CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDANCE FOR

“ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE INFORMATION”

Introduction:

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) uses the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process and compliance with federal environmental laws and regulations to satisfy the environmental requirements of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program Operating Agreement between the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Board. The CWSRF Program is partially funded by a capitalization grant from the USEPA. The issuance of funds from the CWSRF Program is equivalent to a federal action, and thus, compliance with federal environmental laws and regulations is required for projects being funded under the CWSRF Program.

All CWSRF Program applicants must submit adequate and complete environmental documentation to the State Water Board. Following submittal of an applicant’s environmental documents, the State Water Board will review the documents to determine if the information is sufficient to document compliance with the CWSRF Program environmental requirements, including making a determination if consultation with federal authorities is required, and may request additional environmental information, when needed. The State Water Board encourages all applicants to initiate early consultation, so that the State Water Board can better streamline the environmental review process.

CEQA Information:

All projects coming to the State Water Board for funding are considered “projects” under CEQA because of the State Water Board’s discretionary decision to approve funding.

Detailed information, including CEQA statutes and guidelines can be found online at the California Natural Resources Agency website at <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa>. A CEQA Process Flowchart that shows interaction points between lead and responsible agencies can be found at <http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/flowchart/index.html>. In addition, State Water Board environmental staff is available to answer questions about the CEQA process, as well as the CWSRF Program environmental requirements. Please contact your assigned Project Manager at the State Water Board, regarding contact information for the appropriate environmental staff.

CEQA requires full disclosure of all aspects of the project, including impacts and mitigation measures that are not only regulated by state agencies, but also by federal agencies. Early consultation with state and federal agencies in the CEQA process will assist in minimizing changes to the project when funding is being requested from the State Water Board.

The types of CEQA documents that may apply to an applicant’s project include one or a combination of the following: 1) Notice of Exemption (NOE); 2) Initial Study and Negative Declaration (ND); 3) Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) with a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP); 4) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) with an MMRP; and/or 5) Addendum, Supplemental and Subsequent ND, MND or EIR. The applicant must determine the appropriate document for its project and submit the supporting information listed under the applicable section of the Environmental Package Checklist for Applicant (Attachment 1), along with a completed copy of the Evaluation Form for Environmental Review and Federal Coordination (Attachment 2). Please submit two copies of all CEQA documents.

The applicant must ensure the CEQA document is specific to the project for which funding is being requested. Program or Master Plan EIRs may not be suitable for satisfying the State Water Board environmental requirements if these documents are not project-specific. When an applicant uses an Addendum, Supplemental or Subsequent CEQA document for a project, the associated Program or Master Plan EIR must also be submitted, especially if the Addendum, Supplemental or Subsequent CEQA document includes references to pertinent environmental and mitigation information contained in the Program or Master Plan EIR.

If the applicant is using a CEQA document that is older than five years, the applicant must re-evaluate environmental and project conditions, and develop and submit an updated environmental document (such as an Addendum, Supplemental or Subsequent CEQA document) based on the results of that re-evaluation. The updated environmental document must be circulated through the State Clearinghouse for public review. The applicant must adopt the final updated environmental document, including any new identified measures, make CEQA findings, and file a Notice of Determination (NOD) with the local county clerk(s) and the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse (State Clearinghouse).

Each applicant, if it is a public agency, is responsible for approving the CEQA documents it uses regardless of whether or not it is a lead agency under CEQA. Non-profit organizations shall only be responsible for approving and ensuring implementation of the applicable project mitigation measures identified in the MMRP. All public agencies applying for CWSRF Program funding shall file either an NOE or an NOD with the State Clearinghouse and the local county clerk(s). Date stamped copies of those notices must be submitted with all the applicable environmental documents.

If the CEQA document was jointly prepared by a federal public governmental agency to satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, then the applicant must submit the corresponding NEPA documents, including a Finding of No Significant Impact, or a Record of Decision completed by the federal NEPA lead agency.

Federal Information:

In addition to CEQA compliance, the State Water Board is required to document environmental compliance with federal environmental laws and regulations, including:

1. Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), Section 7:

The United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the United States Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) must be consulted for any project that will have the potential to adversely impact a federal special-status species. The USEPA delegated the State Water Board to act as the non-federal lead for initiating informal Section 7 ESA consultation with the USFWS. The State Water Board will coordinate with the USEPA for projects requiring formal Section 7 ESA consultation with the USFWS and projects that will impact federal special-status fish species under the NMFS jurisdiction. The USFWS and NMFS must provide written concurrence prior to a CWSRF financing agreement. USFWS and NMFS comments may include conservation measures, for which the applicant’s CWSRF financing agreement will be conditioned to ensure compliance.

For further information on the federal ESA law, regulation, policy, and notices, go to <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/laws-policies/index.html> and <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/laws/esa/>. Note that compliance with both the state and federal ESAs is required of projects having the potential to impact state and federal special-status species. Although overlap exists between the state and federal ESAs, there might be additional or more restrictive state requirements. For further information on the state ESA, refer to the California Department of Fish and Game website at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/cesa/>.

1. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Essential Fish Habitat (EFH):

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended, is designed to manage and conserve national fishery resources. EFH consultations are only required for actions that may adversely effect EFH. The applicant needs to determine whether the proposed project may adversely affect EFH. NMFS is responsible for publishing maps and other information on the locations of designated EFH, and can provide information on ways to promote conservation of EFHs to facilitate this assessment. If a project may adversely affect a designated EFH, the applicant must complete an EFH consultation.

The State Water Board will coordinate with the USEPA to request an EFH consultation from the NMFS. NMFS is required to respond informally or in writing. NMFS comments may include conservation measures, for which the applicant’s CWSRF financing agreement will be conditioned to ensure compliance. For more information, see the brochure at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/reg_svcs/Council%20stuff/council%20orientation/2007/2007TrainingCD/TabT-EFH/EFH_CH_Handout_Final_3107.pdf>.

3. National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Section 106:

The NHPA focuses on federal compliance. Section 106 requires Federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. The Section 106 process seeks to accommodate historic preservation concerns with the needs of Federal undertakings through consultation among the agency official and other parties with an interest in the effects of the undertaking on historic properties. The goal of consultation is to identify historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking, assess its effects and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties. The Section 106 compliance efforts and reports must be prepared by a qualified researcher that meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards ([www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch\_stnds\_9.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch_stnds_9.htm)).

In addition, CEQA requires that impacts to cultural and historic resources be analyzed. The “CEQA and Archeological Resources” section from the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research CEQA Technical Advice Series states that the lead agency obtains a current records search from the appropriate California Historical Resources Information System Center. Also, to contact the Native American tribes that are culturally affiliated with a project area from the list obtained from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

The NAHC can be contacted at:

 915 Capitol Mall, Room 364

 Sacramento, CA 95814

 Tele: (916) 653-4082

4. Clean Air Act:

For CWSRF financed projects, we recommend including a general conformity section in the CEQA documents so that another public review process will not be needed, should a conformity determination be required. The applicant should check with its local air quality management district and review the Air Resources Board [California air emissions map](http://www.arb.ca.gov/ei/maps/statemap/abmap.htm) for information on the State Implementation Plan. For information on the analysis steps involved in evaluating air quality conformity, please contact the State Water Board environmental staff through the assigned Project Manager.

5. Coastal Zone Management Act:

Projects proposing construction in the Coastal Zone will require consultation with either the California Coastal Commission (or the designated local agency with a Local Coastal Program), or the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (for projects located in the San Francisco Bay area). The applicant must submit a copy of the approved Coastal Development permit to the State Water Board to satisfy this requirement.

For more information on Coastal Zone Management Act requirements refer to the following agencies websites:

* United States Coastal Zone Boundaries through the NMFS website at <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/mystate/docs/StateCZBoundaries.pdf>;
* California Coastal Commission website at <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccatc.html>; and/or
* San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission website at <http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/>.

6. Coastal Barriers Resources Act:

The Coastal Barriers Resources Act is intended to discourage development in the Coastal Barrier Resources System and adjacent wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and near-shore waters. Since there is no designated Coastal Barrier Resources System in California, no impacts from California projects are expected. However, should the applicant believe there may be impacts to the Coastal Barrier Resources System due to special circumstances, please use the following information as a guide.

During the planning process, the applicant should consult with the appropriate Coastal Zone management agency (e.g., City or County with an approved Local Coastal Program, the California Coastal Commission, or the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission) to determine if the project will have an effect on the Coastal Barrier Resources System. If the project will have an effect on the Coastal Barrier Resources System, the State Water Board must consult with the appropriate Coastal Zone management agency and the USFWS. Any recommendations from the Coastal Zone management agency and USFWS will be incorporated into the project’s design prior to approval of CWSRF financing.

For more information and to ensure that no modifications to Coastal Barrier Resources System have occurred, please visit: <http://www.fws.gov/CBRA/>.

7. Farmland Protection Policy Act:

Projects involving impacts to farmland designated as prime and unique, local and statewide importance, or under a Williamson Act Contract, will require consultation with the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and/or California Department of Conservation. For more information on the Farmland Protection Policy Act go to <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/fppa>, and regarding the Williamson Act Contact go to <http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/lca>.

8. [Floodplain Management](http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/ehplaws/eo11988.shtm) – Executive Order 11988:

Each agency shall take action to reduce the risk of flood loss, to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare, and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains in carrying out its responsibilities. Before taking an action, each agency shall determine whether the proposed action will occur in a designated floodplain. The generally established standard for risk is the flooding level that is expected to occur every 100 years. If an agency determines or proposes to, conduct, support, or allow an action to be located in a floodplain, the agency shall consider alternatives to avoid adverse effects and incompatible development in the floodplains.

For further information regarding [Floodplain Management](http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/ehplaws/eo11988.shtm) requirements, please consult the United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency website at <http://www.fema.gov>, as well as the USEPA floodplain management Executive Order 11988 at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/regs/eo11988.html>.

9. Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA):

The MBTA restricts the killing, taking, collecting and selling or purchasing of native bird species or their parts, nests, or eggs. The MBTA, along with subsequent amendments to this act, provides legal protection for almost all breeding bird species occurring in the United States and must be addressed under CEQA. In the CEQA document, each agency must make a finding that a project will comply with the MBTA. For further information, please consult the Migratory Bird Program through the USFWS website at <http://www.fws.gov/laws/lawsdigest/migtrea.html>.

10. Protection of Wetlands – Executive Order 11990:

Projects, regardless of funding, must get approval for any temporary or permanent disturbance to federal and state waters, wetlands, and vernal pools. The permitting process through the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) can be lengthy, and may ultimately require project alterations to avoid wetlands and waters of the United States. Applicants must consult with the USACE early in the planning process if any portion of the project site contains wetlands, or other federal waters. The USACE Wetland Delineation Manual is available at <http://www.wetlands.com/regs/tlpge02e.htm>. Also note that the California State Water Boards are involved in providing approvals through the Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification Program and/or Waste Discharge Requirements. For more information, please go to <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/index.shtml>.

11. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act:

There are construction restrictions or prohibitions for projects near or in a designated “wild and scenic river.” A listing of designated “wild and scenic rivers” can be obtained at

<http://www.rivers.gov/rivers/california.php>. Watershed information can be obtained through the “Watershed Browser” at <http://cwp.resources.ca.gov/map_tools.php>.

12. Safe Drinking Water Act, Source Water Protection:

Projects must comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act and document whether or not a project has the potential to contaminate a sole source aquifer. For projects impacting a listed sole source aquifer, the applicant must identify an alternative project location, or develop adequate mitigating measures in consultation with the USEPA. For more information, please go to the Sole Source Aquifer Program website at <http://epa.gov/region09/water/groundwater/ssa.html>.

13. Environmental Justice – Executive Order No. 12898:

Identify and address any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of the project’s activities on minority and low-income populations. USEPA has defined environmental justice as “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.”

*Fair Treatment* means that no group of people should bear a disproportionate burden of environmental harms and risks, including those resulting from the negative consequences of industrial, governmental, and commercial operations or programs and policies.

*Meaningful Involvement* means that: 1) potentially affected community members have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health; 2) the public’s contribution can influence the agency’s decision; 3) the concerns of all participants involved will be considered in the decision-making process; and 4) the decision-makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.

The term “environmental justice concern” is used to indicate the actual or potential lack of fair treatment or meaningful involvement of minority, low-income, or indigenous populations, or tribes in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Your project may involve an “environmental justice concern” if the project could:

1. Create new disproportionate impacts on minority, low-income, or indigenous populations;
2. Exacerbate existing disproportionate impacts on minority, low-income, or indigenous populations; or
3. Present opportunities to address existing disproportionate impacts on minority, low-income, or indigenous populations that are addressable through the project.

Environmental[[1]](#footnote-1) Package Checklist

For Applicant

**(What to Submit to Project Manager)**

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| **Required for all CWSRF Projects:*** **Evaluation Form for Environmental Review and Federal Coordination with the substantiating information** (i.e. USFWS species list/biological assessment, cultural resources documentation, air quality data, flood map etc.)
* **Project Report, Scope of Work and Map(s)**

**Based on the type of CEQA documents prepared for the project, provide additional information as identified in the following boxes.** |
| If project is covered under a **CEQA Categorical or Statutory Exemption**, submit a copy of the following:* **Notice of Exemption** (filed and date stamped by the county clerk and the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research)
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| If project is covered under a **Negative Declaration**, submit a copy of the following:* **Draft and Final Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND)**
* Comments and Responses to the Draft IS/ND
* **Resolution approving the CEQA documents**
* Adopting the Negative Declaration
* Making CEQA Findings
* **Notice of Determination** (filed and date stamped by the county clerk and the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research)
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| If project is covered under a **Mitigated Negative Declaration**, submit a copy of the following:* **Draft and Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)**
* Comments and Responses to the Draft IS/MND
* Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan/Program (MMRP)
* **Resolution approving the CEQA documents**
* Adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the MMRP
* Making CEQA Findings
* **Notice of Determination** (filed and date stamped by the county clerk and the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research)
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| If project is covered under an **Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**, submit a copy of the following:* **Draft and Final EIR**
* Comments and Responses to the Draft EIR
* Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan/Program (MMRP)
* **Resolution approving the CEQA documents**
* Certifying the EIR and adopting the MMRP
* Making CEQA Findings
* Adopting a Statement of Overriding Considerations for any adverse environmental impact(s), if applicable
* **Notice of Determination** (filed and date stamped by the county clerk and the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research)

If EIR is a joint CEQA/National Environmental Policy Act document (EIR/Environmental Impact Statement or EIR/Environmental Assessment), submit the applicable Record of Decision and/or the Finding of No Significant Impact. |

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board)

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program

Evaluation Form for Environmental Review and Federal Coordination

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| **CWSRF No.:** |  |
| **Applicant Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |
| **Project Title:** |  |

1. **Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), Section 7:**
**Does the project involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement that may affect federally listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat that are known, or have a potential, to occur on-site, in the surrounding area, or in the service area?**
	1. **Required documents: Attach project-level biological surveys, evaluations analyzing the project’s direct and indirect effects on special-status species, and an up-to-date species list (from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Natural Diversity Database) for the project area.**

[ ]  No. Discuss why the project will not impact any federally listed special status species:

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[ ]  Yes. Provide information on federally listed species that could potentially be affected by this project and any proposed avoidance and compensation measures so that the State Water Board can initiate informal/formal consultation with the applicable federally designated agency. Document any previous ESA consultations that may have occurred for the project. Include any comments below:

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1. **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Essential Fish Habitat:**

**Does the project involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement that may adversely affect essential fish habitat?**

[ ]  No. Discuss why the project will not impact essential fish habitat:

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[ ]  Yes. Provide information on essential fish habitat that could potentially be affected by this project and any proposed avoidance and compensation measures. Document any consultations with the National Marine Fisheries Service that may have occurred for the project. Include any comments below:

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1. **National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106:
Identify the area of potential effects (APE), including construction, staging areas, and depth of any excavation. (Note: the APE is three dimensional and includes all areas that may be affected by the project, including the surface area and extending below ground to the depth of any project excavations).**
* **Required documents: Cultural Resources Assessment** prepared by aprepared by a qualified researcher that meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards ([www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch\_stnds\_9.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch_stnds_9.htm)). **Current records search** with maps showing all sites and surveys drawn in relation to the project area, records of **Native American consultation**, and a **consultation letter** for the State Water Board to use to consulate with the State Historic Preservation Officer. Include any comments below:

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1. **Federal Clean Air Act:**

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|  **Identify Air Basin Name:** |  |
|  **Name of the Local Air District for Project Area:** |  |

**Is the project subject to a State Implementation Plan (SIP) conformity determination?**

[ ]  No. The project is in an attainment or unclassified area for all federal criteria pollutants.

[ ]  Yes. The project is in a nonattainment area or attainment area subject to maintenance plans for a federal criteria pollutant. Include information to indicate the nonattainment designation (e.g. moderate, serious, severe, or extreme), if applicable. If estimated emissions (below) are above the federal de minimis levels, but the project is sized to meet only the needs of current population projections that are used in the approved SIP for air quality, then quantitatively indicate how the proposed capacity increase was calculated using population projections.

* **The Lead Agency shall provide the estimated project construction and operational air emissions (in tons per year) in the chart below, and attach supporting calculations, regardless of attainment status**
* **Also, attach any air quality studies that may have been done for the project.**

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| **Pollutant** | **Federal Status (Attainment, Nonattainment, Maintenance, or Unclassified)** | **Nonattainment Rates** **(i.e., moderate, serious, severe, or extreme)** | **Threshold of Significance for Project Air Basin** **(if applicable)** | **Construction Emissions (Tons/Year)** | **Operation Emissions (Tons/Year)** |
| **Ozone (O3)**  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Carbon Monoxide (CO)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Reactive Organic Gases (ROG)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Lead (Pb)**  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Particulate Matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Particulate Matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM10)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sulfur Dioxide (SO2)** |  |  |  |  |  |

1. **Coastal Zone Management Act:**
**Is any portion of the project site located within the coastal zone?**

[ ]  No. The project is not within the coastal zone.

[ ]  Yes. Describe the project location with respect to coastal areas and the status of the coastal zone permit, and provide a copy of the coastal zone permit or coastal exemption:

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1. **Coastal Barriers Resources Act:**
**Will the project impact or be located within or near the Coastal Barrier Resources System or its adjacent wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and near-shore waters? Note that since there is currently no Coastal Barrier Resources System in California, projects located in California are not expected to impact the Coastal Barrier Resources System in other states. If there is a special circumstance in which the project may impact a Coastal Barrier Resource System, indicate your reasoning below.**

[ ]  No. The project will not impact or be located within or near the Coastal Barrier Resources System or its adjacent wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and near-shore waters.

[ ]  Yes. Describe the project location with respect to the Coastal Barrier Resources System, and the status of any consultation with the appropriate Coastal Zone management agency and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service:

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1. **Farmland Protection Policy Act:**
**Is any portion of the project located on important farmland?**

[ ]  No. The project will not impact farmland.

[ ]  Yes. Include information on the acreage that would be converted from important farmland to other uses. Indicate if any portion of the project boundaries is under a Williamson Act Contract and specify the amount of acreage affected:

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1. **Flood Plain Management:
Is any portion of the project located within a 100-year floodplain as depicted on a floodplain map or otherwise designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency?**
* **Required documents: Attach a floodplain map.**

[ ]  No. Provide a description of the project location with respect to streams and potential floodplains:

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[ ]  Yes. Describe the floodplain, and include a floodplains/wetlands assessment. Describe any measures and/or project design modifications that would be implemented to minimize or avoid project impacts:

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1. **Migratory Bird Treaty Act:
Will the project affect protected migratory birds that are known, or have a potential, to occur on-site, in the surrounding area, or in the service area?**

[ ] No. Provide an explanation below.

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[ ] Yes. Discuss the impacts (such as noise and vibration impacts, modification of habitat) to migratory birds that may be directly or indirectly affected by the project and mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate these impacts. Include a list of all migratory birds that could occur where the project is located:

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1. **Protection of Wetlands:
Does any portion of the project boundaries contain areas that should be evaluated for wetland delineation or require a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers?**

[ ]  No. Provide the basis for such a determination:

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[ ]  Yes. Describe the impacts to wetlands, potential wetland areas, and other surface waters, and the avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to reduce such impacts. Provide the status of the permit and information on permit requirements:

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1. **Wild and Scenic Rivers Act:**

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|  **Identify watershed where the project is located:**  |  |

**Is any portion of the project located within a wild and scenic river?**

[ ]  No. The project is not located near a wild and scenic river.

[ ]  Yes. Identify the wild and scenic river watershed and project location relative to the affected wild and scenic river:

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1. **Safe Drinking Water Act, Sole Source Aquifer Protection:**
**Is the project located in an area designated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, as a Sole Source Aquifer?**

[ ]  No. The project is not within the boundaries of a sole source aquifer.

[ ]  Yes. Contact USEPA, Region 9 staff to consult, and identify the sole source aquifer (e.g., Santa Margarita Aquifer, Scott’s Valley, the Fresno County Aquifer, the Campo/Cottonwood Creek Aquifer or the Ocotillo-Coyote Wells Aquifer) that will be impacted:

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1. **Environmental Justice:**
**Does the project involve an activity that is likely to be of particular interest to or have particular impact upon minority, low-income, or indigenous populations, or tribes?**

[ ] No. Selecting “No” means that this action is not likely to be of any particular interest to or have an impact on these populations or tribes. Explain.

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[ ] Yes. If you answer yes, please check at least one of the boxes and provide a brief explanation below:

 [ ]  The project is likely to impact the health of these populations.

 [ ]  The project is likely to impact the environmental conditions of these populations.

[ ]  The project is likely to present an opportunity to address an existing disproportionate impact of these populations.

[ ]  The project is likely to result in the collection of information or data that could be used to assess potential impacts on the health or environmental conditions of these populations.

 [ ]  The project is likely to affect the availability of information to these populations.

 [ ]  Other reasons, describe:

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1. If the CEQA document is more than five years old applicant shall provide an updated CEQA document (eg. subsequent, supplemental, or addendum CEQA documents) or a letter that describes the current status of the environmental condition for the project’s location. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)