

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Transfer of Central Valley Project Water from The Santa Clara Valley Water District to the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority

CGB-FONSI-2020-015



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Interior Region 10 California-Great Basin
California*, Nevada*, Oregon*

*Partial

South-Central California Area Office

March 2020

Mission Statements

The Department of the Interior protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; and honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities.

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.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
South-Central California Area Office, Fresno, California

CGB-FONSI-2020-015

**Transfer of Central Valley Project Water
from The Santa Clara Valley Water
District to the San Joaquin River
Exchange Contractors Water Authority**



Prepared by: Rain L. Emerson
Environmental Compliance Branch Chief

03/06/2020
Date

**ACTING
FOR**



Approved by: Michael P. Jackson, P.E.
Area Manager

03/06/2020
Date

Introduction

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) prepared this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) which is supported by Reclamation's attached Environmental Assessment (EA) entitled *Transfer of Central Valley Project Water from The Santa Clara Valley Water District to the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority*, hereby incorporated by reference.

Background

In December 2019, Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) and the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (Exchange Contractors) developed an exchange agreement to test the feasibility of moving water between their respective agencies. As part of the test, the Exchange Contractors transferred 2,000 acre-feet (AF) of its Central Valley Project (CVP) water to Valley Water under an existing long-term water transfer program. The transfer was previously analyzed by Reclamation pursuant to NEPA; however, the return of Valley Water's CVP water to the Exchange Contractors under their exchange agreement does not have existing NEPA coverage. Therefore, Valley Water has requested approval from Reclamation to return up to 1,500 AF of its available CVP water to the Exchange Contractors.

Alternatives Considered

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, Reclamation would not approve the return of up to 1,500 AF of Valley Water's available CVP water to the Exchange Contractors. The Exchange Contractors would continue to be able to transfer water to Valley Water under their existing long-term transfer program. Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors would not be able to maximize water supplies for their respective agencies under their exchange agreement.

Proposed Action

Reclamation proposes to approve a one-time transfer of up to 1,500 AF of Valley Water's available CVP water to the Exchange Contractors. The transfer would occur within existing facilities and will not require any construction activities, ground disturbance, or additional pumping from the Delta.

Environmental Commitments

For the purposes of this transfer, Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors must implement the environmental protection measures included in Table 1 of CGB-EA_2020-015 to avoid environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action. Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified would be fully implemented.

Comments on the EA

Reclamation provided the public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft EA between February 24, 2020 and March 5, 2020. No comments were received.

Findings

In accordance with NEPA, Reclamation has determined that the approval of the Proposed Action is not a major federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment; consequently, an environmental impact statement is not required.

The following reasons are why the impacts from the Proposed Action are not significant:

- The proposed action will not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)).
- The proposed action will not significantly affect natural resources and unique geographical characteristics such as proximity to historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order (EO) 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3)).
- There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).
- The proposed action will not have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
- The proposed action will neither establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).
- The proposed action will not have cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
- The proposed action will not significantly affect historic properties (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)).
- The proposed action will not significantly affect listed or proposed threatened or endangered species, or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)).
- The proposed action will not threaten a violation of Federal, State, tribal or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)).

- The proposed action will not affect any Indian Trust Assets (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993).
- Implementing the proposed action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898).
- The proposed action will not limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007 and 512 DM 3).

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Final Environmental Assessment

Transfer of Central Valley Project Water from The Santa Clara Valley Water District to the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority

CGB-EA-2020-015



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Interior Region 10 California-Great Basin
California*, Nevada*, Oregon*
*Partial
South-Central California Area Office

February 2020

Mission Statements

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to conserve and manage the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provide scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honor the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper.

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.

Contents

	Page
Section 1 Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Need for the Proposed Action.....	3
Section 2 Alternatives Including the Proposed Action	5
2.1 No Action Alternative.....	5
2.2 Proposed Action.....	5
2.2.1 Environmental Commitments	5
Section 3 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences.....	7
3.1 Resources Eliminated from Further Analysis	7
3.2 Biological Resources	8
3.2.1 Affected Environment.....	8
3.2.2 Environmental Consequences	9
No Action.....	9
Proposed Action.....	9
Cumulative Impacts	10
3.3 Water Resources	10
3.3.1 Affected Environment.....	10
Valley Water	10
Exchange Contractors	10
3.3.2 Environmental Consequences	10
No Action.....	10
Proposed Action.....	10
Cumulative Impacts	11
Section 4 Consultation and Coordination.....	13
4.1 Public Review Period.....	13
4.2 List of Agencies and Persons Consulted.....	13
Section 5 References	15
Figure 1 Proposed Action Area.....	2
Table 1 Environmental Protection Measures and Commitments.	5
Table 2 Resources Eliminated from Further Analysis	7
Appendix A Reclamation’s Cultural Resources Determination	

Section 1 Introduction

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) provided the public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) between February 24, 2020 and March 5, 2020. No comments were received. Changes between this Final EA and the Draft EA, which are not minor editorial changes, are indicated by vertical lines in the left margin of this document.

1.1 Background

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) is a Central Valley Project (CVP) San Felipe Division contractor that provides stream stewardship, wholesale water supply and flood protection for Santa Clara County, California. Valley Water encompasses all of the county's 1,300 square miles (3,400 km²) and serves the area's 15 cities, 2 million residents and more than 200,000 commuters (Figure 1).

The San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (Exchange Contractors) includes the Central California Irrigation District, Firebaugh Canal Water District, San Luis Canal Company and Columbia Canal Company hold certain historic senior water rights to water supplies in the San Joaquin River watershed. In exchange for the CVP's regulation and diversion of San Joaquin River water at Friant Dam for the Friant Division, Reclamation agreed to provide water to the Exchange Contractors from the CVP's Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) supply.

In December 2019, Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors developed an exchange agreement to test the feasibility of moving water between their respective agencies. As part of the test, the Exchange Contractors transferred 2,000 acre-feet of its CVP water to Valley Water under an existing long-term water transfer program. The transfer was previously analyzed by Reclamation pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) under a 2007 Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS) entitled *Groundwater Pumping/Water Transfer Project for 25 Consecutive Years* (Entrix, Inc. 2007). The EA/IS analyzed the transfer of up to 20,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) of substitute water developed by the Exchange Contractors through groundwater pumping (up to 15,000 AFY) and conservation/rotational land fallowing for the following uses: (1) CVP San Luis Unit agricultural service contractors (up to 20,000 AFY), (2) municipal and industrial (M&I) uses in Valley Water (up to 2,000 AFY, and (3) M&I uses in San Luis Water District (up to 5,000 AFY). Based on analysis contained in the EA/IS, Reclamation determined that no significant impacts would occur and a Finding of No Significant Impact was issued on January 14, 2008.

However, the return of Valley Water's CVP water to the Exchange Contractors under their exchange agreement does not have existing NEPA coverage. Therefore, Valley Water has requested approval from Reclamation to return up to 1,500 AF of its available CVP water to the Exchange Contractors.

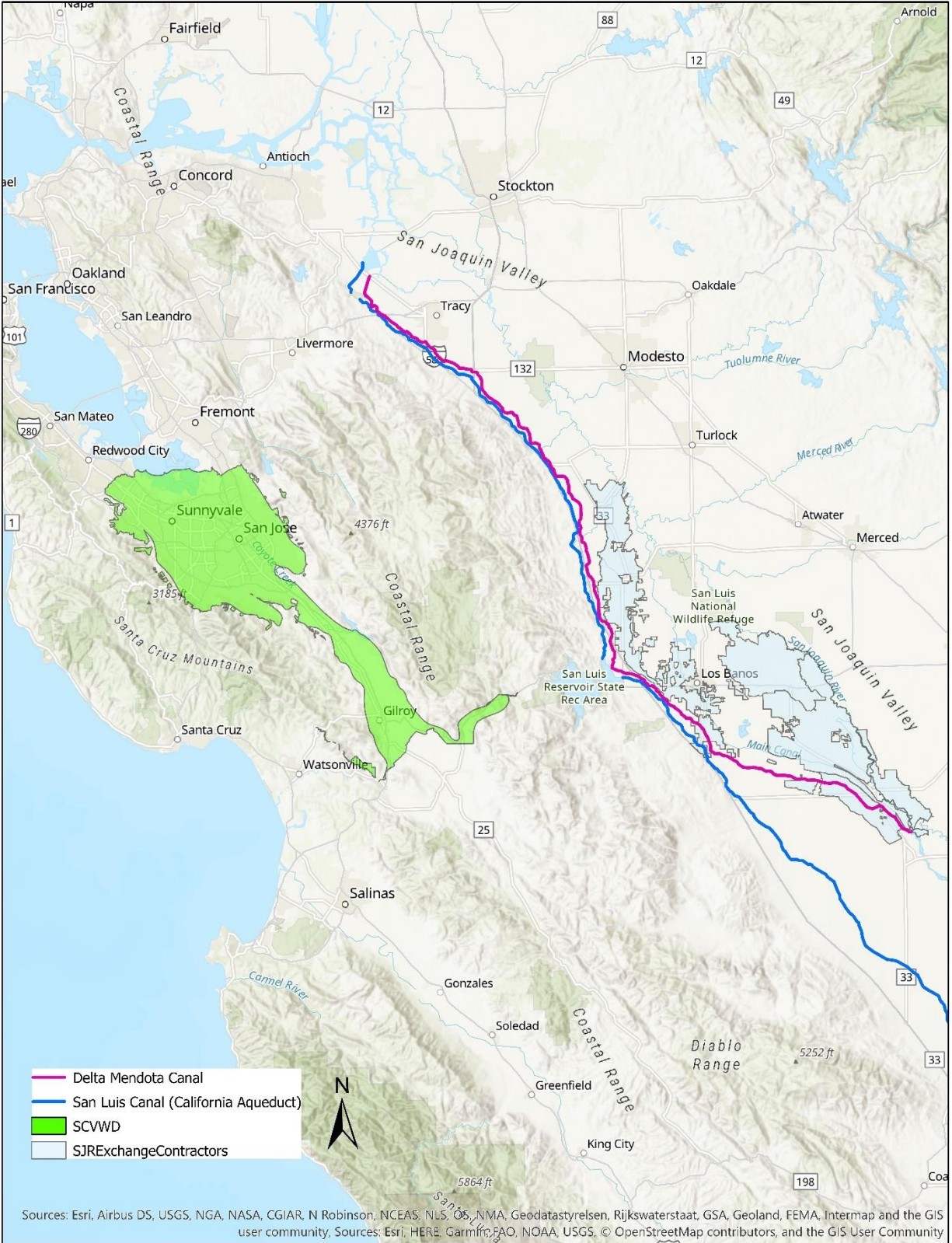


Figure 1 Proposed Action Area

1.2 Need for the Proposed Action

Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors need to maximize available water supplies due to fluctuating hydrological years in order to have a reliable water supply to sustain existing agricultural and M&I operations. The proposed transfer would allow Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors to determine if an exchange program would be feasible between their respective agencies. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors with information to help develop operational flexibility and facilitate better management of available water supplies to meet existing water supply needs.

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Section 2 Alternatives Including the Proposed Action

This EA considers two possible actions: the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action. The No Action Alternative reflects future conditions without the Proposed Action and serves as a basis of comparison for determining potential effects to the human environment.

2.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Reclamation would not approve the return of up to 1,500 AF of Valley Water’s available CVP water to the Exchange Contractors. The Exchange Contractors would continue to be able to transfer water to Valley Water under their existing long-term transfer program. Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors would not be able to maximize water supplies for their respective agencies under their exchange agreement.

2.2 Proposed Action

Reclamation proposes to approve a one-time transfer of up to 1,500 AF of Valley Water’s available CVP water to the Exchange Contractors. The transfer would occur within existing facilities and will not require any construction activities, ground disturbance, or additional pumping from the Delta.

2.2.1 Environmental Commitments

For the purposes of this transfer, Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors must implement the following environmental protection measures to avoid environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action (Table 1).

Table 1 Environmental Protection Measures and Commitments.

Resource	Protection Measure
Biological Resources	No native lands or untilled lands that have been fallowed for three consecutive years or more may be cultivated with the waters described in the Proposed Action.
Biological Resources	The Proposed Action cannot alter the flow regime of natural waterways or natural watercourses such as rivers, streams, creeks, ponds, pools, wetlands, etc., so as to have a detrimental effect on fish or wildlife or their habitats.
Biological Resources	The Proposed Action shall not change the land use patterns of the cultivated or fallowed fields that do have some value to listed species or birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).

Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified would be fully implemented.

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Section 3 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

This section identifies the potentially affected environment and the environmental consequences involved with the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative, in addition to environmental trends and conditions that currently exist.

3.1 Resources Eliminated from Further Analysis

Reclamation analyzed the affected environment and determined that the Proposed Action did not have the potential to cause direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse effects to the resources listed in Table 2.

Table 2 Resources Eliminated from Further Analysis

Resource	Reason Eliminated
Air Quality	No new construction or new facilities would be needed to transfer CVP water from Valley Water to the Exchange Contractors. CVP water would be conveyed through existing facilities and would not require additional pumping outside of existing operations. There would be no impact to air quality, therefore a conformity analysis is not required.
Land Use	No land use change would occur. The Proposed Action involves only the conveyance of water through existing facilities.
Cultural Resources	There would be no impacts to cultural resources as a result of implementing the Proposed Action as the Proposed Action would simply facilitate the flow of water through existing facilities to existing users. No new construction or ground disturbing activities would occur as part of the Proposed Action. Reclamation has determined that these activities have no potential to cause effects to historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1). See Appendix A for Reclamation's determination.
Environmental Justice	The Proposed Action would not cause dislocation, changes in employment, or increase flood, drought, or disease nor would it disproportionately impact economically disadvantaged or minority populations.
Global Climate Change	The Proposed Action does not include construction of new facilities or modification to existing facilities. While pumping would be necessary to deliver CVP water, no additional electrical production beyond baseline conditions would occur. Global climate change is expected to have some effect on the snow pack of the Sierra Nevada and the runoff regime. It is anticipated that climate change would result in more short-duration high-rainfall events and less snowpack runoff in the winter and early spring months by 2030 compared to recent historical conditions (Reclamation 2016, pg 16-26). However, the effects of this are long-term and are not expected to impact CVP operations within the one-year window of this action. Further, CVP water allocations are made dependent on hydrologic conditions and environmental requirements. Since Reclamation operations and allocations are flexible, any changes in hydrologic conditions due to global climate change would be addressed within Reclamation's operation flexibility.
Indian Sacred Sites	The Proposed Action would not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. There would be no impacts to Indian sacred sites as a result of the Proposed Action.
Indian Trust Assets	The Proposed Action would not impact Indian Trust Assets as there are none in the Proposed Action area.

3.2 Biological Resources

3.2.1 Affected Environment

The Proposed Action area consists of the service areas of Valley Water and the Exchange Contractors as well as south-of-Delta CVP facilities that convey CVP water to the Exchange Contractors.

Reclamation requested an official species list for the Valley Water and Exchange Contractor's service areas from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on February 11, 2020 by accessing their database: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/> (USFWS 2020). Reclamation received three official species lists:

- Official Species List, Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC), from the Ventura Field Office. Consultation Code: 08EVEN00-2020-SLI-0256.
- Official Species List, Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC), from the Sacramento Field Office. Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2020-SLI-1014.
- Official Species List, Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) from the Bay-Delta Field Office. Consultation Code: 08FBBDT00-2020-SLI-0103.

Reclamation further queried the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) for records of protected species within the Proposed Action area (CNDDB 2020). These two sources, in addition to other information within Reclamation's files, were combined to create the following lists.

No suitable habitat exists within the Proposed Action Area, or within 5 miles of the Proposed Action Area for the following federally listed species:

- Marbled Murrelet (*Branchyramphus marmoratus*)
- California Condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*)
- Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)
- Alameda Whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*)
- Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*),
- Delta Smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*)
- Tidewater Goby (*Eucyclogobius newberryi*)
- Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*),
- Marsh Sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*)
- Colusa Grass (*Neostapfia colusana*)
- Fountain Thistle (*Cirsium fontinale* var. *fontinale*)
- Hoover's Spurge (*Chamaesyce hooveri*)
- Marin Dwarf-flax (*Hesperolinon congestum*)
- San Mateo Thornmint (*Acanthomintha obovata* ssp. *duttonii*)
- Santa Cruz Tarplant (*Holocarpha macradenia*)
- Showy Indian Clover (*Trifolium amoenum*)
- Tiburon Paintbrush (*Castilleja affinis* ssp. *neglecta*)

The following federally listed species may be present onsite or within 5 miles of the service area boundaries of either Valley Water or the Exchange Contractors (or both):

- Fresno Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys nitratoides exilis*)
- Giant Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys ingens*)
- Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse (*Reithrodontomys ravivnentrus*)
- San Joaquin Kit Fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*)
- California Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*)
- California Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*)
- Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*)
- Western Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*)
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)
- Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard (*Gambelia silus*)
- Giant Garter Snake (*Thamnophis gigas*)
- San Francisco Garter Snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia*)
- California Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*)
- California Red-legged Frog (*Rana draytonii*)
- Santa Cruz Long-toed Salamander (*Ambystoma macrodactylum croceum*)
- Bay Checkerspot Butterfly (*Euphydryas editha bayensis*)
- San Bruno Elfin Butterfly (*Callophrys mossii bayensis*)
- Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*)
- Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*)
- Conservancy Fairy Shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*)
- Monterey Spineflower (*Chorizanthe pungens* var. *pungens*)
- California Seablite (*Suaeda californica*)
- Contra Costa Goldfields (*Lasthenia conjugens*)
- Coyote Ceanothus (*Ceanothus ferrisiae*)
- Metcalf Canyon Jewelflower (*Streptanthus albidus* ssp. *albidus*)
- Palmate-bracted Bird's Beak (*Cordylanthus palmatus*)
- Santa Clara Valley Dudleya (*Dudleya setchellii*)

3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no impact to Federally listed species or migratory birds as current water deliveries in existing facilities would continue. There would be no construction or land disturbing actions.

Proposed Action

The CVP water delivered to the Exchange Contractors under the Proposed Action would be used for existing purposes and would not be used to place untilled lands into production or to convert undeveloped land to other uses. No construction or modification of facilities would be required to deliver the water. With the implementation of the environmental commitments included in Section 2.2.1, Reclamation has determined that there would be No Effect to proposed or listed

species or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq.) and No Take of birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. §703 et seq.).

Cumulative Impacts

As the Proposed Action would have no direct or indirect impacts on Federally listed species or critical habitat, or migratory birds, it would not contribute cumulatively to any impacts to these resources.

3.3 Water Resources

3.3.1 Affected Environment

The Action Area includes currently existing CVP water supplies in San Luis Reservoir and CVP infrastructure that would be used to convey CVP water from San Luis Reservoir to the Exchange Contractors.

Valley Water

Valley Water effectively manages 10 dams and surface water reservoirs, three water treatment plants, an advanced recycled water purification center, and a water quality laboratory. Valley Water also operates nearly 400 acres of groundwater recharge ponds. They provide wholesale water and groundwater management services to local municipalities and private water retailers within Santa Clara County.

Exchange Contractors

The Exchange Contractors service approximately 240,000 acres of prime agricultural land east of I-5 and primarily west of the San Joaquin River. These lands span the counties of Fresno, Madera, Merced, and Stanislaus, from the town of Patterson in the north to Mendota in the south. CVP water from the Delta is received via the Delta-Mendota Canal at the non-federal Mendota Pool.

3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, Valley Water's CVP water would remain available for Valley Water to put to beneficial use when called upon. The Exchange Contractors would continue to receive their existing CVP water supplies through their Exchange Agreement with Reclamation. However, Valley Water would not be able to transfer water to the Exchange Contractors and no information would be available for the agencies to determine a feasible exchange program. Both agencies would need to find additional ways to maximize water supplies and operational flexibility.

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, Valley Water's CVP water would be conveyed via the Delta-Mendota Canal to the Exchange Contractors existing delivery points at the Mendota Pool in the same way they receive their existing CVP Exchange Contract water supplies. No additional Delta pumping would be needed to facilitate this transfer; therefore, the Proposed Action would

not affect CVP operations and would not change existing diversion points from the Delta under Reclamation's water rights permits. The Proposed Action would not interfere with Reclamation's obligations to deliver water to other contractors, wetland habitat areas, or for other environmental purposes.

In addition, the proposed transfer would utilize existing facilities and not require new infrastructure, modification of existing facilities, or ground disturbing activities. The water would be used for existing agricultural purposes. No native or untilled land (fallowed for three years or more) would be cultivated with water involved with these actions.

Cumulative Impacts

As in the past, hydrological conditions and other factors are likely to result in fluctuating water supplies which drive requests for water service actions. Water districts provide water to their customers based on available water supplies and timing, while attempting to minimize costs. Farmers irrigate and grow crops based on these conditions and factors, and a myriad of water service actions are approved and executed each year to facilitate water needs. It is likely that more districts will request exchanges, transfers, and Warren Act Contracts due to hydrologic conditions in the future. Each water service transaction involving Reclamation undergoes environmental review prior to approval.

The Proposed Action and other similar projects would not hinder the normal operations of the CVP or Reclamation's obligation to deliver water to its contractors or to local fish and wildlife habitat. Since the Proposed Action would not involve construction or modification of facilities, there would be no cumulative impacts to existing facilities or other contractors.

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Section 4 Consultation and Coordination

4.1 Public Review Period

Reclamation provided the public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft EA between February 24, 2020 and March 5, 2020. No comments were received.

4.2 List of Agencies and Persons Consulted

Reclamation is coordinating with the following regarding the Proposed Action:

- San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

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Section 5 References

CNDDDB. 2020. California Department of Fish and Game's Natural Diversity Database, Government Version. Updated February 2020.

Entrix, Inc. 2007. Groundwater Pumping/Water Transfer Project for 25 Consecutive Years. Final Environmental Assessment/Initial Study. Prepared for the Bureau of Reclamation and the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority. November 30. Website: https://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/includes/documentShow.php?Doc_ID=3035.

Reclamation. 2016. Chapter 15: Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for the Coordinated Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, pg 16-26. Mid-Pacific Region, Bay-Delta Office.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2020. Official Species List, Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC), from the Ventura Field Office. Consultation Code: 08EVEN00-2020-SLI-0256.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2020. Official Species List, Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC), from the Sacramento Field Office. Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2020-SLI-1014.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2020. Official Species List, Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) from the Bay-Delta Field Office. Consultation Code: 08FBDT00-2020-SLI-0103.

Valley Water News Blog. 2020. Website: <https://valleywaternews.org/about/>.

Appendix A: Reclamation's Cultural Resource Determination

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153)

MP-153 Tracking Number: 20-SCAO-082

Project Name: Transfer of Central Valley Project Water from the Santa Clara Valley Water District to the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority

NEPA Document: EA-20-006

NEPA Contact: Kathleen Linder, Natural Resource Specialist

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Carrie Reichardt, Archaeologist

Date: February 12, 2020

Reclamation proposes to approve a one-time transfer of up to 5,000 acre-feet of Central Valley Project (CVP) water from the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Santa Clara Valley WD) to the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (Exchange Contractors). This is the type of undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, should such properties be present, pursuant to the Title 54 U.S.C. § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 (Section 106) of the National Historic Preservation Act regulations codified at 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1). Reclamation has no further obligations under Section 106, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1).

An agreement between the Santa Clara Valley WD and the Exchange Contractors was signed on December 13, 2019. By this agreement, the Santa Clara Valley WD and the Exchange Contractors are testing the feasibility of water transfers between these two entities. As part of this test, the Exchange Contractors transferred 2,000 acre-feet of water to the Santa Clara Valley WD. In return, pursuant to Section 4 of the agreement, Santa Clara Valley WD proposes to transfer up to 5,000 acre-feet of its CVP water to the Exchange Contractors. This transfer would occur within existing facilities and will not require any construction activities or ground disturbance.

This document is intended to convey the completion of the Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to this project, additional Section 106 review may be necessary, including potential consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.