

8. Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice

8.1 Overview

8.1.1 Introduction

The socioeconomic resource discussion includes population, housing, schools, employment, income, earnings, use fees, and Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and an examination of the potential for environmental justice issues. The population analysis identifies the number of residents in the area, the recent change in population growth, and growth forecasts. Housing includes the most currently available number of units and vacancy rates. School enrollment and capacity are important considerations in assessing the effects of potential growth. The economic data includes current conditions and trends for labor force, employment and employment rates, unemployment rates, and labor sectors. Earnings-by-industry provides a measure of the health of local business activity. Income information is provided as an annual total by county and as per capita income.

On February 11, 1994, President Clinton signed Executive Order (EO) 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations. It requires Federal agencies to identify and avoid disproportionate impacts from its projects on minority or low-income communities. The most recently available data on ethnic composition and populations living in poverty in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties and the communities nearest to New Melones Lake are presented to identify the likelihood of encountering environmental justice issues.

8.1.2 Specific Mandates and Authority

- **Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations.** This EO requires that Federal Agencies make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 [“ADA”], As Amended.** The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, State and local government, public accommodations, commercial facilities, transportation.

8.1.3 Other Plans That Will Be Considered

Surrounding communities have established master plans that address socioeconomic issues. These plans include:

- The Calaveras County General Plan
- The Tuolumne County General Plan
- Sonora General Plan
- Angels Camp General Plan, and;
- Community plans for Copperopolis, Murphys, and Jamestown.

All of these plans share a common objective to work with businesses, government agencies, and surrounding communities for increased economic success. Through management of the New Melones Lake Area, Reclamation also has an opportunity to work with the surrounding local governments to benefit local employment, income, and revenue and with other Federal agencies with adjacent lands to provide complementary management.

Both the Tuolumne County and Calaveras County General Plans establish a goal to maintain open space and buffer areas around the urbanizing communities. The management of the New Melones Lake Area for public use complements this objective. Another goal set forth in the Calaveras County General Plan is to lobby for Federal and state legislation that would require recreation areas to fund construction and maintenance of local facilities supporting regional recreation resources (Calaveras County 1996c), which is not currently an element in the New Melones Lake Area Master Plan.

8.1.4 Trends

Between 2000 and 2030, the population growth in Calaveras County is estimated at 72.6 percent and the population growth in Tuolumne County is expected to be 24.8 percent. The percentage of minorities in both counties has increased since 2000 and is projected to continue to increase. The area around New Melones Lake Area has been known historically for its minerals and timber industries, but these industries have been declining as sources of employment and income, as government, tourism and recreation, services, and construction have become increasingly important. Increases in tourism and recreation have generated additional employment in the leisure and hospitality sector and in construction. The trend from a mineral and timber rich employment area to a greater recreation and tourism rich employment area is expected to continue.

8.2 Socioeconomics

8.2.1 Current Conditions

Population. Table R-67 presents population figures for California, Calaveras, and Tuolumne Counties and the communities closest to New Melones Lake Area. Between 1990 and 2000, the population of all of these areas increased, and the rate of population growth was greater than the state average of 14.3 percent in Calaveras County (25.9 percent), Angels Camp (25.7 percent), and Murphys (35.9 percent). The population of Tuolumne County increased by less than the state

Table R-67: County Population Estimates 1990-2000

Location	1990	2000	Percent Change 1990-2000	2006	Percent Change 2000-2006
California ¹	29,828,473	34,098,744	14.3%	37,172,015	9.0%
Calaveras County ¹	32,470	40,890	25.9%	45,711	11.8%
Angels Camp ²	2,409	3,004	24.7%	3,576	19.0%
Copperopolis ²	NA	2,363	NA	NA	NA
Murphys ²	1,517	2,061	35.9%	NA	NA
Tuolumne County ¹	48,719	54,946	12.8%	58,231	6.0%
Jamestown ²	2,178	3,017	38.5%	NA	NA
Sonora ²	4,153	4,423	6.5%	4,804	8.6%

Notes: NA = Not available

Sources: ¹California Department of Finance 2004a; ²California Department of Finance 2006c; ³US Census Bureau 1990 and 2000a

average (12.8 percent), and Sonora's population increased by substantially less (6.5 percent) than that of the other localities in the New Melones Lake Area (US Census Bureau 1990, 2000a; California Department of Finance 2004).

Between 2000 and 2006, Angels Camp experienced the greatest population percentage increase (19.0 percent), and Sonora's population also increased by 8.6 percent, which is greater than the county average of 6.0 percent (US Census Bureau 2000a; California Department of Finance 2006c). Population increases for both counties were the result of predominantly domestic net migration (California Department of Finance 2006a).

Visitors in Calaveras County seeking recreation and open space have changed the economy and land use patterns, resulting in new subdivisions, including both seasonal and permanent homes. According to the Calaveras County General Plan, in 2000, 96.2 percent of Calaveras County residents lived in the unincorporated portion of the county, and 66.1 percent of that population lived in small towns (Calaveras County 1996c). Approximately 21.5 percent of Tuolumne County is privately owned, and the population density on private land is about 104 people per square mile. The population tends to be dispersed throughout small towns of mixed use surrounded by large expanses of open space consisting of agriculture, native vegetation, and low-density development. It is Tuolumne County's policy to preserve open space between these communities. Almost 10 percent of Tuolumne County's population is in institutions, such as assisted living and long-term care. The largest portion of the institutionalized population, more than 4,000 men, is in the state prison outside of Jamestown (Tuolumne County 2005).

Chart R-1 shows projected population growth from 2000 to 2030 (approximately 20 years from the present). Chart R-1 indicates that although the 2000 population of Calaveras County is smaller than that of Tuolumne County, by 2030 it is projected to exceed Tuolumne County's population by 2,011 (Table R-67). Also, as presented in Table R-68, between 2000 and 2030, the population growth in Calaveras County (72.6 percent) is expected to exceed the state average (41.3 percent); in Tuolumne County (24.8 percent) population growth is expected to be below the state average.

Chart R-1

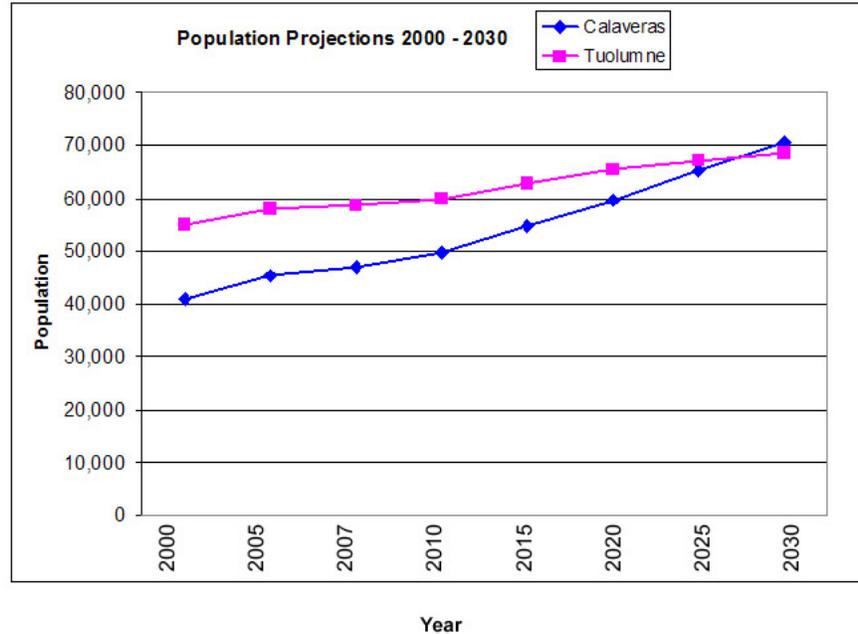


Table R-68: County Population Projections 2000 and 2030

County	2000	2030	2000-2030 Change	2000-2030 Percent Change
California	34,043,198	48,110,671	14,067,473	41.3
Calaveras	40,890	70,577	29,687	72.6
Tuolumne	54,946	68,566	13,620	24.8

Source: California Department of Finance 2004

Housing. Table R-69 presents 1990, 2000, and 2006 housing data for Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties, Angels Camp, and Sonora, as well as for California. Between 1990 and 2000, the total number of housing units and the number of occupied units in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties and Angels Camp increased by more than the state averages of 9.2 percent total and 10.8 percent occupied. In Sonora between 1990 and 2000, the total number of housing units increased by more than occupancy, resulting in a vacancy increase of from 6.5 to 6.6 percent; both values increased by less than the state average. Between 2000 and 2006 the total number of housing units and the number of occupied units increased by a percentage similar to or above the state average. Angels Camp experienced the greatest percentage increase, with a 22.9 percent rise in the number of units and a 22.8 percent rise in the number of occupied units. Of the two cities in the New Melones area, Sonora had the lower vacancy rate at 6.6 percent, and of the two counties in the New Melones area, Tuolumne County had the lower vacancy rate at 25.9 percent. All vacancy rates shown for the New Melones area were higher than the state average of 5.9 percent in 2006 (California Department of Finance 2000, 2006c).

Table R-69: County Housing Estimates 1990, 2000, and 2006

Location	Year	Total	Occupied	Percent Vacant
California	1990	11,182,513	10,380,856	7.2
	2000	12,214,550	11,502,871	5.8
	Percent Change 1990-2000	9.2	10.8	
	2006	13,138,670	12,367,468	5.9
	Percent Change 2000-2006	7.6	7.5	
	Percent Change 1990-2006	17.5	19.1	
Calaveras County				
	1990	19,153	12,649	34.0
	2000	22,946	16,469	28.2
	Percent Change 1990-2000	19.8	30.2	
	2006	26,685	19,171	28.2
	Percent Change 2000-2006	16.3	16.4	
Angels Camp				
	1990	1,229	1,107	9.9
	2000	1,422	1,286	9.6
	Percent Change 1990-2000	15.7	16.2	
	2006	1,747	1,579	9.6
	Percent Change 2000-2006	22.9	22.8	
Tuolumne County				
	1990	25,175	17,959	28.7
	2000	28,336	21,004	25.9
	Percent Change 1990-2000	12.6	17.0	
	2006	30,071	22,298	25.9
	Percent Change 2000-2006	6.1	6.2	
Sonora				
	1990	2,084	1,949	6.5

Location	Year	Total	Occupied	Percent Vacant
	2000	2,197	2,051	6.6
	Percent Change 1990-2000	5.4	5.2	
	2006	2,365	2,208	6.6
	Percent Change 2000-2006	7.6	7.7	
	Percent Change 1990-2006	13.5	13.3	

Sources: California Department of Finance 2000, 2006c

As shown in Table R-70, since 2000, housing values in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties increased by less than the state average. The median value in Tuolumne County went up by more than that in Calaveras County, resulting in similar current median values (\$221,731 and \$219,990). Median housing values for the state and both counties were higher than the national average of \$136,625 (US Census Bureau 2000b; Reply.com 2007a, 2007b).

Table R-70: Median Housing Value

Location	Year	Median (dollars)
California	2000	\$211,500
	2007	\$346,606
	% Change	63.9%
Calaveras County	2000	\$156,900
	2007	\$219,990
	% Change	40.2%
Tuolumne County	2000	\$149,800
	2007	\$221,731
	% Change	48.0%

Sources: US Census Bureau 2000b; Reply.com 2007a, 2007b

The 2001-2009 Housing Element of the General Plan for unincorporated Calaveras County identifies the typical residence as a single-family structure, built in 1981. Based on 2003 and 2004 actual housing costs and 2003 income limits for a family of three or four, the availability of affordable “typical” housing is limited. In addition, in 2003, 4.4 percent of the housing in unincorporated Calaveras County was overcrowded, whereas, 2.2 percent of housing in Angels Camp was overcrowded. Approximately 65 percent of overcrowded units were owner occupied (Calaveras County 2005).

Angels Camp is the only incorporated city in Calaveras County. The typical Angels Camp residence in 2003 was a rented single-family structure built in 1968. The City estimates that an additional 282 housing units will be needed between 2001 and 2009 to accommodate growth resulting from newly created, mainly minimum wage commercial and service jobs.

Approximately 38 percent would be affordable housing for very low- and low-income families. The primary constraints to new housing development are limitations in water and wastewater infrastructure (City of Angels Camp 2006).

According to the Tuolumne County General Plan Housing Element Update, housing affordability is the primary concern of residents, particularly since the average Tuolumne County family of four at the median income level is able to afford the purchase of a \$190,000 home. The median price of a home in Tuolumne County was \$220,000 in 2003, and the average price was \$245,000 (Tuolumne County 2003b).

Schools. In the 2005 to 2006 school year there were 29 active public schools in Calaveras County, with a total enrollment of 6,861 and student to teacher ratio of 21.1 (Education Data Partnership 2007a). Of these schools, six were in Angels Camp, two were in Copperopolis, and one was in Murphys (NCES 2007). The average class size in these schools was 25.4, which is lower than the state average of 27.3. A total of 7,733 students were enrolled in 44 public schools in Tuolumne County during the 2005 to 2006 school year (Education Data Partnership 2007b). Seventeen of these schools were in Sonora (NCES 2007). The student to teacher ratio was 18.9, and the average class size was 24.0, which was below the state average. The student to teacher ratio in each of the two New Melones Area counties was below the state average of 21.4 (Education Data Partnership 2007c). Enrollment in Calaveras County is projected to increase by 6.2 percent by 2015 to 7,290. In Tuolumne County enrollment is forecast to decline by 3.4 percent to 7,467 by 2015 (California Department of Finance 2006b).

Employment and Income. Unemployment rates are a key indicator of the health of local economies. They reflect the ability of employers to provide the numbers and types of jobs needed by the labor force and the ability of the labor force to supply the skills and availability needed by employers (Tuolumne County 2005). Table R-71 provides labor force and employment data in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties and California. The unemployment rate in both Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties (5.9 and 3.1 percent) is above the state average (5.4 percent), despite increased economic diversity in these two counties (California Employment Development Department 2006; Calaveras County 1996c; Tuolumne County 2005).

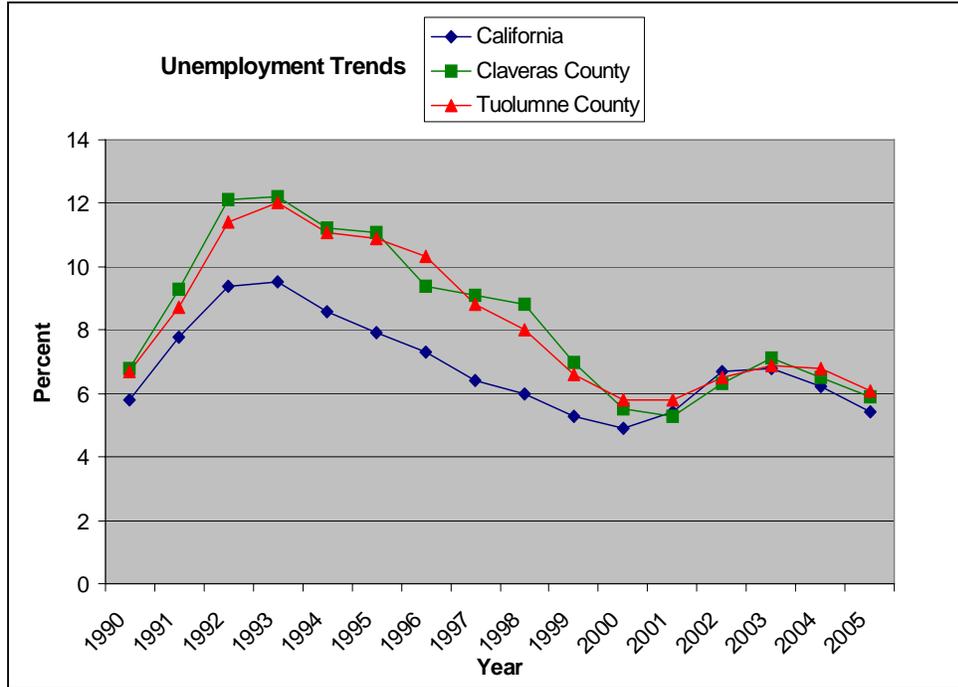
Table R-71: County Employment Statistics (2005)

County	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
California	17,695,600	16,746,900	948,700	5.4%
Calaveras County	20,620	19,410	1,210	5.9%
Tuolumne County	26,080	24,480	1,600	6.1%

Source: California Employment Development Department 2006

As shown on Chart R-2, since hitting a high point in 1992 unemployment in the two study area counties and in the state has been declining in general, except during the recession in 2001 through the recovery in 2004. It is during a portion of this period that the unemployment rate in the two project area counties fell below that of the state, probably due to the differing industry mix in the project area counties, as compared with the state as a whole (California Employment Development Department 2006).

Chart R-2



Source: California Employment Development Department 2006

Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties are part of the Mother Lode region, which includes El Dorado, Amador, and Mariposa Counties. This area has been known historically for its minerals and timber industries, but these industries have been declining as sources of employment and income, as government, tourism and recreation, services, and construction have become increasingly important. Increases in tourism and recreation have generated additional employment in the leisure and hospitality sector and in construction. Newly created jobs in the leisure and hospitality sector are often entry-level, low-wage commercial and service positions, which may provide income to local families insufficient to afford adequate housing (City of Angels Camp 2004; Tuolumne County 2005). Increases in construction have helped to boost employment in the timber industry in the project area counties. In Tuolumne County, recent job losses have occurred in manufacturing, a sector that typically contributes more to the economy than growing sectors of government, services, and construction (Tuolumne County 2005).

Table R-72 provides a breakdown of the project area counties' percentage employment by sector and average sector growth between 1990 and 2000 and between 2000 and 2005. In 2005 most employment in the project area counties and the state was in the services industries (80.1 in Calaveras County, 8.4 percent in Tuolumne County, and 81.6 percent in California); however, unlike the state, where most jobs in this group are in professional and business services, hospitality and leisure is the largest private services sector in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties (13.0 and 12.9 percent). The education and health services sector employs a similar number of Tuolumne County residents (12.1 percent). Government is the largest services sector in the project area counties and the state (80.1 in Calaveras County, 8.4 percent in Tuolumne County, and 81.6 percent in California). Between 1990 and 2000, the largest decline in employment in Calaveras County was in farm employment (-70.0 percent), which had been a historically stable

Table R-72: Employment by Sector and Growth

	California		Calaveras County			Tuolumne County			
	Percent Change 1990-2000	2005 (percent of total)	Percent Change 2000-2005	Percent Change 1990-2000	2005 (percent of total)	Percent Change 2000-2005	Percent Change 1990-2000	2005	Percent Change 2000-2005
Total, All Industries (number employed)	15.8%	15,161,100	1.8%	17.8%	9,100	12.5%	12.4%	17,870	12.0%
Total Farm	12.3%	2.5%	-8.0%	-70.0%	0.8%	133.3%	100.0%	0.5%	-50.0%
Total Nonfarm	15.9%	97.5%	2.0%	19.1%	99.3%	12.2%	11.8%	99.5%	12.8%
Total Private	16.7%	81.6%	1.7%	25.1%	72.0%	14.1%	10.1%	69.1%	10.0%
Goods Producing	-1.1%	16.1%	-7.0%	10.2%	19.1%	23.4%	-3.0%	13.1%	4.0%
Natural Resources, Mining and Construction	11.4%	6.1%	22.0%	-1.9%	14.6%	31.7%	-24.3%	7.7%	23.2%
Manufacturing	-5.4%	10.0%	-18.7%	60.0%	4.5%	2.5%	32.9%	5.4%	-15.0%
Service Providing	20.5%	81.4%	4.0%	21.1%	80.1%	9.6%	14.7%	86.4%	14.3%
Private Servicing Producing	22.8%	65.5%	4.0%	30.5%	52.7%	11.1%	14.0%	56.0%	11.6%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	12.5%	18.6%	3.4%	8.9%	17.5%	17.8%	19.3%	16.5%	3.5%
Wholesale Trade	17.2%	4.4%	4.4%	20.0%	1.3%	0.0%	-21.1%	1.1%	33.3%
Retail Trade	8.0%	10.9%	6.0%	5.9%	12.9%	8.3%	23.3%	13.9%	-0.4%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	21.6%	3.2%	-5.8%	15.4%	3.3%	100.0%	17.6%	1.5%	35.0%
Information	47.3%	3.1%	-17.4%	7.7%	1.3%	-14.3%	15.0%	1.6%	26.1%
Financial Activities	-3.3%	6.1%	16.6%	6.9%	3.2%	-6.5%	-30.4%	3.3%	7.3%
Professional and Business Services	48.5%	14.2%	-4.1%	86.7%	6.4%	3.6%	1.1%	5.8%	16.9%

	California		Calaveras County			Tuolumne County			
	Percent Change 1990-2000	2005 (percent of total)	Percent Change 2000-2005	Percent Change 1990-2000	2005 (percent of total)	Percent Change 2000-2005	Percent Change 1990-2000	2005	Percent Change 2000-2005
Educational and Health Services	25.2%	10.5%	13.3%	31.0%	7.5%	23.6%	51.8%	12.1%	27.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	20.7%	9.7%	10.6%	35.1%	13.0%	13.5%	8.7%	12.9%	8.5%
Other Services	17.1%	3.4%	4.9%	123.5%	4.0%	-5.3%	14.5%	3.7%	6.3%
Government	11.7%	15.9%	4.1%	6.9%	27.4%	6.9%	16.1%	30.4%	19.6%
Federal Government	-24.6%	1.6%	-8.7%	0.0%	1.4%	-18.8%	-33.9%	2.0%	-2.7%
State and Local Government	19.4%	14.3%	5.8%	7.4%	25.9%	8.8%	24.5%	28.4%	21.6%
State Government	16.1%	3.1%	4.4%	-22.6%	2.2%	-16.7%	-4.3%	6.1%	-1.8%
Local Government	20.4%	11.2%	6.2%	13.5%	23.7%	11.3%	39.7%	22.3%	30.1%

Source: California Employment Development Department 2006

industry in the county, with field crops, vineyards, orchards, livestock, and poultry contributing most to total gross value of production (Calaveras County 1996c). However, this sector also experienced the greatest increase in employment between 2000 and 2005 at 133.3 percent, which was still below the 1990 level. The most substantial increases between 1990 and 2000 were in other services, professional and business services, and manufacturing. Between 2000 and 2005, the greatest losses in employment in Calaveras County were seen in the Federal and state government sectors; and transportation/warehousing/utilities was the other major growth sector, besides farming (California Employment Development Department 2006).

In contrast with Calaveras County, in Tuolumne County between 1990 and 2000 total farm employment experienced the greatest increase, and between 2000 and 2005 this sector experienced the greatest decrease in employment. Educational and health services, local government, and manufacturing also experienced substantial growth (51.8, 39.7, and 32.9 percent, respectively). Between 2000 and 2005, transportation/warehousing/utilities experienced the greatest percentage growth (California Employment Development Department 2006).

The greatest absolute increase in the number of employed in Calaveras County between 2000 and 2005 occurred in government (160 workers), leisure and hospitality (150 workers), and transportation/warehousing/utilities (140 workers). In Tuolumne County the greatest absolute increases occurred in government (890 workers), educational and health services (470 workers), leisure and hospitality (180 workers), and professional and business services (150 workers) (California Employment Development Department 2006).

Table R-73 shows the major employers in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties. Five of the major employers in Calaveras County are in Angels Camp and one is in Murphys. Fifteen of Tuolumne County's major employers are in Sonora and two are in Jamestown. Four of the largest employers in Calaveras County are in the hospitality sector (Bear Valley Ski Area Main Office, Resort at Greenhorn Creek, Saddle Creek Lodge Resort, and Sequoia Woods Country Club), and four of Tuolumne County's largest employers are in the hospitality sector (Black Oak Casino, Dodge Ridge Ski Resort, Chicken Ranch Bingo and Casino, and Lair of the Bear).

According to employment projections, between 2002 and 2012, total nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Mother Lode region is expected to grow about 1.5 percent annually (about 9,000 jobs) between 2002 and 2012, slightly less than the statewide growth rate of 1.8 percent. Approximately 64 percent of new nonfarm wage and salary jobs are forecasted to occur in government (32 percent), leisure and hospitality (19 percent), and construction (13 percent). Construction is expected to be the fastest growing major industry sector (at an annual growth rate of 3.0 percent), and information, educational and health services, and professional and business services are also forecast to grow at a faster rate than the county average (California Employment Development Department 2007c).

Table R-73: Major Employers in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties

Calaveras County				Tuolumne County			
Employer Name	Location	Industry	Number of Employees	Employer Name	Location	Industry	Number of Employees
Bear Valley Ski Area Main Office	Bear Valley	Skiing Centers and Resorts	250-499	Corrections Department	Jamestown	State Government-Correctional Institutions	1,000-4,999
Forestry and Fire Protection	San Andreas	Government-Forestry Services	250-499	Black Oak Casino	Tuolumne	Casinos	500-999
Mark Twain St. Joseph's Hospital	San Andreas	Hospitals	250-499	Sonora Regional Medical Center	Sonora	Emergency Medical and Surgery Service	500-999
Mountain Machining	Angels Camp	Machine Shops	250-499	Dodge Ridge Ski Resort	Pinecrest	Skiing Centers and Resorts	250-499
Human Resources Council	San Andreas	Social Service and Welfare Organizations	100-249	MRL Industries, Inc.	Sonora	Semiconductor-Manufacturers Equipment/Supplies (Wholesale)	250-499
Ironstone Vineyards	Murphys	Wineries	100-249	National Audubon Society	Sonora	Environmental Conservation/ Ecological Organization	250-499
Mark Twain Convalescent Hospital	San Andreas	Hospitals	100-249	Tuolumne General Hospital	Sonora	Hospitals	250-499
Rite of Passage ATCS	San Andreas	Schools	100-249	Tuolumne General Hospital SNF	Sonora	Nursing and Convalescent Homes	250-499
Big Trees Market	Arnold	Grocers- Retail	50-99	Wal-Mart	Sonora	Department Stores	250-499

Calaveras County				Tuolumne County			
Employer Name	Location	Industry	Number of Employees	Employer Name	Location	Industry	Number of Employees
Bret Harte High School	Altaville	Schools	50-99	Avalon Care Center	Sonora	Nursing and Convalescent Homes	100-249
Calaveras County Human Services	San Andreas	County Government-Social/Human Resources	50-99	Chicken Ranch Bingo and Casino	Jamestown	Bingo Games	100-249
Calaveras County Road Department	San Andreas	Grading Contractors	50-99	Columbia College	Sonora	Schools-Universities and Colleges Academic	100-249
Calaveras County Sheriff	San Andreas	Sheriff	50-99	Diestel Turkey Ranch	Chinese Camp	Poultry Processing Plants	100-249
Calaveras County Water	San Andreas	Water and Sewage Companies-Utility	50-99	Hetch Hetchy Water and Power	Moccasin	Water and Sewage Companies-Utility	100-249
Calaveras Lumber	Angels Camp	Lumber-Retail	50-99	Lair of the Bear	Pinecrest	Camps	100-249
Calaveras Public Works Department	San Andreas	Grading Contractors	50-99	Pak 'N Save Foods	Sonora	Grocers-Retail	100-249
Calaveras Works and Human Services	San Andreas	Government Offices-County	50-99	Pine Mountain Lake Association	Groveland	Associations	100-249
Foot Hill Village Lodge and Inn	Angels Camp	Retirement Communities and Homes	50-99	Sierra Pacific	Sonora	Lumber Manufacturers	100-249

Calaveras County				Tuolumne County			
Employer Name	Location	Industry	Number of Employees	Employer Name	Location	Industry	Number of Employees
Jenny Lind Elementary School	Valley Springs	Schools	50-99	Sierra Pacific Industries	Chinese Camp	Sawmills	100-249
Longs Drugs	Valley Springs	Pharmacies	50-99	Sonora School District	Sonora	Schools	100-249
Mark Twain Elementary School	Angels Camp	Schools	50-99	Sonora Union High School	Sonora	Schools	100-249
Mar-Val Food Stores	Valley Springs	Grocers-Retail	50-99	Tuolumne County Human Services Agency	Sonora	County Government-Social/Human Resources	100-249
Resort at Greenhorn Creek	Angels Camp	Resorts	50-99	Tuolumne County Sheriff	Sonora	Sheriff	100-249
Saddle Creek Lodge Resort	Copperopolis	Hotels and Motels	50-99	Tuolumne County Social Services	Sonora	County Government-Social/Human Resources	100-249
Sequoia Woods Country Club	Arnold	Restaurants	50-99	US Forestry Department	Groveland	Government-Forestry Services	100-249

Sources: California Employment Development Department 2007a, 2007b

Both counties' general plans indicated that low income levels and low-paying local jobs have resulted in residents commuting outside the area for employment and have led to a decline in the affordability of housing to local residents. In 2004, per capita personal income in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties was \$27,480 and \$26,578. The state average of \$35,219 was about 22 percent higher than income in Calaveras County and 24 percent higher than in Tuolumne County (BEA 2006).

Taxes and PILT. Recreation at New Melones Lake contributes to tax revenues in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties and the communities surrounding it by drawing visitors who pay sales and use taxes and transient occupancy taxes. Those attracted to the area for recreation or employment who also purchase property would contribute to the counties' property tax revenues. USDOl provides PILT to local governments to help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable Federal lands. Taxes, including PILT, are the primary revenue support for local police and fire protection, roads, and other infrastructure.

The sales and use tax rate in Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties is 7.250 percent. The property tax rate in Calaveras County in the area surrounding New Melones Lake is an average of 1.0264 percent (Calaveras County 2007a). Sales tax revenue for Calaveras County during the 2005 to 2006 fiscal year totaled \$2,587,619 (Calaveras County 2007c), and property tax revenues were \$71,622,000 for unincorporated Calaveras County (Calaveras County 2007b). The property tax rate in Tuolumne County is roughly 1.04182 percent. Sales tax revenue in Tuolumne County for the 2005 to 2006 fiscal year was \$3,156,000, and \$13,839,000 in property tax revenue went to Tuolumne County's General Fund over this period (Tuolumne County 2007).

Transient occupancy taxes are one way local governments collect revenues from visitors. They are a good indicator of travel activity since almost all of these sales are made to travelers. Transient occupancy tax revenue in Tuolumne County totaled \$1,271,273 and in Sonora \$202,790 in 2005 (Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce 2007). Transient occupancy taxes accounted for \$288,222 in revenue in Calaveras County (Calaveras County 2007a) and \$739,177 in Angels Camp for the 2005 to 2006 fiscal year (City of Angels Camp 2007).

The formula used to compute the payments is based on population, receipt sharing payments, and the amount of Federal land within an affected county. PILT payments in 2006 in Calaveras County totaled \$70,775, and in Tuolumne County total PILT payments were \$739,215. In Calaveras County these payments covered 140,127 acres of Federal land, 13 percent of which (18,213 acres) was Reclamation land. In Tuolumne County, Federal lands totaled 1,091,844 acres, 0.8 percent of which (8,260 acres) was Reclamation land. Approximately 0.6 percent of Federal land statewide was Reclamation land. Between 2000 and 2006, PILT payments in Calaveras County declined by 18.2 percent despite a 2.8 percent increase in Federal lands; whereas, in Tuolumne County and the state, PILT payments increased by 5.2 and 47.4 percent, respectively. Over this period the Federal acreage in Tuolumne County did not change, but the state average increased by 1.3 percent. The acreage of Reclamation lands increased in Calaveras County by 87 acres, remained unchanged in Tuolumne County, and increased by 213 acres statewide between 2000 and 2006 (US Department of the Interior (USDOl) 2007).

Environmental Justice. In order to comply with EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations, data was compiled concerning the ethnic composition and income and poverty levels of the two New Melones Lake Area counties. At the time of the 2000 Census, the percentage of minorities in the census tracts surrounding New Melones Lake was 11.9 percent, and the percentage of any race that was considered Hispanic was 8.3 percent (US Census Bureau 2000a). Table R-74 presents ethnicity data for Calaveras County, and Table R-75 presents ethnicity data for Tuolumne County.. The minority population constitutes approximately 14.3 percent of the population of Calaveras County. Similar to Tuolumne County, the Hispanic population forms the greatest percentage of the minority population (7.0 percent). The percentage of minorities in Calaveras County has increased since 2000 and is projected to continue to increase, as is the percentage of minorities that is made up of Hispanics (California Department of Finance 2004). Based on Census data, the percentage of minorities in the area closest to New Melones Lake is lower than the Calaveras County average.

Table R-74: Population Ethnicity Estimates for Calaveras County

Year	White	Hispanic	Asian	Pacific Islander	Black	Native American	Multi-race	% Non-White	Total
2000	35,685	2,879	367	41	360	652	906	12.7%	40,890
(percent)	(87.3%)	(7.0%)	0.9%	0.1%	0.9%	1.6%	2.2%		
2006	39,555	3,651	433	41	499	1,002	985	14.3%	46,166
(percent)	(85.7%)	(7.9%)	0.9%	0.1%	1.1%	2.2%	2.1%		
2030	55,981	7,954	1,076	41	1,226	3,042	1,257	20.7%	70,577
(percent)	(79.3%)	(11.3%)	1.5%	0.1%	1.7%	4.3%	1.8%		

Source: California Department of Finance 2004

As shown in Table R-75 ethnic minorities are estimated to make up 16.3 percent of the current population of Tuolumne County, which is a slightly higher percentage than in Calaveras County. As for Calaveras County, the Hispanic population forms the greatest percentage of the minority population (8.5 percent of the total population). The percentage of minorities has increased since 2000 and is projected to continue to increase, as is the percentage of minorities that is made up of Hispanics (California Department of Finance 2004). Based on census data, the percentage of minorities in the area closest to New Melones Lake is lower than the Tuolumne County average.

This trend toward a larger percentage minority population, with Hispanics being the largest minority, reflects the state trend; however, the proportion of minorities in the New Melones Lake Area counties is much lower than the state average, which has been above 50 percent since 2000. In 2000, approximately 52.9 percent of the state population was minority, with 32.6 percent Hispanic; and in 2006 about 57.8 percent of California’s population was minority, with 36.4 percent Hispanic. By 2030 the state is projected to have a 70.5 percent minority population, and

Table R-75: Population Ethnicity Estimates for Tuolumne County

Year	White	Hispanic	Asian	Pacific Islander	Black	Native American	Multi-race	Percent Non-White	Total
2000	46,674	4,540	421	93	1,159	948	1,111	15.1%	54,946
(Percent)	(84.9%)	(8.3%)	(0.8%)	(0.2%)	2.1%	(1.7%)	(2.0%)		
2006	48,867	4,952	518	93	1,191	1,476	1,265	16.3%	58,362
(Percent)	(83.7%)	(8.5%)	(0.9%)	(0.2%)	2.0%	92.5%	(2.2%)		
2030	54,191	6,526	863	93	1,269	3,909	1,715	21.0%	68,566
(Percent)	(79.0%)	(9.5%)	(1.3%)	(0.1%)	1.9%	(5.7%)	(2.5%)		

Source: California Department of Finance 2004

46.8 percent of the population is forecast to be Hispanic (California Department of Finance 2004).

The US Census Bureau uses a set of income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine which families are living in poverty. If a family's total income is less than its threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered to be living in poverty. Poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index. For individuals who do not live with family members, their own income is compared with the appropriate threshold (US Census Bureau 2004). According to the US Census Bureau, the poverty threshold in 2004 was \$9,973 for an individual and \$19,971 for a family of four. Table R-76 shows estimated median household income and poverty levels for Calaveras and Tuolumne counties and for the state. According to the US Census Bureau, the percentage of the populations of Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties at income levels below the poverty threshold was lower than the state average of 13.2 percent, with 9.3 and 11.6 percent, respectively. The median household income for these two counties was also below the state average (US Census Bureau 2006).

Table R-76: Median Household Income and Poverty, 2004

State/ County	Median Household Income	Number in Poverty	Percent in Poverty
California	49,894	4,681,645	13.2
Calaveras County	46,052	4,323	9.3
Tuolumne County	41,067	6,069	11.6

Source: US Census Bureau 2006

According to the 2000 Census, within the census tracts surrounding the New Melones Lake Area, the percentage of families below the poverty line averaged approximately 9.3 percent, higher than the Calaveras County average of 8.7 percent and the Tuolumne County average of 8.1 percent. The average percentage of individuals below the poverty line in the census tracts surrounding the New Melones Lake Area was 12.8 percent, which was higher than the Calaveras

County average of 11.8 percent and the Tuolumne County average of 11.4 percent (US Census Bureau 2000b).

8.2.2 Resource Management

The legislative authority guiding the management of socioeconomic resources and environmental justice populations in Reclamation projects is based on the Bureau of Reclamation Manual Policy and Directives and Standards release number ENV P03: National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12898 (February 11, 1994). This manual requires Federal agencies to identify “disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations”. NEPA requires the evaluation of the impacts of an action on the quality of the human environment, including the relationship of people with the natural and physical environment.

Decision and Guidance Documents

The decision documents that provide guidance for development and conservation in the New Melones Lake area include the Lake Area Master Plan of 1976 (Reclamation 1976) and the Peoria Wildlife Mitigation Environmental Assessment (Reclamation 2006b). The Lake Area Master Plan does not provide specific guidance with respect to population, housing, employment and income, revenues to local government, or environmental justice issues (socioeconomic resources). The Peoria Wildlife Management Environmental Assessment addresses environmental justice issues in the Peoria Wildlife Management Area study corridor. The Draft New Melones Lake Resource Management Plan (Reclamation 1995) provides a description of existing socioeconomic conditions but does not specifically address the role of socioeconomic resources in the plan.

Summary of Current Decisions

The Peoria Wildlife Management Environmental Assessment indicates that potential adverse effects on residents in the immediate Peoria Wildlife Management Area and potential effects on regional recreationists are considered to be minimal, so no mitigation would be required. No other management actions regarding socioeconomic resources are provided in the guidance documents.