intervene in natural geologic process only when necessary, in emergencies to protect human life and property, there is no other way to protect other park resources or facilities, or when necessary to restore impacted natural conditions.
GEO-5	Site facilities to avoid geologic hazards. Where existing facilities are already located in hazardous areas, examine the feasibility of relocating the facility or mitigating any risks to human life or property.
GEO-6	Protect natural caves and the natural resources within caves, including sub-surface water quality. Prior to permitting any public entry and use of caves, develop a cave management plan which ensures the natural resources and geologic features in the cave will be protected and provides for human safety. If these conditions cannot be met consider closing the cave to public access and use.
Goal: Preserve soil resource within the unit and prevent to the extent possible unnatural erosion, removal and contamination of soils.	
SOILS-1	Minimize soil excavation, erosions and soil migration in the construction and operation of facilities. Minimize human-induced erosion by reducing concentrated run-off, avoiding over-watering with irrigation systems and limiting disturbance to fragile soils.
Goal: To the degree feasible, employ sustainable design and construction practices in the development of park facilities.	
SUSTAIN-1	*Sustainable Sites*: Minimize the negative environmental impacts associated with site enhancement, development, maintenance, and operations activities by considering the following guidelines when implementing the Plan: - Reuse or rehabilitate previously disturbed or developed sites, and, to the degree feasible, avoid developing greenfield sites or sites that contain sensitive species, habitats, or wetlands. - Facilitate access to public transportation in order to provide an alternative to the private automobile. - Minimize impact during construction. Prepare and implement site sedimentation and erosion control plans. Limit heavy equipment access. - Emphasize utilizing existing native vegetation in the planning, design and construction of new facilities. Preserve and protect existing native vegetation during construction. - Limit the area of parking, paving, and lawns to the minimum that will actually be used.

Table 4.6-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Geology and Soils

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
	- Design new plantings as diverse communities of species well-adapted to the site. Use primarily native species that require less maintenance and less water than exotics. Reserve exotics for accents. Avoid use of any plant that is invasive. Use plants that attract desirable wildlife. - Employ integrated pest management (IPM) against weeds, insects and other pests, with biological controls (e.g., parasitic insects, pheromone traps, natural pesticides, and companion-planting) as the first line of defense. - Use mulching, alternative mowing, and composting to maintain plant health. Organic mulch around plantings conserves water and maintains favorable soil temperatures. - Use animal-proof waste and food storage systems to prevent impacts to wildlife.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

Topography

The Plan Area is dominated by rolling hills and upland plateaus separated by major river canyons. The highest elevation within the Plan Area is just over 800 feet in the hills on the Peninsula. Folsom Lake is surrounded by rolling hills and ridgelines and occupies the lower reaches of the canyons of the North and South Forks of the American River. Slopes are generally steep to moderately steep along the margins of Folsom Lake, except at the Peninsula Campground area, the Granite Bay area, and Goose Flat. Lake Natoma defined by steep bluffs and occupies a broad river valley that has been deeply incised into sedimentary rocks.

Geology

The Plan Area is in the westernmost extent of the Sierra Nevada foothills, between the Central Sierra Nevada and the Central Valley Geomorphic Provinces. Four primary rock divisions are found in the Plan Area – ultramafic intrusives, metamorphics, granodiorite intrusives, and volcanic mud flows. Although there are no Alquist-Priolo fault zones[47] within the Plan Area, one major fault line , the west trace of the Bear Mountains Fault Zone, traverses the site.[48] This fault line runs north-south throughout the Plan Area from Auburn to El Dorado Hills, crossing Folsom Lake in the upper reaches of the North Fork arm near Manhattan Bar Road, and crossing the South Fork arm at New York Creek. This part of the fault zone is characterized as inactive. The risk of ground shaking at the Plan Area as a result of a significant earthquake event on the nearest major fault line in the Bay Area is very low due to distance from other major faults, hard bedrock, and thin soil cover.

The overall trend of the Plan Area geology is a northwest-southeast trending belt of metamorphic rock with ultramafic rocks that bind them. Ultramafic rock represents the lowest part of the earth's crust that has been lifted over 20 miles vertically. This type of rock tends to be resistant to erosion. Key geologic features of the Plan Area are the contact areas of younger pluton and older metamorphic rock at Rattlesnake Bar.

Soils

The majority of soils in the vicinity of Folsom Lake developed over granite bedrock and are extremely coarse, sandy, and well-drained. These soils are highly erodible, and evidence of excessive erosion has been observed on the western shore of the lake, exacerbated by the illicit use of off-road vehicles and informal trails. Serpentine soil forms over serpentine bedrock, which occurs in the north-south swatch through the Peninsula. This soil is known

[47] Alquist-Priolo fault zones are regulatory zones surrounding the surface traces of active faults in California.

[48] California Department of Conservation, 2021. Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation, https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/, accessed May 6, 2022.

to contain toxic materials, such as nickel, chromium, and asbestos; however, a number of special-status plant species have adapted to this soil type.

Soils in the vicinity of Lake Natoma are very deep and well-drained. In the areas of dredge tailings[49], soils are formed of materials with high gravel and cobbles content derived from mixed rock sources. Soils in the area of the American River below Folsom Dam and above Lake Natoma were formed in material weathered from granitic rocks and are moderately deep and well-drained.

Hazards

Landslides are not considered major hazards in the Plan Area, as the soils are too thin, and the slopes are too low to create conditions for mass wasting. It is possible that locations on north side of Folsom Lake and east of Natoma Canyon could exhibit these conditions, but more site-specific studies would be required to conclude this. The steep bluffs along northwest side of Lake Natoma are known to be unstable and could spill rocks or chunks of material on paths below following a rainstorm or during an earthquake.

Volcanic hazards are not present in the Plan Area, though there are several dormant volcanoes, such as the Clear Lake Volcanic Field, which could erupt and generate ash that would affect the Plan Area.

Shoreline erosion of Folsom Lake is primarily driven by wind- and boat-generated waves. Fluctuating water levels have stripped most sediment from areas around the lake's edge and reposited it within its basin. Areas undergoing greater than normal erosion are those where gullies and streams deposit into the lake basin. Paved surfaces can also contribute to erosion by increasing and concentrating stormwater runoff.

Asbestos occurs naturally in the Plan Area, predominantly in the north-south trending faults that run through the North and South Forks of the American River within the Plan Area. Specific areas of concern are the North Fork Shore, Upper North Fork, Middle North Fork Shore, Darrington, El Dorado Shore and Middle Fork Shore.

Dredge tailings from past dredging and mining activity exist around Lake Natoma – with portions of the lake significantly modified by historic gold dredging. The dredge tailings are composed of small to large cobbles and can be washed away by water, leaving the environment unvegetated. Abandoned or idle pit mines for talc and asbestos occur on the Peninsula between the forks of the river.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant**	**No Impact**
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	❒	❒	■	❒
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	❒	❒	■	❒
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	❒	❒	■	❒

[49] Dredge tailings are crushed or finely ground rock and waste products from mineral processing operations in mining.

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
iv) Landslides, mudslides, or other similar hazards?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	❒	❒	■	❒
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined by Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	❒	❒	■	❒
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	❒	❒	❒	■
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	❒	❒	■	❒

Discussion

a,c) See below:

i. As discussed in the Affected Environment section, the faults within and nearby the Plan Area are not designated as Alquist-Priolo fault zones. The RTMP calls for the construction of new trailhead facilities, which could include the creation of vault restrooms. Any potential impacts from the development of new structures would be mitigated with SPRs GEO-2 and GEO-3, which require projects to follow BMPs and have a licensed geologist review projects prior to construction. Furthermore, potential impacts associated with exposure of people or structures to adverse effects from the rupture of a known fault would be less than significant.

ii. As discussed in the Affected Environment section, the Plan Area is unlikely to experience ground shaking due to the distance from other major faults, hard bedrock, and thin soil cover. Nevertheless, the RTMP would follow the guidelines set forth in the General Plan to protect the public from these natural hazards. Additionally, the proposed Project would not include structures, and workers would be attending the Plan Area only intermittently. Therefore, impacts related to seismically induced surface rupture or ground shaking would be less than significant.

iii. Liquefaction is a phenomenon that occurs when loosely packed and waterlogged sandy or silty sediments at or near the ground surface lose their strength during times of strong ground shaking and take on the characteristics of a liquid. When liquefaction occurs below buildings and other structures, major damage may occur. The Plan Area is not within an area of high liquefaction potential.[50] The proposed Project would not include structures, and workers would be attending the Plan Area only

[50] California Department of Conservation, 2021. Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation, https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/, accessed May 6, 2022.

intermittently during project specific work. Therefore, impacts related to seismically induced surface ground failure including liquefaction would be less than significant.

iv. As discussed in the Affected Environment section, landslides are unlikely to occur at the Plan Area due to thin soil and low slope. The proposed Project would include small structures, and workers would be attending the site only intermittently during project work. Work permitted under the RTMP would not cause landslides, but rather address the potential of landslides. Therefore, impacts related to landslides would be less than significant.

b) One of the objectives of the RTMP will be to prioritize maintenance, reconstruction/re-engineering, removal, and reroute of roads and trails to achieve a more sustainable road and trail system. Adoption of the RTMP will facilitate procedures to evaluate eroding routes and implement improvements to reduce erosion.

Future actions that are considered in the RTMP include potential changes in use for several trail segments. Because work plans have not been developed for these trails, project level review for changes-in-use to these trails is not considered in this document. As such, additional and subsequent evaluation under the change-in-use process will be necessary to assess potential impacts on soil erosion resulting from physical changes to the trails. Impacts will be assessed by evaluating the implementation of proposed changes-in-use in the context of the SPRs, which were incorporated as part of the PEIR for the *Road and Trail Change-in-Use Evaluation Process*, adopted by DPR on May 2, 2013.[51]

Projects on existing trails under the RTMP could involve the disturbance of surface soils during minor construction activities. These activities include trail rerouting, restoration, decommissioning, rehabilitation, and installation of road/trail structures, such as steps or retaining walls, as well as soil disturbance caused by use-related activities (i.e., the type and intensity of use). Significant erosion impacts from projects implemented pursuant to the RTMP would be avoided through implementation of SPRs GEO-1 through GEO-28. Thus, these impacts would be less than significant.

d) SPR GEO-3 addresses the determination of this potential at specific sites. Bridge abutments, signage, or other constructed features in areas with unacceptable shrink-swell potential will be designed to accommodate the phenomenon or located to avoid this condition. Less-than-significant impacts would result.

e) The proposed Project does not entail installation of septic systems; however, trailhead improvements could include vault toilets, where the receiving tank is installed underground. This type of system involves internal breakdown of liquid and solid waste in an encapsulated system where there is no interface with the underlying soils. Therefore, no impact would result.

f) Paleontological resources found in the State Park System require protection from damage. As such, trail improvements conducted as a result of the RTMP will be done in accordance with the Paleontological Resource Protection Policy as identified in Section 0309.2 in the Natural Resources section of the Department Operations Manual (DOM).[52] In conformance with SPR GEO-10, if a paleontological resource is discovered, work within 100 feet of the find will be temporarily halted and the Department will be notified. Therefore, impacts to paleontological resources would be less than significant.

[51] California Department of Parks and Recreation, May 2013. Change-In-Use Programmatic EIR, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28462, accessed April 13, 2022.

[52] California Department of Parks and Recreation, September 2004. *DPR Operations Manual: Natural Resources*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/DOM%200300%20Natural%20Resources.pdf, accessed June 9, 2022.

Applicable SPRs

GEO-1: Prior to the start of construction involving ground-disturbing activities totaling one acre or more, Department will direct the preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) by a Qualified Stormwater Pollution Plan Developer (QSD) for Department approval that identifies temporary BMPs (e.g., tarping of any stockpiled materials or soil; use of silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls, etc.) and permanent BMPs (e.g., structural containment, preserving or planting of vegetation, etc.) for use in all construction areas to reduce or eliminate the discharge of soil, surface water runoff, and pollutants during all excavation, grading, trenching, repaving, or other ground-disturbing activities.

GEO-2: All construction, improvement, modification, or decommissioning of road/trails, and conversion of roads-to-trails, will be consistent with Department BMPs, Departmental Operations Manuals (DOMs), Vegetation Management Guidelines, and Trail Handbook guidelines.

GEO-3: A qualified or California licensed geologist will review road decommissioning, new routes, road-to-trail conversion sites, and landslide repairs during project planning to determine if any geologic or soil conditions exist that require additional assessment or alteration of prescriptions. If unique features do exist or conditions so require, a California licensed geologist or their designee will conduct a geologic assessment/investigation and make appropriate design recommendations, and, if needed, define the boundaries of the work area on project drawings.

GEO-4: Heavy equipment operators will be cautioned to minimize their exposure to unstable slopes that may occur naturally or result from the earthmoving process. Qualified inspectors will continually evaluate slope geometry and earth materials and caution operators if unstable conditions are indicated.

GEO-5: No high ground pressure vehicles will be driven through project areas during the rainy season or when soils are wet and saturated to avoid compaction and/or damage to soil structure. Undisturbed areas will be avoided by vehicles to the extent practicable during all seasons. If vehicles must be driven through previously undisturbed areas during moist conditions, then the path of travel will be distributed and/or the travel way will be decompacted upon project completion. Existing compacted road or trail surfaces are exempted as they are already well compacted from use.

GEO-6: Topsoil excavated during initial construction will be segregated and used as a finishing surface over other fill to help conserve topsoil and promote revegetation.

GEO-7: Excavated spoil from project work will be placed in a stable location where it will not cause or contribute to slope failure, or erode and enter a stream channel or wetland. Spoil areas will be compacted in lifts and blended into the surrounding landscape to promote uniform sheet drainage. Stream or concentrated overland flow will not be allowed to discharge onto spoil areas, regardless of discharge rate.

GEO-8: Bare ground will be mulched with native vegetation removed during the work, or with other non-exotic plant-bearing mulch materials, to the maximum extent practicable to minimize surface erosion. Sufficient openings will be left in the mulch to allow revegetation.

GEO-9: Immediately following reconstruction, roads and trails will be closed for a period following construction that allows for one wet-dry cycle (e.g., one winter's duration) to allow the soil and materials to settle and compact before the route opens to the public. Routine maintenance will also be performed on the road or trail as necessary to reduce erosion to the extent possible and to repair weather-related damage that could contribute to erosion.

GEO-10: If anyone discovers potential paleontological resources during project construction or ground-disturbing activities, work within 100-feet of the find will be temporarily halted, the Department Representative will be notified immediately, and work will remain halted until a qualified paleontologist or geologist evaluates the significance of the find and recommends appropriate salvage or further mitigation procedures.

GEO-11: Road and trail stream crossings will have any new drainage structures designed for the 100-year storm flow event or be capable of passing the 100-year peak flow, debris, and sediment loads without significant damage.

GEO-12: Road and trail stream crossings will be designed and constructed without the potential for stream diversion.

GEO-13: Department staff will install appropriate energy dissipaters and employ other erosion control measures at water discharge points, as appropriate.

GEO-14: Install armored rock crossings at ephemeral drainages, micro drainages and swales to harden the trail tread in areas of potential interface between trail users and natural topographic drainage features.

GEO-15: All drainages (including micro drainages) will not be captured, diverted or coupled with other drainages by the road or trail.

GEO-16: Water will not be accumulated on a road or trail and drained off onto landforms where natural drainages do not exist.

GEO-17: Road and trail fillslopes will be designed with stable slope gradients as defined in Department trail construction manuals, guidelines, and handbooks, or as recommended by a qualified professional reviewing site-specific conditions. Unstable fillslopes will be stabilized or removed.

GEO-18: Road and trail surfaces and ditches will be hydrologically disconnected from wetlands, streams, and stream crossings to the extent feasible.

GEO-19: Provide outslope to the roadbed or trail tread and remove any outer edge berm to facilitate sheet flow off the road or trail where the dispersed flow can be filtered by vegetation and organic litter.

GEO-20: When outsloping road or trail surfaces is not feasible, such as steep linear grades, construct rolling dips to direct runoff safely off the route to prevent buildup of surface runoff and subsequent erosion. Water bars will be used as a last resort if outsloping and rolling dips, or minor rerouting are not feasible, or on routes receiving minimal use. Water bars will be constructed to divert water to controlled points along the route and with rock armor at the downslope end for energy dissipation.

GEO-21: If soils and parent material geologic capability are not sustainable, overly steep grades will be mitigated with surface hardening techniques. Hardening techniques (such as compacted aggregate or trail structures such as steps or retaining walls) will keep the surface sustainable, firm, and stable.

GEO-22: Department staff will develop a rehabilitation plan for decommissioned routes that includes using brush and trees removed from the new or existing route alignment for bio-mechanical erosion control (bundling slash and keying it in to fall line of the route, filling damaged sections with soil and duff removed from the new or existing alignment, constructing water bars if necessary, and replanting native trees and shrubs).

GEO-23: Both ends of a decommissioned road or trail, road-to-trail conversion or abandoned trail segment will be clearly blocked, and scatter its length with vegetative debris from new route construction to discourage continued use and degradation of the decommissioned portion of the road or trail.

GEO-24: Seasonally close roads and trails to all users when soils are saturated and softened.

GEO-25: Install “pinch points” to reduce downhill bicycle speed and increase the line of sight at curves.

GEO-26: Construct or repair barriers at switchbacks to discourage shortcuts and user-created trails.

GEO-27: After a large earthquake event in the region (i.e., magnitude 5.0 or greater centered within 75 miles of the project site or Cascadia subduction zone event in excess of magnitude 7.5 that ruptures south from Brookings, Oregon), Department staff will inspect all project structures and features for damage, as soon as is possible after the event. Any damaged structures or features, including landslides, will be closed to park visitors, volunteers, residents, contractors, and staff until such features or structures have been evaluated by a qualified or licensed professional and/or repaired. Seismically generated ground cracks along ridgecrests or other landforms removed from, but potentially affecting, the infrastructure will be evaluated as part of the investigation.

GEO-28: After or during a large storm or rainfall event (i.e., equal to or more than: six inches in 24 hours; 12 inches in 72 hours; or 15 inches in 120 hours, as measured at the Cuneo Campground weather station, or peak stream flows measured at the Bull Creek stream gage in excess of 6500 cubic feet per second), Department staff will inspect all project structures and features for damage, as soon as is safely possible after or during the event. Any damaged structures or features will be closed to park visitors, volunteers, residents, contractors, and staff until such features or structures have been evaluated by a qualified or licensed professional and/or repaired.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Regulatory Setting

Federal Regulations

The USEPA announced on December 7, 2009, that GHG emissions threaten the public health and welfare of the American people and that GHG emissions from on-road vehicles contribute to that threat.[53] The USEPA's final findings respond to the 2007 United States Supreme Court decision that GHG emissions fit within the CAA definition of air pollutants. The findings did not themselves impose any emission reduction requirements, but allowed the USEPA to finalize the GHG standards proposed in 2009 for new light-duty vehicles as part of the joint rulemaking with the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT).

To regulate GHGs from passenger vehicles, the USEPA was required to issue an endangerment finding.[54] The finding identifies emissions of six key GHGs: CO_2, CH_4 (methane), N_2O (nitrous oxide), HCFCs (hydrochlorofluorocarbon), PFCs (perfluorocarbons), and SF_6 (sulfur hexafluoride). The first three are applicable to the project's GHG emissions inventory because they constitute the majority of GHG emissions and, per Air District guidance, are the GHG emissions that should be evaluated as part of a project's GHG emissions inventory.

- **US Mandatory Reporting Rule for Greenhouse Gases (2009).** In response to the endangerment finding, the USEPA issued the Mandatory Reporting of GHG Rule (40 CFR Part 98) that requires substantial emitters of GHG emissions (large stationary sources, etc.) to report GHG emissions data. Facilities that emit 25,000 $MTCO_2e$ per year are required to submit an annual report.
- **USEPA Regulation of Stationary Sources under the Clean Air Act (Ongoing).** Pursuant to its authority under the Clean Air Act, the USEPA has been developing regulations for new, large, stationary sources of emissions, such as power plants and refineries. Under President Obama's 2013 Climate Action Plan, the USEPA was directed to develop regulations for existing stationary sources as well.[55] On June 19, 2019, the USEPA issued the final Affordable Clean Energy rule, which was crafted under the direction of President Trump's Energy Independence Executive Order and became effective August 19, 2019.[56] It officially rescinded the Clean Power Plan rule issued during the Obama Administration and sets emissions guidelines for states in developing plans to limit CO_2 emissions from coal-fired power plants. However, the Affordable Clean Energy rule was vacated by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on January 19, 2021. The Biden Administration is currently assessing options on potential future regulations.

State Regulations

Current State of California guidance and goals for reductions in GHG emissions are generally embodied in Executive Order S-03-05, Executive Order B-30-15, Executive Order B-55-18, AB 32, SB 32, and SB 375:

- **Executive Order S-03-05.** Executive Order S-03-05, signed June 1, 2005, set the following GHG reduction targets for the state:
  - 2000 levels by 2010.
  - 1990 levels by 2020.
  - 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

[53] US Environmental Protection Agency, December 7, 2009. EPA: Greenhouse Gases Threaten Public Health and the Environment, https://archive.epa.gov/epapages/newsroom_archive/newsreleases/08d11a451131bca585257685005bf252.html, accessed April 25, 2022.

[54] US Environmental Protection Agency, 2022. EPA: Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases Under Section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act, https://www.epa.gov/climate-change/endangerment-and-cause-or-contribute-findings-greenhouse-gases-under-section-202a, accessed April 25, 2022.

[55] United States Protection Agency, 2017. Clean Power Plan and Carbon Pollution Standards: Regulatory Actions, https://archive.epa.gov/epa/cleanpowerplan/clean-power-plan-and-carbon-pollution-standards-regulatory-actions.html#CAP, accessed April 25, 2022.

[56] United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2022. Affordable Clean Energy Rule, https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/affordable-clean-energy-rule, accessed April 25, 2022.

- **AB 32.** Also known as the Global Warming Solutions Act (2006), AB 32 (Nunez) was signed August 31, 2006, in order to reduce California's contribution of GHG emissions. AB 32 follows the 2020 tier of emissions reduction targets established in Executive Order S-03-05. Under AB 32, CARB prepared the *2008 Climate Change Scoping Plan*, the 2014 *First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan,* and the *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan,* which is discussed below.
    - CARB 2008 Scoping Plan. The 2008 *Climate Change Scoping Plan*, adopted by CARB on December 11, 2008, identified that GHG emissions in California are anticipated to be 596 $MMTCO_2e$ in 2020.[57] In December 2007, CARB approved a 2020 emissions limit of 427 $MMTCO_2e$ (471 million tons) for the state. To effectively implement the emissions cap, AB 32 directed CARB to establish a mandatory reporting system to track and monitor GHG emissions levels for large stationary sources that generate more than 25,000 $MTCO_2e$ per year, prepare a plan demonstrating how the 2020 deadline can be met, and develop appropriate regulations and programs to implement the plan by 2012.
    - First Update to the Scoping Plan. CARB completed a five-year update to the 2008 *Climate Change Scoping Plan*, as required by AB 32.[58] The *First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan*, adopted May 22, 2014, highlights California's progress toward meeting the near-term 2020 GHG emission reduction goal defined in the 2008 *Climate Change Scoping Plan*. As part of the update, CARB recalculated the 1990 GHG emission levels with the updated AR4 GWPs, and the 427 $MMTCO_2e$ 1990 emissions level and 2020 GHG emissions limit, established in response to AB 32, are slightly higher at 431 $MMTCO_2e$. As identified in the *First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan*, California is on track to meet the goals of AB 32. The update also addresses the state's longer-term GHG goals in a post-2020 element. The post-2020 element provides a high-level view of a long-term strategy for meeting the 2050 GHG goals, including a recommendation for the State to adopt a midterm target. According to the *First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan*, local government reduction targets should chart a reduction trajectory that is consistent with or exceeds the trajectory created by statewide goals. CARB identified that reducing emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels will require a fundamental shift to efficient, clean energy in every sector of the economy. Progressing toward California's 2050 climate targets will require significant acceleration of GHG reduction rates. Emissions from 2020 to 2050 will have to decline several times faster than the rate needed to reach the 2020 emissions limit.

- **Executive Order B-30-15.** Executive Order B-30-15, signed April 29, 2015, set a goal of reducing GHG emissions in the state to 40 percent of 1990 levels by year 2030.[59] Executive Order B-30-15 also directed CARB to update the Climate Change Scoping Plan to quantify the 2030 GHG reduction goal for the state and requires state agencies to implement measures to meet the interim 2030 goal as well as the long-term goal for 2050 in Executive Order S-03-05. It also requires the Natural Resources Agency to conduct triennial updates of the California adaption strategy, Safeguarding California, in order to ensure climate change is accounted for in state planning and investment decisions.
- **SB 32 and AB 197.** In September 2016, Governor Brown signed SB 32 (Pavley) and AB 197 (Garcia) into law, making the Executive Order goal for year 2030 into a statewide mandated legislative target. AB 197 established a joint legislative committee on climate change policies and requires the CARB to prioritize direction emissions reductions rather than the market-based cap-and-trade program for large stationary, mobile, and other sources.

[57] California Air Resources Board, December 2008. *Climate Change Scoping Plan: A Framework for Change, Pursuant to AB 32, The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006*, https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/classic/cc/scopingplan/document/adopted_scoping_plan.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

[58] California Air Resources Board, May 2014. *First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan: Building on the Framework, Pursuant to AB 32, The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006*, https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/classic/cc/scopingplan/2013_update/first_update_climate_change_scoping_plan.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

[59] Office of the Governor, April 29, 2015. Executive Order B-30-15, https://www.library.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/GovernmentPublications/executive-order-proclamation/39-B-30-15.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

- 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update. Executive Order B-30-15 and SB 32 required CARB to prepare another update to the Scoping Plan to address the 2030 target for the state. On December 24, 2017, CARB adopted the *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update*, which outlined potential regulations and programs, including strategies consistent with AB 197 requirements, to achieve the 2030 target.[60] The *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update* established a new emissions limit of 260 $MMTCO_2e$ for the year 2030, which corresponds to a 40 percent decrease in 1990 levels by 2030.

  California's climate strategy will require contributions from all sectors of the economy, including enhanced focus on zero- and near-zero emission (ZE/NZE) vehicle technologies; continued investment in renewables, such as solar roofs, wind, and other types of distributed generation; greater use of low carbon fuels; integrated land conservation and development strategies; coordinated efforts to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (methane, black carbon, and fluorinated gases); and an increased focus on integrated land use planning, to support livable, transit-connected communities and conservation of agricultural and other lands. Requirements for GHG reductions at stationary sources complement local air pollution control efforts by the local air districts to tighten criteria air pollutants and TACs emissions limits on a broad spectrum of industrial sources. Major elements of the *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update* framework include:

  - Implementing and/or increasing the standards of the Mobile Source Strategy, which include increasing ZEV buses and trucks.
  - Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS), with an increased stringency (18 percent by 2030).
  - Implementation of SB 350, which expands the RPS to 50 percent RPS and doubles energy efficiency savings by 2030.
  - California Sustainable Freight Action Plan, which improves freight system efficiency, utilizes near-zero emissions technology, and deployment of ZEV trucks.
  - Implementing the Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Strategy (SLPS), which focuses on reducing methane and hydrofluorocarbon emissions by 40 percent and anthropogenic black carbon emissions by 50 percent by year 2030.
  - Post-2020 Cap-and-Trade Program that includes declining caps.
  - Continued implementation of SB 375.
  - Development of a Natural and Working Lands Action Plan to secure California's land base as a net carbon sink.

  In addition to the statewide strategies listed above, the *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update* also identified local governments as essential partners in achieving the State's long-term GHG reduction goals and identified local actions to reduce GHG emissions. As part of the recommended actions, CARB recommends statewide targets of no more than 6 $MTCO_2e$ or less per capita by 2030 and 2 $MTCO_2e$ or less per capita by 2050. CARB recommends that local governments evaluate and adopt robust and quantitative locally appropriate goals that align with the statewide per capita targets and the State's sustainable development objectives and develop plans to achieve the local goals. The statewide per capita goals were developed by applying the percent reductions necessary to reach the 2030 and 2050 climate goals (i.e., 40 percent and 80 percent, respectively) to the State's 1990 emissions limit established under AB 32. For CEQA projects, CARB states that lead agencies have discretion to develop evidenced-based numeric thresholds (mass emissions, per capita, or per service population)—consistent with the *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update* and the state's long-term GHG goals. To the degree a project relies on GHG mitigation measures, CARB recommends that lead agencies prioritize on-site design features that reduce emissions, especially from vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and direct investments in GHG reductions within

[60] California Air Resources Board, January 2017. *The 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update: The Proposed Strategy for Achieving California's 2030 Greenhouse Gas Target*, https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/classic/cc/scopingplan/2030sp_pp_final.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

the project's region that contribute potential air quality, health, and economic co-benefits. Where further project design or regional investments are infeasible or not proven to be effective, CARB recommends mitigating potential GHG impacts through purchasing and retiring carbon credits.

The *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update* scenario is set against what is called the business-as-usual (BAU) yardstick—that is, what would the GHG emissions look like if the State did nothing at all beyond the existing policies that are required and already in place to achieve the 2020 limit, as shown in Table 4.7-1, *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Emissions Reductions Gap to Achieve the 2030 GHG Target*. It includes the existing renewables requirements, advanced clean cars, the "10 percent" LCFS, and the SB 375 program for more vibrant communities, among others. However, it does not include a range of new policies or measures that have been developed or put into statute over the past two years. Also shown in the table, the known commitments are expected to result in emissions that are 60 $MMTCO_2e$ above the target in 2030. If the estimated GHG reductions from the known commitments are not realized due to delays in implementation or technology deployment, the post-2020 Cap-and-Trade Program would deliver the additional GHG reductions in the sectors it covers to ensure the 2030 target is achieved.

Table 4.7-1 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Emissions Reductions Gap to Achieve the 2030 GHG Target

Modeling Scenario	2030 GHG Emissions $MMTCO_2e$
Reference Scenario (Business-as-Usual)	389
With Known Commitments	320
2030 GHG Target	**260**
Gap to 2030 Target with Known Commitments	**60**

Source: California Air Resources Board, January 2017. California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan: The Strategy for Achieving California's 2030 Greenhouse Gas Target, https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2030sp_pp_final.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

Table 4.7-2, *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Emissions by Sector to Achieve the 2030 GHG Target*, provides GHG emissions by sector, for 1990, and the range of GHG emissions for each sector estimated for 2030, and the percent change compared to 1990 levels.

Table 4.7-2 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Emissions by Sector to Achieve the 2030 GHG Target

Scoping Plan Sector	1990 $MMTCO_2e$	2030 Proposed Plan Ranges $MMTCO_2e$	% Change from 1990
Agricultural	26	24-25	-8% to -4%
Residential and Commercial	44	38-40	-14% to -9%
Electric Power	108	30-53	-72% to -51%
High GWP	3	8-11	267% to 367%
Industrial	98	83-90	-15% to -8%
Recycling and Waste	7	8-9	14% to 29%
Transportation (including TCU)	152	103-111	-32% to -27%
Net Sink[a]	-7	TBD	TBD
Sub Total	431	294-339	-32% to -21%
Cap-and-Trade Program	NA	24-79	NA
Total	**431**	**260**	**-40%**

Notes: TCU = Transportation, Communications, and Utilities; TBD = To Be Determined.
a. Work is underway through 2017 to estimate the range of potential sequestration benefits from the natural and working lands sector.
Source: California Air Resources Board, 2017. California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan: The Strategy for Achieving California's 2030 Greenhouse Gas Target, https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/2030sp_pp_final.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

- **Renewable Portfolio/Carbon Neutrality Regulations – Executive Order B-55-18.** Executive Order B-55-18, signed September 10, 2018, sets a goal "to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible, and no later than 2045, and achieve and maintain net negative emissions thereafter." Executive Order B-55-18 directs CARB to work with relevant State agencies to ensure future Scoping Plans identify and recommend measures to achieve the carbon neutrality goal. The goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 is in addition to other statewide goals, meaning not only should emissions be reduced to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, but that, by no later than 2045, the remaining emissions should be offset by equivalent net removals of CO_2e from the atmosphere, including through sequestration in forests, soils, and other natural landscapes.
- **SB 375.** SB 375 (Steinberg), also known as the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (HSC Section 38500 et seq.), was adopted to connect the GHG emissions reductions targets established in the 2008 *Climate Change Scoping Plan* for the transportation sector to local land use decisions that affect travel behavior. Its intent is to reduce GHG emissions from light-duty trucks and automobiles (excludes emissions associated with goods movement) by aligning regional long-range transportation plans, investments, and housing allocations to local land use planning to reduce VMT and vehicle trips. Specifically, SB 375 required CARB to establish GHG emissions reduction targets for each of the 18 MPO. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee, CARB adopted per capita reduction targets for each of the MPOs rather than a total magnitude reduction target.
    - 2017 Update to the SB 375 Targets. CARB is required to update the targets for the MPOs every eight years. CARB adopted revised SB 375 targets for the MPOs in March 2018.[61] The updated targets become effective on October 1, 2018. The targets consider the need to further reduce VMT, as identified in the *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update* (for SB 32), while balancing the need for additional and more flexible revenue sources to incentivize positive planning and action toward sustainable communities. Like the 2010 targets, the updated SB 375 targets are in units of percent per capita reduction in GHG emissions from automobiles and light trucks relative to 2005; this excludes reductions anticipated from implementation of state technology and fuels strategies, and any potential future state strategies, such as statewide road user pricing.

      The proposed targets call for greater per-capita GHG emission reductions from SB 375 than are currently in place, which for 2035 translate into proposed targets that either match or exceed the emission reduction levels in the MPOs' currently adopted Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS) to achieve the SB 375 targets. CARB foresees that the additional GHG emissions reductions in 2035 may be achieved from land use changes, transportation investment, and technology strategies.

- **Renewable Portfolio/Carbon Neutrality Regulations – Senate Bills 1078, 107, and X1-2, and Executive Order S-14-08.** A major component of California's Renewable Energy Program is the RPS established under Senate Bills 1078 (Sher) and 107 (Simitian). Under the RPS, certain retail sellers of electricity were required to increase the amount of renewable energy each year by at least 1 percent in order to reach at least 20 percent by December 30, 2010. Executive Order S-14-08, signed in November 2008, expanded the State's renewable energy standard to 33 percent renewable power by 2020. This standard was adopted by the legislature in 2011 (SB X1-2). Renewable sources of electricity include wind, small hydropower, solar, geothermal, biomass, and biogas. The increase in renewable sources for electricity production will decrease indirect GHG emissions from development projects because electricity production from renewable sources is generally considered carbon neutral.
- **Renewable Portfolio/Carbon Neutrality Regulations – Senate Bill 350.** Senate Bill 350 (de Leon) was signed into law September 2015 and establishes tiered increases to the RPS—40 percent by 2024, 45 percent by 2027, and 50 percent by 2030. SB 350 also set a new goal to double the energy-efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas through energy efficiency and conservation measures.

[61] California Air Resources Board, February 2018. *Updated Final Staff Report: Proposed Update to the SB 375 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets*, https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/SB375_Updated_Final_Target_Staff_Report_2018.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

- **Renewable Portfolio/Carbon Neutrality Regulations – Senate Bill 100.** On September 10, 2018, Governor Brown signed SB 100 (de Leon). Under SB 100, the RPS for public-owned facilities and retail sellers consist of 44 percent renewable energy by 2024, 52 percent by 2027, and 60 percent by 2030. SB 100 also established a new RPS requirement of 50 percent by 2026. Furthermore, the bill establishes an overall state policy that eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources supply 100 percent of all retail sales of electricity to California end-use customers and 100 percent of electricity procured to serve all state agencies by December 31, 2045. Under the bill, the state cannot increase carbon emissions elsewhere in the western grid or allow resource shuffling to achieve the 100 percent carbon-free electricity target.
- **Renewable Portfolio/Carbon Neutrality Regulations – Executive Order B-55-18.** Executive Order B-55-18, signed September 10, 2018, sets a goal "to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible, and no later than 2045, and achieve and maintain net negative emissions thereafter." Executive Order B-55-18 directs CARB to work with relevant state agencies to ensure future Scoping Plans identify and recommend measures to achieve the carbon neutrality goal. The goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 is in addition to other statewide goals, meaning not only should emissions be reduced to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, but that, by no later than 2045, the remaining emissions be offset by equivalent net removals of CO_2e from the atmosphere, including through sequestration in forests, soils, and other natural landscapes.
- **Energy Efficiency Regulations – California Building Code: Building Energy Efficiency Standards.** Energy conservation standards for new residential and nonresidential buildings were adopted by the California Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (now the CEC) in June 1977 under 24 CCR Part 6. Title 24 requires the design of building shells and building components to conserve energy. The standards are updated periodically to allow for consideration and possible incorporation of new energy efficiency technologies and methods. The 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, which were adopted on May 9, 2018, went into effect starting January 1, 2020. The 2019 standards move toward cutting energy use in new homes by more than 50 percent and will require installation of solar photovoltaic systems for single-family homes and multifamily buildings of three stories and less. The 2019 standards focus on four key areas: 1) smart residential photovoltaic systems; 2) updated thermal envelope standards (preventing heat transfer from the interior to exterior and vice versa); 3) residential and nonresidential ventilation requirements; 4) and nonresidential lighting requirements. Under the 2019 standards, nonresidential buildings are generally 30 percent more energy efficient compared to the 2016 standards, and single-family homes are generally 7 percent more energy efficient. When accounting for the electricity generated by the solar photovoltaic system, single-family homes would use 53 percent less energy compared to homes built to the 2016 standards. The 2022 Building Energy Efficiency Standards were adopted in August 2021 with an effective date of January 1, 2023.
- **Energy Efficiency Regulations – California Building Code: CALGreen.** On July 17, 2008, the CBSC adopted the nation's first green building standards. The California Green Building Standards Code (24 CCR Part 11, known as "CALGreen") was adopted as part of the California Building Standards Code. CALGreen established planning and design standards for sustainable site development, energy efficiency (in excess of the California Energy Code requirements), water conservation, material conservation, and internal air contaminants. The mandatory provisions of CALGreen became effective January 1, 2011, and were last updated in 2019. The 2019 CALGreen standards became effective January 1, 2020.
- **Energy Efficiency Regulations – 2006 Appliance Efficiency Regulations.** The 2006 Appliance Efficiency Regulations (20 CCR Sections 1601 – 1608) were adopted by the CEC on October 11, 2006, and approved by the California Office of Administrative Law on December 14, 2006. The regulations include standards for both federally regulated appliances and non–federally regulated appliances. Though these regulations are now often viewed as "business as usual," they exceed the standards imposed by all other states, and they reduce GHG emissions by reducing energy demand.
- **Solid Waste Regulations – AB 939.** AB 939 (Sher), also known as the California's Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (PRC Sections 40050 – 40063), set a requirement for cities and counties throughout the state to divert 50 percent of all solid waste from landfills by January 1, 2000, through source reduction, recycling, and composting. In 2008, the requirements were modified to reflect a per capita requirement

rather than tonnage. To help achieve this, the act requires that each city and county prepare and submit a source reduction and recycling element. AB 939 also established the goal for all California counties to provide at least 15 years of ongoing landfill capacity.

- **Solid Waste Regulations – AB 341.** AB 341 (Chesbro) increased the statewide goal for waste diversion to 75 percent by 2020 and requires recycling of waste from commercial and multifamily residential land uses. Section 5.408 of CALGreen also requires that at least 65 percent of the nonhazardous construction and demolition waste from nonresidential construction operations be recycled and/or salvaged for reuse.
- **Solid Waste Regulations – AB 1327.** AB 1327 (Farr), also known as the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991 (PRC Section 42900 et seq.), requires areas to be set aside for collecting and loading recyclable materials in development projects. The act required the California Integrated Waste Management Board to develop a model ordinance for adoption by any local agency requiring adequate areas for collection and loading of recyclable materials as part of development projects. Local agencies are required to adopt the model or an ordinance of their own.
- **Solid Waste Regulations – AB 1826.** In October of 2014, Governor Brown signed AB 1826 (Chesbro) requiring businesses to recycle their organic waste on and after April 1, 2016, depending on the amount of waste they generate per week. This law also requires that on and after January 1, 2016, local jurisdictions across the state implement an organic waste recycling program to divert organic waste generated by businesses and multifamily residential dwellings with five or more units. Organic waste means food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed with food waste.
- **Water Efficiency Regulations – SB X7-7.** The *20x2020 Water Conservation Plan* was issued by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 2010 pursuant to SB 7 (Steinberg), which was adopted during the 7th Extraordinary Session of 2009–2010 and therefore dubbed "SB X7-7."[62] SB X7-7 mandated urban water conservation and authorized the DWR to prepare a plan implementing urban water conservation requirements. In addition, it required agricultural water providers to prepare agricultural water management plans, measure water deliveries to customers, and implement other efficiency measures. SB X7-7 required urban water providers to adopt a water conservation target of 20 percent reduction in urban per capita water use by 2020 compared to 2005 baseline use.
- **Water Efficiency Regulations – AB 1881.** AB 1881 (Laird), also known as the Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (GOV Sections 65591 – 65599), requires local agencies to adopt the updated DWR model ordinance or an equivalent. AB 1881 also requires the CEC to consult with the DWR to adopt, by regulation, performance standards and labeling requirements for landscape irrigation equipment, including irrigation controllers, moisture sensors, emission devices, and valves to reduce the wasteful, uneconomic, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy or water.
- **Short-Lived Climate Pollutants – SB 1383.** On September 19, 2016, the Governor signed SB 1383 (Lara) to supplement the GHG reduction strategies in the Scoping Plan to consider short-lived climate pollutants, including black carbon and methane. Black carbon is the light-absorbing component of fine particulate matter produced during incomplete combustion of fuels. SB 1383 required the state board, no later than January 1, 2018, to approve and begin implementing a comprehensive strategy to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants to achieve a reduction in methane by 40 percent, hydrofluorocarbon gases by 40 percent, and anthropogenic black carbon by 50 percent below 2013 levels by 2030. The bill also established targets for reducing organic waste in landfills. On March 14, 2017, CARB adopted the *Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy*, which identifies the state's approach to reducing anthropogenic and biogenic sources of short-lived climate pollutants.[63] Anthropogenic sources of black carbon include on- and off-road

[62] California Department of Water Resources, February 2010. 20X2020 Water Conservation Plan, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/hot_topics/20x2020/docs/20x2020plan.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

[63] California Air Resources Board, March 2017. *Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy*, https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/shortlived/meetings/03142017/final_slcp_report.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

transportation, residential wood burning, fuel combustion (charbroiling), and industrial processes. According to CARB, ambient levels of black carbon in California are 90 percent lower than in the early 1960s, despite the tripling of diesel fuel use. In-use on-road rules were expected to reduce black carbon emissions from on-road sources by 80 percent between 2000 and 2020.

Sacramento Area Council of Governments 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy

The SACOG is the MPO for the 28 cities of the Sacramento region, which includes El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties. SACOG adopted the *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy (MTP/SCS)* on November 18, 2019.[64] The *2020 MTP/SCS* lays out a transportation investment and land use strategy to support of prosperous region, with access to jobs and economic opportunity, transportation options, and affordable housing that works for all residents. The plan also lays out a path for improving air quality, preserving open space and natural resources, and helping California achieve its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. One of the key goals of the *2020 MTP/SCS* is to foster the next generation of mobility solutions to improve travel times, traffic congestion, air quality, and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Affected Environment

California GHG Sources and Relative Contribution

In 2021, the statewide GHG emissions inventory was updated for 2000 to 2019 emissions.[65] California produced 418.2 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MMTCO_2e$) GHG emissions in 2019. California's transportation sector was the single largest generator of GHG emissions, producing 39.7 percent of the state's total emissions. Industrial sector emissions made up 21.1 percent, and electric power generation made up 14.1 percent of the State's emissions inventory. Other major sectors of GHG emissions include commercial and residential (10.5 percent), agriculture and forestry (7.6 percent), high Global Warming Potential (4.9 percent), and recycling and waste (2.1 percent).

Since the peak level in 2004, California's GHG emissions have generally followed a decreasing trend. In 2016, California statewide GHG emissions dropped below the AB 32 target for year 2020 of 431 $MMTCO_2e$ and have remained below this target since then. In 2019, emissions from routine GHG-emitting activities statewide were almost 13 $MMTCO_2e$ lower than the AB 32 target for year 2020. Per capita GHG emissions in California have dropped from a 2001 peak of 14.0 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MTCO_2e$) per person to 10.5 $MTCO_2e$ per person in 2019, a 25 percent decrease.

Transportation emissions continued to decline in 2019 statewide as they had done in 2018, with even more substantial reductions due to a significant increase in renewable diesel. Since 2008, California's electricity sector has followed an overall downward trend in emissions. In 2019, solar power generation continued to grow rapidly, as it has since 2013. Emissions from high-GWP gases comprised 4.9 percent of California's emissions in 2019, an increase of 0.6 percent since 2015. These gases replace ozone-depleting substances being phased out under the 1987 Montreal Protocol. Overall trends in the State's emissions inventory also demonstrate that the carbon intensity of California's economy (the amount of carbon pollution per million dollars of gross domestic product) has declined 45 percent since the 2001 peak, though the state's gross domestic product grew 63 percent during this period.

[64] Sacramento Area Council of Governments, November 2019. *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS)*, https://www.sacog.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/2020_mtp-scs.pdf?1580330993, accessed April 25, 2022.

[65] California Air Resources Board, July 2021. *California Greenhouse Gas 2000-2019: Trends of Emissions and Other Indicators*, https://ww3.arb.ca.gov/cc/inventory/pubs/reports/2000_2019/ghg_inventory_trends_00-19.pdf, accessed May 6, 2022.

Plan Area

GHG emissions from the Plan Area are attributed to vehicle trips to and from the Plan Area, energy use, water use, wastewater and solid waste generation, motorized boating activities, and maintenance activities by State Park officials.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) The purpose of the RTMP is to provide specific guidance and direction for implementing the goals and objectives of the park's approved General Plan. It describes the park's existing road and trail conditions and provides a roadmap for future management including specific actions for individual roads and trails. Road and trail construction and maintenance would continue to occur with or without the RTMP. Therefore, while route maintenance and/or construction involving mechanical equipment would result in temporary and minor increases of GHG emissions that contribute to climate change, it would not change as a result of the adoption of the RTMP. Similarly, change-in-use projects could result in GHG emissions from construction-related equipment and an increase in operation-related vehicle trips and associated mobile-source GHG emissions. However, actions taken under this RTMP will incorporate appropriate SPRs (AQ-1 though AQ-16, TRAN-3, and TRAN-4) to control emissions. These potential increases would not be substantial and would not conflict with the GHG reduction goals of AB 32. Therefore, increases in GHG emissions associated with RTMP projects would not be cumulatively considerable. This impact would be less than significant.

b) The proposed Project consists of a guiding document for park managers, staff, and volunteers who construct trail improvements, maintain or repair existing trails, or are otherwise involved with trail construction or maintenance. The RTMP establishes goals for the overall trail system as well as guidelines for appropriate trail uses, closures, reroutes, maintenance, repair, and monitoring. The RTMP also defines trail-specific actions for individual trails as well as recommended future planning efforts. As stated in Section 4.3, *Air Quality*, Environmental Consequences section, the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct requirements specified by the El Dorado County Air Pollution Control District, the Placer County Air Pollution Control District, or the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. The project would also not conflict with the *2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update*, which includes potential regulations and programs to achieve the 40 percent decrease in 1990 GHG levels by 2030.[66] Therefore, because the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of an applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases, there would be no impact.

[66] California Air Resources Board, January 2017. *The 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update: The Proposed Strategy for Achieving California's 2030 Greenhouse Gas Target*, https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/classic/cc/scopingplan/2030sp_pp_final.pdf, accessed April 25, 2022.

Applicable SPRs

AQ-1: No more than 1.0 acre of ground disturbance (e.g., earth moving, grading, excavation, land clearing) will occur in any single day.

AQ-2: Prior to any ground disturbance, including grading, excavating, and land clearing, sufficient water must be applied to the area to be disturbed to minimize fugitive dust emissions if existing ground moisture is insufficient.

AQ-3: Unpaved areas subject to vehicle travel and areas subject to mechanical grading, excavation, land clearing, or other forms of ground disturbance will be stabilized by being kept wet, treated with a chemical dust suppressant, or covered if existing ground moisture is insufficient to minimize fugitive dust emissions. Exposed areas will not be overwatered such that watering results in runoff. Unpaved areas subject to vehicle travel could also be stabilized through the effective application of gravel or through watering.

AQ-4: Suitable vegetative ground cover will be established on exposed, disturbed surfaces through seeding and watering as soon as possible (consistent with the Departments Genetic Integrity Policy for revegetation), except for areas intended to be used as roads/trails or for parking or staging. If a vegetated ground cover is not suitable to the area then this requirement does not apply.

AQ-5: Storage piles and disturbed areas not subject to vehicular traffic must be stabilized by being kept wet, treated with a chemical dust suppressant, or covered when material is not being added to or removed from the pile.

AQ-6: The speed of construction-related trucks, vehicles, and equipment traveling on unpaved areas will be limited to 15 miles per hour (mph).

AQ-7: All trucks or light equipment hauling soil, sand, or other earthen materials on public roads to or from the site will be covered or required to maintain at least two feet of freeboard.

AQ-8: Off-road construction equipment and on-road haul trucks leaving the park will be cleaned onsite to prevent silt, mud, and dirt, from being released or tracked off-site, as dictated by controlling agencies.

AQ-9: All visible dust, silt, or mud tracked-out on to public paved roadways as a result of construction-related activities will be removed at the conclusion of each construction workday, or a minimum of every 24 hours for continuous construction operations.

AQ-10: Excavation, grading, land clearing, other mechanical ground disturbance, and demolition activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 15 mph and/or instantaneous gusts exceed 25 mph or when dust from construction might obscure driver visibility on public roads.

AQ-11: Where a change-in-use results in vehicle travel on unpaved roads and other unpaved services, signs shall be posted limiting vehicle travel to 15 mph.

AQ-12: Construction-related ground disturbance activities will not be performed in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos" according to maps and guidance published by the California Geological Survey (CGS), formerly the California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology. This determination would be based on a CGS publication titled A General Location Guide for Ultramafic Rocks in California – Areas More Likely to Contain Naturally Occurring Asbestos (Churchill and Hill 2000), or whatever more current guidance from CGS exists at the time the change-in-use project is evaluated. Work shall comply with the guidelines of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for conducting work in NOA areas. Any NOA-related guidance provided by the applicable local air district shall also be followed. If a site-specific investigation identifies the presence of NOA, then an Asbestos Dust Control Plan will be

developed and implemented in accordance with Section 93105 of the California Health and Safety Code.

AQ-13: New trail or road alignments will not be located in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos" according to maps and guidance published by the CGS unless a site-specific investigation performed by a Registered Geologist confirms that NOA-containing rock or dirt is not exposed at the surface of the trail. Alternatively, any trail or road alignments that are not located over areas where NOA is \exposed at the surface will be covered with an appropriate material, depending on the intended use of the trail that would prevent entrainment of asbestos-containing dust into the air. Possible methods of covering NOA-containing material on the surface include paving and graveling with non-NOA-containing gravel.

AQ-14: Operation of large diesel- or gasoline-powered construction equipment (i.e., greater than 50 horsepower) will not exceed 60 equipment-hours per day, where an equipment-hour is defined as one piece of equipment operating for one hour (daily CAPs, TACs, GHGs).

AQ-15: All diesel- and gasoline-powered equipment will be properly maintained according to manufacturer's specifications, and in compliance with all State and federal emissions requirements. Maintenance records will be available at the construction site for verification.

AQ-16: Whenever possible, removed vegetative material will be either left in place (e.g. for use as mulch) or chipped on site. If approved, an air curtain burner may be used. When pile burning is deemed necessary, a burn permit would be obtained from the local air quality management district and burn piles would be no larger than 10x10x5 feet and ignited on approved burn days only.

TRAN-3: **[insert who]** will assess parking capacity prior to implementing a proposed recommendation. After implementation of the proposed recommendation, Department staff will monitor parking levels as part of the Adaptive Use Management process. If monitoring indicates an exceedance of parking capacity (i.e., increased use of undesignated on-street parking or increased illegal parking due to overflow of parking lot facilities), the **[insert who]** will implement a management response to resolve the parking capacity issue. Measures in the management response may include, but would not be limited to re-designing parking facilities (including minor parking lot expansions in areas where environmental resources will not be affected), installing parking meters and/or applying time limits, working with local transportation departments to increase nearby off-site parking availability, directing users to other existing lots, and/or working with local transit operators to increase transit to the trail facility. Department District personnel will determine which actions are feasible at the park unit.

TRAN-4: Prior to initiating any construction activities with the potential to significantly or permanently disrupt traffic flows, the construction manager will have a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), prepared by a qualified professional that will provide measures to reduce potential traffic obstruction or service level degradation at affected traffic facilities. The scope of the CTMP will depend on the type, intensity, and duration of the specific construction activities associated with the project. Measures included in the CTMP could include (but are not limited to) construction signage, flaggers for lane closures, construction schedule and/or delivery schedule restrictions, etc. The CTMP will be submitted to the local agency having jurisdiction over the affected traffic facilities.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Regulatory Setting

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976 (42 USC Section 6901 et seq.) is the principal federal law that regulates the generation, management, and transportation of waste. Hazardous waste management includes the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste. Treatment is any process that changes the physical, chemical, or biological character of the waste to reduce its potential as an environmental threat. Treatment can include neutralizing the waste; recovering energy or material resources from the waste; rendering the waste less hazardous; or making the waste safer to transport, dispose of, or store.

The RCRA gave the USEPA the authority to control hazardous waste from "cradle to grave," that is, from generation to transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal. The RCRA also set forth a framework for the management of nonhazardous wastes. The 1986 amendments to RCRA enabled the EPA to address environmental problems that could result from underground tanks storing petroleum and other hazardous substances. It should be noted that RCRA focuses only on active and future facilities and does not address abandoned or historical sites. The federal Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments are the 1984 amendments to RCRA that required phasing out land disposal of hazardous waste. Some of the other mandates of this strict law include increased enforcement authority for the USEPA, more stringent hazardous waste management standards, and a comprehensive underground storage tank program.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980 (42 USC Section 9601 et seq.), commonly known as the Superfund, was enacted to protect the water, air, and land resources from the risks created by past chemical disposal practices such as abandoned and historical hazardous waste sites. Through the act, the USEPA was given power to seek out the parties responsible for any release and assure their cooperation in the cleanup. This federal law created a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries that went to a trust fund for cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. CERCLA also enabled the revision of the National Contingency Plan, which provided the guidelines and procedures needed to respond to releases and threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. The National Contingency Plan also established the National Priority List of sites, which are known as Superfund sites. CERCLA was amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act on October 17, 1986.

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (42 USC Section 9601 et seq.) reauthorized CERCLA to continue cleanup activities around the country. Several site-specific amendments, clarifications, and technical requirements were added to the legislation, including additional enforcement authorities. Title III of the Act also authorized the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.

Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act

Emergency Planning & Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA; 42 USC Sections 11001 – 11050) was enacted by Congress as the national legislation on community safety. This law was designated to help local communities protect public health, safety, and the environment from chemical hazards. The primary purpose of EPCRA is to inform communities and citizens of chemical hazards in their areas by requiring businesses to report the locations and quantities of chemicals stored on-site to state and local agencies. These reports help communities prepare to respond to chemical spills and similar emergencies. Section 3131 of EPCRA requires manufacturers to report releases to the environment (air, soil, and water) of more than 600 designated toxic chemicals, report off-site transfers of waste for treatment or disposal at separate facilities, pollution prevention measures and activities, and participate in chemical recycling. These annual reports are submitted to the USEPA and state agencies. The USEPA maintains and publishes a database that contains information on toxic chemical releases and other waste

management activities by certain industry groups and federal facilities. This online, publicly available, national digital database is called the Toxics Release Inventory and was expanded by the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990.

To implement EPCRA, Congress required each state to appoint a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) to coordinate planning and implementation activities associated with hazardous materials. The SERCs were required to divide their states into Emergency Planning Districts and to name a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for each district. The federal EPCRA program is implemented and administered in California by the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA), a SERC, six LEPCs, and 83 Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs). Cal EMA provides staff support to the SERC and the LEPCs. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) coordinates and provides staff support for the SERC and LEPCs. Broad representation by firefighters, health officials, government and media representatives, community groups, industrial facilities, and emergency managers ensures that all necessary elements of the planning process are represented.

Toxic Substances Control Act

The Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 (15 USC Sections 2601 – 2629) was enacted by Congress to give the USEPA the ability to track the 75,000 industrial chemicals currently produced or imported into the United States. The USEPA repeatedly screens these chemicals and can require reporting or testing of any that may pose an environmental or human health hazard. It can ban the manufacture and import of those chemicals that pose an unreasonable risk. Also, the USEPA has mechanisms in place to track the thousands of new chemicals that industry develops each year with either unknown or dangerous characteristics. It then can control these chemicals as necessary to protect human health and the environment. The act supplements other federal statutes, including the Clean Air Act and the Toxics Release Inventory under EPCRA.

Federal Aviation Regulation Part 77

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a final rule on July 21, 2010, effective January 18, 2011, to 14 CFR Part 77, *Safe, Efficient Use, and Preservation of the Navigable Airspace*. Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 77 establishes standards and notification requirements for objects affecting navigable airspace. The notification requirement serves as the basis for evaluating the effect of construction or alteration on operating procedures, determining the potential hazardous effect of proposed construction on air navigation, identifying mitigating measures to enhance safe air navigation, and charting of new objects. FAR Part 77 notification allows the FAA to identify potential aeronautical hazards in advance to prevent or minimize the adverse impacts to the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace. Any developer who intends to sponsor any of the following construction or alterations must notify the Administrator of the FAA:

- Any construction or alteration exceeding 200 feet above ground level.
- Any construction or alteration:
  - within 20,000 feet of a public use or military airport which exceeds a 100:1 surface from any point on the runway of each airport with at least one runway more than 3,200 feet.
  - within 10,000 feet of a public use or military airport which exceeds a 50:1 surface from any point on the runway of each airport with its longest runway no more than 3,200 feet.
  - within 5,000 feet of a public use heliport which exceeds a 25:1 surface.
- Any highway, railroad, or other traverse way whose prescribed adjusted height would exceed the standards noted above.
- When requested by the FAA.
- Any construction or alteration located on a public use airport or heliport regardless of height or location.

Hazardous Materials Transportation

Section 31303 of the California Vehicle Code and USDOT regulations state that hazardous materials being directly transported from one location to another ("through-transport") must use routes with the least overall travel time (e.g., major roadways/highways instead of local streets). However, local roadways can be used for deliveries and

pickups of hazardous materials and wastes to or from a specific location. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) and Caltrans are the enforcement agencies for hazardous materials transportation regulations in the planning area. Transporters of hazardous materials and waste are responsible for complying with all applicable packaging, labeling, and shipping regulations. The California OES also provides emergency response services involving hazardous materials incidents. Federal regulations governing the safe and secure transport of hazardous materials are set forth in CFR Title 49 Parts 100-185.

Worker and Workplace Hazardous Materials Safety

Occupational safety standards exist in federal and state laws to minimize worker safety risks from both physical and chemical hazards in the workplace. The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) is responsible for developing and enforcing workplace safety standards and ensuring worker safety in the handling and use of hazardous materials.[67] Among other requirements, Cal OSHA obligates many businesses to prepare Injury and Illness Prevention Plans and Chemical Hygiene Plans. The Hazard Communication Standard requires that workers be informed of the hazards associated with the materials they handle. For example, manufacturers are to appropriately label containers, Material Safety Data Sheets are to be available in the workplace, and employers are to properly train workers.

Hazardous Materials in Structures

Asbestos is regulated as a hazardous air pollutant under the CAA and is also regulated as a potential worker safety hazard under the authority of the OSHA.[68] The Cal OSHA considers asbestos-containing building material a hazardous substance when a bulk sample contains more than 0.1 percent asbestos by weight. Cal OSHA requires that a qualified contractor licensed to handle asbestos materials handle any material containing more than 0.1 percent asbestos by weight. Any activity that involves cutting, grinding, or drilling during building renovation or demolition, or relocation of underground utilities, could release friable asbestos fibers unless proper precautions are taken.

Several regulations and guidelines pertain to abatement of and protection from exposure to asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP). These include Construction Safety Orders 1529 (pertaining to ACM) and 1532.1 (pertaining to LBP) from Title 8 of the CCR, and Part 61, Subpart M, of the CFR (pertaining to ACM). These rules and regulations prohibit emissions of asbestos from asbestos-related demolition or construction activities, require medical examinations and monitoring of employees engaged in activities that could disturb asbestos, specify precautions and safe work practices that must be followed to minimize the potential for release of asbestos fibers, and require notice to federal and local government agencies prior to beginning renovation or demolition that could disturb asbestos. In California, ACM and LBP abatement must be performed and monitored by contractors with appropriate certification from the California Department of Health Services.

California Building Code

Chapter 7A, *Materials and Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure*, of the CBC, prescribes building materials and construction methods for new buildings in a Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Chapter 7A contains requirements for roofing; attic ventilation; exterior walls; exterior windows and glazing; exterior doors; decking; protection of underfloor, appendages, and floor projections; and ancillary structures. The CBC is updated on a three-year cycle; the current 2019 CBC took effect in January 2020.

California Public Resources Code

California PRC Section 4291 et seq. requires that brush, flammable vegetation, or combustible growth within 100 feet of buildings be removed. Vegetation that is more than 30 feet from the building, less than 18 inches high, and important for soil stability, may be maintained; as may single specimens of trees or other vegetation that is maintained so as to manage fuels and not form a means of rapid fire transmission from other nearby vegetation

[67] California Department of Industrial Relations, 2022. Cal/OSHA, https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/, accessed April 25, 2022.

[68] California Department of Industrial Relations, 2022. Cal/OSHA, https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/acru/acruinfo.htm, accessed April 25, 2022.

to a structure. Requirements regarding hazardous vegetation and fuel management are also contained in Sections 4906 and 4907 of the CFC.

PRC Section 4290 requires that all parcels one acre or larger shall provide a minimum 30-foot setback for buildings from all property lines and/or the center of the road.

California Fire Code

Chapter 49, *Requirements for Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Areas*, of the CFC prescribes construction materials and methods in fire hazard severity zones; requirements generally parallel CBC Chapter 7A. The CFC is updated on a three-year cycle; the current 2019 CFC took effect in January 2020.

California Education Code

Section 17213 of the California Education Code prohibits the use of toxic or hazardous materials and wastes within a quarter mile of a school. A school district shall not approve of a project that includes unremedied former hazardous waste disposal site, or if it includes pipelines that contain hazardous substances on site (excluding natural gas that is provided to the school). "Hazardous substance" includes any substance defined in Section 25316 of the Health and Safety Code. A project may be approved under the California Education Code if project is found to mitigate the health risks of the hazardous materials or finds that they do not constitute an actual or potential endangerment of the persons attending or employed at the school.

Mather Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan

The Mather Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan was prepared by the SACOG in September 2020.[69] The policies outlined in the ALUCP are designed to promote compatibility between Mather Airport and surrounding land uses. The ALUCP also identifies the Airport Influence Area (AIA) and Airspace Protection Surfaces for Mather Airport. The AIA represents the geographic extent of the ALUCP's authority and the applicability of the ALUCP noise, safety, airspace protection, and overflight notification policies and compatibility criteria. These areas may also be subject to the annoyances or inconveniences associated with noise from airport uses. The Airspace Protection Surfaces include primary surfaces, approach surfaces, transitional surfaces, horizontal surfaces, and conical surfaces. Any object that penetrates one of the Airspace Protection Surfaces is deemed an obstruction to air navigation, but not all obstructions are necessarily hazards. Any proposed construction or alteration within 20,000 feet of a runway and having a height that would exceed a 100:1 imaginary surface would require a filing a notice with the FAA, as well has any proposed structure or object more than 200 feet in height regardless of proximity to the airport.

Affected Environment

Hazardous Material Sites

There is only one active/open hazardous material site within the Plan Area.[70, 71] The Nimbus Flat day use area is a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Cleanup Site that has had a pending site assessment since 2009.[72] The potential media of concern is soil; potential contaminants of concern are diesel and heating/fuel oil.

[69] Sacramento County Association of Governments, September 2020. *Mather Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*, https://www.sacog.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/mather_draft_alucp.pdf?1601659275, accessed on May 13, 2022.

[70] California Department of Toxic Substance Control, 2022. EnviroStor, https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/, accessed May 9, 2022.

[71] State Water Resources Control Board, 2022. GeoTracker, https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/, accessed May 9, 2022.

[72] State Water Resources Control Board, 2022. GeoTracker, Nimbus Flat State Park, https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000001706, accessed May 9, 2022.

Naturally Occurring Asbestos

Naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) fibers are considered hazardous, as they may cause asbestosis, lung cancer, and mesothelioma. NOA fibers have been classified as a human carcinogen by the World Health Organization, the federal Department of health and Human Services, and the USEPA.[73] Exposure occurs when the fibers are inhaled, though the potential health effects may not materialize until 20- to 50-years following exposure. NOA is present in the geologic formation of ultramafic and mafic volcanic rock within the Plan Area.[74] Soils that form over this bedrock, primarily in the north-south swath through the Peninsula area of Folsom Lake and south of the South Fork of the American River, are also known to contain hazardous asbestos fibers. When NOA bearing rock or soil is broken or crushed, asbestos fibers may be released and may become airborne, causing a health hazard.

Chromium

There are abandoned chromate mines on the Peninsula between the North and South Fork arms of Folsom Lake. No active mines exist there. In humans, the respiratory tract is the major target organ of chromium toxicity for acute and chronic inhalation exposures.[75] There may be a small health risk if hexavalent chromium, the carcinogen form of this metal, comes in contact with skin or is swallowed. However, the health risk from skin or oral exposure is considerably less than inhalation. The most toxic forms of chromium to aquatic life are trivalent and hexavalent chromium; however, there is a great range of sensitivity to chromium between aquatic species and waters of different hardness.[76] Chromium toxicity is less of a concern because it does not bioaccumulate in fish tissue, as does mercury, and is therefore unlikely to pose a public health hazard. There are no data documenting high chromium levels in sediment, water, or fish from drainages in the vicinity of Folsom Lake.

Mercury

Mercury (Hg) can exist in many forms, most of which are stable and unavailable for biological uptake; however, inorganic mercury can be methylated by microbes and fungi in an aquatic environment into an organic form known as methylmercury.[77] Fish can take in methylmercury through their gills, but intake is primarily through their food. Once consumed by fish, methylmercury is retained in the fatty tissue and bioaccumulates. For humans, ingestion of fish with bioaccumulated methylmercury is the most significant exposure pathway. Methylmercury mainly attacks the nervous system, causing loss of sensation in the extremities, muscle weakness, lack of coordination, and impairment of vision, speech, and hearing.[78]

A history of gold mining in the area and the use of mercury to process gold-bearing ore appear to be the cause of relatively high levels of mercury in Lake Natoma fishes. Old mine tailings occur at Mormon Island, Rattlesnake Crossing, and Pilot Creek, and the sediments below the Salmon Falls Bridge are known to have elevated mercury levels. Because not all fish in Folsom Lake inhabit areas of old mine tailings, elevated mercury in sport fish are not widespread throughout the lake.

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[73] United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2016. Naturally Occurring Asbestos, https://archive.epa.gov/region9/toxic/web/html/basic.html, accessed May 3, 2022.

[74] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 2: Chapter IV, Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol2_EIR_EIS.pdf, accessed April 14, 2022.

[75] United States Environmental Protection Agency, updated January 2000. Chromium Compounds, https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-09/documents/chromium-compounds.pdf, accessed May 3, 2022.

[76] United States Environmental Protection Agency, October 1980. *Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Chromium*, https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2018-12/documents/ambient-wqc-chromium.pdf, accessed May 3, 2022.

[77] United States Environmental Protection Agency, December 2021. Basic Information about Mercury, https://www.epa.gov/mercury/basic-information-about-mercury, accessed May 3, 2022.

[78] United States Environmental Protection Agency, April 2022. Health Effects of Exposure to Mercury, https://www.epa.gov/mercury/health-effects-exposures-mercury, accessed May 3, 2022.

Airport Hazards

Mather Airport is located approximately six miles southwest of the Plan Area. The Plan Area is partially located within the Mather Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan's Airport Influence Area, and a small portion of Lake Natoma is located in the airport's Part 77 Airspace Protection Surface. The AIA designates areas in which current or future airport-related noise, over flight, safety, and/or airspace protection factors may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restrictions on those uses. Any construction of buildings with a height above 200 feet within the Part 77 Airspace Protection Surface would require provision of notification to the FAA.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	❒	❒	■	❒
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous material sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	❒	❒	■	❒
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	❒	❒	❒	■
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	❒	❒	❒	■
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	❒	❒	■	❒

Discussion

a) The user types addressed in the RTMP include non-motorized recreational uses. These users do not typically handle or transport hazardous materials. Therefore, projects implemented pursuant to the RTMP would not increase the use or transport of hazardous materials at the Plan Area. Typically, the only routine use and transport of hazardous materials are associated with maintenance, which requires common hazardous materials such as fuel and lubricants for equipment and vehicles and detergents and solvents for cleaning. These hazardous materials are used and stored consistent with USEPA and OSHA standards. Approval of the RTMP would not substantially change the operations and maintenance of the park and staff would continue

to use, transport, store, and dispose of these hazardous materials consistent with USEPA and OSHA regulations. In addition, SPR HAZ-3 requires coordination with utility companies when ground disturbance is necessary within existing utility alignments. This coordination reduces potential accidents related to damage of gas or electrical lines. During construction, SPRs HAZ-4 through HAZ-7 require several measures to prevent accidental leaks, spills, or other emission of hazardous materials into the environment, including frequent leak inspections and maintenance of construction vehicles, a spill prevention plan, a materials management plan, vehicle wash stations, and suitable staging areas. No substantial increased risk of accidental upset or emission of hazardous materials would occur. Any potential impact is therefore less than significant.

b) Existing trails may be located near the Nimbus Flat LUST site, where hazardous materials have been previously used or stored. Implementation of the RTMP involves prioritization of maintenance, adding or removing user types on existing Unit trails, minor trail relocation to improve sustainability, and possible new trail connections to improve circulation routes. If a subsequent project under the RTMP requires route modification that must occur in areas where hazardous materials are known to have been previously handled or stored, SPRs HAZ-1 and HAZ-2 require avoidance of these areas. If avoidance is not possible, preparation of a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) by a qualified hazardous material professional and recommendations therein will be implemented (see SPR HAZ-1). The recommendations in the Phase 1 ESA could include soil removal and other minor remediation or reroutes of trails. Construction activities associated with any necessary remediation would be conducted according to USEPA and OSHA standards and would reduce potential impacts related to exposure of construction workers and user types to hazardous materials in soils. According to the General Plan, some areas of the Plan Area are known to have serpentine soils containing NOA. SPRs AQ-12, AQ-13 would require trail placement and construction or ground disturbing activities to avoid areas with moderate potential to contain asbestos. Any potential impact is considered less than significant.

c) Implementation of the proposed Project would comply with Section 17213 of the California Education Code prohibiting the use of toxic or hazardous materials and wastes within a quarter mile of a school. Approval of the RTMP would not result in hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste. There are some schools within one-quarter mile to the Plan Area, including Cavitt Junior High School, Nine Gates Mystery School, and Golden Valley Charter School. Implementation of SPRs noted above would prevent accidental leaks, spills, or other emission of hazardous materials into the environment. Therefore, the proposed Project would have a less-than-significant impact from hazardous emissions, materials, substances, or wastes to nearby schools.

d) The Nimbus Flat day use area is a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Cleanup Site that has pending site assessment since 2009.[79] The potential media of concern is soil and potential contaminants of concern are diesel and heating/fuel oil. The LUST site is located at 1901 Hazel Avenue in Rancho Cordova. No proposed actions would take place within .25 miles of this location. Projects under the RTMP anticipated to occur near this area would have to comply with SPRs HAZ-1 through HAZ-7, GEO-2, and GEO-3 to address the concern of contaminants by assessing soils prior to construction and limiting exposure to hazardous materials during construction. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

e) As discussed in the "Affected Environment" section, Mather Airport is located approximately six miles southwest of the Plan Area. The Plan Area is partially located within the Mather ALUCP's AIA, and a small portion of Lake Natoma is located in the airport's Part 77 Airspace Protection Surface. The AIA designates areas in which current or future airport-related noise, over flight, safety, and/or airspace protection factors may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restrictions on those uses. Any construction of buildings

[79] State Water Resources Control Board, 2022. GeoTracker, Nimbus Flat State Park, https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000001706, accessed May 9, 2022.

with a height above 200 feet within the Part 77 Airspace Protection Surface would require provision of notification to the FAA. The RMTP does not propose any actions that would conflict with these regulations. Therefore, impacts would be no impact.

f) Approval of the RTMP will have no effect on any adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The City of Folsom, Sacramento County, El Dorado or Placer Counties have Emergency Operations Plans (EOP) that pertain to the surrounding area. The Plan Area is not subject to these plans, though it may work in collaboration with them if an emergency, such as wildfire, crosses county boundaries. The Department also has an EOP which the Plan Area is subject to and a Continuity Plan, which outlines responsibilities and structure of the Gold Fields District Office in the event of an emergency. In General, EOPs provide guidance for the evacuation and movement of people during any disaster, or any type of major call/critical incident. One of the fundamental assumptions of evacuation is that sufficient warning time will be available to evacuate the threatened population. During and following any evacuation, perimeter access controls will be necessary to eliminate any re-entry of the hazard area by unauthorized persons. The RTMP is intended to provide focus for management of recreational roads and trails. It will be a management tool that will be used to assess and prioritize maintenance needs and to maximize route sustainability. Therefore, no impact would result.

g) Many roads and trails in the Plan Area are located in relatively remote areas and pass-through areas where primary vegetation type consists of brush and trees. Most of these areas are subject to high risk of wildland fire. Trail realignment typically occurs on segments of trail adjacent to existing trail alignments. Adding new user types to existing trails under the proposed Project would not expose visitors to a higher risk of wildland fire than existing user groups are currently exposed to. In general, an increase in human presence to any area increases risk of wildfire. Compliance with existing state laws and project SPR's would help mitigate potential risk of wildfire.

Regarding potential ignition sources, existing State law (14 CCR Sections 4311 and 4314) prohibits use of fireworks within State Park units and restricts smoking and campfires to designated areas. Internal combustion engines are prohibited on roads and trails designated for non-motorized uses, with the exception to those necessary for emergency vehicle access. It is unlikely that new user types would generate sparks, increase use of campfires or other open flames, or carry fuels apart from those typically carried by some hikers (e.g., small, portable propane or other camp fuel canister). Increasing or decreasing the diversity of user types on qualifying DPR road and trail facilities would not substantially change the potential for ignition of a wildland fire. Furthermore, trail operation would remain consistent with the DPR DOM requirements for visitor safety, including the unit-specific Wildfire Management Plan.

Construction activities could be required for new trail connections to improve circulation routes, road decommissioning, reengineering. They could also be required if a qualifying change-in-use project approved under the proposed Project requires minor modifications or realignment to accommodate the new user type(s) or to avoid existing environmental problem areas. The proposed Project includes several SPRs designed to minimize the risk of fire ignition and maximize the effectiveness of fire suppression. Implementation of SPRs HAZ-10 through HAZ-14 would reduce the risk of ignition associated with construction activities by requiring a Fire Safety Plan, reducing spark potential, reducing fuels, providing radio communication with CAL FIRE, and providing water trucks. Implementation of these SPRs would minimize construction-related potential for risk of wildland fire. The impact associated with approval of the RTMP would be considered less than significant.

Applicable SPRs

HAZ-1: Avoid locating route modifications in areas that could have been used previously for industrial/manufacturing uses, or other uses that could have involved use, handling, transport, or storage of hazardous materials (including but not limited to auto maintenance, gas station, equipment yard, dry cleaner, railroad, agriculture, mining, etc.). If such areas cannot be avoided,

prior to any construction within such areas, **[insert implementing party]** shall hire a qualified professional to conduct a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA), limited to the area of proposed ground disturbance, that will identify the presence of any soil contamination at concentrations that could pose health risk to construction workers. If such levels of soil contamination are identified, the **[insert implementing party]** shall follow the recommendations in the Phase 1 ESA, which may include removal of contaminated soil in compliance with all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and Department of Toxic Substances Control requirements.

HAZ-2: If any construction will occur directly below overhead power poles with transformers, prior to construction, the soil directly beneath the transformers will be inspected for staining. If staining is present, the **[insert implementing party]** will avoid the stained soil, coordinate with the utility company for clean-up, or hire a qualified professional to provide recommendations that will be implemented.

HAZ-3: Prior to any excavation in the vicinity of underground utility easements, **[insert implementing party]** shall coordinate with the utility company to ensure avoidance of the utility line.

HAZ-4: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, **[insert who]** will inspect all equipment for leaks and regularly inspect thereafter until equipment is removed from the project site. All contaminated water, sludge, spill residue, or other hazardous compounds will be contained and disposed of outside the boundaries of the site, at a lawfully permitted or authorized destination.

HAZ-5: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, **[insert who]** will prepare a Spill Prevention and Response Plan (SPRP) as part of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for **[insert who]** approval to provide protection to on-site workers, the public, and the environment from accidental leaks or spills of vehicle fluids or other potential contaminants. This plan will include (but not be limited to):

- a map that delineates construction staging areas, where refueling, lubrication, and maintenance of equipment will occur;
- a list of items required in a spill kit on-site that will be maintained throughout the life of the project;
- procedures for the proper storage, use, and disposal of any solvents or other chemicals used in the construction process;
- and identification of lawfully permitted or authorized disposal destinations outside of the project site.

HAZ-6: **[Insert who]** will develop a Materials Management Plan to include protocols and procedures that will protect human health and the environment during remediation and/or construction activities that cause disturbances to the native soil and/or mine and mill materials causing potential exposure to metals and dust resulting from materials disturbances. All work will be performed in accordance with a Site Health and Safety Plan. The Materials Management Plan will include the following (where applicable):

- Requirement that staff will have appropriate training in compliance with 29 CFR, Section 1910.120;
- Methods to assess risks prior to starting onsite work;
- Procedures for the management and disposal of waste soils generated during construction activities or other activities that might disturb contaminated soil;
- Monitoring requirements;
- Storm water controls;
- Record-keeping; and,
- Emergency response plan.

HAZ-7: **[Insert who]** will set up decontamination areas for vehicles and equipment at Department unit entry/exit points. The decontamination areas will be designed to completely contain all wash water generated from washing vehicles and equipment. BMPs will be installed, as necessary, to prevent the dispersal of wash water beyond the boundaries of the decontamination area, including over-spray.

HAZ-10: Prior to the start of construction, **[insert who]** will develop a Fire Safety Plan for **[insert name]** approval. The plan will include the emergency calling procedures for both the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) and local fire department(s).

HAZ-11: All heavy equipment will be required to include spark arrestors or turbo chargers that eliminate sparks in exhaust and have fire extinguishers on-site.

HAZ-12: Construction crews will park vehicles **[insert distance]** from flammable material, such as dry grass or brush. At the end of each workday, construction crews will park heavy equipment over a non-combustible surface to reduce the chance of fire.

HAZ-13: Department personnel will have a Department radio at the park unit, which allows direct contact with Cal Fire and a centralized dispatch center, to facilitate the rapid dispatch of control crews and equipment in case of a fire.

HAZ-14: Under dry conditions, a filled water truck and/or fire engine crew will be onsite during activities with the potential to start a fire.

AQ-12: Construction-related ground disturbance activities will not be performed in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos" according to maps and guidance published by the California Geological Survey (CGS), formerly the California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology. This determination would be based on a CGS publication titled A General Location Guide for Ultramafic Rocks in California – Areas More Likely to Contain Naturally Occurring Asbestos (Churchill and Hill 2000), or whatever more current guidance from CGS exists at the time the change-in-use project is evaluated. Work shall comply with the guidelines of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for conducting work in NOA areas. Any NOA-related guidance provided by the applicable local air district shall also be followed. If a site-specific investigation identifies the presence of NOA, then an Asbestos Dust Control Plan will be developed and implemented in accordance with Section 93105 of the California Health and Safety Code.

AQ-13: New trail or road alignments will not be located in areas identified as "moderately likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos" according to maps and guidance published by the CGS unless a site-specific investigation performed by a Registered Geologist confirms that NOA-containing rock or dirt is not exposed at the surface of the trail. Alternatively, any trail or road alignments that are not located over areas where NOA is \exposed at the surface will be covered with an appropriate material, depending on the intended use of the trail that would prevent entrainment of asbestos-containing dust into the air. Possible methods of covering NOA-containing material on the surface include paving and graveling with non-NOA-containing gravel.

GEO-2: All construction, improvement, modification, or decommissioning of road/trails, and conversion of roads-to-trails, will be consistent with Department BMPs, Departmental Operations Manuals (DOMs), Vegetation Management Guidelines, and Trail Handbook guidelines.

GEO-3: A qualified or California licensed geologist will review road decommissioning, new routes, road-to-trail conversion sites, and landslide repairs during project planning to determine if any geologic or soil conditions exist that require additional assessment or alteration of prescriptions. If unique features do exist or conditions so require, a California licensed geologist or their designee will

conduct a geologic assessment/investigation and make appropriate design recommendations, and, if needed, define the boundaries of the work area on project drawings.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.9 Hydrology and Water Quality

Regulatory Setting

Clean Water Act

Under the CWA (33 USC Section 1251 et seq.), the USEPA seeks to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters. The statute employs a variety of regulatory and nonregulatory tools to reduce direct pollutant discharges into waterways, finance municipal wastewater treatment facilities, and manage polluted runoff. The CWA authorizes the USEPA to implement water-quality regulations. The NPDES permit program under Section 402 of the CWA controls water pollution by regulating stormwater discharges into the waters of the United States. In California, the authority to either grant water quality certification or waive the requirement is delegated by the SWRCB to its nine RWQCBs.

Section 303(d) of the CWA requires that each state identify water bodies or segments of water bodies that are "impaired" (i.e., not meeting one or more of the water-quality standards established by the state). These waters are identified in the Section 303(d) list as waters that are polluted and need further attention to support their beneficial uses. Once the water body or segment is listed, the state is required to establish Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the pollutant causing the conditions of impairment. A TMDL is an estimate of the total load of pollutants from point, nonpoint, and natural sources that a water body may receive without exceeding applicable water quality standards, with a factor of safety included. Once established, the TMDL allocates the loads among current and future pollutant sources to the water body.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (WAT Section 13000 et seq.) is the basic water-quality control law for California. This act established the SWRCB and divided the state into nine regional basins, each under the jurisdiction of an RWQCB. The SWRCB is the primary State agency responsible for the protection of California's water quality and groundwater supplies. The RWQCBs carry out the regulation, protection, and administration of water quality in each region. Each regional board is required to adopt a water quality control plan or basin plan that recognizes and reflects the regional differences in existing water quality, the beneficial uses of the region's ground and surface water, and local water-quality conditions and problems.

State Water Resources Control Board General Construction Permit

Construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land must comply with the requirements of the SWRCB General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Use Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ).[80] Under the terms of the permit, applicants must file Permit Registration Documents (PRD) with the SWRCB prior to the start of construction. The PRDs include a Notice of Intent, risk assessment, site map, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), annual fee, and a signed certification statement. The PRDs are submitted electronically to the SWRCB via the Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS) website. On May 28, 2021, the SWRCB issued a draft of the revised Statewide Construction General Permit, which, when approved, would supersede Order 2009-0009-DWQ and its amendments.

Applicants must also demonstrate conformance with applicable BMPs and prepare a SWPPP containing a site map that shows the construction site perimeter, existing and proposed buildings, lots, roadways, stormwater collection and discharge points, general topography both before and after construction, and drainage patterns across the project site. The SWPPP must list BMPs that would be implemented to prevent soil erosion and discharge of other construction-related pollutants that could contaminate nearby water resources. Additionally, the SWPPP must

[80] California Water Boards, State Water Resources Control Board, July 2012. Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Use Disturbance Activities, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2012/wqo2012_0006_dwq.pdf, accessed April 22, 2022.

contain a visual monitoring program for all risk levels and a stormwater sampling and analysis program for Risk Levels 2 and 3.

State Water Resources Control Board Trash Amendments

On April 7, 2015, the SWRCB adopted an amendment to the *California Ocean Plan* to control trash and Part 1 Trash Provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California. Together, they are collectively referred to as "the Trash Amendments."[81] The Trash Amendments apply to all surface waters of California and include a land-use-based compliance approach to focus trash controls on areas with high trash-generation rates. Areas such as high-density residential, industrial, commercial, mixed urban, and public transportation stations are considered priority land uses. There are two compliance tracks for Phase I and Phase II MS4 permittees:

- Track 1: Permittees install, operate, and maintain a network of certified full capture systems in storm drains that capture runoff from priority land uses.
- Track 2: Permittees must implement a plan with a combination of full capture systems, multi-benefit projects, institutional controls, and/or other treatment methods that have the same effectiveness as Track 1 methods.

The Trash Amendments provide a framework for permittees to implement its provisions. Full compliance must occur within 10 years of the permit and permittees must also meet interim milestones, such as average load reductions of 10 percent per year.

Water Conservation Landscaping Act of 2006

The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (GOV Sections 65591 – 65599) passed under AB 1881 (Laird) includes the State of California's Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO), which requires cities and counties to adopt landscape water conservation ordinances. The MWELO was revised in July 2015 via Executive Order B-29-15 to address the ongoing drought and build resiliency for future droughts. State law requires all land use agencies, which includes cities and counties, to adopt a WELO that is at least as efficient as the MWELO prepared by the DWR. The 2015 revisions to the MWELO improve water conservation in the landscaping sector by promoting efficient landscapes in new developments and retrofitted landscapes. The revisions increase water efficiency by requiring more efficient irrigation systems, incentives for grey water usage, improvements in on-site stormwater capture, and limiting the portion of landscapes that can be covered in high-water-use plants and turf. New development projects that include landscape areas of 500 square feet or more are subject to the MWELO. This applies to residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional projects that require a permit, plan check, or design review. The previous landscape size threshold for new development projects ranged from 2,500 to 5,000 square feet. The size threshold for rehabilitated landscapes has not changed and remains at 2,500 square feet.

Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan)

Central Valley Water Board Basin Plan reflects the current was water quality program for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Bains.[82] The American River, Folsom Lake, and Lake Natoma are included in this plan. The Basin Plan outlines measures to protect these water bodies, including the prohibition of municipal and industrial water discharge. The Plan covers existing conditions of the surface and ground water quality and provides recommendations and specific goals for improved water quality.

[81] California Water Boards, State Water Resources Control Board, 2022. *Statewide Water Quality Control Plans for Trash*, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/trash_control/documentation.html, accessed April 25, 2022.

[82] California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, revised May 2018. *The Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the California regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region: Fifth Edition, The Sacramento River Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin*, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/sacsjr_201805.pdf, accessed on May 3, 2022.

Water Forum Agreement

The Water Forum Agreement (WFA) aims to provide a reliable and safe water for the central California region, including Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado Counties.[83] The WFA aims to provide a reliable and safe water supply for the region's economic health and planned development through the year 2030 and to preserve the fishery, wildlife, recreation, and aesthetic values of the Lower American River. The WFA identifies planned increased water surface diversions to account for population growth and assures that customer demand may be met in dry years. The WFA recognizes that increased diversions and other demands on the reservoir would result in lower water levels in Folsom Lake and would directly affect aquatic recreational opportunities. Several measures were proposed to mitigate such impacts, including improvements and funding for the construction of recreation facilities.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to hydrology and water quality are listed in Table 4.9-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Hydrology and Water Quality*.

Table 4.9-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Hydrology and Water Quality

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goals: • **Protect water quality in Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma and the streams within the SRA that feed into these water bodies. Protect water quantity in the creeks that feed into Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma.** • **Identify water quality problems and work with regulatory agencies, adjacent jurisdictions and property owners to correct water quality problems from storm water runoff and other causes in the surrounding watershed.**	
WATER-1	Protect watershed and streams within the SRA by avoiding adverse impacts to streambank and bed morphology, floodplain features, and riparian vegetation.
WATER-2	Ensure that unit operations, facilities, and uses avoid or minimize impacts to water quality.
WATER-3	Work with adjacent property owners, adjacent jurisdictions, user and interest groups, schools, local water purveyors and others to provide education regarding the protection of water quality.
Goal: Coordinate water quality data and analysis.	
WATER-4	Develop a central database for timely input of water quality results from all sampling programs. At a minimum, notify a program manager for the District of sampling events and analyses, as well as how the resulting data can be accessed.
WATER-5	Expand regular water quality sampling by adding monitoring stations beyond the three Reclamation stations that are currently monitored in the SRA. In addition to the current monitoring parameters, consider water quality factors such as possible occurrence of anoxic events in backwater areas, and contamination from adjacent land uses and waterfowl in order to understand the water quality characteristics of Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma.
Goals: • **Pursue mitigation established in Interim Re-operation Plan and the Water Forum Agreement and other ongoing and future flood control and water supply projects involving Folsom Dam and Reservoir in order to maximize potential benefits to recreation, natural, and cultural resources from ongoing and future flood control projects.** • **Consider the cumulative impacts of Folsom Dam and reservoir operations and projects on water levels in recreation and resource planning.**	
FLOOD-2	If proposed flood protection projects and measures include the potential use of additional surcharge space in Folsom Reservoir, work with the Army corps of Engineers, the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency and other responsible agencies on the development of a Flood Response Plan for recreation facilities on Folsom

[83] Water Forum, updated October 2015. *Water Forum Agreement*, https://waterforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Water-Forum-Agreement-Update-2015-FINAL-FOR-PRINT2.pdf, accessed May 20, 2022.

Table 4.9-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Hydrology and Water Quality

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
	Lake. The plan would determine the measures necessary to minimize the risk and potential damage to recreation facilities from short-term inundation that could result from proposed flood projection projects. The plan should identify: - Means for funding the post-inundation clean-up and rehabilitation of facilities and recreation areas and mitigation necessary to offset the temporary loss of such facilities; - Criteria and process for determining the relocation and rebuilding of facilities destroyed by inundation and mitigation necessary to offset the temporary loss of such facilities; - Identify which facilities require modification in-place (flood-proofing) to prevent the potential damage from inundation; - Identify which facilities need to be removed in advance of potential inundation; and - Operational means of reducing potential damage to facilities and contents from inundation, such as anchoring of picnic tables and trash receptacles and flood-secured storage for mechanical and non-mechanical equipment.
FLOOD-3	Implement the mitigation proposed by the area specific policies for the management ones potentially affected by the construction and operational impacts of flood control projects on Folsom Lake.
FLOOD-4	Develop additional access to Folsom Lake for water levels below 420 feet, as appropriate.
FLOOD-5	Work with the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency to ensure that the agency has completed the recreation-related mitigation for the SRA required in the EIR/EIS for the Interim Re-Operation Project. Such mitigation included the extension of boar launch ramps to provide access to lower water levels on Folsom Lake. When a permanent re-operation plan is developed, work with the appropriate agencies to address and impacts to recreation.
FLOOD-6	When developing new recreation facilities consider the implications of locating facilities below an elevation of 482 feet on Folsom Lake as such facilities could be inundated in an extreme flood event.
Goal: To the degree feasible, employ sustainable design and construction practices in the development of park facilities.	
SUSTAIN-2	Safeguarding Water: Conserve water and protect water quality by considering the following guidelines when implementing the Plan: - Use municipal sewer systems instead of on-site septic sewer systems, to the degree practical. - Minimize the area of impervious surface, including building footprints and paving. - Implement measures to minimize the increase in either rate or volume of stormwater runoff, and improve the quality of runoff. - Use pervious surfaces in site development, and incorporate features such as vegetated filter strips and bioswales to slow and filter runoff. - Plant indigenous vegetation and species that are suited to the local environment. - Use reclaimed water or recycled water for uses such as landscape irrigation, fire protection, toilet flushing, wetlands recharge, and outdoor water features. - Use water-efficient irrigation design and systems for landscaping. - Use low-flow water fixture within buildings.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

Hydrology

Both Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma occur in the American River Watershed. Folsom Lake was created in 1955 with the construction of Folsom Dam. The lake features approximately 11,500 surface acres of water when full and has 75 miles of shoreline.[84] Folsom Lake, when full, has the capacity to hold about 1,010,000 acre-feet of water. Lake levels can fluctuate significantly depending on hydrological and meteorological conditions, water demands, and flood control and hydropower needs. Average lake level fluctuation ranges from approximately 455

[84] Lakes Online.com, 2022. Folsom Lake, California, http://folsom.uslakes.info/, accessed May 3, 2022.

feet in the early summer and 390 feet in the early winter. In addition to providing flood protection, the reservoir stores water for irrigation, domestic uses, and electrical power generation. It also provides flow for wildlife habitat, fish, and recreation use along the lower American River.

Lake Natoma, formed by the waters held by Nimbus Dam, is an afterbay for Folsom Dam used to regulate flow fluctuation from Folsom Powerplant into the American River and to generate electricity from water releases. Lake Natoma is a smaller water body than Folsom Lake, but its water level fluctuates very little (4-7 feet). Nimbus Hatchery, located a quarter mile downstream of Lake Natoma, draws its water supply from Lake Natoma through a 60-inch pipe in Nimbus Dam.

In addition to the two lakes, the Plan Area also supports a number of other surface water resources, such as naturally occurring water courses and constructed ponds. Several small creeks and streams flow directly into Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma, including Willow, Alder, Hinkle, New York, and Hancock Creeks. An unknown number of small ephemeral streams 1-2 feet wide are also located within the Plan Area.

Groundwater is not recognized as a major resource in the areas due to the underlying geology of the Plan Area, which is composed of crystalline or nonporous metamorphic rocks. However, minor groundwater resources may be found along fracture zones in the crystalline rocks. Currently, wells are used to provide water at several locations within the Plan Area, including Rattlesnake Bar, the Peninsula campground and boat launch, the residences at Nimbus Flat, and the Shadow Glen stables. Surface water is the primary resources for drinking and irrigation, as fractured aquifers do not support high yield wells.

Water Quality

Water quality is determined by measuring the various physical, chemical, and biological parameters, such as dissolved oxygen, nutrients, turbidity, suspended materials, water hardness, toxic substances, oil, and coliform. These indicators are compared to criteria and standards to determine water quality. Folsom Lake, Lake Natoma, and the American River downstream of the Sacramento River are recognized in the *Basin Plan* as waterbodies that provide a series of "beneficial uses" to the public, including water supply, irrigation water, hydropower, recreation, fish spawning, and wildlife habitat.[85]

Water quality monitoring in and near the Plan Area has been conducted by staff from Reclamation and the Sacramento County Department of Environmental Management, as part of the Sacramento Coordinated Monitoring Program. Overall, the majority of water entering Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma is well-oxygenated, cold water of high quality that meets State water quality objectives related to temperature, bacteria, dissolved oxygen, pH, oil and grease, total dissolved solids, and turbidity. However, as water flows through the two lakes, it is impacted by various sources of water quality degradation that cause water quality problems. Primary water quality problems and concerns include excessive sediment inflow from development in local runoff, pollutant (oils, fertilizers, pesticides) run-off from developed areas that drain into Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma, mercury bioaccumulation in fish from abandoned mining tailings, potential bacteria contamination of waters heavily frequented by waterfowl, and occasional sewage spills in the watershed from wastewater treatment plants. Concentrations of contaminants typically increase downstream from Nimbus Dam to the Sacramento River as the river receives runoff from more urban drainages.

Sedimentation is one of the primary resource concerns within the American River Watershed. Over the past two decades, the local watershed for both lakes has become increasingly urbanized. The water quality of local runoff has decreased while the volume and rate has increased with increased amounts of impervious surface. Storm water runoff associated with housing, roads, and commercial development in the watershed is a source of sediment and petroleum residue. The most visible example of sediment problems associated with local runoff occurs at the Folsom Lake Marina at the mouth of Brown's Ravine. The high sediment load carried by Brown's

[85] California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Revised May 2018. *The Water Quality Control (Basin Plan), The Sacramento River Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin*, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/sacsjr_201805.pdf, accessed May 3, 2022.

Ravine due to upstream development has added approximately 1.5 feet of sediment to the Marina basin in the vicinity of the docks and caused the waters to be especially turbid.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;				
ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;	❒	❒	■	❒
iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or				
iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?				
d) In a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	❒	❒	■	❒
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a-c) Approval of the RTMP would not violate water quality standards, alter drainage patterns resulting in erosion or flooding, or degrade water quality. The RTMP includes provisions for a maintenance plan in which roads and trails are prioritized and will receive cyclical and prorated maintenance. Roads and trails will be designed, constructed, re-engineered, re-constructed, and/or rerouted to improve sustainability and drainage and prevent erosion. In general, disturbance to the trails may result from construction necessary for reengineering and rerouting to ensure safe, sustainable trails. SPRs GEO-1 through GEO-27 and HYDRO-1 through HYDRO-25 will ensure that erosion and soil loss will remain at a less-than-significant level.

Future actions that are considered in the RTMP include potential changes-in-use for several trail segments. Because work plans have not been developed for these trails, project level review for change-in-use to these trail segments is not considered in this document. As such, additional and subsequent environmental review will be necessary to assess potential impacts on hydrology and water quality resulting from physical changes to the trails.

Approval of the RTMP would have no effect on groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge. Additionally, approval of the RTMP would not result in placing housing or other structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year flood hazard area. Therefore, impacts to hydrology and water quality resulting from approval of the RTMP would be less than significant.

d) The Plan Area is inland and does not contain any large bodies of coastal water. Therefore, the proposed Project would not occur in an area subject to tsunami or seiche. Design-related SPRs HYDRO-16 through HYDRO-18, GEO-10, GEO-11, GEO-14 through GEO-16, and GEO-23 would reduce overall risk of the proposed Project's potential to cause inundation. Therefore, less-than-significant impacts would result.

e) Projects that generate runoff pollutants are required under the NPDES to develop and implement a Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) that identifies the site design, source control, and treatment control BMPs. These BMPs would effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges from entering into the storm drain system and reduce the discharge of pollutants into stormwater conveyance systems to the maximum extent possible. The activities allowed under the proposed Project would likely not result in runoff pollutants. Future projects not covered in the RTMP that have the potential to release those pollutants would need to be disclosed in a WQMP as part of the construction documents for review and approval during the plan check process for the project. The WQMP would identify permanent BMPs that would be constructed as part of the project and implemented during on-site operations to reduce pollutants entering the storm drain system. Therefore, because the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a WQCP or sustainable groundwater management plan, there would be no impact.

Applicable SPRs

GEO-1: Prior to the start of construction involving ground-disturbing activities totaling one acre or more, Department will direct the preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) by a Qualified Stormwater Pollution Plan Developer (QSD) for Department approval that identifies temporary BMPs (e.g., tarping of any stockpiled materials or soil; use of silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls, etc.) and permanent BMPs (e.g., structural containment, preserving or planting of vegetation, etc.) for use in all construction areas to reduce or eliminate the discharge of soil, surface water runoff, and pollutants during all excavation, grading, trenching, repaving, or other ground-disturbing activities.

GEO-2: All construction, improvement, modification, or decommissioning of road/trails, and conversion of roads-to-trails, will be consistent with Department BMPs, Departmental Operations Manuals (DOMs), Vegetation Management Guidelines, and Trail Handbook guidelines.

GEO-3: A qualified or California licensed geologist will review road decommissioning, new routes, road-to-trail conversion sites, and landslide repairs during project planning to determine if any geologic or soil conditions exist that require additional assessment or alteration of prescriptions. If unique features do exist or conditions so require, a California licensed geologist or their designee will conduct a geologic assessment/investigation and make appropriate design recommendations, and, if needed, define the boundaries of the work area on project drawings.

GEO-4: Heavy equipment operators will be cautioned to minimize their exposure to unstable slopes that may occur naturally or result from the earthmoving process. Qualified inspectors will continually evaluate slope geometry and earth materials and caution operators if unstable conditions are indicated.

GEO-5: No high ground pressure vehicles will be driven through project areas during the rainy season or when soils are wet and saturated to avoid compaction and/or damage to soil structure. Undisturbed areas will be avoided by vehicles to the extent practicable during all seasons. If vehicles must be driven through previously undisturbed areas during moist conditions, then the path of travel will be distributed and/or the travel way will be decompacted upon project completion. Existing compacted road or trail surfaces are exempted as they are already well compacted from use.

GEO-6: Topsoil excavated during initial construction will be segregated and used as a finishing surface over other fill to help conserve topsoil and promote revegetation.

GEO-7: Excavated spoil from project work will be placed in a stable location where it will not cause or contribute to slope failure, or erode and enter a stream channel or wetland. Spoil areas will be compacted in lifts and blended into the surrounding landscape to promote uniform sheet drainage. Stream or concentrated overland flow will not be allowed to discharge onto spoil areas, regardless of discharge rate.

GEO-8: Bare ground will be mulched with native vegetation removed during the work, or with other non-exotic plant-bearing mulch materials, to the maximum extent practicable to minimize surface erosion. Sufficient openings will be left in the mulch to allow revegetation.

GEO-9: Immediately following reconstruction, roads and trails will be closed for a period following construction that allows for one wet-dry cycle (e.g., one winter's duration) to allow the soil and materials to settle and compact before the route opens to the public. Routine maintenance will also be performed on the road or trail as necessary to reduce erosion to the extent possible and to repair weather-related damage that could contribute to erosion.

GEO-10: If anyone discovers potential paleontological resources during project construction or ground-disturbing activities, work within 100-feet of the find will be temporarily halted, the Department Representative will be notified immediately, and work will remain halted until a qualified paleontologist or geologist evaluates the significance of the find and recommends appropriate salvage or further mitigation procedures.

GEO-11: Road and trail stream crossings will have any new drainage structures designed for the 100-year storm flow event or be capable of passing the 100-year peak flow, debris, and sediment loads without significant damage.

GEO-12: Road and trail stream crossings will be designed and constructed without the potential for stream diversion.

GEO-13: Department staff will install appropriate energy dissipaters and employ other erosion control measures at water discharge points, as appropriate.

GEO-14: Install armored rock crossings at ephemeral drainages, micro drainages and swales to harden the trail tread in areas of potential interface between trail users and natural topographic drainage features.

GEO-15: All drainages (including micro drainages) will not be captured, diverted or coupled with other drainages by the road or trail.

GEO-16: Water will not be accumulated on a road or trail and drained off onto landforms where natural drainages do not exist.

GEO-17: Road and trail fillslopes will be designed with stable slope gradients as defined in Department trail construction manuals, guidelines, and handbooks, or as recommended by a qualified professional reviewing site-specific conditions. Unstable fillslopes will be stabilized or removed.

GEO-18: Road and trail surfaces and ditches will be hydrologically disconnected from wetlands, streams and stream crossings to the extent feasible.

GEO-19: Provide outslope to the roadbed or trail tread and remove any outer edge berm to facilitate sheet flow off the road or trail where the dispersed flow can be filtered by vegetation and organic litter.

GEO-20: When outsloping road or trail surfaces is not feasible, such as steep linear grades, construct rolling dips to direct runoff safely off the route to prevent buildup of surface runoff and subsequent erosion. Water bars will be used as a last resort if outsloping and rolling dips, or minor rerouting are not feasible, or on routes receiving minimal use. Water bars will be constructed to divert water to controlled points along the route and with rock armor at the downslope end for energy dissipation.

GEO-21: If soils and parent material geologic capability are not sustainable, overly steep grades will be mitigated with surface hardening techniques. Hardening techniques (such as compacted aggregate or trail structures such as steps or retaining walls) will keep the surface sustainable, firm, and stable.

GEO-22: Department staff will develop a rehabilitation plan for decommissioned routes that includes using brush and trees removed from the new or existing route alignment for bio-mechanical erosion control (bundling slash and keying it in to fall line of the route, filling damaged sections with soil and duff removed from the new or existing alignment, constructing water bars if necessary, and replanting native trees and shrubs).

GEO-23: Both ends of a decommissioned road or trail, road-to-trail conversion or abandoned trail segment will be clearly blocked, and scatter its length with vegetative debris from new route construction to discourage continued use and degradation of the decommissioned portion of the road or trail.

GEO-24: Seasonally close roads and trails to all users when soils are saturated and softened.

GEO-25: Install “pinch points” to reduce downhill bicycle speed and increase the line of sight at curves.

GEO-26: Construct or repair barriers at switchbacks to discourage shortcuts and user-created trails.

GEO-27: After a large earthquake event in the region (i.e., magnitude 5.0 or greater centered within 75 miles of the project site or Cascadia subduction zone event in excess of magnitude 7.5 that ruptures south from Brookings, Oregon), Department staff will inspect all project structures and features for damage, as soon as is possible after the event. Any damaged structures or features, including landslides, will be closed to park visitors, volunteers, residents, contractors, and staff until such features or structures have been evaluated by a qualified or licensed professional and/or repaired. Seismically generated ground cracks along ridgecrests or other landforms removed from, but potentially affecting, the infrastructure will be evaluated as part of the investigation.

HYDRO-1: Prior to the start of construction involving ground-disturbing activities totaling one acre or more, **[insert who]** will prepare and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for Department approval that identifies BMPs (e.g., tarping of any stockpiled materials or soil; use of silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls) and permanent BMPs (e.g., structural containment, preserving or planting of vegetation) for use in all construction areas to reduce or eliminate the discharge of soil, surface water runoff, and pollutants during all excavation, grading, trenching, or other ground-disturbing activities. The SWPPP will include BMPs for hazardous waste and contaminated soils management and a Spill Prevention and Control Plan (SPCP), as appropriate.

HYDRO-2: The project will comply with all applicable water quality standards as specified in the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Basin Plan.

HYDRO-3: All construction, improvement, modification, or decommissioning of road/trails, and conversion of roads-to-trails, will be consistent with Department BMPs, Departmental Operations Manuals (DOMs), Vegetation Management Guidelines, and Trail Handbook guidelines.

HYDRO-4: All construction activities will be suspended during heavy precipitation events (i.e., more than one inch of precipitation in a 24-hour period) or when heavy precipitation events are forecast. If the construction manager must suspend work the construction manager will install drainage and erosion controls appropriate to site conditions, such as covering (e.g., tarping) stockpiled soils, mulching bare soil areas, and by constructing silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls, or other control structures around stockpiles and graded areas, to minimize runoff effects.

HYDRO-5: For construction activities extending into or occurring during the rainy season, or if an un-seasonal storm is anticipated, Department staff will properly winterize the site by covering (e.g. tarping) any stockpiled materials or soils, mulching bare soil areas, and by constructing silt fences, straw bale barriers, fiber rolls, or other structures around stockpiles and graded areas.

HYDRO-6: Treat rehabilitated, reengineered, or rerouted road or trail segments that have less than a 50-foot natural buffer to stream channels with mulch applied to provide 50 to 70 percent surface coverage. Filter windrows (structures made of slash, forest debris, and logs to protect forest streams from sediment) shall be added to the toe of fill slopes for any treated alignment where the vegetated or mulched buffer is located closer to a watercourse than is recommended for the steepness of the hillslope, as described in the table below:

Recommended minimum distance between the vegetated or mulched buffer of wildland roads/trails and streams	
Slope of land between road/trail and stream (%)	Minimum distance of vegetated/mulched buffer (ft)
0	50
10	90
20	130
30	170
40	210
50	250
60	290
70	330

These setbacks or windrow designs may be modified based on concurrence from a qualified geologist after reviewing vegetation and soil conditions on the slope between the alignment and the watercourse. The windrows shall not provide structural support to the fills.

HYDRO-7: Salvage trees and brush removed prior to excavation for mulching bare soil areas after construction.

HYDRO-8: During dry, dusty conditions, all unpaved active construction areas will be wetted using water trucks, treated with a non-toxic chemical dust suppressant (e.g., emulsion polymers, organic material), or covered. Any dust suppressant product used must be environmentally benign (i.e., non-toxic to plants and shall not negatively impact water quality) and its use shall not be prohibited by the California Air Resources Board, U.S. EPA, or the State Water Resources Control Board. Exposed areas will not be over-watered such that watering results in runoff. Unpaved areas subject to vehicle travel could also be stabilized through the effective application of wood chips, gravel, or

mulch. The type of dust suppression method shall be selected by the contractor from the SWPPP options, if applicable, or based on soil, traffic, and other site-specific conditions.

HYDRO-9: Excavation and grading activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 25 miles per hour (mph), instantaneous gusts exceed 35 mph, or when dust occurs from remediation related activities where visible emissions (dust) cannot be controlled by watering or conventional dust abatement controls.

HYDRO-10: Prior to the start of on-site construction activities, all equipment will be inspected for leaks and regularly inspected thereafter until equipment is removed from the project site. All contaminated water, sludge, spill residue, or other hazardous compounds will be contained and disposed of outside the boundaries of the site, at a lawfully permitted or authorized destination.

HYDRO-11: Staging and stockpile areas will be designated and/or located, and suitable barriers installed, within the existing maintenance yard area or existing roads and campsites to prevent leakage of oil, hydraulic fluids, or other chemicals into lakes, streams, or other water bodies.

HYDRO-12: Decontamination of heavy equipment shall occur prior to delivery onto State Park lands. Heavy equipment shall be thoroughly power washed prior to delivery to the job site. Equipment shall be free of woody and organic debris, soil, grease, and other foreign matter. The engine compartment, cab, and other enclosed spaces shall also be free of the aforementioned debris. Equipment shall be thoroughly inspected by Department's State Representative upon delivery and may be rejected if in the opinion of the Department representative the equipment does not meet decontamination standards. If a piece of equipment is removed from the park for unrelated work or work not identified as part of the project, it will be re-inspected upon re-entry to the park. Upon demobilization decontamination shall take place off-site.

HYDRO-13: All heavy equipment parking, refueling, and service will be conducted within designated areas with suitable barriers outside of the 100-year floodplain to avoid watercourse contamination.

HYDRO-14: Project planning will identify public water supply and park water systems that could be affected. Persons responsible for the maintenance of these water systems will be consulted and if negative effects are anticipated, mutually agreeable modifications will be developed.

HYDRO-15: Department staff will install appropriate energy dissipaters and employ other erosion control measures at water discharge points, as appropriate.

HYDRO-16: Routes will be designed and constructed so that they do not significantly disrupt or alter the natural hydraulic flow patterns of the landform.

HYDRO-17: Routes located within 100-year flood hazard zones will be designed and constructed so that they do not significantly disrupt or alter natural flood flows.

HYDRO-18: For decommissioning and restoration projects, existing (altered) drainage patterns will be restored to pre-disturbance patterns. In some cases where pre-disturbance patterns cannot be restored, conversion work may require the realignment of a stream segment. To ensure that channel stability will be maintained, project planners will establish new drainage segments only after thorough review by a qualified geologist, geomorphologist, or hydrologist.

HYDRO-19: Install armored rock crossings at ephemeral drainages, micro drainages and swales to harden the tread in areas of potential interface between trail users and natural topographic drainage features.

HYDRO-20: Provide outslope to the roadbed or trail tread and remove any outer edge berm to facilitate sheet flow off the road or trail where the dispersed flow can be filtered by vegetation and organic litter.

HYDRO-21: When outsloping road or trail surfaces is not feasible, such as steep linear grades, construct rolling dips to direct runoff safely off the route to prevent buildup of surface runoff and subsequent erosion. Water bars will be used as a last resort, if outsloping and rolling dips or rerouting are not feasible or on routes receiving no use. Water bars will be constructed to divert water to controlled points along the route and with rock armor at the downslope end for energy dissipation, where needed.

HYDRO-22: Install gravel surfacing on routes in areas with saturated or unstable soils, and on bridge or ford approaches to provide a stable tread surface.

HYDRO-23: Seasonally close multi-use trails to all users when soils are saturated and softened.

HYDRO-24: Install "pinch points" on multi-use trails where necessary to reduce downhill bicycle speed and increase the line of sight at curves.

HYDRO-25: Construct or repair barriers at switchbacks on multi-use trails to discourage shortcuts and the creation of user-created trails.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.10 Land Use and Planning

Regulatory Setting

Sacramento Area Council of Governments 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy

The SACOG is the MPO for the 28 cities of the Sacramento region, which includes El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties. SACOG adopted the *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy (MTP/SCS)* on November 18, 2019.[86] The *2020 MTP/SCS* lays out a transportation investment and land use strategy to support of prosperous region, with access to jobs and economic opportunity, transportation options, and affordable housing that works for all residents. The plan also lays out a path for improving air quality, preserving open space and natural resources, and helping California achieve its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. The *2020 MTP/SCS* land-use forecast identifies the general location of different types of land uses, residential densities, employment intensities and natural resource areas.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to land use and planning are listed in Table 4.10-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Land Use and Planning*.

Table 4.10-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Land Use and Planning

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goals: • **Strategic acquisition of properties contiguous to the SRA from willing sellers for the purposes of protecting natural, cultural, and visual resources and of expanding recreation opportunities.** • **Coordinate and partnership with other public land and natural resource management agencies, land conservancies, and other organizations in property acquisitions and in planning regional open space and resource (habitat, wildlife corridors) preservation needs.**	
ACQUIRE-1	Acquire land contiguous to the SRA as appropriate for the purposes of protecting viewsheds, watersheds, significant or threatened habitat types or vegetation communities, wildlife corridors or cultural resources. Specifically, this includes lands containing blue oak woodlands and savanna, riparian woodlands or seasonal wetlands and vernal pools.
ACQUIRE-2	Acquire land contiguous to the SRA as appropriate in order to enhance recreation opportunities. Specific priorities would be lands that: permit further development of aquatic recreation activities; provide trail connections and opportunities; or allow development of substantial new camping or day use opportunities and facilities.
ACQUIRE-3	Continue to explore opportunities for acquiring lands adjacent to the SRA in Placer and El Dorado counties as a means of preserving the most pristine natural landscapes within the SRA – and the most threatened by potential future development – and their contribution to a healthy foothill ecosystem, a high quality visual setting, and a positive visitor experience.
ACQUIRE-4	Priority areas for land acquisition should include: undeveloped ridgelines and slopes facing the SRA; South Fork arm are to protect cultural/natural resources and buffer the SRA from future development; North Fork arm area to protect cultural, natural, and visual resources.
Goal: Ensure that the types and level of use within the SRA are managed so that visitor use does not to exceed what an area can appropriately accommodate given the desired natural and cultural resource condition, visitor experience, and management program.	
CAPACITY-1	Use the management zones established in this General Plan as the guide for allowing and managing appropriate types and levels of public use of SRA resources.

[86] Sacramento Area Council of Governments, November 2019. *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS)*, https://www.sacog.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/2020_mtp-scs.pdf?1580330993, accessed April 25, 2022.

Table 4.10-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Land Use and Planning

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
CAPACITY-2	Monitor and periodically assess resource conditions in each management zone to ensure the maintenance of acceptable resource and visitor experience conditions. Design and implement appropriate actions as necessary to avoid or minimize achieve desired conditions and to avoid unacceptable impacts.
CAPACITY-3	Utilize the design, size, sitting, configuration and modification (including reducing facility capacity if required) of facilities as a primary means to limit visitor use to the carrying capacity of each management zone or area and to prevent overuse, unacceptable damage to resources and to achieve desired conditions for resources and visitor experience.
CAPACITY-4	Where applicable, manage special event permits and concession contracts to prevent visitor use levels from exceeding the capacity and desired conditions of management zones.
Goals: • **Provide a resource for local and regional visitors to enjoy aquatic and upland recreation opportunities and facilities in a distinctive California foothills landscape.** • **Provide a balanced range of high quality recreation opportunities and facilities that promote and enhance public enjoyment and appreciation of the SRA's natural, cultural, and scenic resources.** • **Provide a range of recreational opportunities and facilities that reflect and respond to the unique growth pressures on the SRA and address continually-shifting demand for public recreation.** • **Locate and design recreational facilities to ensure protection of natural and cultural resource values, as well as contributing to the SRA's identity and sense of place.**	
VISIT-2	Ensure that new and existing visitor facilities and associated services receive equal consideration between the need for recreation, resource protection, and interpretation and education.
VISIT-3	Ensure that new and existing visitor facilities and associated services reflect the intent of the SRA land use designations with respect to resource protection, permitted uses, intensity of uses, and access.
VISIT-4	Ensure that new and existing visitor facilities are designed to minimize dependence on regular, on-going maintenance operations and avoid activities that would be environmentally damaging to keep them operational.
VISIT-5	Ensure that new and existing visitor facilities on Folsom Lake are located and designed to withstand potential short-term inundation during extreme flooding events.
VISIT-6	Locate larger public use facilities in areas that have convenient access and are suitable for higher intensity of uses, i.e. less sensitive resource values.
VISIT-7	Consider and evaluate services provided by neighboring jurisdiction when planning for new public use facilities and associated services to ensure that such facilities and services are complementary and reduce unnecessary duplication of services.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

The Plan Area consists of approximately 20,000 acres of both federal and state lands and waters. The Plan Area straddles three County jurisdictions (El Dorado in the east, Placer in the west, and Sacramento in the south) and the City of Folsom within the greater Sacramento Region. El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties combined are predicted to grow from the 2020 California Department of Finance population estimates by 272,428 people, an approximately 12 percent increase, by 2035, suggesting that park use will also continue to increase.[87] As the region continues to accommodate growth, development surrounding the Plan Area will also continue.

[87] California Department of Finance, January 2020. Projections, P-2: County Population Projections (2010-2060): P-2A Total Population for California and Counties, https://dof.ca.gov/forecasting/demographics/projections/, accessed April 13, 2022.

Recreation Land Use

Land uses within the Plan Area are mostly recreation related and reflect a range of activity and development intensity. However, its existence is the result of the Central Valley Project, which dammed the American River, creating Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma, for the purposes of flood control, water supply, and power generation.[88]

The recreation areas on Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma provide for a variety of activities, with most areas accommodating multiple types of outdoor recreation uses. Primary visitor areas are the most developed and provide a wide range of visitor services and easy access on major routes from adjacent urban centers. On the western shoreline of Folsom Lake in Placer County, Granite Bay and Beals Point are the main day-use areas with swim beaches, picnic areas, and boat launch facilities. Folsom Point and Brown's Ravine provide boat launch, marina, and picnic facilities on the eastern shoreline of Folsom Lake in El Dorado County. The secondary visitor areas on Folsom Lake include Rattlesnake Bar, Salmon Falls/Skunk Hallow, Old Salmon Falls, and the Peninsula. These areas feature facilities that tend to be less formally developed and cater to a narrower range of park users.

Recreation areas on Lake Natoma accommodate multiple types of outdoor recreation uses in a setting that is less intense than Folsom Lake. Lake Natoma features quiet and sheltered waters, making it an ideal location for paddling, rowing, swimming, and fishing. Primary visitor day-use areas along the shores of Lake Natoma include Black Miners Bar and Nimbus Flat, which offer a full range of recreational facilities, including swim beaches, picnic areas, group campsites, boat launches, watercraft dock, and an equestrian staging area. Secondary visitor day-use areas include Willow Creek, Lake Overlook, and Mississippi Bar. Other facilities include the California State University Sacramento (CSUS) Aquatic Center, which provides the base for the CSUS water ski and rowing teams and boating and water safety courses available to the public. CSUS Aquatic Center facilities include an administrative building with offices and classrooms, several equipment storage buildings, three launch docks with mooring areas, a small beach area, and a large, paved parking area with access to Hazel Avenue. Shadow Glen Riding Stables also offers riding lessons and tours in the Mississippi Bar area.

FPSHP is one of the oldest hydroelectric facilities in the world and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.[89] The facility includes the main powerhouse, associated buildings, a visitor center, and a small parking area.

Non-Recreation Land Use

The damming of the American River in 1956 as part of the Central Valley Project resulted in the creation of Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma behind the Folsom and Nimbus Dams.[90] As the primary non-recreation land uses within the Plan Area, these dams operate both lakes for the purposes of flood control, water supply, and power generation. Consequently, recreation use is closely related to the function of Folsom Lake as a reservoir, as fluctuating water levels affect the availability of activities and facilities that depend largely on water depth or surface area. The water level of Lake Natoma fluctuates less dramatically than Lake Folsom and this in part drives the recreational uses of the lake. Other non-recreational land uses within the Plan Area include the Department and Reclamation corporation yards, the El Dorado Irrigation District raw water pump station and associated facilities, and raw water mains from the pump station to the El Dorado Hills Water Treatment Plant.

Surrounding Land Use

The northwestern portion of the Plan Area is located within unincorporated Placer County. Land uses in the area decrease in intensity from south to north. Moving north from the Sacramento County line, urban residential development closes in on the Plan Area. This puts competing uses into close proximity, especially at Granite Bay where high density residential developments in the County abut FLSRA. Large-scale developments in the City of Folsom also occur adjacent to FLSRA boundaries. Most of the land in the County that provides views of Folsom

[88] Bureau of Reclamation, 2021. About the Central Valley Project, https://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvp/about-cvp.html, accessed May 4, 2022.

[89] National Park Service, 2022. National Register of Historic Places, https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm, accessed May 4, 2022.

[90] Bureau of Reclamation, 2021. About the Central Valley Project, https://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvp/about-cvp.html, accessed May 4, 2022.

Lake has been developed, particularly in the Lakeshore area on the ridge above the western shoreline of the North Fork of the American River between Granite Bay and Horseshoe Bar.

The northeastern portion of the Plan Area is located within unincorporated El Dorado County. Urban and rural residential developments abut FLSRA with densities decreasing from south to north. The most concentrated urban residential development surrounds the Folsom Lake Marina at Brown's Ravine and extends northeast to New York Creek. Undeveloped lands in the Peninsula area consist of oak-studded hillsides and have been designated by the County for a mix of rural residential development and open space.[91]

The southern half of the Plan Area is in Sacramento County, with a majority in the City of Folsom. The southern part of the Plan Area abuts Unincorporated Sacramento County. West of Lake Natoma the Plan Area abuts residential development. South of Folsom Avenue/Highway 50 in Rancho Cordova the Plan Area abuts commercial and industrial uses. The 1,200-acre Folsom State Prison and California State Prison, Sacramento site is located immediately south of Folsom Dam. South of downtown Folsom, Folsom Boulevard serves as a buffer between the Plan Area and urban development.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	❒	❒	❒	■
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) The physical division of an established community typically refers to the construction of a physical feature (such as a wall, interstate highway, or railroad tracks) or the removal of a means of access (such as a local road or bridge) that would impair mobility within an existing community or between a community and outlying areas. Approval of the RTMP would not result in any physical changes that would divide an established community. Therefore, no impact would result.

b) Work proposed for this project is in compliance with the *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*. General Plan policy VISIT-47 introduces the scope for the current RTMP as an inventory and classification of trail maintenance standards and priorities. General Plan VISIT-48 describes the RTMP's role in assessing and making decisions regarding trail uses. General Plan policy VISIT-49 empowers the RTMP to make determinations regarding trail usage and users to enhance equitability access to the Plan Areas recreational resources. The proposed Project is intended to guide the management of paved and non-paved roads and trails and will be used to assess and prioritize maintenance needs to improve and maximize road and trail sustainability. Therefore, because the proposed Project would not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect, there would be no impact.

Applicable SPRs

None applicable.

[91] El Dorado County, December 2015. Land Use Diagram, https://www.edcgov.us/government/planning/adoptedgeneralplan/figures/documents/LU-1.pdf, accessed April 13, 2022.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.11 Noise and Vibration

Regulatory Setting

Federal Highway Administration

Proposed federal or federal-aided highway construction projects at a new location, or the physical alteration of an existing highway that significantly changes the horizontal or vertical alignment or increases the number of through-traffic lanes, require an assessment of noise and consideration of noise abatement per 23 CFR Part 772, *Procedures for Abatement of Highway Traffic Noise and Construction Noise*. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has adopted noise abatement criteria for sensitive receivers—such as picnic areas, recreation areas, playgrounds, active sport areas, parks, residences, motels, hotels, schools, churches, libraries, and hospitals—when "worst-hour" noise levels approach or exceed 67 A-weighted decibels (dBA) equivalent continuous noise level (L_{eq}).[92]

United States Environmental Protection Agency

In addition to FHWA standards, the USEPA has identified the relationship between noise levels and human response. The USEPA has determined that over a 24-hour period, an L_{eq} of 70 dBA will result in some hearing loss.[93] Interference with activity and annoyance will not occur if exterior levels are maintained at an L_{eq} of 55 dBA and interior levels at or below 45 dBA. These levels are relevant to planning and design and useful for informational purposes, but they are not land use planning criteria because they do not consider economic cost, technical feasibility, or the needs of the community; therefore, they are not mandated.

The USEPA also set 55 dBA day-night sound level (L_{dn}) as the basic goal for exterior residential noise intrusion. However, other federal agencies, in consideration of their own program requirements and goals, as well as the difficulty of actually achieving a goal of 55 dBA L_{dn}, have settled on the 65 dBA L_{dn} level as their standard. At 65 dBA L_{dn}, activity interference is kept to a minimum, and annoyance levels are still low. It is also a level that can realistically be achieved.

California Building Code

The CBC is Title 24 of the CCR. CBC Part 2, Volume 1, Chapter 12, Section 1206.4, *Allowable Interior Noise Levels*, requires that interior noise levels attributable to exterior sources not exceed 45 dBA in any habitable room. The noise metric is evaluated as either L_{dn} or the community noise equivalent level (CNEL), whichever is consistent with the noise element of the local general plan.

The State of California's noise insulation standards for non-residential uses are codified in the Title 24, Part 11, *California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen)*, of the CCR. CALGreen noise standards are applied to new or renovation construction projects in California to control interior noise levels resulting from exterior noise sources. Proposed projects may use either the prescriptive method (Section 5.507.4.1) or the performance method (5.507.4.2) to show compliance. Under the prescriptive method, a project must demonstrate transmission loss ratings for the wall and roof-ceiling assemblies and exterior windows when located within a noise environment of 65 dBA CNEL or higher. Under the performance method, a project must demonstrate that interior noise levels do not exceed 50 dBA $L_{eq(1hr)}$.

[92] California Department of Transportation, April 2020. *Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manual*, https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/environmental-analysis/documents/env/tcvgm-apr2020-a11y.pdf, accessed April 26, 2022.

[93] United States Environmental Protection Agency, April 2, 1974. EPA Identifies Noise Levels Affecting Health and Welfare, https://archive.epa.gov/epa/aboutepa/epa-identifies-noise-levels-affecting-health-and-welfare.html#:~:text=The%20document%20identifies%20a%2024,preventing%20activity%20interference%20and%20annoyance, accessed April 26, 2022.

Airport Noise Standards

CCR Title 21, Subchapter 6, *Airport Noise Standards*, establishes 65 dBA CNEL as the acceptable level of aircraft noise for persons living in the vicinity of airports. Noise-sensitive land uses are generally incompatible in locations where the aircraft exterior noise level exceeds 65 dBA CNEL unless an aviation easement for aircraft noise has been acquired by the airport proprietor or the residence is a high-rise with an interior CNEL of 45 dBA or less in all habitable rooms and an air circulation or air conditioning system, as appropriate. AB 2776 (Simitian) requires any person who intends to sell or lease residential properties in an airport influence area to disclose that fact to the person buying the property.

Mather Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan

The Mather Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan was prepared by the SACOG in September 2020.[94] The policies outlined in the ALUCP are designed to promote compatibility between Mather Airport and surrounding land uses. The ALUCP also identifies the Airport Influence Area (AIA) and Airspace Protection Surfaces for Mather Airport. The AIA represents the geographic extent of the ALUCP's authority and the applicability of the ALUCP noise, safety, airspace protection, and overflight notification policies and compatibility criteria. These areas may also be subject to the annoyances or inconveniences associated with noise from airport uses. The Airspace Protection Surfaces include primary surfaces, approach surfaces, transitional surfaces, horizontal surfaces, and conical surfaces. Any object that penetrates one of the Airspace Protection Surfaces is deemed an obstruction to air navigation, but not all obstructions are necessarily hazards. Any proposed construction or alteration within 20,000 feet of a runway and having a height that would exceed a 100:1 imaginary surface would require a filing a notice with the FAA, as well has any proposed structure or object more than 200 feet in height regardless of proximity to the airport.

Affected Environment

The Plan Area is not subject to local noise ordinances established by the City of Folsom, and Sacramento, El Dorado, and Placer Counties. Rather, the standards by which the noise level impacts must be measured will be in accordance with State regulations. Primary noise sources within the Plan Area include traffic along neighboring roadways, airplanes flying overhead, boats on the lake, and construction. Traffic on local streets is the dominant source contributing to area ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity. Noise from motor vehicles is generated by engine vibrations, the interaction between tires and roads, and the exhaust system. In addition, noise is generated by use of recreational equipment such as boats, personal watercraft, and off-road motorcycles and contributes to the ambient noise in the Project area. The Plan Area is approximately 10 miles from the Mather Airport in the City of Ranch Cordova and 12 miles from the Lincoln Regional Airport in the City of Lincoln.[95, 96] Both airports are used for general aviation only, including commercial aircraft.

Certain land uses are considered more sensitive to noise than others, including residential areas, educational facilities, hospitals, childcare facilities, and senior housing. There are several locations of sensitive receptors within the Plan Area where residential development is immediately adjacent to the site boundary.

[94] Sacramento County Association of Governments, September 2020. *Mather Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*, https://www.sacog.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/mather_draft_alucp.pdf?1601659275, accessed on May 13, 2022.

[95] AirNav.com, 2022. KMHR Sacramento Mather Airport, https://www.airnav.com/airport/KMHR, accessed May 4, 2022.

[96] AirNav.com, 2022. KLHM Lincoln Regional Airport/Karl Harder Field, http://www.airnav.com/airport/klhm, accessed May 4, 2022.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or in other applicable local, state, or federal standards?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) Construction activities associated with future projects identified in the RTMP could involve the use of heavy-duty construction equipment that would generate substantial noise levels. These activities include site preparation (e.g., excavation, grading, and vegetation clearing), road and trail reconstruction, slope recontouring to reduce erosion and runoff, upgrades to drainage structures, adding or removing aggregate material, and the construction of new trail and/or trail structures such as bridges and boardwalks. To perform these activities, a combination of heavy equipment, small trail construction equipment (e.g., compactors, rock drills, chainsaws), and hand-held tools are typically used. Excavators are used to prepare the site by removing trees and brush. Dozers are also used to decompact the ground surface and to accumulate ground mulch for use on finished surfaces. Graders and rollers may be used to outslope and reshape road surfaces. Dump trucks are used to import aggregate for surface hardening. Heavy equipment may be used separately or simultaneously to complete the work. Hand-held tools may include shovels, grub hoes, bow saws, loppers, and drawknifes.

A significant portion of the construction work related to projects under the RTMP would be performed using hand-held tools. However, the loudest noise-generating equipment that would be used for construction on any individual road or trail project within the Plan Area would be a dozer and excavator or grader and roller. The noise levels generated by these pieces of equipment reach up to 85 dBA L_{max} each at a distance of 50 feet.[97] It is conservatively assumed that noise generating equipment may be operated simultaneously, in which case the combined noise level would be approximately 88.0 dBA L_{max} at a distance of 50 feet.

Construction activities associated with projects included under this RTMP would be subject to several SPRs that would reduce construction-related noise levels. For instance, SPR N-1 restricts construction to daytime hours; SPR N-2 requires that all construction equipment be maintained appropriately and equipped with the proper intake and exhaust shrouds; SPR N-3 ensures that all equipment engine shrouds will be closed during equipment operation; SPR N-4 requires that construction equipment and staging areas be located as far

[97] United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, January 2006. *Roadway Construction Noise Model User's Guide*, https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/noise/construction_noise/rcnm/rcnm.pdf, accessed May 9, 2022.

away as possible from sensitive receptors; SPR N-5 restricts equipment idle time; SPR N-6 prohibits pile driving, blasting, or drilling; SPR N-7 ensures that proper notification of construction activities is provided if any sensitive receptors are nearby; and SPR N-8 restricts construction activity from occurring within 50 feet of land uses sensitive to ground vibration and 30 feet from historically significant structures that could be vulnerable to structural damage from ground vibration.

Compliance with these noise-related SPRs will reduce construction-related noise at any potential sensitive receptor and would not result in the exposure of noise-sensitive receptors to a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

The RTMP's proposed actions have the potential to increase visitation through improvement of trailhead facilities and improved maintenance. However, the primary driver of increased visitation is the population growth of the region, including the counties and communities within and adjacent to the Plan Area. With increased visitation there is the potential for an increase in the ambient noise level of the Plan Area due to additional vehicles and people being present. Regardless, maintenance and construction activities already occur and will continue to occur with or without approval of the RTMP. Nearby sensitive receptors within communities and cities that surround the Plan Area are all separated from the park by roadways, freeways, or urban development. For this reason, the impact from the proposed actions would be less than significant.

b) Groundborne vibration and groundborne noise results from the use of heavy construction equipment and may vary depending on the specific construction equipment used and activities involved. Operation of construction equipment causes ground vibrations that spread through the ground and diminish in strength with distance. The effects of ground-borne vibration include perceptible movement of building floors, rattling of windows, shaking of items on shelves or hanging on walls, and rumbling sounds. In extreme cases, the vibration can cause damage to buildings. Ground vibrations from construction activities do not often reach a level that can cause damage to structures, but they can achieve the audible and feelable ranges in buildings that are very close to a work site. A conservative estimate for the highest level of ground vibration that could be produced by a large bulldozer is 0.089 in/sec PPV at a distance of 25 feet. This level is less than the level at which structural damage may occur to normal buildings (0.2 in/sec PPV at a distance of 25 feet) or to aged or historically significant buildings (0.1 in/sec PPV at a distance of 25 feet).[98] SPR N-8 excludes heavy equipment operation within 50 feet of vibration-sensitive land uses, such as residential buildings, schools, hospitals, and places of worship, and within 30 feet of historically significant structures or known archaeological sites. High levels of ground vibration can be generated by pile driving, blasting, and drilling; however, these activities would be prohibited by SPR N-6. Therefore, any impacts would be less than significant.

c) Mather Airport is located approximately 6 miles southwest of the Plan Area. The Plan Area is partially located within the Mather ALUCP's AIA, and a small portion of Lake Natoma is located in the airport's Part 77 Airspace Protection Surface. The baseline conditions of the Plan Area already includes an active trail system. The RMTP does not propose any actions that would alter the baseline, or otherwise conflict with these regulations. Therefore, there would be no impacts.

Applicable SPRs

N-1: Operation of noise-generating construction activity (equipment and power tools and haul truck delivery of equipment and materials) will abide by the time-of-day restrictions established by local jurisdictions (i.e., city and/or county) if such noise would be audible to receptors (e.g., residential land uses, schools, hospitals, places of worship) located in Nevada or Placer Counties or surrounding communities. Cities and counties in California typically restrict construction-noise to particular daytime hours. If the local, applicable jurisdiction does not have a noise ordinance or policy

[98] United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, January 2006. *Roadway Construction Noise Model User's Guide*, https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/noise/construction_noise/rcnm/rcnm.pdf, accessed May 9, 2022.

restricting the time-of-day when noise-generating construction activity can occur, then noise-generating construction activity will be limited to the hours of 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday.

N-2: All powered construction equipment and power tools will be used and maintained according to manufacturer specifications. All diesel- and gasoline-powered construction equipment will be properly maintained and equipped with noise-reduction intake and exhaust mufflers and engine shrouds, in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.

N-3: Equipment engine shrouds will be closed during equipment operation.

N-4: All construction equipment and equipment staging areas will be located as far as possible from nearby noise-sensitive land uses (e.g., residential land uses, schools, hospitals, places of worship) located outside the park.

N-5: All motorized construction equipment will be shut down when not in use. Idling of equipment and haul trucks will be limited to five minutes.

N-6: No pile driving, blasting, or drilling will occur in areas that may adversely affect sensitive receptors outside the park unit.

N-7: Written notification of construction activities will be provided to any and all off-site noise-sensitive receptors (e.g., residential land uses, schools, hospitals, places of worship) located within 1,500 feet of locations where powered construction equipment and/or power tools will be operated. Notification will include anticipated dates and hours during which construction activities are anticipated to occur and contact information, including a daytime telephone number, of the project representative. Recommendations to assist noise-sensitive land uses in reducing interior noise levels (e.g., closing windows and doors) will also be included in the notification.

N-8: Construction activities involving heavy equipment (i.e., 50 horsepower [hp] or greater) will not operate within 50 feet of land uses that are potentially sensitive to ground vibration, including residential buildings, schools, hospitals, and places of worship. Heavy construction equipment will also not be operated within 30 feet of historically significant structures that could be vulnerable to structural damage from ground vibration, and known archaeological sites, which could be vulnerable to vibration-induced changes to the stratigraphic relations of the soil layers that are important to archaeological study.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.12 Parks and Recreation

Regulatory Setting

California Public Park Preservation Act

The primary instrument for protecting and preserving parkland is California's Public Park Preservation Act of 1971. Under the PRC Sections 5400 – 5409, cities and counties may not acquire any real property that is in use as a public park for any nonpark use unless compensation, land, or both are provided to replace the parkland acquired. This provides for no net loss of parkland and facilities.

Quimby Act

The Quimby Act (GOV Section 66477) was established by the California Legislature in 1965 provide parks for the growing communities in California. The act authorizes cities to adopt ordinances addressing parkland and/or fees for residential subdivisions for the purpose of providing and preserving open space and recreational facilities and improvements. The Quimby Act requires the provision of three acres of park area per 1,000 persons residing within a subdivision, unless the amount of existing neighborhood and community park area exceeds that limit, in which case the city may adopt a higher standard not to exceed five acres per 1,000 residents. The Quimby Act also specifies acceptable uses and expenditures of such funds.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to parks and recreation are listed in Table 4.12-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Parks and Recreation*.

Table 4.12-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Parks and Recreation

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goals: • **Provide a resource for local and regional visitors to enjoy aquatic and upland recreation opportunities and facilities in a distinctive California foothills landscape.** • **Provide a balanced range of high quality recreation opportunities and facilities that promote and enhance public enjoyment and appreciation of the SRA's natural, cultural, and scenic resources.** • **Provide a range of recreational opportunities and facilities that reflect and respond to the unique growth pressures on the SRA and address continually-shifting demand for public recreation.** • **Locate and design recreational facilities to ensure protection of natural and cultural resource values, as well as contributing to the SRA's identity and sense of place.**	
VISIT-1	Provide public use facilities and associated services within the SRA as needed to facilitate public enjoyment of the natural setting.
VISIT-2	Ensure that new and existing visitor facilities and associated services receive equal consideration between the need for recreation, resource protection, and interpretation and education.
VISIT-3	Ensure that new and existing visitor facilities and associated services reflect the intent of the SRA land use designations with respect to resource protection, permitted uses, intensity of uses, and access.
VISIT-4	Ensure that new and existing visitor facilities are designed to minimize dependence on regular, on-going maintenance operations and avoid activities that would be environmentally damaging to keep them operational.
VISIT-5	Ensure that new and existing visitor facilities on Folsom Lake are located and designed to withstand potential short-term inundation during extreme flooding events.
VISIT-6	Locate larger public use facilities in areas that have convenient access and are suitable for higher intensity of uses, i.e., less sensitive resource values.

Table 4.12-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Parks and Recreation

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
VISIT-7	Consider and evaluate services provided by neighboring jurisdiction when planning for new public use facilities and associated services to ensure that such facilities and services are complementary and reduce unnecessary duplication of services.
VISIT-8	Continue using concessionaires to provide visitor services – e.g., marina, aquatic equipment rentals and lessons, food services, etc. – where it is most cost-effective, efficient, and appropriate to do so.
Goals: • **Strengthen SRA's role as a premier place for aquatic recreation in Northern California.** • **Provide and enhance diverse aquatic recreation experiences in a variety of settings.** • **Enhance water access and reduce congestion at key launch locations.** • **Increase aquatic safety awareness.**	
VISIT-9	Maximize the capacity of existing launch facilities for both motorized and non-motorized watercraft as appropriate and informed by the adequacy of vehicle access, aquatic safety, total lake capacity, and environment impact. Increase boat launch capacity on Folsom Lake at under-served lake levels.
VISIT-10	Balance the maximization and increase in launch capacity with the availability of existing parking. Launch capacity will not be increased where the provision of additional parking is deemed inappropriate with the goals and objectives of the management zone.
VISIT-11	Maintain and enhance the variety of settings and visitor experiences provided by Folsom Lake as a means of safely accommodating a range of aquatic uses and providing a positive visitor experience.
VISIT-12	Expand the area governed by the 5 mph speed limit to the North Fork Arm of Folsom Lake in order to preserve the setting, enhance the quiet and sheltered character of the water, and reduce conflicts between motorized and non-motorized watercraft.
VISIT-13	Manage Lake Natoma for slow speed and non-motorized water recreation. Continue the 5 mph speed limit for motorized watercraft for the entire Lake. Prohibit the use of personal water craft at Lake Natoma. Phase out the use of two-stroke engines at Lake Natoma. Utilize California Air Resources Board emissions standards in developing standards and regulations to phase out high emission two-stroke engines. Exceptions may be made for emergency response vessels and vessels necessary for other administrative purposes.
VISIT-14	Enhance existing upland facilities as appropriate to support the goals of this General Plan for aquatic recreation.
VISIT-15	Explore options to provide on-water access to non-boat owners, including boat rental opportunities, intra-park "water taxi" or boat tour concession concepts, and pontoon boat interpretive tours.
Goal: Increase marina capacity on Folsom Lake for the purposes of improving water access to Folsom Lake.	
VISIT-16	Undertake detailed analysis to determine the specific improvements, facilities, and costs associated with increasing capacity at Folsom Lake Marina by 30 to 50 percent. This analysis would determine the revenue potential relative to the costs of facility development, operations, and maintenance.
VISIT-17	Consider expanding marina capacity at a location other than Brown's Ravine only if conditions or circumstances in the SRA, such as a major property acquisition, warrant such consideration. The following criteria will be applied to the consideration of a potential marina location on Folsom Lake: - Suitable underwater topography, including magnitude and extent of dredging necessary to achieve suitable basin elevation; - Sufficient upland area to support needed landside facilities, such as parking and access, office and concessions, restrooms and public use amenities, etc.; - Suitable access, including distance from main roads and services availability; - Compatibility with both management zone land use designation and surrounding land use; and - Potential impacts on the SRA's natural and cultural resources.
VISIT-18	Consider the provision of covered berths and/or dry boat storage in the expansion of marina capacity.

Table 4.12-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Parks and Recreation

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goal: • **Strengthen the SRA's role as the primary year-round upland recreation location in the greater Sacramento region.** • **Provide diverse high quality upland outdoor recreation experiences in a variety of settings and appealing to visitors of all ages and abilities.** • **Enhance and reduce congestion at major day use areas.**	
VISIT-25	Maintain and enhance the variety of settings provided in the SRA as a means of accommodating a range of upland recreation activities and providing a positive visitor experience.
VISIT-26	Upgrade and enhance existing upland recreation facilities in the SRA to improve access, respond to changing trends in recreation, and provide a visitor experience that is in keeping with the purpose of such facilities.
VISIT-27	Develop new upland recreation facilities in the SRA for the purposes of providing new recreation opportunities, addressing currently unmet demand for existing recreation activities, and incorporating interpretive and educational opportunities in the SRA. Appropriate interpretive and educational facilities may include interpretive centers, observation platforms, interpretive trails, vista points, and interpretive signage.
VISIT-28	Establish a SRA visitor center as a means of increasing visitor awareness of the recreational and interpretative opportunities in the SRA, assisting visitors in planning their time in the SRA, and providing a positive visitor experience.
VISIT-29	Ensure the integration of the upland and aquatic recreation facilities in the SRA, as appropriate, to provide visitors with the opportunity to experience the full range of SRA's recreation activities.
Goals: • **Provide an enhanced visitor experience for campers strongly influenced by the natural, cultural, and scenic resources of the SRA.** • **Develop additional camping in appropriate portions of the SRA to provide SRA visitors a quality camping experience in a natural setting as an escape from urban surroundings.**	
VISIT-30	Ensure that family campgrounds are located and designed in such a way as to provide a quality natural recreation experience.
VISIT-31	Redistribute and redesign existing campsites in the SRA, as appropriate, to provide a high quality visitor experience that is in keeping with the General Plan goals for camping.
VISIT-32	Incorporate to the maximum extent possible opportunities for the interpretation of SRA's natural, cultural, and scenic resources.
VISIT-33	Integrate aquatic recreation facilities in the SRA, as appropriate, to provide campers with the opportunity to experience the full range of SRA's recreation activities.
VISIT-34	Explore the potential to develop a small equestrian camping facility (approximately 5-10 campsites). Potential locations for an equestrian camping facility include: Mississippi Bar, Peninsula or Rattlesnake Bar.
VISIT-35	Explore the potential to develop a small camping facility (5-10 campsites) which serves the needs of bicyclists. Potential locations include: the El Dorado Shore, Peninsula or Rattlesnake Bar.
Goals: • **A trail system the provides a broad public benefit by accommodating diverse trail uses and abilities.** • **A trail system that gives consideration to the demands of a diverse and growing user population while responding to changes in recreation demand over time.** • **A trail system that gives equal consideration to the need to expand with enhancement of existing trail facilities and protection of the SRA's natural and cultural resource values.** • **A trail system that promotes and enhances public enjoyment and appreciation of the SRA's natural, cultural, and scenic resources.** • **A trail system and program that promotes awareness of safety and etiquette as a means of reducing conflicts and minimizing the need for monitoring and enforcement.** • **A trail system the provides a loop around Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma.** • **A trial system that ensures linkages with the trail systems of adjacent jurisdictions and neighborhoods and is an integral part of a regional trail system.**	
A trail system that encourages cooperation and collaboration among trail providers, trail advocates, adjacent communities, and neighbors.	

Table 4.12-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Parks and Recreation

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
VISIT-36	Prepare a Trail Master Plan for the SRA that will guide the long term planning and management of the trail system. The Trail Master plan should address the following: - Identification of new facilities, including trail extensions, trail connections, trailheads, access points, wayfinding system, etc.; - Identification of specific enhancements to existing facilities, including minor facility expansion, maintenance projects and programming, signages, etc.; - Sustainable design of trails and support facilities to protect the natural, cultural, and scenic resources of the SRA while minimizing maintenance needs; - Designation of allowable uses on each trail segment in the system, including shared-use, limited use, and Class I bike path; - Establishment of a consistent wayfinding and sign program with most information provided at trailheads; - Establishment of a trail patrol and enforcement program; and - Establishment of education and awareness programs related to trail safety and etiquette. - Identifies or provides a schedule to identify non-designated user created trails that need to be obliterated and rehabilitated.
VISIT-37	Establish a full-time Trail Coordinator position in the Gold Fields District to oversee the planning and management of the trail system.
VISIT-38	Coordinate trail system planning and development with the efforts of other local trail providers – such as Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado counties, City of Folsom, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service – to maximize connectivity and opportunities for an integrated regional trail network.
VISIT-39	Work with local government jurisdictions during their development review processes to ensure that proposed new development adjacent to the SRA will not prevent the development of planned trail system facilities or otherwise adversely impact or constrain public use of the trail system.
VISIT-40	Work with local government jurisdictions during their development review processes to ensure that new development proposed adjacent the SRA contributes to the trail system through the provision of trails and connections to State Park's trails and other regional trails.
VISIT-41	Establish the new General Plan GIS database as an important trail planning and management tool. In addition to the trail system data already included in the database, incorporate the following: - Proposed new trail system facilities as a means of recording and tracking funding priorities; - Trail condition and maintenance needs as a means of recording and tracking maintenance priorities; - Proposed trail improvements by neighboring jurisdictions that impact the trail system; and - Incident reports and complaints to identify trouble spots related to use, facilities, and maintenance.
VISIT-42	Implement periodic user surveys to assess level of trail use, type and pattern of trail use, user preferences and satisfaction, and recreational trends to assist in trial system planning and management.
VISIT-43	*Paved Trail.* This paved trail generally meets Caltrans' Class 1 separated bicycle trail criteria and has decomposed granite shoulders or an adjacent parallel dirt path that serves multiple users. However, not all portions of the paved bike paths within Folsom Lake SRA meet the Caltrans Class 1 designation. This trail serves road bicyclists as well as other trail users and hence speeds along the paved section of trail area significantly faster than other trails. Because of the potential for faster speeds, allowing equestrian use on the shoulder immediately adjacent to the paved trail is a less than ideal situation. If the trail is intended to serve equestrians, managers should consider providing one dirt shoulder at least 4 feet wide of a parallel shared use dirt trail. Typical or desirable characteristics of this trail classification include: - Location: Because the paved trail served bicycle commuters, youth and fitness cyclists among other trail users, these trails best serve the public when they are near or adjacent to urban and suburban areas. - Access/Connectivity: These trails connect to the city, county and neighborhood trail systems with a high number of access points and connections to job centers, residential areas, major unit recreation facilities and other portions of the unit trail system. - Terrain: this type of trail is suitable for gentler terrain with gradual grades (generally under 5%), minimal cross slopes and good sight lines. - Degree of Difficulty: These trails are generally easy. - Use Character: moderate to high volumes of trail users. Trail speeds are variable, though trails will have the fastest traffic from use by commuters and road cyclists.

Table 4.12-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Parks and Recreation

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
VISIT-44	*Shared Use or Multi-Use Trail*. This unpaved trail is designed, developed, and managed for all types of users (e.g., pedestrians, bicycles, and equestrians). Multiple uses are accommodated on a single trail designed, located, and managed to accommodate these uses. Typical or desirable characteristics of this trail classification include: - Location: Because these trails serve a broad range of users they are best located in areas that are relatively close to population centers and are easily accessed by many types of users. - Access/Connectivity: Moderate to high number of access points and connections to destinations and other system trails. Connections between shared use and limited use trails should be carefully considered to avoid conflicts. - Terrain: This type of trail is generally more suitable for less severe terrain with more gradual grades, gentler cross slopes and good sight lines. The terrain is conducive to providing opportunities for different types of users to safely pass one another. - Degree of Difficulty: This type of trail designation is generally suitable for trails that are easy to moderate. - Use Character: Moderate volumes of trail users. Trail speeds are moderate.
VISIT-45	*Limited Use Trails*. These trails are designed, developed, and managed for one or more, but not all types of users (e.g., pedestrian/mountain biking, pedestrian/equestrian, or pedestrian only). Use is limited due to factors such as the presence of sensitive resources (e.g. boardwalks around vernal pools), unique suitability for a particular use, or desire for particular visitor experience. Use is typically accommodated on a single trail, though several types of limited use trails may share a broad trail corridor to provide access for all types of trail users in a single area. In this situation, providing parallel limited use trails, sufficient suitable terrain is required to locate the individual trails and to provide sufficient suitable terrain is required to locate the individual trails and to provide sufficient separation for a quality user experience. It should be noted that parallel limited use trails not only require more land, but also may have greater impacts on natural and cultural resources and require maintenance of more trail milage than shares use dirt trails. There is no assurance that establishing parallel limited use trails would be effective in eliminating conflicts as unauthorized use of the trails would still be a challenge to enforce. Typical or desirable characteristics of trail classification include: - Location: Because these trails serve a limited range of users they generally are not located closest to population centers. - Access/Connectivity: These trails are restricted to specific trail uses. To prevent inadvertent use by restricted uses these trails should have a limited number of connections to other system trails. If parallel limited use trails are provided, connections between the parallel trails should be limited and carefully considered to prevent conflicts. - Terrain: Because of the various purposes for limited use trails, the type of terrain suitable for these trails may be highly variable, from gentle terrain for hiking only trails with sensitive resources or steep and severe terrain for challenging trail experiences for a particular use. The terrain may not be conducive to providing opportunities for different types of users to safely pass one another. - Degree of Difficulty: The difficulty of the trail may be highly variable depending upon the purpose of the particular limited use trail. - Use Character: These trails serve a limited range of users and volumes of trail users are likely to be low to moderate. However, if the trail provides a unique experience with few similar opportunities in the region, use volumes may be high at times. Trail speeds are variable.
VISIT-46	*Fully Accessible or Interpretive Trail*. This trail is designed to be fully accessible to disabled users, including wheelchairs. Allowable uses on these trails area generally restricted to pedestrians, wheelchairs and other mobility assistance devices. Typical or desirable characteristics of this trail classification include: - Location: Because a key purpose of these trails is to serve a physically challenges trail users they should be located in areas with easy access to vehicle parking. - Access/Connectivity: To prevent confusion with trails having other designations, these trails should have limited connections to other system trails. - Terrain: Gentle terrain is most suitable for this type of trail with minimal grades and cross slopes and the opportunity to provide an even tread surface. - Degree of Difficulty: These trails are fully accessible and may also be suitable for users desiring an easy trail experience. - Use Character: Trail use volumes are likely to be low to moderate. Trail speeds are slow.

Table 4.12-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Parks and Recreation

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
VISIT-47	The development of a Trails Management Plan will include an inventory and classification of trails for the purpose of trail maintenance standards and priorities. These trail classifications are based on a variety of criteria including: types of uses, proximity to other facilities, access and connection, and use patterns.
VISIT-48	The trails within the SRA all have existing designated allowed uses. These designations of allowed use have occurred over time in various ways including adopting the existing/historical use and new trails developed for specific purposes. As part of the development of the Trails Management Plan, the existing allowed uses on the Folsom Lake SRA trails will be assessed and any proposed changes to the allowed uses will be analyzed in the Trail Management Plan and future trail planning. In making decisions regarding changes to allowed uses on specific trail, many factors will be considered, including: trail condition, trail use, terrain, safety, access and connectivity, location, trail sustainability, recreation demand, impacts to natural and cultural resources and other factors.
VISIT-49	There are many strategies that could be employed to provide equitable access to all trail users including developing or designating multi-use trails, designating alternating days of use for different trail users on particular trail, developing additional limited use trails and other potential tools and strategies. Decisions on which particular strategy to utilize will be made on a case by case basis considering site specific conditions in the Trail Management Plan and future trail planning.
VISIT-50	Provide sufficient access to the SRA trail system to adequately serve the public and to discourage the creation of unauthorized and individual access points by adjacent neighbors. Establish new access points as appropriate and feasible, including formalizing and improving existing informal access points.
VISIT-51	Ensure that access points to the trail system accommodate the range of travel modes used by trail users to get to the SRA, including pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, automobile, and transit.
VISIT-52	Create continuous loop trails and links between major recreation areas and facilities in the SRA as a means of enhancing the connectivity of the trail system.
VISIT-53	Expand opportunities in the trail system for people with disabilities by providing ADA compatible facilities wherever feasible.
VISIT-54	Ensure that the allowed use is clearly identified at each formal access point and on all trail literature.
VISIT-55	Prepare a map of the trail system and make it available to the general public at SRA entrances, by mail, and on the SRA website. The map should indicate the allowed uses on each trail and provide a brief description such that a visitor can identify particular trails most suited to their needs. Include other interpretive information on map as space allows. Consider combining trail map with a Folsom Lake SRA Recreation Map.
VISIT-66	Involve adjacent private property owners, community groups, and neighborhood associations in trail planning and management where existing or planned trails are in close proximity to the SRA boundary.
VISIT-67	Support and encourage an ongoing dialogue among private property owners, trail user groups, and State Park staff to prevent conflicts between trail users and adjacent property owners.
VISIT-68	Eliminate existing unauthorized access improvements connections to the trail system from adjacent private property. Prioritize addressing unauthorized access points and improvements where resource damage or use conflicts are occurring. Monitor the SRA's urban boundaries to prevent the establishment of new unauthorized access to the trail system.
Goal: Additional multi-use space as a means of achieving a variety of State Parks and community goals associated with the SRA.	
MULTI-USE-1	Replace the existing activity center at Granite Bay with an expanded and improved facility and parking at the same location. The new facility should include flexible space that can accommodate a variety of training, meeting, and event uses. Park and recreation-related uses should be the primary purpose of the center.
MULTI-USE-2	Evaluate the feasibility of developing a multi-use facility at Brown's Ravine or Folsom Point with a primary purpose of water safety training. Such a facility should have water access and include: flexible classroom and event space, kitchen facilities, change facilities, aquatic equipment storage, administrative area, and observation area.
MULTI-USE-3	Evaluate the feasibility of developing a multi-use facility at Nimbus Flat. Such a facility might include: flexible classroom and event space, kitchen facilities, storage, administrative area, exhibit area and other visitor service facilities.

Table 4.12-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Parks and Recreation

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goals: • **Special events and concessions consistent with the SRA's purpose and vision and the mission of the State Parks and Reclamation policies and standards.** • **Special events and concessions that increase awareness, educate, and encourage participation in local recreation and culture.** • **Special events and concessions that promote stewardship of SRA resources.** • **Give consideration to the need to maintain access for the general public to recreation opportunities in the SRA in assessing how to meet the demand for special events.**	
EVENT-1	Ensure that special events sponsored by State Parks and Reclamation, such as the American River Salmon Festival and park clean-up days, focus primarily on promoting stewardship, education, end enhancement of SRA resources.
EVENT-2	Implement the Special Event Policy for the SRA which includes specific requirements, guidelines, constraints, and processes by which special events will be approved and administered by the District. Update this policy as appropriate and necessary.
EVENT-3	Prevent special events of concessions from unduly displacing public use of SRA resources and facilities through allocation of special event and concession opportunities as necessary. Consider limitations on the number, extent, and location of special events during peak use times.
EVENT-4	Ensure that concessions in the SRA enhance visitor experience, are compatible with SRA resources, fit within the capacity of the management zone and are consistent with the purpose and vision of the SRA and the mission of State Parks. Use the allocation of special event and concession opportunities as a means of ensuring the capacity of management zones within the unit is not exceeded and that the desired resource conditions and visitor experience are protected.
EVENT-5	Continue to work in partnership with the California State University Sacrament (CSUS) Aquatic Center to promote and deliver water safety education and instruction and to manage CSUS-sponsored events on Lake Natoma as a means of protecting SRA resources and maintaining public access.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

The Plan Area is home to many recreational facilities that host a variety of recreational uses. Aquatic activities comprise 85 percent of all recreation visits, including boating, waterskiing, and swimming. Land-based activities comprise the remaining 15 percent, and include hiking, biking, picnicking, camping, and horseback riding.

Aquatic Uses and Facilities

Folsom Lake aquatic users include swimmers, sailors, and boaters, each having preferred locations on the lake for their respective recreation. Lake Natoma attracts paddle sport enthusiasts and major events hosted by CSUS at Nimbus Flat.

Aquatic facilities within the Plan Area include Folsom Lake Marina, various boat launch facilities, and the whitewater rafting facilities at Skunk Hollow and Salmon Falls. The Folsom Lake Marina includes 685 wet slips and 175 dry storage slips that are in high demand. There are nine boat launch facilities within in the Plan Area, six on Folsom Lake, offering 58 launch lanes, and three on Lake Natoma, offering 6 launch lanes. The main launch facilities on Folsom Lake are located at Granite Bay, with secondary facilities at Folsom Point, Brown's Ravine, Peninsula, and Rattlesnake Bar. These facilities are fully hard surfaced, have demarcated lanes and turnaround areas, and can accommodate powerboats, personal watercraft, and sailboat launching. Launch facilities on Lake Natoma are used primarily by paddlers, stand up paddle boarders, rowers, and fishermen. The docks at Nimbus Flat are primarily for non-motorized boat uses, such as kayaking, paddling, and rowing. Fishing also occurs around these launches. The Black Miners Bar launch and the launch at Willow Creek are widely popular among standup paddle boarders and fishermen. The South Fork of the American River is the highest use river in the western United States, popular for commercial and private whitewater rafting. Facilities at Salmon Falls and Skunk Hollow

are specifically intended to accommodate rafting activity. The Salmon Falls facility includes a large area for bus parking and queuing, an informal raft take-out area, four vault toilets, and drinking water. The Skunk Hollow facility includes a small, paved parking area, a raft loading zone with drying rails, two vault toilets, a paved path from the river up to the parking area, and several picnic tables.

Terrestrial Uses and Facilities

The Peninsula Campground, Beals Point Campground, and Black Miners Bar Campground in total host 176 campsites within the Plan Area. The Peninsula Campground includes 85 sites that can accommodate a maximum trailer length of 18 feet and RV length of 24 feet. It features five restrooms, two boat ramps, and a small amphitheater. Beals Point Campground provides 49 single campsites, 20 RV sites, a sanitary dump station, three restrooms, and showers. The Black Miners Bar Campground is comprised of 3 reservation-only group campsites designed to accommodate 25-50 people each, and a restroom.

Day use facilities are the primary gateway to the Plan Area and accommodate the majority of visitors and recreational activities. Key day-use facilities within the Plan Area include Granite Bay, Beals Point, Folsom Point, Nimbus Flat, Black Miners Bar, and FPSHP and are described as follow:[99]

Granite Bay: This area is the most popular day use facility and includes a 1,200-foot-long swim beach, a snack bar and beach equipment concessions, restrooms, a picnic area, and a paved parking area. An activity center is located north of the main swim beach and is available through reservation for group use. The North Granite area is popular for fishing, horseback riding, and hiking. It includes an informal beach at Oak Point and an equestrian staging area. Doton's Point and Beeks Bight are popular day-use areas within the North Granite area.

Beals Point: This facility offers a 1,000-foot-long swim beach, a concessions facility with a snack bar, beach equipment rentals, restrooms, and paved parking area. A large grassy area along the beach provides picnic tables, barbeques, shade ramadas, and restroom facilities.

Folsom Point: This area is the most popular day use area on the eastern shore of Folsom Lake. Picnic facilities in this area include a shaded picnic area with tables and barbeques, two vault toilets, and parking. Folsom Point also includes the largest formal boat launch facilities on this side of the Lake and additional parking spaces at the boat ramp.

Nimbus Flat: This area is located just upstream from the Nimbus Dam and is adjacent to the CSUS Aquatic Center. Facilities offered in this area include two small beaches, an observation area, a picnic area with tables, two small boat docks, a boat ramp, two restrooms, and a large parking area. Nimbus Flat is considered an ideal location for watching various rowing competitions and events hosted by the neighboring CSUS Aquatic Center on Lake Natoma.

Black Miners Bar: This area extends along one mile of the Lake Natoma shoreline between the Lake Natoma Bluffs to the south and the Rainbow Bridge to the north. The upper area of the shoreline includes a picnic area with tables and shade ramadas, a restroom, and a paved parking area. An equestrian staging area is located north of the parking area. The lower area of the shoreline includes a picnic area with tables, shade ramadas, and barbecues, a restroom, a small beach, and a concessionaire renting kayaks and stand-up paddle boards. The area of Black Miners Bar between Rainbow Bridge and Lake Natoma Crossing is popular with fishermen, paddlers, swimmers, and sunbathers.

FPSHP: The powerhouse includes the main powerhouse museum, the lower powerhouse with an associated forebay and wooden flumes, a blacksmith shop, a picnic area, a comfort station, and a small parking area. This area is also equipped with a visitor center that offers interpretive exhibits, historical photos, and guided tours

[99] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan, Volume 2: Chapter IV, Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/FLSRA_GP_RMP_Vol2_EIR_EIS.pdf, accessed April 14, 2022.

of the historic powerhouse. Picnic sites and nature trails that connect to ancient grinding rocks used by Native American people are also available to visitors.

There are many miles of trails throughout the Plan Area that link park facilities and accommodate a variety of users including walkers and hikers, horseback riders, cyclists, and mountain bikers. Currently, there are 122 miles of total system trails, of which 19.1 miles are paved.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	❒	❒	❒	■
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) Trail users would be displaced during maintenance, construction, and/or upgrades to individual trails. However, during closure, park visitors would be able to use most of the other 120.5 miles of non-motorized trails within the Plan Area, of which 19.1 miles are paved and 101.4 are unpaved. Park staff and signage would inform visitors about any temporary closures. Area closure signage would be posted at all trail access points, campgrounds, and information kiosks during trail maintenance or construction work, as described in SPR GEN-9.

As noted in Section 3.3 of the RTMP, the Plan Area has many adjacent landowners and managers of public and private property. Neighboring land uses include utilities, open space, freeways, parks, and residential development. There are recreational trails and opportunities available to the north and east of the Plan Area, and City of Folsom parks and trails to the south and west, with some of these trails connecting to those within the Plan Area.

One of the purposes of the RTMP is to maximize visitor use and experiences, which is consistent with the General Plan goal of developing new opportunities and facilities for optimizing public enjoyment of the parks' natural, cultural, and recreational values. The RTMP aims to achieve this goal by providing specific and detailed management directions for the parks' road and trail systems, guiding their future operation, maintenance and development.

Future change-in-use (CIU) requests will be evaluated in accordance with the Department's formal CIU process. This process facilitates and makes consistent the review of CIU proposals that would add or remove uses from existing recreational roads and trails in the State Park System. It is intended to identify the ability of a trail to safely accommodate new uses. Any CIU project that requires trail modifications prior to implementation will also require additional environmental review and documentation if the proposed modifications fall outside the parameters of the Department's CIU PEIR CIU proposals that adhere to the Department's CIU PEIR only require a Notice of Determination. The level and type of subsequent environmental review and documentation would be dependent upon the CIU project scope and would be required before the project could move forward to construction. No potential CIU project would contribute to an increase in use such that substantial physical deterioration of the park or facilities within the Plan Area

would occur or be accelerated, because such use would only be allowed where the design of the trail was deemed to be adequate for the predicted volume of use. Therefore, there would be no impact on the park or recreational resources.

b) The proposed Project is intended to guide the management of paved and non-paved roads and trails and will be used to assess and prioritize maintenance needs to improve and maximize road and trail sustainability. Although recreational facilities (roads and trails) would be affected by the project through the maintenance and improvement recommendations, part of the intent is to improve the sustainability of said roads and trails. As is indicated throughout this document, approval and implementation of the RTMP will not result in adverse physical effects on the environment with incorporation of applicable SPRs as identified in Section 2.9, *Standard Project Requirements*. Therefore, there would be no impact.

Applicable SPRs

GEN-9: The **[insert who]** will post information signs near project areas with restricted access or closures lasting longer than three months. The signs will include an explanation for and description of the project, and the anticipated completion date.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.13 Population and Housing

Regulatory Setting

Sacramento Area Council of Governments 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy

The SACOG is the MPO for the 28 cities of the Sacramento region, which includes El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties. SACOG adopted the *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy (MTP/SCS)* on November 18, 2019.[100] The *2020 MTP/SCS* lays out a transportation investment and land use strategy to support of prosperous region, with access to jobs and economic opportunity, transportation options, and affordable housing that works for all residents. The plan also lays out a path for improving air quality, preserving open space and natural resources, and helping California achieve its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. The *2020 MTP/SCS* plans for enough housing to meet the needs of the region over the 20 years the plan covers and considers state housing goals and identifies areas within the region sufficient to meet the regional housing needs allocation for 2021-2029.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to population and housing are listed in Table 4.13-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Population and Housing*.

Table 4.13-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Population and Housing

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goals: • **Employee housing that supports maintenance and enforcement activities at levels determined by State Parks and Reclamation as appropriate for visitor health, safety, and enjoyment.** • **Employee housing that aids in the retention of key SRA operations staff and in recruiting staff.**	
HOUSING-1	Consider the provision of additional employee housing in the SRA only where a demonstrated operational need, such as security, maintenance or visitor services support, is identified.
HOUSING-2	Ensure that the location of additional employee housing in the SRA is viable with respect to the infrastructure necessary to service it, such as water, sewer, electricity, and telephone. In remote locations, physical conditions may limit the provision of some services.
HOUSING-3	Ensure that employee housing in the SRA is located, designated, and maintained in a manner that avoids impact to the environmental setting or visitor experience of the area.
HOUSING-4	Maintain and enhance existing employee housing in the SRA as necessary to ensure the continued health and safety of its residents.
HOUSING-5	If maintenance and upgrades of existing employee housing become cost prohibitive, consider removal of employee housing.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

The Plan Area is mainly accessed by vehicle from I-80 and US-50. Park visitors primarily originate from the Sacramento metropolitan area southwest of the Plan Area. Other visitors include those who live within one to two hours of the Plan Area. There are no plans for the development of permanent staff housing. The permanent

[100] Sacramento Area Council of Governments, November 2019. *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS)*, https://www.sacog.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/2020_mtp-scs.pdf?1580330993, accessed April 25, 2022.

population of the park is relatively static and is limited to staff who live in existing permanent employee housing at Nimbus Flat, Granite Bay, and the Peninsula. The park is both a local recreational resource and a destination, used by locals and out of town visitors alike, but does not offer business or residential opportunities within its boundaries, beyond basic recreational services offered by the park through concessions. The park has 122 miles of existing trails and the RTMP calls for new trail development in the future.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth or growth for which inadequate planning has occurred, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	❒	❒	❒	■
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a, b) The RTMP does not entail additions or changes to the existing local infrastructure, nor would the trails covered in the Plan induce unplanned population growth, or in any way make such growth possible. Population growth in the region is already occurring and an approved RTMP provides a more comprehensive strategy to be responsive to ever increasing demands on recreational facilities. It would neither modify nor displace any existing housing and would displace no one, either temporarily or permanently. Any jobs generated as a result of the project would be short-term, with no permanent connection to the park location. Therefore, there would be no impact to population growth or housing.

Applicable SPRs

None applicable.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.14 Public Services

Regulatory Setting

California Building Code

The CBC, which is in Part 2 of Title 24 of the CCR, establishes the minimum State building standards. The CBC is currently updated every three years. The most recent update is the 2019 CBC, effective starting January 1, 2020. It is based on the 2018 International Building Code but has been amended to account for California conditions. The CBC is generally adopted on a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis, subject to further modification based on local conditions. Commercial and residential buildings are plan-checked by City building officials for compliance with the CBC. Typical fire safety requirements of the CBC include installation of sprinklers in all high-rise buildings; establishment of fire resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction; and clearance of debris and vegetation within a prescribed distance from occupied structures in wildfire hazard areas.

California Fire Code

The CFC incorporates, by adoption, the International Fire Code of the International Code Council, with California amendments. It is in Part 9 of CCR Title 24. The most recent update is effective starting January 1, 2020 and is based on the 2018 International Fire Code. The CFC contains regulations for safeguarding life and property from fire hazards, including setting certain building requirements regarding hazardous materials, storage, and occupancy.

Senate Bill 50

SB 50 (Greene), approved in 1998, is funded by Proposition 1A and limits the power of cities and counties to require mitigation of school facilities impacts as a condition of approving new development and provides instead for a standardized developer fee. SB 50 generally provides for a 50/50 State and local school facilities funding match. SB 50 also provides for three levels of statutory impact fees. The application level depends on whether State funding is available, whether the school district is eligible for State funding and whether the school district meets certain additional criteria involving bonding capacity, year-round school and the percentage of moveable classrooms in use.

Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act

The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act (GOV Section 53311 et seq.) provides an alternative method of financing certain public capital facilities and services through special taxes. This State law empowers local agencies to establish Community Facilities Districts (CFDs) to levy special taxes for facilities such as libraries.

Affected Environment

Located within the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountain range, the Plan Area attracts visitors from large nearby metropolitan areas seeking opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. Several million people live within a one- to two-hour drive of the park and this number is expected to escalate as urbanization transforms nearby rural areas into subdivisions.

Fire Protection

Fire prevention and protection services are administered by CAL FIRE for State lands outside the area of responsibility of local fire agencies, and Reclamation for federal lands, as granted through a contractual agreement with CAL FIRE. State Parks owns a small pumper truck that is stationed at the Peninsula Campground for use in wildfire emergencies. The South Placer Fire Protection District responds to fire related emergencies along the western boundary of the Plan Area.

Police Protection

Police protection for the Plan Area is provided by 17-25 permanent park rangers, with an average staff of three supervisors and 17 peace officers on duty. Park Rangers' professional and technical duties involve operation, resource protection and management, patrol, safety and law enforcement, and other park management activities.

Schools

There are no schools established within the Plan Area. The closest schools to the Plan Area include Cavitt Junior High School, Nine Gates Mystery School, and Golden Valley Charter School, all within one-quarter mile of the Plan Area boundary.

Libraries

The park has no dedicated library. The nearest libraries are the Granite Bay Public Library, Folsom Public Library, and El Dorado County Library.

Parks and Other Public Facilities

Numerous outdoor recreational opportunities, including trails, are available near the Plan Area. These include:

- **Auburn State Recreation Area:** Auburn State Recreation Area is comprised of 30,000 acres of land featuring forty miles of river canyon along the north and middle fork of the American River. Auburn SRA is managed by California State Parks through a managing partner agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The park lies to the northeast of the Plan Area and is popular for whitewater recreation opportunities. Auburn SRA is also connected the Plan Area via the Pioneer Express Trail.[101]
- **American River Parkway:** The American River Parkway is an open-space greenbelt managed by Sacramento County. It is located adjacent to FLSRA, southwest of the Plan Area. The parkway and the Plan Area are connected via the multiuse American River Bike Path (also known as the Jedediah Smith Memorial Trail) near Nimbus Dam, which is currently undergoing a separate CEQA review. The parkway provides picnic sites, campsites, a boat launch, and an equestrian staging area along the American River. Other popular activities in the park include swimming and fishing.
- **American River Conservancy:** The American River Conservancy (ARC) is a nonprofit community organization that manages land adjacent to the Plan Area along the South Fork of the American River. The multiuse Acorn Creek Trail is accessible from the Plan Area via a connection to FLSRA's South Fork American River Trail.
- **City of Folsom Parks and Trails:** The City of Folsom manages several parks and over 50 miles of trails around the Plan Area. In the Lower Lake Natoma area, the Dos Coyote Trail offers access to the City's Willow Creek Trail, which follows Willow Creek and connects to multiple City parks. Hikers and cyclists can also access the City's Johnny Cash Trail and Humbug Creek Trail from other locations in the Folsom sector.
- **Nimbus Fish Hatchery:** Nimbus Fish Hatchery is located at the southeastern edge of the Plan Area near Nimbus Dam. The hatchery raises Chinook salmon and steelhead for release into the American River. Its visitor center offers educational activities and programs to the public. Access to the Plan Area and the American River Parkway are available through the adjacent American River Bike Path.
- **Sterling Point Trailhead and Connector:** This Placer County facility is a popular access point and connector to the Pioneer Express Trail. For equestrians, the trailhead includes bridle paths, an equestrian staging area, a water trough, and a rinsing hose. Multiuse trails, portable restrooms, and parking are also available to the public.

[101] California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2020. *Auburn State Recreation Area Preliminary General Plan and Auburn Project Lands Draft Resource Management Plan: Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/Public%20Final%20EIR_EIS-508%20compliant.pdf, accessed May 20, 2022.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i) Fire protection?	❒	❒	■	❒
ii) Police protection?	❒	❒	❒	■
iii) Schools?	❒	❒	❒	■
iv) Libraries?	❒	❒	❒	■
v) Other public facilities?	❒	❒	■	❒

Discussion

a) The RTMP is intended to provide focus for management of recreational roads and trails. It will be a management tool that will be used to assess and prioritize maintenance needs and to maximize route sustainability. As discussed in Section 2.11, *Visitation to Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park*, it is estimated that the park use will see an approximately 12 percent increase by the year 2035. The RTMP is intended to be responsive to increase demand put on existing facilities by the rapidly growing population. It prioritizes projects, such as changes-in-use, based on a particular identified demand.

i. Use of construction equipment in the vicinity of flammable vegetation at the Plan Area could present an increased risk of fire that could result in additional demands on CAL FIRE and local fire response teams. Any impact on services would be temporary and nothing in the project scope would contribute to the need for an increase in the level of fire protection after construction is complete. Integration of SPR HAZ-10 would reduce the potential impact to fire protection services to a less-than-significant level.

ii. Park rangers patrol the Plan Area with emphasis on public use areas. Rangers have full law enforcement authority and only require assistance from local police as backup for unusual situations. A minimal increase in demand on park rangers is expected to only occur due to monthly patrols of new trails resulting from the changes-in-use provided for in the RTMP. The Department would have adequate staffing to address the increase in demand following the changes identified by the RTMP. Therefore, there would be no impact.

iii. No schools exist within the Plan Area. No changes would affect existing schools or require additional schools or school personnel. Therefore, there would be no impact.

iv. No changes resulting from the implementation of the RTMP would affect existing libraries or require additional libraries or library personnel. Therefore, there would be no impact.

v. The RTMP calls for the adoption of specific user-created, non-system trails that connect outside the park as well as development of new trails. Additionally, the reroute of several trails are recommended.

Direct coordination with regional, State, and national trail systems for route connections and directional and interpretive signage would ensure that cumulative impacts would remain less-than-significant. Additionally, cooperation and involvement with stakeholders including representatives of user groups, adjoining landowners and land management agencies permitting agencies, cooperating associations, and others would be required to ensure less-than-significant impacts and minimize effects on other public facilities.

Applicable SPRs

HAZ-10: Prior to the start of construction, **[insert who]** will develop a Fire Safety Plan for **[insert name]** approval. The plan will include the emergency calling procedures for both the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) and local fire department(s).

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.15 Transportation

Regulatory Setting

Federal Highway Administration

The FHWA is the agency of the USDOT responsible for the federally funded roadway system, including the interstate highway network and portions of the primary State highway network.

California Department of Transportation

Caltrans is the primary State agency responsible for transportation issues. One of its duties is the construction and maintenance of the State highway system. Caltrans approves the planning, design, and construction of improvements for all State-controlled facilities. Caltrans has established standards for roadway traffic flow and developed procedures to determine if State-controlled facilities require improvements. For projects that may physically affect facilities under its administration, Caltrans requires encroachment permits before any construction work may be undertaken. For projects that would not physically affect facilities but may influence traffic flow and levels of service at such facilities, Caltrans may recommend measures to mitigate the traffic impacts of such projects.

Title 24

The State of California provides a minimum standard for building design through the CBC, which is located in Part 2 of Title 24 of the CCR. The CBC is based on the International Building Code, but has been modified for California conditions. The CBC provides fire and emergency equipment access standards for public roadways in Part 9, Appendix D. These standards include specific width, grading, design, and other specifications for roads, which provide access for fire apparatuses; the CBC also indicates which areas are subject to requirements for such access. The CBC also incorporates by reference the standards of the International Fire Code. The CFC contains provisions related to emergency vehicle access, including requirements for roadway design, fire hydrants, and other relevant design features.

Complete Streets Act

Originally passed in 2008 under AB 1358 (Leno), California's Complete Streets Act took effect in 2011 and requires local jurisdictions to plan for land use transportation policies that reflect a "complete streets" approach to mobility. "Complete streets" comprises a suite of policies and street design guidelines which provide for the needs of all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit operators and riders, children, the elderly, and the disabled. From 2011 onward, any local jurisdiction—county or city—that undertakes a substantive update of the circulation element of its general plan must consider "complete streets" and incorporate corresponding policies and programs.

Senate Bill 743

SB 743 (Steinberg) was signed into law on September 27, 2013 and recommends VMT as the sole measure of a project's impact on transportation infrastructure as opposed to the current methods which focus on metrics related to vehicular roadway capacity and LOS. The shift to VMT will decouple the LOS analysis approach from environmental analysis, and has the potential to streamline the CEQA review process in cases where LOS-based traffic impacts could not be mitigated to less-than-significant levels.

Senate Bill 375

SB 375 (Steinberg) was signed into law on September 30th, 2008. It requires the California Transportation Commission to update and maintain guidelines for travel demand models used in the development of regional transportation plans. These guidelines must consider the relationship between land use density and the household vehicle ownership and vehicle miles travelled, impacts of enhanced transit service, changes in travel and land developments, mode splitting, and speed and frequency of service. It also requires regional transportation plans to include Sustainable Community Strategies and reduce GHGs from transportation to the targeted level.

Sacramento Area Council of Governments 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy

The SACOG is the MPO for the 28 cities of the Sacramento region, which includes El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento Counties. SACOG adopted the *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy (MTP/SCS)* on November 18, 2019.[102] The *2020 MTP/SCS* lays out a transportation investment and land use strategy to support of prosperous region, with access to jobs and economic opportunity, transportation options, and affordable housing that works for all residents. The plan also lays out a path for improving air quality, preserving open space and natural resources, and helping California achieve its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. One of the key goals of the *2020 MTP/SCS* is to foster the next generation of mobility solutions to improve travel times, traffic congestion, air quality, and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to transportation and traffic are listed in Table 4.15-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Transportation and Traffic*.

Table 4.15-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Transportation and Traffic

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goals: • **An integrated and efficient circulation system that facilitates multi-modal visitor access to and movement within the SRA and is consistent with Reclamation policies regarding the security of various flood control facilities in the SRA.** • **Improved accessed at primary SRA gateways to reduce congestion and minimize neighborhood impacts.**	
CIRCULATE-1	Reconfigure the entrances to Beals Point and Granite Bay to improve visitor and emergency access, reduce queuing onto public streets, and minimize neighborhood impacts while maintaining current capacity. Neighborhood impacts include traffic delays, illegal parking, noise, and pedestrian hazards.
CIRCULATE-2	Use temporary electronic message boards on Douglas Boulevard and Folsom-Auburn Road to inform and direct approaching park visitors when Granite Bay and Beals Point day use areas are at capacity.
CIRCULATE-3	Prepare public service announcements for radio that inform and direct approaching park visitors when day use areas in the SRA are at capacity. Such announcements should be coordinated with a local Traffic Info program.
CIRCULATE-4	Ensure that new facility development in the SRA continues to separate vehicular from non-vehicular traffic as much as possible in order to enhance non-vehicular modes and reduce potential conflicts.
CIRCULATE-5	Ensure that day use areas in the SRA provide facilities that encourage and support alternate modes of transportation to the SRA, including pedestrian, equestrian, bicycle, boat, and transit, as means of minimizing future increases in traffic and the demand for parking.
CIRCULATE-6	Coordinate with surrounding jurisdictions to ensure that transportation improvement projects on adjacent roadways maintain and where possible enhance access to the SRA.
CIRCULATE-7	Coordinate with Reclamation to ensure that public access to the SRA is incorporated into the planning, design and construction of the new Folsom Lake Crossing Bridge.
CIRCULATE-8	Eliminate unauthorized access improvements to the SRA from adjacent private property. Prioritize addressing unauthorized access points and improvements where resource damage or use conflicts are occurring.
CIRCULATE-9	Work with the Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT), Sacramento County, the City of Rancho Cordova, and the City of Folsom to coordinate pedestrian and bicycle links between the SRA and future RT stations to be located nearby, including: Hazel Avenue, Iron Point Station between Iron Point Road and Natoma Station

[102] Sacramento Area Council of Governments, November 2019. *2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS)*, https://www.sacog.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/2020_mtp-scs.pdf?1580330993, accessed April 25, 2022.

Table 4.15-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Transportation and Traffic

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
	Drive; Glenn Drive on Folsom Boulevard; and Historic Folsom Station between the Sutter Street off-ramp and Leidesdorff Street.
CIRCULATE-10	Coordinate with local transit agencies to establish transit service to primary SRA gateways, particularly during peak season weekends when visitation to the SRA is the highest. This include locating stops on routes that pass by primary SRA gateways.
CIRCULATE-11	Coordinate with local transit agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, and local businesses to determine the feasibility of establishing an SRA shuttle service that would link primary gateways and provide connections to nearby key activity centers and transit line termini outside the SRA. This would allow visitors to park and then ride the shuttle instead of having to enter the SRA by car.
CIRCULATE-12	Ensure that sufficient parking is provided at lake levels to accommodate public access to SRA facilities and uses, within the capacity of the facilities and resources and in a manner that minimizes the use of and impacts to upland natural areas for parking. Potential strategies to minimize the use of upland area for parking include: - Shared parking arrangements with neighboring jurisdictions and landowners; - Providing parking facilities based on typical use patters rather than worse case or special event scenarios; and - Reducing or eliminating parking where underutilized.
CIRCULATE-13	Explore alternatives for accommodating special event parking conditions, including satellite parking areas, and special event shuttle service.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

The Plan Area is located adjacent to a major metropolitan area and is accessible regionally by vehicle via I-80 and US-50; however, most visitors travelling to the Plan Area by vehicle typically access the parks using local city or county roads. Bicycle and public transit access exists between the Plan Area and local cities. Bicycle lanes exist on Auburn-Folsom Road/Folsom Boulevard, Natoma Street, and Green Valley Road. Public transportation is available via bus services provided by Folsom Stage Line, Roseville Transit, Sacramento Regional Transit, and Placer County Transit. Light rail transit is provided by Sacramento Regional Transit.

Key routes to access the Plan Area by vehicle are Douglas Boulevard, Auburn-Folsom Road/Folsom Boulevard, Natoma Street, Green Valley Road, El Dorado Hills Boulevard, and Salmon Falls Road. Douglas Boulevard is an east-west roadway that provides access to the Granite Bay day-use area from I-80. East of I-80, Douglas Boulevard is a six-lane divided roadway until it intersects with Sierra College Boulevard, at which point it becomes a four-lane road until intersecting with Auburn-Folsom Road. East of Auburn-Folsom Road, Douglas Boulevard becomes a two-lane undivided roadway before terminating at the Granite Bay entrance gate. Auburn-Folsom Road is a four-lane undivided north-south roadway that includes Class II bicycle lanes, and transitions into a four-lane divided roadway in the City of Folsom. Auburn-Folsom Road provides access to Rattlesnake Bar, Beals Point, and the eastern half of Lake Natoma from the City of Auburn to the north and its interchange with US-50 to the south. Natoma Street is a two-lane east-west roadway in the City of Folsom that provides access to Folsom Point. Brown's Ravine can be accessed from Green Valley Road, a two-lane east-west roadway (with portions that are four lanes) in the City of Folsom and El Dorado County that varies between a divided and undivided roadway. El Dorado Hills Boulevard is a divided, four-lane north-south roadway from US-50 to St. Andrews Drive, where it then becomes a two-lane undivided roadway to the north. North of Green Valley Road, El Dorado Hills Boulevard becomes Salmon Falls Road, a two-lane rural roadway that provides access to the Plan Area along the El Dorado Shore.

Within the Plan Area, there are two-lane roadways with no curbs and gutters. Some pedestrian sidewalks and walkways are present at each area to direct visitors.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?	❒	❒	❒	■
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	❒	❒	❒	■
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) The RTMP is not designed to expand facilities for increased use, but rather to better accommodate existing use and address management and resource protection objectives. Implementation of the RTMP will not conflict with any other applicable plan, ordinance, or policy with respect to the performance of the circulation system, including all modes of transportation. General Plan policy CIRCULATE-1 identifies the need to improve emergency and visitor access at various points including Beals Point. This is addressed in the recommendations of the RTMP, which outline improvements to the trailhead access points in this region. CIRCULATE-4 seeks to ensure that alternative modes of transportation are separated from vehicular routes. The RTMP includes the review and approval of several change-in-use requests to allow for bicycle use on trails. CIRCULATE-5 through CIRCULATE-9 address the need for improved transportation routes to and from the Plan Area. This is addressed in the RTMP recommendation to develop a route that circumnavigates the Plan Area and the recommendation to consider incorporation of non-system routes when planning for routes in the Plan Area. Therefore, no impact will result.

b) Over 75 percent of park users live or work near the Plan Area.[103] As discussed in the "Affected Environment" section above, access to the parks is available through a network of regional and local roadways, bicycle and pedestrian routes, and public transit. Bicycle lanes exist on Auburn-Folsom Road/Folsom Boulevard, Natoma Street, and Green Valley Road. Folsom Stage Line Route 10 services the area near Mississippi Bar and buses are equipped with front-mounted bike racks. Light rail transit is provided by Sacramento Regional Transit Gold Line with four stations within 0.25 miles of the Plan Area: Historic Folsom, Glenn/Robert G Holderness, Iron Point, and Hazel. One of the parkwide recommendations of the RTMP is to acquire lands or access rights for Folsom area parks and regional trails. External trail connections would allow for new means of access to the park and would encourage non-vehicular access. Parking improvement recommendations made by the RTMP are dispersed throughout the Plan Area and aim to relieve traffic congestion at major day-use areas. The RTMP also recommends consideration of the implementation of parking fees at specific areas to control overcrowding. Therefore, the anticipated increase in park usage as a result of the RTMP would have less-than-significant impacts.

c) The RTMP addresses policy and management of roads and trails, including resource protection and trail sustainability. The proposed Project evaluates changes-in-use requests that would allow equestrians and bikes on the same trail. However, the change-in-use process is required to ensure safety of users.

[103] Alta Planning + Design Inc., March 23, 2022. *Folsom RTMP: Visitor Survey and Responses*.

Furthermore, SPRs TRAN-1 through TRAN-4 would ensure the safety of park visitors through warning signs and management plans established before implementation of a project under the RTMP. Therefore, no impact would result.

d) The RTMP addresses those areas within the boundaries of the Plan Area; roads affected by the proposed Project serve as access roads within the park and are not primary commuter corridors or thoroughfares. No emergency access roads would be permanently closed or removed with the implementation of the RTMP. Therefore, no impact would result.

Applicable SPRs

TRAN-1: For proposed addition of bicycle use, stop signs for cyclists will be installed at all locations where the trail crosses a roadway (including maintenance roads). Appropriate warning signs will be installed along the roadways and on pavement (as necessary) at the approach of bicycle crossings to warn drivers of potential crossing bicyclists.

TRAN-2: For proposed addition of equestrian use, **[insert who]** will ensure driveways/access points to parking facilities have adequate line-of-sight for horse trailers and that parking facilities are either designed to be "pull through" or include a designated "turn-around" for horse trailers (where vehicle parking is restricted). Parking and access for parking facilities accommodating vehicles with horse trailers will be designed per American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials standards.

TRAN-3: **[insert who]** will assess parking capacity prior to implementing a proposed recommendation. After implementation of the proposed recommendation, Department staff will monitor parking levels as part of the Adaptive Use Management process. If monitoring indicates an exceedance of parking capacity (i.e., increased use of undesignated on-street parking or increased illegal parking due to overflow of parking lot facilities), the **[insert who]** will implement a management response to resolve the parking capacity issue. Measures in the management response may include, but would not be limited to re-designing parking facilities (including minor parking lot expansions in areas where environmental resources will not be affected), installing parking meters and/or applying time limits, working with local transportation departments to increase nearby off-site parking availability, directing users to other existing lots, and/or working with local transit operators to increase transit to the trail facility. Department District personnel will determine which actions are feasible at the park unit.

TRAN-4: Prior to initiating any construction activities with the potential to significantly or permanently disrupt traffic flows, the construction manager will have a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), prepared by a qualified professional that will provide measures to reduce potential traffic obstruction or service level degradation at affected traffic facilities. The scope of the CTMP will depend on the type, intensity, and duration of the specific construction activities associated with the project. Measures included in the CTMP could include (but are not limited to) construction signage, flaggers for lane closures, construction schedule and/or delivery schedule restrictions, etc. The CTMP will be submitted to the local agency having jurisdiction over the affected traffic facilities.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.16 Tribal Cultural Resources

Regulatory Setting

Archeological Resources Protection Act

The ARPA (16 USC Sections 470aa – mm) became law on October 31, 1979, and has been amended four times. It regulates the protection of archaeological resources and sites that are on federal and Indian lands. Archeological

resources are defined as the material remains of past human activities which are over 100 years old. ARPA restricts excavation or removal of archeological resources on federal and/or tribal lands to individuals and groups with permits from the appropriate federal land management agency. It also forbids the sale, purchase, exchange, transport, or receipt of any materials obtained in violation of ARPA and can be used by federal land-managing agencies to prosecute individuals suspected of illegal removal of archeological resources from public lands.

California Public Resources Code

Archaeological resources are protected pursuant to a wide variety of State policies and regulations enumerated under the California PRC. In addition, cultural resources are recognized as a nonrenewable resource and therefore receive protection under the California PRC and CEQA. PRC Sections 5097.9 through 5097.991 provide protection to Native American historical and cultural resources, and sacred sites and identifies the powers and duties of the NAHC. It also requires notification to descendants of discoveries of Native American human remains and provides for treatment and disposition of human remains and associated grave goods.

California Health and Safety Code

California HSC Section 7050.5 requires that if human remains are discovered on the project site, disturbance of the site shall halt and remain halted until the coroner has investigated the circumstances, manner, and cause of any death, and the recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative. If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and recognizes or has reason to believe the human remains are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the NAHC.

State Laws Pertaining to Human Remains

Any human remains encountered during ground-disturbing activities are required to be treated in accordance with CCR Section 15064.5(e), PRC Section 5097.98, and HSC Section 7050.5. California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. Specifically, Section 7050.5 of the California HSC states that in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county in which the remains are discovered has determined whether or not the remains are subject to the coroner's authority. If the human remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the county coroner must contact the California NAHC within 24 hours of this identification. An NAHC representative will then identify a Native American Most Likely Descendant to inspect the site and provide recommendations for the proper treatment of the remains and associated grave goods. In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 specifies the procedures to be followed in case of the discovery of human remains on non-federal land. The disposition of Native American burials falls within the jurisdiction of the NAHC.

Assembly Bill 52

AB 52 (Gatto) took effect July 1, 2015 and requires inclusion of a new section in CEQA documents to analyze tribal cultural resources (TRC), which include heritage sites. Under AB 52, a TCR is as sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either included or eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historic Resources or included in a local register of historical resources. Or the lead agency, supported by substantial evidence, chooses at its discretion to treat the resource as a TCR.

AB 52 requires consultation with tribes at an early stage to determine whether the project would have an adverse impact on the TCRs and mitigation to protect them. Per AB 52, within 14 days of deciding to undertake a project or determining that a project application is complete, the lead agency must provide formal written notification to all tribes who have requested it. The tribe has 30 days after receiving the notification to respond if it wishes to engage in consultation. The lead agency must initiate consultation within 30 days of receiving the request from the tribe. Consultation concludes when both parties have agreed on measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect to a TCR, or a party, after a reasonable effort in good faith, decides that mutual agreement cannot be

reached. Regardless of the outcome of consultation, the CEQA document must disclose significant impacts on TCRs and discuss feasible alternatives or mitigation that avoid or lessen the impact.

Affected Environment

Early prehistoric groups who may have been the ancestors of today's Washoe people occupied and intensively used base camps in the Plan Area, leaving these camps to make seasonal foraging rounds in areas offering resource abundance and diversity. It is hypothesized that the migration or displacement of the Washoe people from their ancestral land in the foothills was due to population growth and environmental change. At the time of European contact, the Plan Area was territory of the Nisenan, the southern linguistic group of the Maidu tribe. The Nisenan were able to retain their traditional way of living longer than many of California's native peoples, as they were located far from Spanish missions and settlements. Nisenan people inhabited the area until epidemics spread through the community in the 1830's as a result of colonization.[104]

As discussed in Section 4.4, *Cultural Resources*, ECORP Consulting, Inc. conducted a cultural resources records search and mitigation measure review for the proposed RTMP Project at FLSRA and FPSHP. ECORP's analysis included a review of cultural resources records and literature on file at the NCIC of the CHRIS, an examination of cultural resources maps for the property, and a request of a list of interested Native American tribes.

The records search also determined that 333 previously recorded cultural resources are located within the Plan Area. Of that total, 163 are believed to be associated with Native American occupation of the vicinity, 146 are associated with early European-American ranching and mining activities as well as early urban development in the Sacramento area; and there were 24 multi-component sites with both pre-contact and historic-era deposits. The locations of these resources are considered confidential and cannot be disclosed to the public under state and federal law. See Table 4.4-2, *Cultural Resources within the Plan Area,* for the breakdown of the number of cultural resources within each of the six identified areas established by the RTMP.

In addition to the record search, ECORP contacted the NAHC on May 4, 2022, to request a list of the California Native American tribes that may have information about the area. All tribes that were identified by the NAHC were contacted regarding the publication of the RTMP and the IS/ND.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less-than-significant With Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less-Than-Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a Tribal Cultural Resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe, and that is:				
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or	❒	❒	■	❒

[104] LSA Associates, Inc., April 2003. *Recreation, Scenic and Cultural Resources, Cultural Resources: Folsom Lake State Recreation Area*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/500/files/Cultural.pdf, accessed August 25, 2022.

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of the Public Resource Code Section 5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance to a California Native American tribe.	❒	❒	■	❒

Discussion

a) Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1) defines a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource (including historical, archaeological, or tribal cultural resources) as the "physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired."

Within the Plan Area, there are no tribal cultural resources currently listed or documented to be determined eligible to the California Register of Historical Resources or any local register of historical resources as defined by PRC Section 5020.1(k). Additionally, the NAHC reported that the Sacred Lands File search was negative.

It is possible during future consultations for individual trail projects identified in this plan, that specific tribal cultural resources may yet be identified and determined eligible to the California Register of Historical Resources, local registers, or determined significant pursuant to Section 5024.1 and Section 21074 of the PRC.

Construction of new trails or the maintenance of existing facilities pursuant to the RTMP could lead to an encounter of previously unknown tribal cultural resources or human remains. These construction and maintenance activities, which may include excavation, grading, and trenching, could also lead to substantial adverse changes in the significance of tribal cultural resources that are eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources or local registers, or that may be determined significant pursuant to PRC Sections 5024.1 and 21074. Additional causes of potential adverse changes include vegetation management, ongoing road and trail use by park staff and the public, and erosional changes related to road and trail construction, maintenance, and use.

However, with the implementation of the SPRs listed below, the impact to any tribal cultural resources would be less-than-significant, as intended by PRC Section 21084.3. SPRs CUL-1 through CUL-22 ensure review and evaluation of all project work to identify potential tribal cultural resources that may be encountered during project work and to ensure that tribal cultural monitoring occurs as appropriate. In particular, SPR CUL-14 ensures additional consultation prior to the implementation of specific projects to identify potential tribal cultural resources that could be impacted by the project. SPR CUL-3 calls for the evaluation of any identified tribal cultural resources and ensures that appropriate treatment measures are implemented to eliminate impacts or reduce the level of impact to less-than-significant. In addition, should human remains be encountered, SPRs CUL-19 and CUL-22 ensures that such discoveries are handled according to applicable State and federal laws, and that tribal customs and traditions are taking into

consideration, should the remains be determined to be Native American in descent. Compliance with the above referenced SPRs would result in less-than-significant impacts.

Applicable SPRs

CUL-1: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, the **[insert who]** will notify the Supervisor of the District Cultural Resources Program who will in turn notify Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area, unless other arrangements are made in advance, a minimum of three weeks to schedule a Cultural Resources Specialist to monitor work, as necessary, to ensure that pre-approved removal and reconstruction of historic fabric will occur in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.

CUL-2: Before, during, and after construction, a **[insert who]** will photo-document all aspects of the project and will add the photos to the historical records (archives) for the park if the Department -qualified historian or archaeologist, or Tribal Liaison Contact deems necessary.

CUL-3: Prior to the start of on-site construction work, and to the extent not already completed, a **[insert who]** will map and record all cultural features (archaeological and built environment) within the proposed Area of Potential Effects (APE) to a level appropriate to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

CUL-4: Increase public awareness of local and tribal history, site stewardship, archaeology, and the need to protect cultural resources. Ways to accomplish this awareness include highlighting certain cultural resources along the road or trail with interpretive signs and information kiosks, and/or by placement of a historical marker along a segment of a road or trail, which provides information to the user about the importance of the site and/or the event. If the subject matter pertains to Native Americans, consultation with Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area shall be necessary.

CUL-5: When there is potential to impact historic resources, A Department -qualified historian will survey roads and/or trails prior to the start of any proposed improvements or changes in use to identify potentially significant historic resources. To determine the historic significance of road and trail alignments, a Department -qualified historian will conduct comparisons of current road and trail alignments with historic documentation of historic alignments.

CUL-6: A Department -qualified historian shall use flags, protective fencing, or other methods to identify and provide a buffer zone for any resources discovered during trail survey. The historian shall establish a specific buffer zone around the features based on the type of resources and the proposed scope of work.

CUL-7: All historic work on built environment resources will comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

CUL-8: Historic character will be retained and preserved; where safe, original materials that still maintain structural integrity will be retained; and where replacement is required, materials and features will be replaced "in kind."

CUL-9: A qualified historian familiar with the project site's cultural/historic resources will monitor all construction activities at his/her discretion. All historic resources uncovered during the project will be recorded in place with a photograph and/or drawing showing any new or recovered material and archived, at the discretion of the monitor.

CUL-10: To prevent disturbance to high value archaeological resource or tribal cultural areas, redirect visitors away from the resources employing appropriate placement of trails, creating barriers, or other suitable methods to discourage access.

CUL-11: Decommission and/or reroute roads and trails away from high value archaeological or tribal cultural resources whenever possible and/or feasible.

CUL-12: Prior to implementing any project that would involve ground disturbance, cultural resource staff, in coordination with Californian Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area, will determine if the project area is located in an of area of high archaeological or tribal cultural value. If the area is determined sensitive, the area will require field survey by a Department-qualified archaeologist, in consultation with a tribal representative, who will make recommendations and develop proposals for procedures deemed appropriate to further investigate and/or avoid adverse impacts to those resources.

CUL-13: Prior to implementing any project that would involve ground disturbance, cultural resource staff will consult Department cultural resource data files, and if deemed necessary, contact the appropriate Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System to request a record search of known cultural resources located within and adjacent to the proposed Project area.

CUL-14: Department will conduct the tribal consultations prior to implementing any project that involves new ground disturbances related to road and trail construction; in previously disturbed soil where archaeological sensitivity is high and trail work is proposed; or for projects which require CEQA review. The consultation protocol will follow the steps identified in the Department Operations Manual 0400 Cultural Resources.

CUL-15: Where road and trail activities cannot avoid sensitive archaeological resources, the project actions will require modifications to incorporate the resources into the RTMP and provide a resource protection plan, in consultation with tribal representatives as appropriate, for its maintenance and future protection.

CUL-16: Prior to the start of any ground-disturbing activities, a qualified archaeologist in consultation with a tribal representative as appropriate will complete preconstruction investigations to determine specific avoidance areas within the proposed APE that contains known significant or potentially significant archaeological resources. If necessary, a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist will prepare a research design, including appropriate trenching and/or preconstruction excavations.

CUL-17: Based on preconstruction testing, project design and/or implementation will be altered, as necessary, to avoid impacts to significant archaeological or tribal cultural resources or reduce the impacts to a less than significant level, as determined in consultation with a Department-qualified archaeologist who, in turn, has consulted with tribal representatives as appropriate.

CUL-18: In an archaeologically or tribal culturally sensitive area, **[insert who]** will manually remove or flush cut vegetation to avoid ground-disturbing activities; removal of roots will not be allowed.

CUL–19: In an APE considered highly sensitive for the discovery of buried archaeological features or deposits, including human remains, **[insert who]** will review and approve monitoring by a Department-qualified Cultural Resources Specialist and tribal representative of any subsurface disturbance, including but not limited to grading, excavation or trenching.

CUL-20: **[Insert who]** will coordinate monitoring of subsurface disturbance by a Native American monitor.

CUL-21: If anyone discovers previously undocumented cultural resources during project construction or ground-disturbing activities, work within 50 to 100 feet of the find will be temporarily halted. The Department State Representative will be notified immediately, and work will remain halted until a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist or archaeologist, in consultation with a tribal representative as appropriate, evaluates the significance of the find and determines and implements the appropriate treatment and disposition in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation or tribal values.

If ground-disturbing activities uncover cultural artifacts or features (including but not limited to dark soil containing shellfish, bone, flaked stone, groundstone, or deposits of historic ash), when a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist is not onsite, **[insert who]** will contact the Supervisor of the District Cultural Resources Program immediately and **[insert who]** will temporarily halt or divert work within the immediate vicinity of the find until a qualified Cultural Resources Specialist and tribal representative as appropriate evaluates the find and determines and implements the appropriate treatment and disposition of the find.

If feasible, **[insert who]** will modify the project to ensure that construction or ground-disturbing activities will avoid the unanticipated discovery of a significant cultural or tribal cultural resources (historical resources) upon review and approval of a **[insert who]**.

CUL-22: In the event anyone discovers human remains or suspected human remains, work will cease immediately within 100 feet of the find and the project manager/site supervisor will notify the appropriate Department personnel. The human remains and/or funerary objects will not be disturbed and will be protected by covering with soil or other appropriate methods. The Department representative will notify the County Coroner, in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, and the Native American Heritage Commission; the Department representative will also notify the local Tribal Representative. If a Native American monitor is onsite at the time of the discovery, the monitor will notify his/her affiliated tribe or group. The local County Coroner will make the determination of whether the human bone is of Native American origin. If the Coroner determines the remains represent Native American interment, the Native American Heritage Commission will be consulted to identify the most likely descendant and appropriate disposition of the remains. Work will not resume in the area of the find until proper disposition is complete (PRC Section 5097.98). No human remains or funerary objects will be cleaned, photographed, analyzed, or removed from the place of discovery prior to determination.

If it is determined the find indicates a sacred or religious site, the site will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Formal consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and review by the Native American Heritage Commission, as well as appropriate Tribal Representatives, will occur as necessary to define additional site mitigation or future restrictions.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.17 Utilities and Service Systems

Regulatory Setting

Clean Water Act

The CWA regulates the discharge of pollutants into watersheds throughout the nation. Under the CWA, the USEPA implements pollution control programs, sets wastewater standards, and makes it unlawful to discharge pollutants from a point source into any navigable waters without obtaining a permit. Point sources include any conveyances, such as pipes and man-made drainage channels, from which pollutants may be discharged.

Safe Drinking Water Act

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA; 42 USC Section 300f) authorizes the USEPA to set national standards for drinking water, called the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, to protect against both naturally occurring and human-made contaminants. These standards set enforceable maximum contaminant levels in drinking water and require all water providers in the United States to treat water to remove contaminants, except for private wells serving fewer than 25 people. In California, the State Department of Health Services conducts most enforcement activities. If a water system does not meet standards, it is the water supplier's responsibility to notify its customers.

America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018

America's Water Infrastructure Act was signed into law on October 23, 2018, and authorizes federal funding for water infrastructure projects; expands water storage capabilities; assists local communities in complying with the SDWA and CWA; reduces flooding risks for rural, western, and coastal communities; and addresses significant water infrastructure needs in tribal communities.[105] Additionally, the act requires that drinking water systems that serve more than 3,300 people develop or update risk assessments and emergency response plans. Risk assessments and emergency response plans must be certified by the USEPA within the deadline specified by the act.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

The NPDES permit program was established in the CWA to regulate municipal and industrial discharges to surface waters of the United States. Federal NPDES permit regulations have been established for broad categories of discharges, including point-source municipal waste discharges and nonpoint-source stormwater runoff. NPDES permits generally identify effluent and receiving water limits on allowable concentrations and/or mass emissions of pollutants contained in the discharge; set prohibitions on discharges not specifically allowed under the permit; and establish provisions that describe required actions by the discharger, including industrial pretreatment, pollution prevention, self-monitoring, and other activities. Wastewater discharge is regulated under the NPDES permit program for direct discharges into receiving waters and by the National Pretreatment Program for indirect discharges to a sewage treatment plant.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42 USC Section 6901 et seq.) regulates municipal solid waste landfills and requires states to implement their own permitting programs incorporating the federal landfill criteria. The federal regulations address the location, operation, design (liners, leachate collection, run-off control, etc.), groundwater monitoring, and closure of landfills.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act (WAT Section 13000 et seq.) was passed in 1969 and amended in 2013. It is the basic water quality control law for California. Under this act, the SWRCB has authority over State water rights and water quality policy. The act divided the state into nine regional basins, each under the jurisdiction of a

[105] United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2021. America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (AWIA), https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/americas-water-infrastructure-act-2018-awia, accessed April 26, 2022.

RWQCB, to oversee water quality on a day-to-day basis at the local and regional levels. RWQCBs engage in various water quality functions in their respective regions and regulate all pollutant or nuisance discharges that may affect either surface water or groundwater.

Urban Water Management Planning Act

The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (WAT Sections 10620 – 10621) require that all urban water suppliers in California that provide water to more than 3,000 customers or supply more than 3,000 acre-feet per year (AFY)[106] to prepare and adopt an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and update it every five years. The act is intended to support efficient use of urban water supplies. It requires the UWMP to compare water supply and demand over the next 20 years for normal years, single-dry years, and multiple-dry years and to determine current and potential recycled water uses. SB 610 (Costa) and SB 221 (Kuehl) were enacted to ensure better coordination between local water supply and land use decisions, and confirm that there is an adequate water supply for new development. Requirements of an UWMP include:

- Plans for water supply and assesses reliability of each source of water over a 20-year period in 5-year increments.
- Identifies and quantifies adequate water supplies, including recycled or non-potable water, for existing and future demands in normal, single-dry, and multiple-dry years.
- Implements conservation and the efficient use of urban water supplies. Significant new requirements for quantified demand reductions were added by the Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SB 7 [Steinberg] of Special Extended Session 7 (SB X7-7)), which amends the act and adds new water conservation provisions to the Water Code.

SB 610 requires the preparation of a Water Supply Assessment for certain types of projects subject to CEQA.

Water Conservation Act

New mandatory requirements for increasing water use efficiency, per State law (SB-X7 7), mandate the reduction of per capita water use and agricultural water use throughout the State by 20 percent by 2020. Requirements included, among others, convening of a task force for developing alternative best management practices, identifying per capita use targets, reporting requirements, and increasing incentives and removing barriers for promotion of regional water resource management practices.

2018 Water Conservation Legislation

In 2018, the California Legislature enacted SB 606 (Hertzberg) and AB 1668 (Friedman) to establish long-term improvements in water conservation and drought planning to adapt to climate change and longer and more intense droughts in California. The DWR and the SWRCB will develop new standards for:

- Indoor residential water use
- Outdoor residential water use
- Commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) water uses for landscape irrigation with dedicated meters
- Water loss

Urban water suppliers are required to stay within annual water budgets based on their standards for their service areas, and to calculate and report their urban water use objectives in an annual water use report. For example, SB 606 and AB 1668 define a 55-gallon-per-person daily standard for indoor residential use until 2025, when it decreases to 52.5 gallons, and further decreases to 50 gallons by 2030. The legislation also includes changes to UWMP preparation requirements.

[106] One acre-foot is the amount of water required to cover one acre of ground (43,560 square feet) to a depth of one foot.

Water Conservation in Landscaping Act

The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (GOV Sections 65591 – 65599) passed under AB 1881 (Laird) requires the DWR to update the State of California's Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO), which requires cities and counties to adopt landscape water conservation ordinances. The MWELO was revised in July 2015 via Executive Order B-29-15 to address the ongoing drought and to build resiliency for future droughts. The 2015 revisions to the MWELO increased water efficiency standards for new and retrofitted landscapes through more efficient irrigation systems, greywater usage, and on-site stormwater capture and by limiting the portion of landscapes that can be covered in turf.

Integrated Waste Management Act

California's Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (PRC Sections 40050 – 40063) passed under AB 939 (Sher) requires that cities and counties divert 50 percent of all solid waste from landfills as of January 1, 2000 through source reduction, recycling, and composting. To help achieve this, this act requires that each city and county prepare a Source Reduction and Recycling Element to be submitted to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), a department within the California Natural Resources Agency. AB 939 also establishes a goal for all California counties to provide at least 15 years of ongoing landfill capacity.

In 2007, SB 1016 (Wiggins) amended AB 939 to establish a per capita disposal measurement system. The per capita disposal measurement system is calculated as a jurisdiction's reported total disposal of solid waste divided by a jurisdiction's population. CalRecycle sets a target per capita disposal rate for each jurisdiction. Each jurisdiction must submit an annual report to CalRecycle with an update of its progress in implementing diversion programs and its current per capita disposal rate.

Mandatory Commercial Recycling Act

AB 341 (Chesbro), also known as the Mandatory Commercial Recycling Act, increases the statewide waste diversion goal to 75 percent by 2020, and mandates recycling for businesses producing four or more cubic yards of solid waste per week or multifamily residential dwellings of five or more units. AB 341 is designed to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the state by 5 million metric tons of carbon dioxide.

Mandatory Organics Recycling Act

AB 1826 (Chesbro), also known as the Mandatory Organics Recycling Act, was enacted in 2014 and mandates organic waste recycling for businesses and multifamily dwellings with five or more units. Starting January 1, 2020, all generators of 2 cubic yards or more of garbage, recycling, and compost combined per week must recycle organic waste. Organic waste includes food scraps, food-soiled paper waste, yard trimmings, and landscape materials. Multifamily dwellings do not need to have food-waste recycling on-site but must recycle yard and landscape materials.

California Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Act

California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Act passed under SB 1383 (Lara) sets targets to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the statewide disposal of organic waste by 2020 and a 75 percent reduction by 2025. SB 1383 requires all businesses and residents to divert organic materials (including food waste, yard waste, and soiled paper products) from the landfill. The regulation takes effect on January 1, 2022 and will require that organics collection service be provided to all residents and businesses. Also, an edible food recovery program must be established with the goal to increase edible food recovery to 20 percent by 2025.[107]

California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act

The California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991 (PRC Sections 42900 – 42912) passed under AB 1327 (Farr) requires development projects to be set aside areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials. This act required CalRecycle to develop a model ordinance for adoption by any local agency to provide adequate

[107] CalRecycle, 2021, SB 1383 Education and Outreach Resources. Accessed at https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/education on November 20, 2021.

areas for the collection and loading of recyclable materials as part of development projects. Local agencies are required to adopt the model, or an ordinance of their own, that establishes standards, including space allocation, for the collection and loading of recyclable materials.

California Building Code

The CBSC adopted the nation's first green building standards in July 2008, the California Green Building Standards Code (24 CCR Part 11), also known as CALGreen. CALGreen applies to the planning, design, operation, construction, use, and occupancy of every newly constructed building or structure in California unless otherwise indicated in the code. CALGreen establishes planning and design standards for sustainable site development, including water conservation measures and requirements that new buildings reduce water consumption by 20 percent below a specified baseline. CALGreen is updated every three years to allow for consideration and possible incorporation of new efficiency technologies and methods. The mandatory provisions of CALGreen became effective January 1, 2011, and the latest version, the 2019 California Green Building Standards Code, became effective on January 1, 2020. The building efficiency standards are enforced through the local building permit process.

California Plumbing Code

The latest version of the California Plumbing Code in the Title 24, Part 5 of the CCR was issued in 2019 and is updated on a three-year cycle. It includes new standards for plumbing fixtures, new provisions for storm drain systems, and design criteria for potable and recycled water systems.

California Water Code

The WAT addresses issues such as water shortage emergencies, on-site wastewater treatment systems, potable water reuse, greywater systems, appropriation of water, water rights, and the establishment of California water districts.

Mandatory Water Conservation

Following the declaration of a state of emergency on July 15, 2014, due to drought conditions, the SWRCB adopted Resolution No. 2014-0038 for emergency regulation of Statewide water conservation efforts.[108] These regulations, which went into effect on August 1, 2014, were intended to reduce outdoor urban water use and persuade all California households to voluntarily reduce their water consumption by 20 percent. Water companies with 3,000 or more service connections are required to report monthly water consumption to the SWRCB. The SWRCB readopted the regulations several times, until Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-40-17 in April 2017, ending the drought emergency and directing the SWRCB to rescind portions of its existing drought emergency water conservation regulations but maintain the portions that prohibit wasteful water use practices until permanent requirements are in place. The wasteful water use practices that are still in effect include: 1) the application of potable water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes excess runoff; 2) the use of a hose to wash a motor vehicle except where the hose is equipped with a shut-off nozzle; 3) the application of potable water to driveways and sidewalks; 4) the use of potable water in nonrecirculating ornamental fountains; and 5) the application of potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall. Also, urban water suppliers are still required to submit monthly water monitoring reports to the SWRCB.

State Water Resources Control Board General Waste Discharge Requirement

On May 2, 2006, the SWRBC adopted a General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems (Order No. 2006-0003) for all publicly owned sanitary sewer collection systems in California with more than 1 mile of sewer pipe.[109] The order provides a consistent statewide approach to reducing sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) by

[108] State Water Resources Control Board, July 15, 2014. Resolution No. 2014-0036: To Adopt and Emergency Regulation for Statewide Urban Water Conservation, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2014/rs2014_0038_regs.pdf, accessed April 26, 2022.

[109] California Water Boards, State Water Resources Control Board, May 2006. Order No. 2006-003-DWQ: Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2006/wqo/wqo2006_0003.pdf, accessed April 26, 2022.

requiring public sewer system operators to take all feasible steps to control the volume of waste discharged into the system, to prevent sanitary sewer waste from entering the storm sewer system, and to develop a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP). The General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems also requires that storm sewer overflows be reported to the SWRCB using an online reporting system. The SWRCB has delegated authority to the nine RWQCBs to enforce these requirements within their regions.

State Water Resources Control Board Trash Amendments

On April 7, 2015, the SWRCB adopted an amendment to the *California Ocean Plan* to control trash and Part 1 Trash Provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California. Together, they are collectively referred to as "the Trash Amendments."[110] The Trash Amendments apply to all surface waters of California and include a land-use-based compliance approach to focus trash controls on areas with high trash-generation rates. Areas such as high-density residential, industrial, commercial, mixed urban, and public transportation stations are considered priority land uses. There are two compliance tracks for Phase I and Phase II MS4 permittees:

- Track 1: Permittees install, operate, and maintain a network of certified full capture systems in storm drains that capture runoff from priority land uses.
- Track 2: Permittees must implement a plan with a combination of full capture systems, multi-benefit projects, institutional controls, and/or other treatment methods that have the same effectiveness as Track 1 methods.

The Trash Amendments provide a framework for permittees to implement its provisions. Full compliance must occur within 10 years of the permit and permittees must also meet interim milestones, such as average load reductions of 10 percent per year.

Affected Environment

Utility services consist of State Park-owned systems that provide water, sewer, electricity, and telephone service to the Plan Area. The Plan Area contains an adequate self-regulated water supply to serve the proposed trailhead and service improvements. Rural areas in the northern portion of the Plan Area, such as Rattlesnake Bar, parts of the Peninsula, and remote parts of Granite Bay, have unsuitable soil for leach fields. Some of the remote, hilly sites like Salmon Falls, Old Salmon Falls, and Skunk Hollow also have limited potential for leach fields, as land area availability is limited. The Plan Area relies on the Sacramento County sewer system, an aging system currently undergoing measures to expand and improve capacity.[111] Water supply is at the end of the distribution network and therefore exhibits low pressure.

Several companies own utility lines that pass through the Plan Area. The Department and Reclamation have granted easements to utility owners, who are guaranteed permanent access for maintenance and repair purposes, as the Department and Reclamation are not responsible for maintenance. Development within these easements is prohibited, unless permission has been granted for new roads, trails, or utilities. Maintenance policies vary across utility owners and are not always consistent with those of the State Park. Major entities that possess utility lines within the Plan Area include PG&E, City of Roseville, San Juan Water District, Western Area Power Administration, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, El Dorado Irrigation District, and City of Folsom. The El Dorado Irrigation District also operates the Folsom Lake Raw Water Pump Station and associated facilities, as well as the raw water mains from the pump station to the El Dorado Hills Water Treatment Plant.

[110] California Water Boards, State Water Resources Control Board, 2022. *Statewide Water Quality Control Plans for Trash*, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/docs/oceanplan2019.pdf https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/trash_control/documentation.html, accessed April 25, 2022.

[111] Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, February 2019. *Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP)*, https://www.regionalsan.com/sites/main/files/file-attachments/2019_ssmp_update_final_20190214_all.pdf, accessed on May 20, 2022.

Environmental Consequences

Would the proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	❒	❒	❒	■
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?	❒	❒	❒	■
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	❒	❒	❒	■
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	❒	❒	❒	■
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	❒	❒	❒	■

Discussion

a) The proposed Project would not result in the expansion of the existing wastewater treatment facilities or the construction of new facilities. Therefore, no impact would result. Some alterations of existing drainage patterns could occur as part of subsequent projects to improve road or trail sustainability consistent with the RTMP. However, alteration to overall drainage patterns would be minimal, with little if any changes in total stormwater runoff. Approval of the RTMP would not result in the expansion of the existing stormwater facilities or the construction of new facilities. There would be no impact.

b) The proposed project has sufficient water supplies to meet the needs of the proposed trailhead and service improvements. The RTMP is a policy and management document and recommendations made would not require an increase in water supply. Therefore, no impact would result.

c) The RTMP is a policy and management document, the approval of which would not result in the generation of any additional solid wastes. Therefore, no impact would result.

d, e) The proposed Project would comply with all federal, State, and local statutes and regulations as they relate to solid waste. Therefore, no impact would result.

Applicable SPRs

None applicable.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

4.18 Wildfire

Regulatory Setting

CAL FIRE

CAL FIRE is dedicated to the fire protection and stewardship of over 31 million acres of California's wildlands. The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection is a regulatory body within CAL FIRE. It is responsible for developing the general forest policy of the state, determining the guidance policies of CAL FIRE, and representing the state's interest in federal forestland in California. The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection also promulgates regulations and reviews general plan safety elements that are adopted by local governments for compliance with statutes. Together, the Board and CAL FIRE protect and enhance the forest resources of all the wildland areas of California that are not under federal jurisdiction.

Strategic Plans

CAL FIRE produced the *2019 Strategic Plan* for California, which contains goals, objectives, and policies to prepare for and mitigate the effects of fire on California's natural and built environments.[112] The *2019 Strategic Plan* focuses on fire prevention and suppression activities to protect lives, property, and ecosystems. In addition, CAL FIRE provides regulatory oversight to enforce State fire laws and delivers a land use planning and defensible space inspection program to local governments across the state.

Fire Hazard Severity Zone Mapping

CAL FIRE designates FHSZs as authorized under California GOV Section 51175 et seq. CAL FIRE considers many factors such as fire history, existing and potential fuel (natural vegetation), flame length, blowing embers, terrain, and typical weather for the area. Lands in California fall within one of the following management areas: LRA, SRA, or FRA. Within each of these areas, a single agency has direct responsibility: local fire departments or fire protection districts are responsible in LRAs; CAL FIRE is responsible in SRAs; and federal agencies are responsible in FRAs. Within the LRAs, CAL FIRE designates lands as Very High FHSZ or not. The LRA maps also show such areas within the SRA and FRA, but do not differentiate lands within the SRA and FRA from each other (that is, SRA and FRA areas are mapped together). Within the SRA, CAL FIRE designates Moderate FHSZs, High FHSZs, and Very High FHSZs. The SRA maps show which lands are in the LRA and FRA, but do not show the hazard zones in the LRA and FRA.

California Office of Emergency Services

The Cal OES was established on January 1, 2009, and created by AB 38 (Wood), which merged the duties, powers, purposes, and responsibilities of the former Cal OES with those of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security. Cal OES is responsible for the coordination of State agency response to major disasters in support of local governments. Cal OES is responsible for ensuring the State's readiness to respond to and recover from all hazards—natural, man-made, emergencies, and disasters—and for assisting local governments in their emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and hazard mitigation efforts. In 2018, Cal OES completed the *2018 State of California Hazard Mitigation Plan*, which designates FHSZs and Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas.[113]

California Government Code

The State of California is responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires on land outside incorporated boundaries of a city. In 1991, the State Legislature adopted the Bates Bill (GOV Sections 51175 – 51189) following the fires in the Oakland Hills. The bill requires CAL FIRE to identify and classify areas in LRAs that have a "very high fire severity" hazard for wildfires. LRAs are areas where local governments have the primary responsibility for preventing and suppressing fires. A local agency is required to adopt CAL FIRE's findings within 120 days of

[112] California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, January 2019. *2019 Strategic Plan*, https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/bo2fdzfs/strategicplan2019-final.pdf, accessed April 26, 2022.

[113] California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, September 2018. 2018 State of California Hazard Mitigation Plan, https://www.caloes.ca.gov/HazardMitigationSite/Documents/002-2018%20SHMP_FINAL_ENTIRE%20PLAN.pdf, accessed April 26, 2022.

receiving recommendations from CAL FIRE, pursuant to GOV Section 51178(b), or propose modifications in accordance with state law.

California Public Resources Code

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection is authorized in the PRC Sections 4290 – 4291 to adopt minimum fire safety standards for new construction in Very High FHSZs in SRAs. The Board published its fire safety regulations in the Title 14 of the CCR. (These standards may differ from those in Appendix D of the California Fire Code.) Fire safe regulations currently address:

- Article 1: Administration of ordinance and defensible space measures (Chapter 49)
- Article 2: Emergency access and egress standards (roadways) (Appendix D)
- Article 3: Standards for signs identifying streets, roads, and buildings (Chapter 5)
- Article 4: Emergency water standards for fire use (Appendix B, BB)
- Article 5: Fuel modification standards (Chapter 49)

PRC Section 4291 et seq. requires that brush, flammable vegetation, or combustible growth be removed within 100 feet of buildings on or adjoining a mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or land covered in flammable materials.

PRC Section 4442 regulates the use of internal combustion engines that use hydrocarbon fuels on forest-covered land, brush-covered land, and grass-covered land. Internal combustion engines, like those used in construction, must be equipped with a spark arrester, which is a device used for removing and retaining carbon and other flammable particles from the exhaust flow for engines that use hydrocarbon fuels. These engines must be maintained in effective working order or be constructed, equipped, and maintained for the prevention of fire.

California Building Code

The CBC, contained in Part 2 of Title 24 of the CCR, identifies building design standards, including those for fire safety. Typical fire safety requirements of the CBC include the installation of fire sprinklers in all new high-rise buildings; the establishment of fire resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction; and clearance of debris and vegetation within a prescribed distance from occupied structures in wildfire hazard areas.

Chapter 7A of the CBC, *Materials and Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure*, prescribes building materials and construction methods for new buildings in an FHSZ (referred to in the CBC as a "Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area"). Chapter 7A contains requirements for roofing; attic ventilation; exterior walls; exterior windows and glazing; exterior doors; decking; protection of underfloor, appendages, and floor projections; and ancillary structures.

California Fire Code

The CFC is a series of building, property, and lifeline codes in Title 24, Chapter 9 of the CCR. The California Fire Code contains fire-safety-related building standards, such as construction standards, vehicular and emergency access, fire hydrants and fire flow, sprinkler requirements, etc. Specific chapters relevant to wildfire include Chapter 49, *Requirements for Wildland-Urban Interface*, which prescribes construction materials and methods in FHSZs. These requirements generally parallel CBC Chapter 7A.

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan

The General Plan serves as the primary management document for both FLSRA and FPSHP, providing a purpose and vision, long-term goals, and guidelines. Goals and guidelines related to wildfire are listed in Table 4.18-1, *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Wildfire*.

Table 4.18-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Wildfire

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
Goals: • **Protect natural and cultural resources in developing and implementing fire management plans and strategies, including: native plant communities and habitat, water quality, wildlife, fisheries, sensitive and listed plant and animal species, and wetlands.** • **Clearly communicate the role of fire in native plant communities, the risks and responsibilities of residents and local jurisdictions in wildland/urban interface areas, the full range of causes of wildfire risk in these areas and the positive actions that all involved entities can take in addressing the issue.** • **Acknowledge the concerns and risk from wildfire of adjacent property owners while seeking solutions and strategies that protect SRA resources and values.** • **Coordinate and collaborate with local jurisdictions, fire protection agencies, fire safe councils, neighborhood associations and SRA neighbors in developing wildfire management plans and strategies.** • **Provide for firefighter and public safety.** • **Suppress all wildfires.**	
WILDFIRE-1	Develop a Fire Management Plan for the SRA, consistent with Reclamation and State Park policies and planning requirements. Federal policy includes the National Fire Plan, the Federal Wildland Fire Policy, the Cohesive Fuels Treatment Strategy and the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy. State policy includes the Wildfire Management Planning Guidelines and Policy and the appropriate sections of the Department Operations Manual (DOM) including Chapter 3000. The Fire Management Plan will identify, integrate and coordinate all fire management guidance, directions and activities. The Plan will develop specific strategies including: - Wildfire suppression - Prescribed fire - Non-fire fuel treatment - Emergency stabilization and rehabilitation (ESR) - Community Protection, Assistance, Prevention and education
WILDFIRE-2	Ensure all wildland fire management actions on federal lands are compliant with the 1995/2001 Federal Wildland Fire Policy Update guiding principles, which are: - Provide for firefighter and public safety; - Reduce fire risk and hazardous fuels that threatens life and property; - Protect communities, watersheds, sensitive and high risk areas; - Use fire and non-fire treatments to restore and/or sustain ecosystems; - Work closely with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF); - Meet resource goals and objectives including, watershed, wetlands, wildfire, fisheries, cultural, vegetation management and fuels; - Use prescribed fire as the primary management tool. When prescribed fire is not a viable option, use non-fire treatments to achieve desired objectives; - Work with communities at-risk within the Wildland-Urban-Interface (WUI); - Collaborate with federal, state and local partners.
WILDFIRE-3	Public and firefighter safety are the priority during fire suppression actions. Protecting natural resources, cultural resources and property are secondary priorities.
WILDFIRE-4	The Fire Management Plan will include specific strategies for post-fire emergency stabilization and restoration. As appropriate, this will include: assessing damage to natural and cultural resources and determining appropriate restoration treatments, restoring firelines to natural condition, removing debris, re-establishing natural drainage patterns, implementing erosion control measures and preventing the infestation and establishment of invasive non-native species.
WILDFIRE-5	The use of wildfire (unplanned ignitions) as a fire management strategy is not appropriate for the area due to the close proximity of development, infrastructure and housing. All wildfires will be suppressed.
WILDFIRE-6	Where feasible and appropriate, use prescribed fire to approximate fire regimes appropriate for the native vegetation and to restore and maintain native vegetation condition at appropriate succession stage, composition, structure and pattern. Where the use of prescribed fire is determined not to be feasible, consider the use of non-fire treatments as appropriate.

Table 4.18-1 Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan Guidelines Related to Wildfire

Guideline Number	Guideline Text
WILDFIRE-7	Burn plans will be prepared for all prescribed fires. Prescribed burns will be planned and executed by persons with the appropriate training, skills and experience in fire ecology, fire behavior and prescribed fire. Prescribed fire planning and implementation will be coordinated with the appropriate air quality and air pollution control districts.
WILDFIRE-8	Non-fire fuel treatments and strategies will be developed through the Fire Management Plan and through coordination between Reclamation, State Parks and CDF.
WILDFIRE-9	Ensure that any strategies and treatments developed to address wildfire risk as part of the Fire Management Plan reflect the General Plan goals and objectives for protecting natural and cultural resources in the SRA. Such treatments could include the use of shaded fuel breaks in strategic areas. Some vegetation management practices that help maintain and restore native plant communities and that control invasive exotic plant species can also provide benefits in reducing wildfire risk.
WILDFIRE-10	Communities-at-Risk will be identified in the Fire Management Plan and community assistance strategies and activities will be articulated.
WILDFIRE-11	Develop and implement an education program as part of the Fire Management Plan to inform local jurisdictions, SRA neighbors, and the public about wildfire management including the natural role of fire in native vegetation communities, fire safe practices in designing and building structures in interfaces areas and in landscaping.
WILDFIRE-12	Collaborate with CDF, local fire districts, fire safety councils, neighborhood groups, and others in the development and implementation of the Fire Management Plan and its projects and programs. Ensure that the financial responsibility for developing and implementing wildfire management programs and practices is appropriately borne by those benefiting from these actions.
WILDFIRE-13	Work with local jurisdictions and fire districts in the land use planning and development process to promote land use decisions that reduce wildfire risk. This will include instituting appropriate general plan land use designations as well as zoning to regulate matters such as building height and setback, fire buffer zones, fire safe building design and materials.

Source: California Department of Parks and Recreation and Unites States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, June 2010. *Folsom Lake State Recreation Area & Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park General Plan/Resource Management Plan*

Affected Environment

As discussed in Section 4.14, *Public Services*, fire prevention and protection services are administered by CAL FIRE for State lands outside the area of responsibility of local fire agencies, and Reclamation for federal lands, as granted through a contractual agreement with CAL FIRE. State Parks owns a small pumper truck that is stationed at the Peninsular for use in wildfire emergencies.

CAL FIRE designates FHSZs.[114] Areas to the west and southeast of the Plan Area are classified as a moderate FHSZ. The northeast portion of the Plan Area is classified as a high FHSZ and borders a very high FHSZ to the east. The Plan Area includes both Federal and State lands. The Federal lands are FRA. Some of the State lands are SRA and some of the state lands fall within the boundaries of the City of Folsom or other local jurisdictions and are LRA. Generally, the land to the west of the Plan Area is within the LRA and to the east is within the SRA and FRA. The outer boundaries of the Plan Area include WUI, which is an area of transition between wildland (unoccupied land) and land with human development (occupied land).[115]

Chamise chaparral, a common wildland plant community in the Plan Area, is prone to frequent fires. Species within this habitat benefit from fire succession, with optimal timing of 30-40 years between burns. Proximity of developed facilities to natural areas is also a concern for wildfires, particularly in the northern portions of the Plan

[114] California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2022. Fire Hazard Severity Zones Viewer, https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/, accessed April 8, 2022.

[115] California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2022. GIS Data, Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), https://frap.fire.ca.gov/mapping/gis-data, accessed April 13, 2022.

Area, along the North and South Forks of the American River. In more remote, unincorporated areas of Placer and El Dorado County, emergency response times are higher, as the natural landscape within the Plan Area poses the highest risk of wildfires.

Environmental Consequences

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the proposed Project:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant**	**No Impact**
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	❒	❒	❒	■
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	❒	❒	■	❒
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	❒	❒	■	❒

Discussion

a) Department policies provide protocols for the various aspects of park operations, including fire management planning. The Wildland Fire Management component (Section 0313.2.1.1) of the Natural Resources section of the Department Operations Manual (DOM) identifies the Wildland Fire Management Policy, which requires preparation of a Wildfire Management Plan for each Department-operated unit that may experience wildland fires.[116] Wildfire Management Plans provide requisite information for managing wildfire events, and include information concerning the location of sensitive park resources, facilities, water supplies, and existing roads.

The RTMP is a management tool to identify and prioritize future improvements to existing facilities. As such, implementation of the RTMP would not affect implementation of the Wildland Fire Management Plan for the park unit, nor for any adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan that may exist in the vicinity of the Plan area. Therefore, there would be no impact.

b) As described in Section 4.8, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, because the Plan Area is in a WUI area, many parts of the park are subject to a high risk of wildland fire. Except for instances where minor trail realignment is necessary (e.g., to avoid a sensitive resource), or where short new connections to existing and nearby routes will be constructed, the RTMP would not result in new areas of public access. Furthermore, the realignment of trails typically occurs on small segments of trail adjacent to existing trail alignments.

[116] California Department of Parks and Recreation, September 2004. *DPR Operations Manual: Natural Resources*, https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/21299/files/DOM%200300%20Natural%20Resources.pdf, accessed June 9, 2022.

With regard to potential ignition sources, existing State law (14 CCR Sections 4311 and 4314) prohibits the use of fireworks within state park units and restricts smoking and campfires to designated areas. Per Senate Bill 8, smoking of any kind is also prohibited in the Plan Area, with the exception of paved roads and parking facilities. Except for administrative and emergency vehicles, internal combustion engines are prohibited on roads and trails designated for non-motorized uses. Additionally, it is unlikely that the plan will lead to an increase in the use of campfires or other open flame or fuels. Increasing or decreasing the diversity of user types on Department roads and trails would not substantially change the potential for ignition of a wildland fire. Furthermore, trail operations would remain consistent with the Department's DOM requirements for visitor safety, which includes the Wildfire Management Plan for the park.

Construction activities would likely be required for new trail construction, road decommissioning, reengineering, and trail reengineering. The proposed project includes several SPRs designed to minimize the risk of fire ignition and maximize the effectiveness of fire suppression. Implementation of SPRs HAZ-10 through HAZ-14 would reduce the risk of ignition associated with construction activities by requiring a Fire Safety Plan, reducing spark potential, reducing fuels, providing radio communication with CAL FIRE, and providing water trucks. Therefore, the RTMP would neither exacerbate wildfire risks nor expose project visitors to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. Thus, the impact would be less than significant.

c) The proposed Project would not include any physical development aside from minor trail structures and therefore would not require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. Any future physical development would require further CEQA analysis to ensure that impacts would also not exacerbate fire risk. Therefore, the RTMP is expected to result in a less-than-significant impact.

d) The proposed Project would not include any structural development and, therefore, would not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. Any future physical development would require further CEQA analysis to ensure that impacts would not exacerbate fire risks. Therefore, the RTMP is expected to result in a less-than-significant impact.

Applicable SPRs

HAZ-10: Prior to the start of construction, **[insert who]** will develop a Fire Safety Plan for **[insert name]** approval. The plan will include the emergency calling procedures for both the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) and local fire department(s).

HAZ-11: All heavy equipment will be required to include spark arrestors or turbo chargers that eliminate sparks in exhaust and have fire extinguishers on-site.

HAZ-12: Construction crews will park vehicles **[insert distance]** from flammable material, such as dry grass or brush. At the end of each workday, construction crews will park heavy equipment over a non-combustible surface to reduce the chance of fire.

HAZ-13: Department personnel will have a Department radio at the park unit, which allows direct contact with Cal Fire and a centralized dispatch center, to facilitate the rapid dispatch of control crews and equipment in case of a fire.

HAZ-14: Under dry conditions, a filled water truck and/or fire engine crew will be onsite during activities with the potential to start a fire.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation beyond compliance with the relevant policies, regulations, and programs identified in this section.

5 Mandatory Findings of Significance

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact
a) Does the proposed Project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	❒	❒	■	❒
b) Does the proposed Project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	❒	❒	■	❒
c) Does the proposed Project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	❒	❒	■	❒

Discussion

a) With implementation of all applicable SPRs (BIO-8 through BIO-10, BIO-16, BIO-17, BIO-37 through BIO-44, HYDRO-3 through HYDRO-6, HYDRO-8, HYDRO-16, and HYDRO-17), the RTMP will not degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of any rare or endangered plants or animals. Therefore, there would be a less-than-significant impact.

b) The Department conducts road, trail, and other routine maintenance on an ongoing basis. The RTMP will be a tool used to assess and prioritize maintenance needs and to maximize the sustainability of roads and trails. The implementation of subsequent maintenance projects is evaluated to ensure that they will not result in significant adverse cumulative effects on the environment. The incremental effects of the project are insignificant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects, and probable future projects. Impacts from environmental issues addressed in this evaluation do not overlap with additional planned projects in such a way as to result in cumulative adverse impacts that are greater than the sum of the parts. The proposed Project would result in a less-than-significant impact.

c) As indicated in the Environmental Consequences section discussions in Chapter 4, all environmental effects have been determined to pose a less-than-significant impact, if any, on humans. Potential impacts from subsequent road and trail projects implemented under the RTMP would be reduced to a less-than-significant level if all applicable project requirements are fully integrated into those projects.

6 Organizations and Persons Consulted

This Initial Study/Negative Declaration was prepared by the following consultants and individuals:

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