



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Record of Decision

Friant-Kern Canal Middle Reach Capacity Correction Project

November 2020

Mission Statements

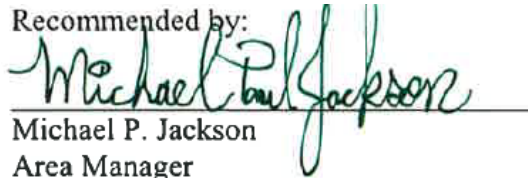
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The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

Record of Decision

Friant-Kern Canal Middle Reach Capacity Correction Project

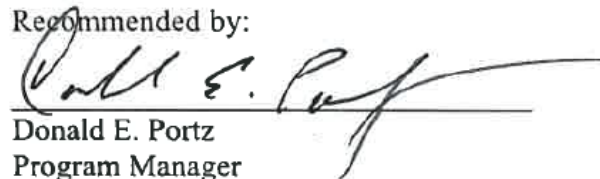
Recommended by:


Michael P. Jackson

Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office
Interior Region 10 · California-Great Basin

Date 10/27/2020

Recommended by:


Donald E. Portz

Program Manager
San Joaquin River Restoration Program
Interior Region 10 · California-Great Basin

Date 10/28/2020

Concurred by:

ANASTASIA LEIGH

Digitally signed by ANASTASIA LEIGH

Date: 2020.10.28 13:55:06 -07'00'

Anastasia T. Leigh
Regional Environmental Officer
Interior Region 10 · California-Great Basin

Date _____

Approved by:

RICHARD WELSH

Digitally signed by RICHARD WELSH
Date: 2020.11.04 11:12:30 -08'00'

Richard A. Welsh
Principal Deputy Regional Director
Interior Region 10 · California-Great Basin

Date _____

Introduction

The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), as the Federal lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Friant Water Authority (FWA) as the State lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), prepared the Friant-Kern Canal Middle Reach Capacity Correction Project (Project) Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) to assess impacts of the Project. The Project is being proposed to restore the capacity of a 33-mile reach of the Friant-Kern Canal (FKC) to its original design and constructed conveyance capacity.

Background

In 1942, Reclamation completed construction of Friant Dam, located on the San Joaquin River about 16 miles northeast of Fresno, California. Friant Dam impounds water in Millerton Lake both of which are part of the Friant Division of the Central Valley Project (CVP). Friant Dam regulates the flow of the San Joaquin River and is operated for: flood control, downstream water rights, restoration, and water supply diversions into the Madera Canal and FKC for delivery of water to more than one million acres of agricultural land in Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern Counties. Friant Dam serves the CVP Friant Division long-term contractors (Friant Contractors) through a system of separate river outlets and canals: the San Joaquin River outlets, the Madera Canal, and the FKC. The FKC conveys water by gravity more than 152 miles in a southerly direction from Millerton Lake near the community of Friant to the Kern River four miles west of Bakersfield. The Friant Division provides supplemental water supplies for agricultural, municipal, and industrial uses.

In 1951, Reclamation completed construction of the FKC, and since then the FKC has lost its ability to fully convey its previously designed and constructed capacity, resulting in restrictions on water deliveries to the Friant Contractors. The reduction in capacity is a result of several factors, including regional land subsidence that occurred over the last several decades and original design limitations.

Purpose and Need

The FKC Middle Reach (milepost [MP] 88 to MP 121.5) has lost over 50 percent of its original designed and constructed capacity due to regional land subsidence and a deficiency associated with the original roughness coefficient assumption. This has resulted in water delivery impacts on Friant Contractors through reduced ability of the FKC to convey flood waters during wet years, reduced ability to implement provisions of the Water Management Goal as described in Paragraph 16 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement, and a reduced ability to store and manage the timing and volume of Restoration Flows in Millerton Lake and flood flows at Friant Dam.

The purpose and need of Reclamation's Proposed Action is to restore the conveyance capacity of the FKC Middle Reach to such capacity as previously designed and constructed by Reclamation, as provided for in Public Law 111-11, Section 10201 and improve operations of existing facilities at Friant Dam consistent with and as allowed for by the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act, which will result in fewer spills and thus more efficiently use storage capacity in Millerton Lake.

Reclamation's Decision

Reclamation's decision is to implement the Canal Enlargement and Realignment Alternative (CER Alternative) as described in Chapter 2 and Appendix B1 and B2 of the Final EIS/EIR. In making this decision, Reclamation reviewed the alternatives evaluated in the Final EIS/EIR, the effects analyses, and comments submitted by federal, state, and local agencies, interested parties, and the public. Of the alternatives considered, implementation of the CER Alternative best meets the purpose and need, allows phased implementation for improved capacity in stages, and balances the ability to achieve the project objectives while minimizing environmental effects.

Alternatives Considered

The action alternatives for the Final EIS/EIR were developed to respond to the purpose and need of the Project and refined as a result of comments received during the scoping process and public comment period for the Draft EIS/EIR. The No Action Alternative was developed to present a clear description of the environment in the absence of the action and provides a basis for comparing effects of implementing the action alternatives.

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Reclamation and FWA would not take additional actions towards restoring the capacity of the FKC Middle Reach. The following reasonably foreseeable actions have been identified that will affect future conditions in the Project area:

- 1) Implementation of San Joaquin River channel improvements as required by the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement would continue through at least 2025, resulting in the ability to release full Restoration Flow water quantities in the San Joaquin River, reducing the availability of Unreleased Restoration Flows thus reducing the overall water supply available for diversion to the FKC and delivery to Friant Contractors.
- 2) Projected additional subsidence would further reduce the capacity of the FKC Middle Reach. This would also diminish Friant Division water supplies to some Friant Contractors; it is estimated that those future deliveries would be reduced nearly 150,000 acre-feet annually by 2040.
- 3) Full compliance with the state mandated Sustainable Groundwater Management Act by 2040 could restrict groundwater pumping and preclude the ability of Friant Contractors and the property owners within their jurisdiction to offset curtailed FKC water deliveries with additional supplemental groundwater supplies.
- 4) Friant Contractors would attempt to minimize water delivery impacts caused by reduced capacity by rescheduling allocated CVP water supplies in available storage in Millerton Lake for delivery at a later time to the extent possible.

Action Alternatives

Two action alternatives were analyzed in the EIS/EIR to address subsidence impacts: (1) the CER Alternative; and (2) a Canal Enlargement Alternative (CE Alternative). The designed flow rates for these alternatives would restore the capacity of the Middle Reach to the original design rates and are broken into four distinct segments separated by check structures:

- 1) Segment 1 (MP 88.2 to MP 95.7) would have a design flow rate of 4,500 cubic feet per second (cfs)
- 2) Segment 2 (MP 95.6 to MP 102.6) would have a design flow rate of 4,000 cfs
- 3) Segment 3 (MP 102.6 to MP 112.9) would have a design flow rate of 4,000 cfs
- 4) Segment 4 (MP 112.9 to MP 121.5) would have a design flow rate of 3,500 cfs

Reclamation's federal discretionary actions associated with both action alternatives include implementation, cost-share funding pursuant to the Friant Division Improvements Legislation Public Law 111-11 Section 10201 and the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (Public Law 114-322 Section 4007), issuance of a repayment contract, approvals of actions being conducted within Reclamation's right-of-way (ROW), and necessary land acquisitions.

Components Common to the Action Alternatives

Both alternatives would include implementation of environmental commitments/mitigation measures (ECs/MMs) as described in Chapter 2 and Appendix B2 of the Final EIS/EIR. In addition, the following activities would occur within the 33-mile Action area:

- Modification or replacement of turnouts
- Modification or replacement of road crossings
- Modification or replacement of check structures
- Modification or replacement of wasteways
- Replacement of siphons at Deer Creek and White River
- Relocation of utilities
- Construction of a concrete batch plant
- Private land acquisition (CER: 510 acres, CE: 144 acres)
- Borrow material (CER: 2.5 million cubic yards, CE: 6 million cubic yards)

Preferred Alternative (CER Alternative)

The Preferred Alternative is the CER Alternative. The CER Alternative would restore the FKC design capacity using two methods: (1) raising portions of the embankments of the existing FKC, and (2) constructing a realigned canal segment east of the existing FKC.

- **Canal Enlargement** – The existing canal would be enlarged by raising the lining up to four feet in Segment 1 from MP 88.2 (at Avenue 208) to MP 95.7 (immediately south of Tule River) and in Segment 4 from MP 116.0 (at Avenue 8) to MP 121.5 (at the Lake Woollomes check), for a total of about 13 miles.
- **Canal Realignment** – The realigned canal segment would be constructed immediately east of the existing FKC and would serve as the exclusive water conveyance and delivery mechanism through its length. Most of the existing FKC adjacent to the new realigned canal segment would remain in place but would be taken out of active service; limited portions would be preserved for delivery pools at pump station turnouts. The realigned segment would extend about 20 miles from MP 95.7 to MP 116, which encompasses all of Segments 2, 3, and a portion of Segment 4. For those portions removed from conveyance service, FWA would continue to operate and maintain the canal consistent

with their Operations, Maintenance, and Repair (OM&R) Agreement with Reclamation and Reclamation regulations.

CE Alternative

The CE Alternative would restore the FKC design capacity using two methods: (1) raising portions of the embankments of the existing FKC, and (2) raising and widening portions of the embankments of the existing FKC.

- **Canal Raising** – The existing canal would be enlarged by raising the lining up to four feet in Segment 1 from MP 88.2 to MP 95.7 and in Segment 4 from MP 116.0 to MP 121.5, for a total of about 13 miles.
- **Canal Raising and Widening** – The existing canal would be enlarged by raising the embankments up to 15 feet and widening the canal (approximately 28 feet wide on each embankment or a total of 56 feet wide) in Segments 2, 3, and a portion of Segment 4 from MP 95.7 to MP 116, about 16 total miles. Short sections (between 0.25 and up to 2.2 miles) of a bypass canal would also be constructed as part of this alternative, totaling approximately four miles.

Environmentally Preferable Alternative

Section 1505.2(b)¹ of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations requires the NEPA lead agency to identify the environmentally preferable alternative in a Record of Decision. CEQ provides guidance in its 40 Most Asked Questions, answer to question 6a, stating that “the environmentally preferable alternative is the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy as expressed in NEPA’s Section 101. Ordinarily, this means the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment; it also means the alternative which best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources.” Although CEQ regulations require the identification of the environmentally preferred alternative, it is not required that this alternative be adopted.

Although the No Action Alternative would not result in construction related impacts, it would result in potentially significant impacts on the following resources: air quality due to fugitive dust from fallowed land, Swainson’s hawk due to removal of foraging habitat from land fallowing, geology, and soils erosion from land fallowing. The No Action Alternative would also result in significant impacts due to conversion of agricultural lands to fallowed lands and further reliance on groundwater due to reductions in deliveries thus further impeding the sustainable groundwater management in the Tule and Kern Subbasins.

Pursuant to the General Conformity Rule of the Clean Air Act, Reclamation completed a General Conformity determination for both action alternatives. With implementation of mitigation measures, neither action alternative would exceed de minimis emission thresholds for criteria air pollutants.

¹ The environmental impact statement for which this Record of Decision is issued was begun before September 14, 2020. Therefore, all references to CEQ regulations are those regulations at 40 CFR parts 1500-1508 as of July 1, 1986.

Implementation of ECs/MMs will reduce or avoid the majority of the significant or potentially significant impacts; however, both action alternatives will still result in significant impacts to cultural resources (modification of the FKC), land use (permanent conversion of important farmland), and transportation (potential increase in emergency response times) even after implementation of the ECs/MMs.

While the total amount of permanent impacts on terrestrial habitat and land converted to non-agricultural use would be slightly greater under the CER Alternative, the nature and duration of construction-related impacts resulting from the CE Alternative would have a greater impact on air quality, biological resources, geology and soils, and greenhouse gas emissions due to the extended period of construction (10 years versus 3 years) and amount of borrow that would be required (6 million cubic yards versus 2.5 million cubic yards). Additionally, the shorter construction duration of the CER Alternative would allow the benefits of an improved water conveyance system to occur sooner, including associated environmental benefits. *Therefore, the CER Alternative has been identified as the environmentally preferred alternative.*

Basis for the Decision

Reclamation has selected to implement the CER Alternative as the preferred alternative based on interdisciplinary team recommendations, the analysis of environmental consequences, and public input. This decision has been made based on the analysis in the EIS/EIR, and on the results of consultation and coordination with public agencies, tribes, special interest groups, and individuals.

The alternatives were evaluated in the Final EIS/EIR on how well they met the Project's purpose and need, and the magnitude of environmental effects. Chapter 3 (Affected Environment/Environmental Setting) of the Final EIS/EIR provides a description of resource features (12 resource topics) within the Project area that may be affected by implementation of the action alternatives. Chapter 4 (Environmental Consequences/Environmental Impacts) and Chapter 5 (Cumulative Effects) of the Final EIS/EIR evaluate the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the alternatives for each of the environmental resource areas.

Through execution of this Record of Decision, Reclamation's decision maker certifies that the agency has considered all alternatives, information, analyses, and objections submitted by State, tribal, and local governments and public commenters for consideration in developing the Final EIS/EIR.

Public Involvement

Public involvement was considered throughout the planning, alternatives development, and decision-making process. The scoping process began with the publication of the Notice of Intent on December 2, 2019 and a total of 11 comments (including letters, emails, and verbal comments) were provided and used in the development of a reasonable range of alternatives and identification of key issues. Reclamation released the Public Draft EIS/EIR on May 8, 2020 for a 45-day public comment period.

On June 8, 2020, Reclamation and FWA hosted a virtual public meeting to share information about the recently released Draft EIS/EIR and collect public comments. An estimated 50 people participated in this public workshop. No comments were received during the public meeting.

Reclamation and FWA received five comment letters from federal, State, and local agencies; one letter from a non-governmental organization; and eight emails from individuals during the public review period. The majority of the comments were in support of the Project. Concerns were raised regarding potential impacts to air quality, biological resources, local water district infrastructure, and roads. The Final EIS/EIR was updated to add additional detail, address public concerns, and clarify the impacts of the Project. None of the revisions made due to public involvement changed the analysis and determinations made in the Draft EIS/EIR or the decision made in this Record of Decision.

Endangered Species Act

Two species (Buena Vista Lake Ornate shrew and San Joaquin kit fox) that are federally listed as endangered potentially occur in the Project area, and implementation of the Project may result in take of these species or adverse modification to their habitat. Reclamation and FWA coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) early in the planning process. Reclamation submitted a biological assessment to the USFWS on December 23, 2019. On July 23, 2020, Reclamation received a biological opinion from the USFWS that concluded the Project is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the San Joaquin kit fox and Buena Vista Lake Ornate shrew. Reclamation has incorporated all terms and conditions of the USFWS biological opinion as part of the Project.

There are no species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) within the Project area; therefore, Reclamation did not consult with NMFS.

Indian Trust Assets

The nearest Indian Trust Asset is a parcel of tribal land owned by the Tule River Indian Tribe above Lake Success near the Tule River which will not be directly affected by Project activities; therefore, there is no potential for Indian Trust Assets to be affected by the Project.

National Historic Preservation Act

Reclamation is responsible for complying with Title 54 USC § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the NHPA.

Section 106 compliance for the Project is subject to the provisions of the *Amended Programmatic Agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation, Interior Region 10, and the California State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Modifications to the Friant-Kern Canal, Fresno, Tulare, and Kern Counties, California* (PA) which was executed on October 9, 2020. The amended PA will be used to direct the continued Section 106 process for the Project beyond the finalization of the EIS/EIR, including the implementation of both a Programmatic Historic Properties Treatment Plan (HPTP) and individual (i.e., resource-specific) HPTP(s). The HPTP(s) will provide detailed procedures for implementing actions prescribed by the PA and guide all efforts related to the resolution of adverse effects to historic properties, including cumulative effects. The resolution of adverse effects will be developed between all signatories of the

amended PA, including Reclamation, State Historic Preservation Officer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and FWA.

Environmental Commitments

Reclamation and FWA have adopted all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm caused by the Project and are committed to implementing the measures identified in the Final EIS/EIR, including those within the biological opinion. Attachment A to this Record of Decision includes a detailed description of the mitigation measures, the responsible agency, and the time and method of verification. The ECs/MMs include provisions for adaptive management if monitoring shows mitigation is inadequate, unnecessary, or unsuccessful.

Comments Received on the Final EIS

A Notice of Availability of the Final EIS/EIR was published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on September 18, 2020. The Final EIS/EIR was posted on Reclamation's website and a press release was issued by Reclamation. Notices of the availability of the Final EIS/EIR were sent by Reclamation to interested parties. Electronic copies of the Final EIS/EIR on compact discs were distributed to cooperating agencies, stakeholders, and parties that submitted verbal and written comments on the Draft EIS/EIR.

Reclamation received a comment letter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency noting their appreciation for our thoughtful response to comments regarding mitigation for nitrous oxides and particulate matter emissions in the San Joaquin Valley, and our commitment to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reduce impacts to aquatic resources in the Project area. Reclamation also received a comment letter from the California Department of Transportation concurring with our response to comments.

ATTACHMENT A

RECORD OF DECISION, FRIANT-KERN CANAL MIDDLE REACH CAPACITY CORRECTION PROJECT: SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE CANAL ENLARGEMENT AND REALIGNMENT ALTERNATIVE (CER ALTERNATIVE)

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
AG-1	Reclamation and FWA will either (1) acquire agricultural conservation easements for designated Farmland/Important Farmland at a 1:1 ratio to be held by land trusts or public agencies who will be responsible for enforcement of the deed restrictions maintaining these lands in agricultural use, or (2) provide funds to a land trust or government program that conserves agricultural land sufficient to obtain easements on comparable land at a 1:1 ratio.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before Project completion
AG-2	If land that would be acquired by the Project is enrolled in a Williamson Act contract, the lead agencies will coordinate with the appropriate county planning agency to ensure that the impact is compatible with state and county Williamson Act provisions. If the impact on the land is not compatible, the nonrenewable process will be completed or a contract cancellation will be obtained for the segment that would be affected. The nonrenewable process or contract cancellation must be approved by the appropriate county board of supervisors (in consultation with the California Department of Conservation [DOC]) before Project construction begins.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Prior to acquisition of affected parcel
AQ-1	<p>The Project will comply with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's (SJVAPCD) Regulation VIII and Rule 9510, which serve to reduce emissions associated with fugitive dust particulate matter less than 10 microns diameter (PM₁₀) and construction exhaust emissions, respectively. In addition, the following environmental commitments will be implemented, as appropriate, to reduce potential air quality impacts from construction of the Project.</p> <p>Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) Reductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a construction emissions minimization plan that shall include the implementation of measures to reduce construction emissions. Those measures may include but not be limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of Tier 4 equipment for the following pieces of construction equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generator Sets: 25 kVA Portable Generator ▪ Scraper: CAT 631K 	Reclamation, FWA, and construction contractor(s)	Documentation on file with FWA, Reclamation, and SJVAPCD and field verification	Before and during project construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Motor Grader: CAT 14M ▪ Dozer: CAT D11 ▪ Wheel Loader: CAT 950M • Prohibiting the use of portable diesel engines where access to alternative power sources are available. • Instructing construction workers and equipment operators on the maintenance and tuning of construction equipment and require that such workers and operators properly maintain and tune equipment in accordance with manufacturer specifications. • Reducing unnecessary idling from heavy equipment. • Prohibiting engine tampering to increase horsepower, except when meeting manufacturer's recommendations. • Locating diesel engines, motors, and equipment staging areas as far as possible from residential areas and other sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, daycare centers, hospitals, senior centers, etc.). • Avoiding routing truck traffic near sensitive land uses to the fullest extent feasible. • Recycling construction debris to the maximum extent feasible. • Preparing an inventory of all equipment prior to construction and identifying the suitability of add-on emission controls for each piece of equipment before groundbreaking. • Reducing construction-related trips of workers and equipment, including trucks. 			
AQ-2	<p>Reclamation and/or FWA will enter into a Voluntary Emission Reduction Agreement (VERA) with the SJVAPCD to mitigate NO_x construction emissions to below the SJVAPCD NO_x significance threshold. Under the VERA, Reclamation and FWA will enter into a contractual agreement with the SJVAPCD to provide mitigation of air emission exceedances through a process that funds and implements emission reduction projects with the SJVAPCD consistent with the SJVAPCD's Rule 9510 fee structure. The VERA will be adopted prior to the first activity generating emissions associated with construction of the Project.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA, Reclamation, and SJVAPCD	Before, during, and after construction
BIO-1a.1-1a.4	<p>One botanical survey (late season) shall be conducted prior to construction activities to determine the presence or absence of special-status plant species including Earlimart orache, Lost Hills crownscale, brittlescale, lesser saltscale, and subtle orache in the Project area. The surveys should be conducted in general accordance with the Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special-Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities (CDFW 2018) and shall be timed to appropriately coincide with the late blooming period (e.g., August and September) in</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>all suitable habitat (e.g., annual grasslands) located within the Project disturbance areas.</p> <p>If more than five years lapse after the March 2020 botanical survey before ground disturbance takes place, two botanical surveys (early and late season) shall be conducted in all suitable habitat located within the Project disturbance areas to determine the presence or absence of special-status plants. Special-status plants with a potential to be within the Project area that typically bloom early in the season (e.g., March and April) include recurved larkspur, Hoover's eriastrum, spiny-sepaled button-celery, Munz's tidy-tips, and California alkali grass. Special-status plants with a potential to be within the Project area that typically bloom late in the season (e.g., August and September) include Earlimart orache, Lost Hills crownscale, brittlescale, lesser saltscale, and subtle orache.</p> <p>In the event that special-status plant species are found during the botanical surveys, the locations of the special-status plants and a 50-foot buffer will be marked as avoidance areas both in the field using flagging, staking, fencing, or similar devices and on construction plans.</p> <p>If non-listed, special-status plants are identified during botanical surveys and complete avoidance is not practicable, and the Project would directly or indirectly affect more than 25 percent of a local occurrence by either number of plants or square footage of occupied habitat, a qualified biologist will determine if implementation of a conservation plan is recommended. The conservation plan may consist of but are not limited to purchase of mitigation credits at a regional conservation bank; plant salvage and relocation; collection and subsequent planting of seed or incorporating seed from native nursery into seed mix used for revegetation efforts; stockpiling, storing, and replacing topsoil containing the local seed bank; or other measures determined practicable based on the species and site conditions. If onsite conservation measures are implemented, the objective is to restore the impacted special-status plant species community to pre-existing conditions by providing for the restoration of a self-sustaining population of special-status plants in the general area where the impact occurred at a minimum of a 1:1 ratio (e.g., number of plants, square footage occupied). For onsite conservation measures, the conservation plan will identify success criteria and provide for annual or other regular monitoring to evaluate whether the conservation effort has met the success criteria. The conservation plan will also include measures for remedial actions (e.g., additional plantings, supplemental irrigation, increased monitoring) in the event that monitoring efforts indicate that success criteria are not being met.</p>			

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>For some species and site conditions, the biologist may determine that a conservation plan is not recommended. Some of these circumstances may include but are not limited to the following: (1) there are other nearby populations that will not be disturbed; (2) plant relocation, seeding, or revegetation would not have a reasonable probability of success; (3) implementation of measures could result in detrimental effects on existing special-status plant populations; or (4) incompatibility with required operations and maintenance activities. If the biologist determines that a conservation plan is not warranted, no additional measures are required.</p> <p>If federal- or state-listed plants are identified during botanical surveys and complete avoidance is not practicable, coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and/or USFWS will be conducted as appropriate to develop the conservation plan. No take of state-listed species will occur without an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) from CDFW.</p>			
BIO-1b.1-1b.7	<p>A Biological Resources Management and Monitoring Plan (BRMMP) shall be developed and implemented for the Project. The BRMMP shall provide for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Overall implementation and monitoring of the ECs/MMs for biological resources and the terms and conditions of any agency permits/authorizations throughout the duration of Project construction and restoration/revegetation of riparian habitat per BIO-2c. 2) Designation of an overall Project Biologist and the roles and responsibilities of the Project Biologist and other monitoring biologists and the roles of Reclamation, FWA, and construction personnel in coordinating and implementing the BRMMP. 3) Adaptive management in scheduling worker environmental awareness training (WEAT) and conducting pre-construction surveys for special-status species. In some cases, additional biological surveys beyond those identified in the ECs/MMs may be warranted to proactively avoid biological constraints or conflicts with protective measures. For example, early monitoring for nesting birds or occupied mammal burrows may be needed to preserve opportunities for vegetation removal, removal of nesting starts before egg laying, and burrow monitoring and closure prior to the initiation of breeding or nesting activities. 4) The procedure and authorizations required to modify the ECs/MMs, if needed, to resolve conflicts with constructability requirements or other measures required by agency permits/authorizations or to provide for equivalent avoidance/minimization of adverse effects on sensitive biological resources under changing conditions over the life of Project construction. 	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before, during and after construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>5) For example, nesting birds or other special-status species may initiate nesting or denning activities in proximity to construction areas while active construction activities are ongoing, including within the “no-disturbance buffers.” In these cases, it may be that the animals are acclimated to the level of construction disturbance, and continuance of construction activities would not be expected to adversely affect the animals or their nesting/breeding activities (assuming that increased levels of disturbance or closer proximity of construction activities is not planned). The BRMMP will include provisions for how these and similar circumstances will be addressed and how determinations regarding additional biological monitoring or agency coordination will be addressed.</p> <p>6) The procedure to record and document implementation of the ECs/MMs and other measures including any pre-construction survey reports, WEAT sign-in forms, routine biological monitoring forms, photographs, and other materials related to implementation of the BRMMP.</p> <p>7) The procedure to comply with the terms and conditions and notification and reporting requirements of any agency permits/authorizations required for the Project, and the procedure for coordination/consultation with resource or permitting agencies as necessary.</p> <p>8) The procedure to inform, document, and monitor restoration and revegetation activities associated with restoring temporary impacts on terrestrial and aquatic habitats and vegetation communities. This includes any post-construction monitoring/reporting and remedial measures that may be required.</p> <p>Prior to initiation of ground-breaking, a qualified biologist(s) will conduct a WEAT for all construction personnel. Training sessions will be repeated for all new personnel before they access the Project site. Sign-in sheets identifying attendees and the contractor/company they represent will be prepared for each training session, and records of attendance will be maintained by the Project. At a minimum, the WEAT will include a description of the protected species and biological resources that may occur in the Project area and their physical description, habitats, and natural history, as well as the measures that are being implemented to avoid or minimize Project-related impacts, penalties for non-compliance, and the boundaries of the work area. As appropriate, training will be conducted in languages other than English to ensure that employees and contractors understand their roles and responsibilities. A written summary of the training will be provided to all attendees, and an electronic copy will be provided so that the Project can make and distribute future copies. The WEAT will be conducted annually, at a minimum, for all construction personnel.</p> <p>A litter control program will be instituted at each Project site. All workers will place their food scraps, paper wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash in</p>			

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>covered or closed trash containers. The trash containers should be removed from the Project area at the end of each working day.</p> <p>No firearms (except as possessed by federal, state, or local law enforcement officers) or pets will be permitted on construction sites.</p> <p>To prevent inadvertent entrapment of wildlife during construction, all excavated steep-walled holes or trenches greater than 2 feet deep (excluding excavation work on either the Friant-Kern Canal (FKC) itself or the realigned canal) should be covered or filled at the end of each working day or provided with one or more escape ramps no greater than 200 feet apart. Before such trenches or holes are filled, they must be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. If protected species are found in any of the holes or trenches, work shall cease until an escape ramp is provided and the animal leaves on its own volition, or until the animal has been relocated by a USFWS-approved biologist, and/or in coordination with USFWS as appropriate.</p> <p>All construction activity will be confined within the Project site, which may include temporary access roads, haul roads, and staging areas specifically designated and marked for these purposes.</p> <p>Tightly woven fiber netting or similar material (no monofilament material) will be used for erosion control or other purposes at the Project site to ensure that animals do not become trapped.</p>			
BIO-1c.1-1c.3	<p>To the extent practicable, vegetation removal will be scheduled to avoid the breeding season for nesting raptors and other special-status birds (generally February 1 through August 31, depending on the species). Removal of vegetation outside of the nesting season is intended to minimize the potential for delays in vegetation removal due to active nests.</p> <p>Regardless of when vegetation removal is scheduled, a qualified biologist will conduct a minimum of one pre-construction survey for nesting migratory birds and raptors within the Project area and a buffer (250 feet for migratory birds, 500 feet for raptors) around the Project area (where accessible) for all construction-related activities that will occur during the nesting season. The pre-construction survey will be conducted no more than 10 days prior to the initiation of construction in a given area and will be phased based on the construction schedule. Due to the ongoing, phased approach to construction, multiple pre-construction surveys per year may be required. If an active nest is found, a construction-free buffer zone (250 feet for migratory birds, 500 feet for raptors) will be established around the active nest site. If establishment of the</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before, during and after construction - no more than 15 days prior to the initiation of construction in a given area

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>construction-free buffer zone is not practicable, appropriate conservation measures (as determined by a qualified biologist) will be implemented. These measures may include but are not limited to consultation with CDFW to establish a different construction-free buffer zone around the active nest site, daily biological monitoring of the active nest site, and delaying construction activities in the vicinity of the active nest site until the young have fledged.</p> <p>If removal of bridges or other bridge work is scheduled to occur during the nesting season, exclusionary devices (e.g., netting) will be installed around the bridges prior to the initiation of the avian breeding season (before February 15) during the same year as the bridges are scheduled for removal and after a qualified biologist has determined no active nests (i.e., nests with eggs or young) are present. The exclusionary devices will remain in place until August 15 or until the bridge removal or other bridge work is completed. The exclusionary devices will be anchored such that swallows cannot attach their nests to the structure through gaps. Exclusionary devices will be regularly inspected as necessary to confirm that they are adequately preventing initiation of nest building. In the event that swallows have breached the exclusionary devices and began building nests on the structure, nesting material (i.e., partially built nests) can be removed only if a qualified biologist has determined that eggs or young are not present. No removal of nests with eggs or young can be conducted without written authorization from CDFW and USFWS, or until a qualified biologist has determined that the nest is no longer active (e.g., the nest has failed, the young have fledged and are no longer dependent on the nest).</p>			
BIO-1d.1-1d.3	<p>A minimum of one pre-construction survey for burrowing owls within a minimum of 500 feet of the Project area (where accessible) will be conducted by a qualified biologist within 15 days prior to the initiation of construction activities in a given area, regardless of the timing of construction. Pre-construction surveys each year of construction during the non-breeding season (September 1 to January 31) will take place in order to determine the presence of burrowing owls before breeding activities begin. If any occupied burrows are identified, appropriate conservation measures (as determined by a qualified biologist) will be implemented. No disturbance will occur within 150 feet of occupied burrows during the non-breeding season (September 1 to January 31) or within 250 feet during the breeding season (February 1 to August 31). These measures may also include establishing a construction-free buffer zone around the active nest site in coordination with the CDFW, biological monitoring of the active nest site, and delaying construction activities in the vicinity of the active nest site until the young have fledged.</p> <p>If burrowing owls are detected within the Project area during the non-breeding season and maintaining a 150-foot, no-disturbance buffer is not practicable, a qualified</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before and during construction - no more than 15 days prior to the initiation of construction in a given area

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>biologist will submit an exclusion and passive relocation plan to CDFW. The exclusion and passive relocation plan will generally follow the guidelines outlined in Appendix E of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (California Department of Fish and Game 2012). The exclusion and passive relocation plan will consist of installing one-way doors in potential burrows, daily monitoring, and collapsing burrows once it is determined that the burrows are unoccupied. Exclusion may only take place during the non-breeding season (September 1 to January 31) and may be an ongoing effort during this time period. This will allow the owls to exit burrows if they are present, but not return. The exclusion and passive relocation plan will also detail plans to replace collapsed burrows with artificial burrows at a minimum 1:1 ratio or describe why artificial burrows are not needed (e.g., numerous available natural burrows are available in nearby areas that will not be disturbed). Monitoring of collapsed burrows will be conducted as needed so that burrowing owls do not recolonize the area prior to construction disturbance.</p> <p>If occupied burrows are detected during the breeding season and maintaining a 250-foot no-disturbance buffer is not practicable, CDFW will be consulted to determine alternative measures to minimize the potential for disturbance to occupied burrows and nesting activities. Measures may include but are not limited to continuous biological monitoring by a qualified biologist until it has been determined that the young have fledged and are no longer reliant on the nest or parental care for survival or construction is complete. No direct disturbance of burrows with eggs or young can be conducted without written authorization from the CDFW and USFWS.</p>			
BIO-1e.1-1e.4	<p>For construction activities that occur between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist will conduct pre-construction surveys for golden eagle, Swainson's hawk, northern harrier, and white-tailed kite. The pre-construction surveys will include the Project footprint and a minimum of a 0.50-mile radius where access is permitted around the construction area in suitable nesting habitat (i.e., large trees). The pre-construction surveys will be conducted no more than 10 days before ground disturbance in a given area and will be phased based on construction schedule.</p> <p>If nesting golden eagles, Swainson's hawks, northern harriers, or white-tailed kites are detected, an appropriate no-disturbance buffer (minimum of 500 feet for northern harrier, 0.50 mile for golden eagle, Swainson's hawk, and white-tailed kite) will be established and monitored daily by a qualified biologist. Buffers will be maintained until a qualified biologist has determined that the young have fledged and are no longer reliant on the nest or parental care for survival. A 0.50-mile no-disturbance buffer will also be maintained from any overwintering eagles if they are detected in the Project area or surrounding areas; the buffer will be maintained for the duration that the bird(s) are present. If any bald eagles or golden eagles are detected, Reclamation</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	15 days prior to construction in a given area

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>will coordinate with USFWS as necessary to comply with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.</p> <p>If maintaining the minimum no-disturbance buffer around an active golden eagle, Swainson's hawk, northern harrier, or white-tailed kite nest (or any overwintering eagles) is not practicable, CDFW will be consulted to determine if reduced minimum no-disturbance buffers are appropriate based on site-specific circumstances (e.g., visual barriers between nest and construction area, existing level of disturbance) or to identify alternative measures to minimize the potential for Project-related disturbance to the nest site that could result in nest abandonment or other forms of take. Measures may include but are not limited to continuous biological monitoring by a qualified biologist until it has been determined that the young have fledged and are no longer reliant on the nest or parental care for survival or construction is complete. If the nesting pair shows signs of distress (i.e., adults leaving the nest when eggs or young chicks are present) as a result of Project-related activities, the monitoring biologist will have authority to stop work until it is determined that the adults have returned and are no longer showing signs of distress.</p> <p>If trees suitable for nesting by Swainson's hawk are scheduled to be removed during the non-nesting season, a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey during the nesting season prior to tree removal to determine if Swainson's hawks are using the trees for nesting. If the trees proposed for removal are being used by nesting Swainson's hawk, consultation with the CDFW will take place prior to tree removal.</p> <p>If consultation with CDFW results in a determination that take of an active Swainson's hawk nest cannot be avoided, then an ITP pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act will be obtained from CDFW prior to initiation of any activities that are likely to result in such take.</p> <p>If an active golden eagle or white-tailed kite nest may not be avoidable, then all activities that are likely to result in take will be delayed until a qualified biologist has determined that the young have fledged and are no longer reliant on the nest or parental care for survival.</p> <p>The Project-related permanent loss of alfalfa fields (high-quality foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk) will be mitigated at a minimum of a 1:1 ratio. Mitigation will occur in coordination with CDFW and may consist of but is not limited to purchase of mitigation credits from a CDFW-approved mitigation bank, obtaining conservation easements with appropriate provisions to maintain the land as suitable foraging habitat in</p>			

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	perpetuity, establishing new alfalfa fields, or other habitat conservation measures as approved by CDFW.			
BIO-1f.1-1f.2	<p>To the extent practicable, removal of large trees with cavities or destruction of large culverts will occur before maternity colonies form (i.e., prior to March 1) or after young are volant (able to fly) (i.e., after August 15).</p> <p>If construction (including the removal of large trees and/or destruction or expansion of large culverts) occurs during the non-volant season (March 1 to August 15), a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey of the study area for maternity colonies. The pre-construction survey will be performed no more than 14 days prior to the implementation of construction activities (including staging and equipment access). If a lapse in construction activities for 14 days or longer occurs between those dates, another pre-construction survey will be performed. If any maternity colonies are detected, appropriate conservation measures (as determined by a qualified biologist) will be implemented. These measures may include but are not limited to establishing a construction-free buffer zone around the maternity colony site, biological monitoring of the maternity colony, and delaying construction activities in the vicinity of the maternity site.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	14 days prior to construction in a given area
BIO-1g	Work within Deer Creek and White River (e.g., siphon construction) will take place when the streams are dry. If this is not practicable, appropriate stream diversions that protect water quality will be constructed. Where there is a potential for fish entrapment (e.g., dewatering of streams or canal), a beach seine with a minimum of three passes or other appropriate method will be implemented in areas where fish could be trapped (e.g., remaining ponded areas). If appropriate, block nets could be placed upstream and downstream of the Project area to prevent fish from entering the area and further reduce the potential for entrapment. Implementation of measures to avoid fish entrapment and any translocation/removal of fish will be conducted with the oversight of qualified fisheries biologists. Coordination with CDFW will be conducted prior to initiation of any fish salvage/relocation activities to confirm that all required authorizations are in place.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction
BIO-1h.1-1h.2	<p>If western spadefoot is encountered during construction activities, it will be allowed to move out of harm's way of its own volition, or a qualified biologist will relocate it to the nearest suitable habitat that is at least 100 feet outside of the construction impact area.</p> <p>Prior to moving equipment or materials each day, construction personnel will inspect underneath and around equipment and other Project materials (e.g., stored pipes greater than 2 inches in diameter) where located within 200 feet of aquatic habitat for</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	western spadefoot. If western spadefoots are found, they will be allowed to move out of the construction area under their own volition, or a qualified biologist will relocate the organism(s) to the nearest suitable habitat that is at least 100 feet outside of the construction impact area.			
BIO-1i	Prior to moving equipment or materials each day, construction personnel will inspect underneath and around equipment for northern California legless lizard, California glossy snake, San Joaquin coachwhip, and coast horned lizard. If these species are encountered during construction activities, they will be allowed to move out of harm's way of their own volition or a qualified biologist will relocate the organism(s) the nearest suitable habitat that is at least 100 feet outside of the construction impact area.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction
BIO-1j.1-1j.4	<p>In areas of suitable habitat for Buena Vista Lake shrew (BVLS) (<i>Sorex ornatus relictus</i>) within the Project area (i.e., the Deer Creek crossing and adjacent areas), all above-ground herbaceous vegetation within the construction footprint will be cleared using hand tools (i.e., non-gasoline or electrically powered tools, including weed whackers and/or mowers, unless approved by USFWS) under the supervision of a USFWS-approved BVLS biologist or biological monitor. All leaf litter will be removed using rakes or similar hand tools. All woody vegetation will be cut as closely to the ground as possible using hand tools (which can include chainsaws). Vegetation will be removed immediately and stored away from areas of suitable BVLS habitat. Such vegetation hand-removal efforts will be implemented in the areas that require vegetation removal in order to clearly detect BVLS and will continue in each area of suitable habitat until it is reasonably certain that BVLS can be detected within the cleared areas, if present.</p> <p>After vegetation has been cleared from areas of suitable BVLS habitat, non-disturbance exclusion fencing will be installed along the edges of the Project area where vegetation was cleared from areas of suitable habitat; fencing will be buried to a minimum depth of 6 inches. Fencing will be placed between areas of active construction and adjacent to nearby suitable habitat to preclude BVLS from running through the Project area. In areas where installation of fencing is not practicable, the USFWS will be contacted and will provide direction on a case-by-case basis. The exclusionary fencing will be installed under the supervision of the USFWS-approved BVLS biological monitor, and fence placement/configuration will be determined by a USFWS-approved BVLS biologist with input from the USFWS as required. Fencing may consist of a combination of both Environmentally Sensitive Area fencing and Wildlife Exclusion fencing with one-way exit/escape points. The fencing will be constructed using tightly woven netting to preclude entrapment and will be buried to prevent animals from entering the area above and below ground.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before vegetation removal within the Deer Creek crossing and during construction within Deer Creek

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	<p>If BVLS is found within the fenced-in Project area, work in the Project area will cease immediately and a section of fence will be removed so the BVLS may leave the fenced area on their own volition. The USFWS-approved BVLS biologist or biological monitor will monitor the BVLS to ensure that any BVLS has moved and remains outside of the fenced-in work area. If the BVLS does not leave of its own volition, it will be relocated following a USFWS-approved BVLS Relocation Plan.</p> <p>Prior to the vegetation removal described above, areas of potentially suitable habitat would be surveyed for BVLS using close-focus automated Reconyx camera stations, baited with live and dried mealworms, per the methodology described in the Conservation of Endangered Buena Vista Lake shrews (<i>Sorex ornatus relictus</i>) through Investigation of Taxonomic Status, Distribution, and Use of Non-Invasive Survey Methods (Cypher et al., 2017).</p>			
BIO-1k	<p>Any American badger detected within the Project area during Project-related activities will be allowed to move out of the work area of its own volition. If an American badger is denning on or within 50 feet of the Project work areas, the den will be avoided by maintaining a minimum 50-foot, no-disturbance buffer. If maintaining the buffer is not practicable, CDFW will be consulted to determine alternative measures to minimize the potential for disturbance of the burrow, or (if necessary) to develop and implement procedures to monitor and close the burrow to prevent use by badger during construction activities.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before and during construction - no more than 15 days prior to the initiation of construction in a given area
BIO-11.1-11.4	<p>The following measures would be limited to those areas where SJKF presence has been detected via scent attractant enhanced remote camera arrays and trained ecological scent dogs, and in areas otherwise determined to be sensitive for SJKF based on coordination with the USFWS.</p> <p>Determine the presence of San Joaquin kit fox dens:</p> <p>a) Pedestrian inventories of potential and occupied dens will be completed to determine the need for pre-construction monitoring (e.g., qualified biologist walking the project area and up to a 500-foot buffer [as determined by a qualified biologist] where access is permitted to search for potential and occupied dens). Pedestrian inventories of potential and occupied dens shall be conducted within 90 calendar days prior to the start of construction (i.e., before any activity that covers or disrupts surface soils [e.g., clearing and grubbing; grading; excavation; soil or equipment stockpiling; equipment or vehicle storage or parking]). To the extent practicable, these surveys will be conducted nearer in time to the start of construction.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	<p>Before and during construction as follows:</p> <p>Pedestrian inventories shall occur within 90 calendar days prior to the start of construction</p> <p>Areas within which pedestrian den inventories or</p>

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>b) Pre-construction monitoring (as described under BIO-114) will be performed to confirm and document SJKF presence or absence at potential and occupied dens identified during the inventory.</p> <p>c) Areas within which pedestrian den inventories or pre-construction monitoring have been completed more than 30 days prior to construction will be re-inventoried not more than 30 days prior to construction. Preconstruction monitoring will be performed on potential and occupied dens discovered during re-inventory that have not been previously monitored.</p> <p>d) Pedestrian inventories and pre-construction monitoring for dens will be conducted by qualified biologists familiar with SJKF biology, natural history, and potential dens.</p> <p>e) Pipes and culverts will be searched for SJKF immediately prior to being moved or sealed to ensure that an animal has not been trapped. If SJKF is observed, it will be gently encouraged to leave the area by a USFWS-approved biologist. (i.e., without using loud noise, physical force, or physical movement of the pipe or culvert such that the animal could be injured or startled while it is leaving the area).</p> <p>f) If any SJKF are detected, CDFW will be contacted to discuss how to avoid take. If it is determined that take may not be avoidable, an ITP pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act will be obtained from CDFW prior to initiation of any activities that are likely to result in such take.</p> <p>Identify and document locations of potential or occupied dens (natal or non-natal) and their status (occupied or unoccupied). Definitions:</p> <p>a) Known den: any existing natural den or human-made structure for which conclusive evidence or circumstantial evidence can show that the den is used or has been used at any time in the past by SJKF.</p> <p>b) Potential den: any natural den or burrow within the range of the species that has entrances of appropriate dimensions (4 to 12 inches in diameter) to accommodate SJKF. A qualified biologist will survey and investigate using remote cameras and track plates to determine use by species. If no information is collected that would indicate use by other species, the den will be treated as potentially occupied by SJKF.</p> <p>c) Natal/pupping den: any known SJKF den (as defined) used by SJKF to whelp and/or rear pups.</p> <p>d) Atypical den: any known SJKF den that has been established in or in association with a human-made structure.</p>			<p>pre-construction monitoring have been completed more than 30 days prior to construction will be re-inventoried not more than 30 days prior to construction</p> <p>Den monitoring on known dens will occur 3 days prior to den removal if den is unoccupied, if a den is determined to be occupied, monitoring will occur 5 additional days from the time of observation</p>

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	<p>Identify and execute appropriate action(s) regarding notification, buffers, excavation and fill, or seal-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Occupied natal den: if an occupied natal den is visible or encountered within the Project limits or on publicly accessible land sufficiently close to the Project construction area such that it would be disturbed (based on qualified biologist opinion and monitoring), USFWS and CDFW will be contacted immediately and before any Project action occurs to determine permissible actions to permit resumption of work. b) Unless determined necessary for safety or constructability by Reclamation, FWA, or the Project contractor, the Project site will not be lighted between sunset and sunrise. c) Pipes or culverts with a diameter greater than 4 inches will be capped or taped closed when it is ascertained that no SJKF are present. Any SJKF found in a pipe or culvert will be allowed to escape unimpeded. <p>If a natural den or burrow is determined to meet size criteria (i.e., greater than 4-inches in diameter) and cannot be avoided (per the no-disturbance buffers recommended in the USFWS "Standardized recommendations for protection of the San Joaquin kit fox prior to or during ground disturbance" (2011) or must be destroyed, the following guidelines will be followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Prior to den destruction, areas scheduled for construction within the vicinity of potential kit fox dens shall be monitored by a qualified biologist to determine their status. Monitoring will begin with pedestrian surveys to identify locations of potential kit fox dens and observe for suitable surrounding habitat. Because it is logistically impractical to monitor all dens using remote cameras and tracking medium (or to hand excavate to confirm vacancy), baited camera traps may be used to assess presence or absence of SJKF activity. Prior to ground disturbing activities in Project segments that require excavation (i.e., realigned canal), baited camera traps will be deployed in approximate 0.25-mile increments for four consecutive nights. Baited camera traps may be placed further than 0.25-mile apart depending on the suitability of surrounding habitat and land uses that are observed during pedestrian surveys and in areas with lower densities of potential kit fox dens. If no kit foxes are detected by the camera traps during this time period, it can be assumed that kit foxes are not currently using the area and ground-disturbing activities may commence in that area. If a kit fox is detected by a camera trap, then further investigation will be required as described below. 			

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>b) If a kit fox is detected by a baited camera trap, or otherwise observed in an area, further preconstruction monitoring will be conducted to determine which den(s) are being used. Baited camera traps will be deployed in the area, and tracking medium will be placed at the entrances of suspected dens to monitor the area for four consecutive nights. If no SJKF activity is observed during this period, the den will be deemed unoccupied and destroyed immediately under the supervision of a USFWS-approved biologist to preclude subsequent use. If SJKF activity is observed at the den during this period, the den will be monitored for at least 5 consecutive days from the time of observation to allow any resident animal to move to another den during its normal activities. Use of the den can be discouraged during this period by partially plugging the entrance(s) with soil in such a manner that any resident animal can escape easily. Destruction of the den may begin when, in the judgment of a USFWS-approved biologist, the animal has vacated. The biologist will be trained and familiar with SJKF biology. If the animal is still present after 5 or more consecutive days of plugging and monitoring, the den may be excavated when, in the judgment of a USFWS-approved biologist, it is temporarily vacant, for example during the animal's normal foraging activities. All den destruction shall be conducted under the supervision of a USFWS-approved biologist.</p> <p>c) All dens requiring excavation will be excavated under the supervision of a USFWS-approved biologist. In no event will an excavation that meets the definition of a confined space (i.e., a space large enough and so configured that a person can bodily enter but has limited or restricted means for entry or exit) be initiated. In this circumstance, discouragement (as described above) would be used.</p> <p>d) The den will be fully excavated and then filled with dirt and compacted so that SJKF cannot reenter or use the den during the construction period. If at any point during excavation, an SJKF is discovered inside the den, the excavation activity will cease immediately, and monitoring of the den will be resumed. Destruction of the den may be resumed when in the judgment of a USFWS-approved biologist, the animal has escaped from the partially destroyed den.</p>			
BIO-11.5	<p>Use of the Project area by San Joaquin kit foxes has not been detected during biological field surveys to date (i.e., burrow cameras at select locations, ecological scent dog survey throughout the Middle Reach, and scent-attractant baited arrays of remotely operated camera stations). However, if San Joaquin kit foxes are detected during future field surveys or den monitoring activities, artificial dens could, at Reclamation's and FWA's discretion and in numbers and locations determined based on apparent San Joaquin kit fox detections, be constructed at select locations and as</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	After construction is complete, if applicable

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	<p>determined to be needed along the 19-mile abandoned canal segment. The artificial dens would provide immediately available alternative habitats but would be considered temporary (i.e., unmonitored, not maintained, and potentially removed upon confirmation of vacancy and after natural potential kit fox dens have become reestablished along the canal). Constructed San Joaquin kit fox habitat would consist of “escape dens” and “chamber dens” grouped to create habitat complexes. Escape dens would be designed to provide escape cover for San Joaquin kit fox. Chamber dens would be designed to provide escape cover and diurnal resting cover for San Joaquin kit fox and provide a chamber for resting or reproduction. The number of complexes to be constructed and spacing of the complex components would be determined through coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Reclamation, and FWA.</p>			
BIO-2a	<p>Temporary and permanent impacts on the Fremont cottonwood forest habitat at Deer Creek will be minimized to the greatest extent practicable. Trees and other vegetation will not be removed if it can otherwise be reasonably avoided. In determining areas where vegetation must be removed to provide adequate access for construction or staging, consideration will be given to selecting areas that require the least amount of removal of mature trees and canopy cover in coordination with a qualified biologist.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Prior to construction in a given area
BIO-2b	<p>Prior to initiation of construction, exclusionary fencing will be installed along the boundaries of all environmentally sensitive areas to be avoided, which include sensitive natural communities and aquatic resources adjacent to the areas of Project-related impacts, so that impacts on environmentally sensitive areas outside of the construction area are minimized. Locations of environmentally sensitive areas and exclusionary fencing will be identified on construction plans. The exclusionary fencing will be inspected and maintained on a regular basis throughout Project construction in the areas where the fencing is needed to avoid unintended disturbance.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Prior to construction in a given area
BIO-2c	<p>A Post-Construction Revegetation and Monitoring Plan will be developed and implemented to provide for the restoration of temporarily impacted riparian habitats to pre-existing conditions. The plan will include provisions for the planting of native woody vegetation and native seed mix or otherwise provide for the reestablishment of self-sustaining native riparian vegetation similar to the existing native riparian vegetation community. Planting of native riparian vegetation will include, but is not limited to, replacement of any trees removed by the project at a 3:1 ratio (replaced to removed) with appropriate native tree species. For the purposes of this requirement, a tree is defined as a native woody plant (i.e., tree or mature shrub) with at least one stem measuring 2 inches or greater in diameter at breast height. The plan will also identify success criteria and provide for annual or other regular monitoring to evaluate whether the revegetation effort has met the success criteria. The plan will include</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	After construction

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	measures for remedial actions (e.g., additional plantings, supplemental irrigation, increased monitoring) in the event that monitoring efforts indicate that success criteria are not being met.			
BIO-3a	All work within the active channel of Deer Creek and White River will be limited to the dry season when the channels are dry. If this is not practicable, stream flow will be diverted around the work area in the channel using a clear water diversion that maintains downstream water quality and minimizes stream impacts at the inlet and outlet locations of the diversion.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction
BIO-3b	<p>Prior to any temporary or permanent impacts on aquatic resources, any required permits/authorizations from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will be obtained. All terms and conditions of the required permits/authorizations will be implemented.</p> <p>Prior to any activities that would obstruct the flow of or alter the bed, channel, or bank of Deer Creek, White River, or any other streams, notification of streambed alteration will be submitted to the CDFW. If required, a streambed alteration agreement will be obtained from CDFW, and all conditions of the agreement will be implemented.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before construction
BIO-3c	<p>Within 60 days of completion of siphon construction at Deer Creek and White River, the contours of the stream channels will be restored as close as practicable to their original contour and conditions.</p> <p>All temporary impacts on riparian wetlands and other sensitive aquatic resources will be restored to pre-existing conditions in accordance with BIO-2c (Post-Construction Revegetation and Monitoring Plan).</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Within 60 days of completion of siphon construction at Deer Creek and White River
BIO-3d	<p>The permanent loss of riparian wetlands will be mitigated at a minimum of a 1:1 ratio. Mitigation will consist of the purchase of mitigation credits from an agency-approved wetland mitigation bank (i.e., CDFW, RWQCB, USACE) or payment into an agency-approved in-lieu fee fund. The purchase of mitigation credits or in-lieu fee payment will be completed prior to initiation of any permanent wetland impacts.</p> <p>On- or offsite creation or restoration of wetland habitats may also be used to satisfy the compensatory mitigation requirement with written agency approval.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Prior to construction in applicable wetland(s)
CUL-1	Reclamation's amended Programmatic Agreement with the State Historic Preservation Officer and other consulting parties will be implemented for treatment of the FKC that complies with Section 106 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 (b) to identify and address any currently unknown and potentially inadvertently discovered	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before and during construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>archaeological resources and/or human remains (i.e., Reclamation's Plan of Action for Discovery and Identification of Human Remains, Funerary Objects, Sacred Objects and Objects of Cultural Patrimony under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and California Public Resource Code 5097.9-5097.991 and Health and Safety Code 7050). In addition, a Cultural Resources Awareness Training Program will be prepared before the initiation of any ground-disturbing activity. The training program will be prepared by individuals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Professional Qualifications in archaeology. The training program will present information about the identification and appropriate treatment of cultural resources (e.g., prehistoric or historic artifacts) and human remains that could be inadvertently uncovered during construction and about the discovery. All personnel participating in construction will participate in the training program. FWA, in coordination with Reclamation, will be responsible for completion and implementation of the training program and implementation of the stipulations in the Programmatic Agreement for identification and treatment of currently unknown archaeological resources and/or human remains.</p> <p>Additionally, a Historic Properties Treatment Plan (HPTP) will be prepared as outlined in the Programmatic Agreement and will follow guidance in stipulations in Reclamation's amended Programmatic Agreement with the State Historic Preservation Officer and other consulting parties for treatment of the FKC that comply with Section 106 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 (b), and will be completed by individuals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Professional Qualifications. FWA, in coordination with Reclamation, will be responsible for implementation and completion of the HPTP.</p>			
CUL-2	<p>If subsurface deposits believed to be cultural or human in origin are discovered during construction, then all work must halt within a 50-foot radius of the discovery. A qualified professional archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for prehistoric and/or historical archaeology shall be retained to evaluate the significance of the find and shall have the authority to modify the no-work radius using professional judgment as needed. The following notifications shall apply, depending on the nature of the find:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the professional archaeologist determines that the find does not represent a cultural resource, then work may resume immediately, and no agency notifications are required. a) If the professional archaeologist determines that the find does represent a cultural resource from any time period or cultural affiliation, then he or she shall immediately notify the Reclamation and the applicable landowner. The 	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>agency shall consult on a finding of eligibility and implement appropriate treatment measures, if the find is determined to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Work cannot resume within the no-work radius until the lead agencies, through consultation as appropriate, determine that the site either: a) is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; or b) that the treatment measures have been completed to their satisfaction.</p>			
CUL-3	<p>Different laws govern the disposition of human remains inadvertently discovered on private, state, tribal, and federal lands. Therefore, it is imperative that Reclamation contractors and other CRM contractors understand the ownership status of lands on which archaeological work is to be conducted to ensure that the appropriate laws are followed. The following summarizes of the applicable laws that govern the inadvertent (i.e., unplanned) discovery of human remains and the procedures to be followed should human remains be discovered during the course of archaeological work permitted by Reclamation or other underlying landowner.</p> <p><i>Federal and Tribal Lands:</i></p> <p>Under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 United States Code 3001) and implementing regulations 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10, Reclamation is responsible for the protection of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony that are discovered on Reclamation lands. All human remains and potential human remains must be treated with respect and dignity at all times. In the event that suspected human remains are discovered during proposed project activity on Reclamation land, all activities in the immediate area will cease, and appropriate precautions will be taken to protect the remains and any associated cultural items from further disturbance. Reclamation will follow the procedures outlined in 43 CFR Section 10.4, Inadvertent Discoveries. The Reclamation Interior Region 10 Regional Environmental Officer will be immediately notified by telephone and will take responsibility for the discovery by contacting the appropriate law enforcement and Reclamation officials. Within three (3) working days of confirmation of the discovery (see 43 CFR Part 10.4(d)(1)(iii)), the Reclamation Interior Region 10 Cultural Resource Officer will notify by telephone or in person, with written confirmation, the Indian tribes likely to be affiliated with the discovered human remains (e.g., lineal descendant, culturally affiliated Indian tribe, Indian tribe with other cultural relationship, and Indian tribe that aboriginally occupied area). Treatment and handling of the remains will be determined through consultation between Reclamation and consulting tribes.</p> <p><i>Other Public and Private Lands in California:</i></p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>There are numerous California state laws and codes that direct the preservation of prehistoric and historic cultural resources, establish the procedures for protecting inadvertently discovered Native American human remains, and impose penalties and punishments for persons acting in violation of the legal code. Specifically, Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code deals with the discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, and directs that in such cases the coroner of the county in which the remains are discovered be contacted and further excavation or disturbance in the location of discovery be discontinued until the coroner has examined the remains and made recommendations concerning their treatment and disposition. If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and if the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American, or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, the coroner is required to contact the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), by telephone, within 24 hours. Stipulations encouraging private landowners to work with the NAHC and the most likely descendant identified by the NAHC to establish and carry out appropriate treatment of the remains are established in Section 5097.98 of the California Public Resources Code.</p>			
EN-1	<p>A Construction Equipment and Vehicle Efficiency Plan (Efficiency Plan) that identifies the specific measures that construction contractors will implement as part of construction will be prepared by a qualified professional. Performance standards include those required by the California Code of Regulations, Title 13 related to heavy-duty vehicle use such as Section 2182 for smoke opacity standards, Section 1956 for exhaust and emission standards, Section 2449 for general use of off-road diesel fueled fleets, and Section 2183 for regular inspections of emissions control system on heavy-duty vehicles. The standards included in these regulations ensure that construction equipment and vehicles are maintained in good working order, are regularly tested, use clean fuels, and overall do not result in inefficient energy use. These measures will increase the efficient use of construction equipment and vehicles to the maximum extent feasible. The Efficiency Plan will be submitted to FWA and Reclamation for review and approval at least 30 days prior to the beginning of construction activities. Such measures will include but not be limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures to ensure that all construction equipment is properly maintained (e.g., ensure that excavators or wheel loaders are not carrying buckets so large that they can cause the vehicle to drag and burn excess fuel) • Requirement to provide options for worker carpooling • A commitment to use existing electricity sources where feasible (for example pumps for dewater wells during construction) rather than using diesel-powered generators 	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirement to use light-emitting diodes (LEDs) for any construction lighting needs Identification of procedures (including routing of haul trips) that will be followed to ensure that all materials and debris hauling is conducted in a fuel-efficient manner 			
GEO-1	Geotechnical investigations will be conducted by a Geotechnical Engineer registered in the State of California, which will include specific design recommendations. Typical geotechnical or engineering measures to reduce impacts related to soil liquefaction or other seismic-related ground failure could include but would not be limited to densifying loose soil, soil improvement with deep cement mixing, and flattening or buttressing slopes.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During project design
GEO-2-1	<p>The construction contractor will prepare a site-specific stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP), which must include approved best management practices (BMPs) to reduce erosion and sedimentation during construction. The SWPPP will establish good housekeeping measures such as construction vehicle storage and maintenance, handling procedures for hazardous materials, and waste management BMPs. The BMPs include procedural and structural measures to prevent release of wastes and materials used at the site. Implementation of the SWPPP will avoid or reduce runoff pollutants at the construction sites to the “maximum extent practicable.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction erosion and sediment control BMPs typically include but are not limited to the following measures: Temporary soil stabilization during site grading and active construction Permanent soil stabilization at construction sites following construction Erosion and sediment controls during construction dewatering activities Control of site run-on and run-off to isolate the work area and prevent onsite or offsite erosion and sediment transport during construction Dust suppression 	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before, during, and after construction
GEO-2-2	To prepare for unexpected failures of erosion control measures, a supply of erosion control materials will be maintained onsite during the construction period to facilitate a quick response to unanticipated storm events or emergencies.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before, during and after construction
GEO-2-3	Disturbed portions of the existing FKC that are removed from active service (i.e., that have been excavated for use as borrow material) that result in new earthen embankment surfaces will have these earthen embankment surfaces stabilized to	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before, during and after construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	reduce the potential for erosion. Stabilization measures may include but are not limited to flattening slopes and providing appropriate drainage paths.			
GEO-5	<p>A Paleontological Resources Awareness Training Program will be prepared before the initiation of any ground-disturbing activity. The training program will present information about the identification and appropriate treatment of paleontological resources that could be inadvertently uncovered during construction.</p> <p>If a potentially significant paleontological resource is encountered during ground-disturbing activities, all construction within a 100-foot radius of the find will immediately cease until a qualified paleontologist determines whether the resource requires further study. All construction contracts for the Project will include a standard inadvertent discovery clause to inform contractors of this requirement. The paleontologist will notify the Kern and Tulare County Resource Management Agencies and the Project proponent of the procedures that must be followed before construction is allowed to resume at the location of the find. If the find is determined to be significant, and the County Resource Management Agencies determine avoidance is not feasible, the paleontologist will design and implement a data recovery plan consistent with applicable standards. The plan will be submitted to the County Resource Management Agencies for review and approval. Upon approval, the plan will be incorporated into the Project.</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before and during construction
HAZ-1-1	<p>During construction, measures to avoid or reduce the potential for accidental spills of pollutants will be implemented. These measures will include but not be limited to the following BMPs, as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction specifications will include the following measures to reduce potential impacts on vegetation and aquatic habitat in the Project area associated with accidental spills of pollutants (e.g., fuel, oil, and grease): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A site-specific spill prevention plan will be implemented for potentially hazardous materials. The plan will include the proper handling and storage of all potentially hazardous materials as well as the proper procedures for cleaning up and reporting any spills. If necessary, containment berms will be constructed to prevent spilled materials from reaching surface water features. ○ Equipment and hazardous materials will be stored 50 feet away from surface water features. ○ Vehicles and equipment used during construction will receive proper and timely maintenance to reduce the potential for mechanical breakdowns that could lead to a spill of hazardous materials. 	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>Maintenance and fueling will be conducted in an area at least 50 feet away from any waterbody or within an adequate fueling containment area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Equipment operating within the ordinary high water mark of any waterbody will use non-toxic vegetable oil rather than traditional hydraulic fluids for operating hydraulic equipment. ○ Plastic materials will be placed under asphaltic concrete paving equipment while not in use to catch and/or contain drips and leaks. ○ Sweeping will be used to prevent sand, gravel, or dirt associated with construction activities from entering storm drains, waterbodies, and streets. ○ Old or spilled asphalt will be recycled or disposed of as approved by the Resident Engineer. ○ Asphalt concrete grindings, pieces, or chunks used in embankments or shoulder backing will not be allowed to enter any storm drain or waterbody. Silt fencing will be installed and remain in place until the structure is stabilized or permanent controls are in place. ○ Petroleum or petroleum-covered aggregate will not be allowed to enter any storm drain or waterbody during application of chip seal or sweeping operations. Silt fencing will be used for containment until installation of chip-sealed surfaces is complete. ○ Only non-toxic substances will be used to coat asphalt transport trucks and asphalt spreading equipment. ○ Drainage inlet structures and manholes will be covered with filter fabric during application of seal coat, tack coat, slurry seal, and/or fog seal. ○ Seal coat, tack coat, slurry seal, or fog seal will not be applied if rainfall is predicted to occur during the application or curing period. ○ Saw-cut Portland concrete cement slurry will not be allowed to enter storm drains or waterbodies. 			
HAZ-1-2	<p>During construction, the following measures will be implemented to reduce construction-related environmental impacts that could result from asbestos removal during demolition of existing bridges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provisions in the construction bid documents will be included to ensure the proper testing and if present, the removal and disposal of asbestos contaminants (e.g., bridge materials). Examples of measures to be included in the construction bid document include but will not be limited to a requirement that the contractor's personnel be qualified to perform their specific duties; the contractor will be responsible for the acquisition of 	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction before removal of bridges

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>specific permits and maintenance of necessary records; the contractor has environmental impairment insurance; and the contractor must be familiar with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations related to worker safety, the generation of hazardous wastes, and waste disposal procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to the start of construction, building material used for the existing bridges proposed for demolition will be tested for asbestos by a state-certified asbestos inspector to determine if bridge materials contain asbestos and what action, according to DHS recommendations and Cal-OSHA requirements, are recommended. If necessary, measures shall include but not be limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If an asbestos contractor is required for the removal of asbestos-containing bridge materials, he or she shall have a valid license issued by the California Contractor's State License Board and be certified by Cal-OSHA. The contractor shall obtain and follow the rules and regulations of the SJVAPCD regarding asbestos. In addition, asbestos waste maintenance and handling shall be overseen by an onsite asbestos removal professional trained in the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) and meeting the EPA's Asbestos Abatement Consultant Certification requirements. • Asbestos-containing building materials will be removed using one of several methods approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Occupational and Safety Hazard Administration, at the contractor's discretion. Acceptable methods include wet scraping or the use of a dustless needle gun connected to a vacuum unit with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter that empties directly into a waste container. The waste container will be properly documented and disposed of at a Class I landfill, such as the Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC, facility in Buttonwillow, California (CAD980675276), or Chemical Waste Management, Inc.'s, Kettleman facility in Kettleman, California (CAT000646117). Additionally, any activity involving the removal of asbestos-containing materials will require notifying the appropriate air quality management district, and removal and disposal may require a permit from the district. 			
HAZ-1-3	<p>The following measure will be used to reduce construction-related environmental impacts that could result from lead-based paint and lead in soils adjacent to roadways where existing bridges will be demolished:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisions in the construction bid documents will be included to ensure the proper testing, and if present, the removal and disposal of lead contaminants 	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction, before removal of bridges or construction within roads

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	<p>(e.g., painted bridge surfaces and soil containing aerially deposited lead). Examples of measures to be included in the construction bid document include but will not be limited to a requirement that the contractor's personnel be qualified to perform their specific duties; the contractor will be responsible for the acquisition of specific permits and maintenance of necessary records; the contractor has environmental impairment insurance; and the contractor must be familiar with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations related to worker safety, the generation of hazardous wastes, and waste disposal procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to the start of construction, painted metal and wood surfaces on the existing bridges proposed for demolition will be tested for the presence of lead paint. Prior to demolition of the structures, painted surfaces should be tested by a state-certified lead inspector to determine if the paint contains lead and what actions are recommended based on DHS recommendations and Cal-OSHA requirements. If lead-based paint is present on the bridge structures, the materials containing the paint shall be handled by an appropriately licensed contractor prior to or during demolition and disposed at a regulated facility such as the Chemical Waste Management facility in Kettleman City, California (DTSC 2019b) that accepts materials containing lead-based paint. • If soil analysis determines that project area soils are considered hazardous waste the soil will be handled in accordance with the California Department of Toxic Substance Control. 			
NOI-1	<p>During construction, noise-reducing measures will be employed as appropriate and to the extent feasible to help decrease construction noise to comply with local ordinances and general plan policies.</p> <p>All construction activities will comply with the Kern County Municipal Code (Chapter 8.36, Noise Control [Section 8.36.020, Prohibited Sounds]), Policy HS-8.18 of the Tulare County General Plan, and Chapter 18 of the City of Porterville Municipal Code (Section 18-90.6.F), depending on where construction activities are occurring. When work outside of the approved hours is needed, (i.e., during nighttime work), the applicable agency (e.g., Tulare County, Kern County or Porterville) shall be consulted prior to such activities occurring and a waiver or exemption shall be obtained. Specifically, under the City of Porterville Municipal Code, Section 18.90.11, applications for a permit for relief can be filed with the city if construction noise cannot be achieved by the provisions set forth in Section 18-90.6.F. Similarly, the Tulare General Plan policy HS-8.18 allows for a permit, and Kern County Municipal Code</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	As needed during construction

Measure No.	Mitigation Measure	Responsible Party	Method of Verification	Timing of Verification
	Section 8.36.020 allows for an exemption of noise from construction work for a limited period of time. At each jurisdiction where nighttime work would be required, the contractor would apply for and obtain the associated permit prior to such activities taking place.			
TRAN-1-1	Clearly marked detour routes will be provided around all construction areas that require road closures. If required by Tulare County, Kern County, or Caltrans, temporary bypass roads will be constructed as necessary to maintain overall connectivity for the traffic circulation system.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction, before any road closures
TRAN-1-2	<p>Prior to construction, the contractor will prepare a traffic control plan that would minimize impacts on through traffic as a result of construction activities. The traffic control plan would be prepared in accordance with the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) (Caltrans 2014) and all applicable requirements of the Tulare County and/or Kern County Department of Public Works, as appropriate. The traffic control plan will be approved by Caltrans and the two counties Public Works departments, as appropriate, prior to construction and implemented at all times during construction of the project. FWA, Reclamation, and their contractors will cooperate with all agencies to obtain the necessary approvals.</p> <p>The traffic control plan shall be prepared by a qualified traffic control specialist and include recommendations for appropriately managing traffic during the construction period by implementing measures such as construction schedule restrictions, signage, and flaggers. Such measures would promote traffic movement during construction to avoid substantial level of service (LOS) degradation (i.e., LOS levels that are less than the county's adopted LOS threshold).</p>	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	Before construction
TRAN-2	Local emergency dispatchers will be notified of temporary road closures associated with bridge/road crossings and informed of the associated detour routes. Short-term impacts to emergency access near bridge/road crossings during construction will be avoided by notifying local emergency dispatchers of any planned road closures. Any identified detour routes would need to maintain the emergency response time of 14 minutes or less to be consistent with NFPA standards.	Reclamation and FWA	Documentation on file with FWA and Reclamation	During construction, before any road closures