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Managing Water in the West

Safety of Dams Project
Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam (MIAD)
NATURAL RESOURCES

Public Meetings -

December 16 and 17, 2008

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Natural Resources: Legal Context

Some of the laws that address natural resources:

- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
- **Endangered Species Act (ESA)**
- **Migratory Bird Act / Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act**
- **Clean Water Act (CWA)**
- **Clean Air Act**
- **National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)**

Natural Resources: NEPA

- Completed by Reclamation prior to committing Federal resources to a project
- Requires the Federal agency to analyze potential impacts to the 'human environment' caused by those actions
- Primarily a disclosure law

Project Website:
http://www.usbr.gov/mp/jfp/index.html

Timeline of NEPA Milestones

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Opportunities for Public Involvement

- **Attend public meetings**
- **Join the mailing list**
- **Visit project website**

Ranger Laura Trover with Campers on Bikes

- **Submit comments on the MIAD Draft EIS/EIR**

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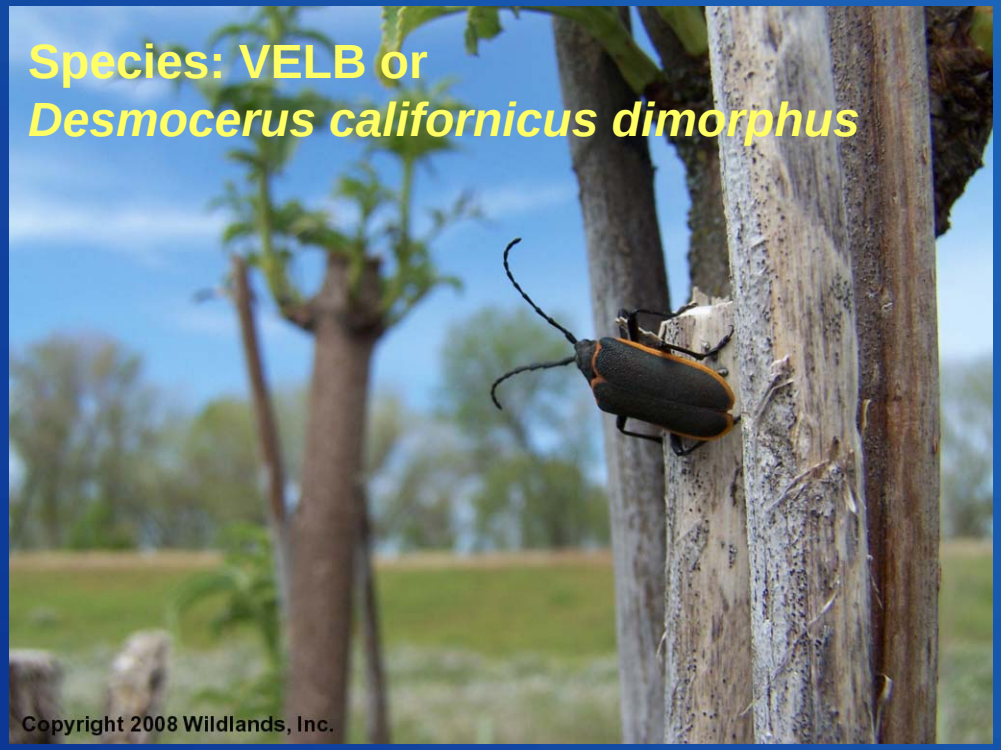
Natural Resources: Endangered Species Act (ESA)

States that all Federal agencies shall ensure that any action they authorize, fund, or carry out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of an ESA listed species…..

Illegal to Take, Harm, or Harass an Endangered Species

Natural Resources: Endangered Species

One potentially occurring endangered species is Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (VELB)



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Natural Resources: Endangered Species

Another potentially occurring habitat for endangered species are Vernal Pools. These wetlands form in regions where specialized soil and climatic conditions exist. Many of the species associated with vernal pools are endangered.

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Natural Resources: Other Wildlife

A variety of wildlife utilizes the MIAD area including these amphibians, birds, mammals, and reptiles.

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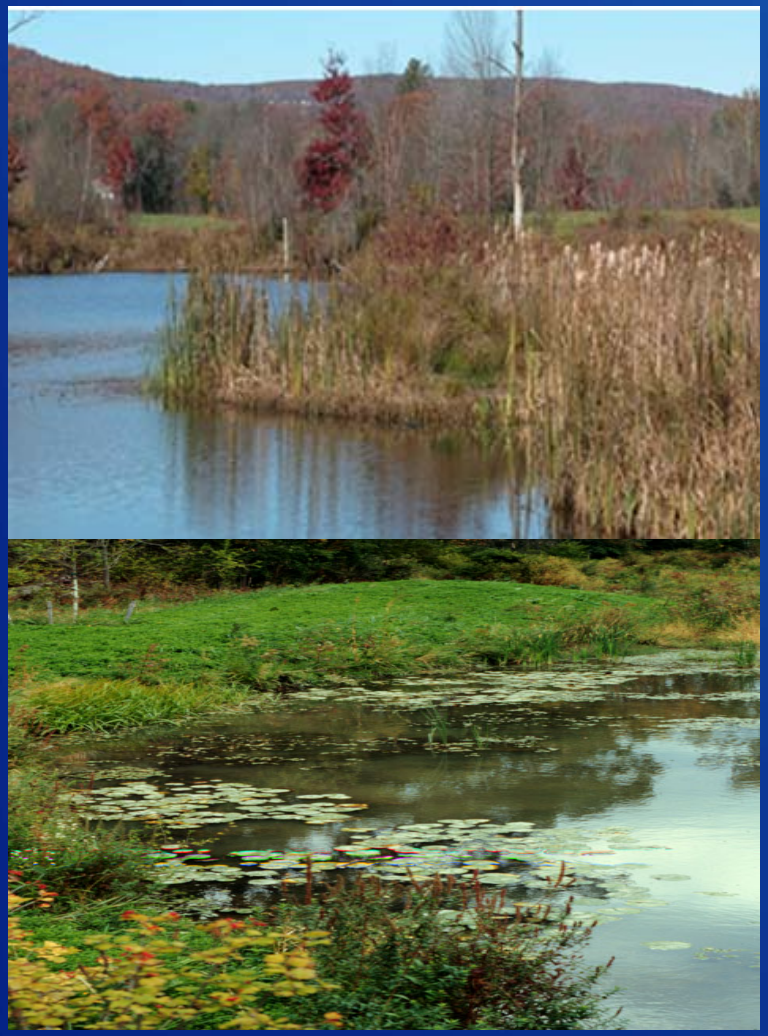
Natural Resources: Native Vegetation

Mature Grey Pine/

Oak Woodland occurs near MIAD. A mature oak is at least 20 years old.

Natural Resources: Wetlands



- Wetlands are areas where water covers or is near the surface of the soil throughout the entire year or for varying periods of time during the year.
- Wetlands are often characterized by a large diversity of vegetation and terrestrial and aquatic animals and insects.

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Natural Resources: Other Nearby Habitats

Folsom Reservoir

Large reservoir home to numerous species of fish

Lower American River

River system that serves as prime spawning and wild fish habitat

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Natural Resources: Ground Water

The construction site at MIAD has a high ground-water table. Depending on the alternative chosen, an extensive dewatering system may be required during construction.

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Natural Resources: Air Resources

Asbestos bearing Serpentinite

- **Fugitive dust (PM2.5 & PM10)**
  - **Very fine dust particles.**
  - **Becomes airborne as a result of construction activities.**
- **Asbestos**
  - **Group of silicate minerals of fibrous or asbestiform habit, which commonly occur in metamorphic rocks such as Serpentine.**
  - **Exposure to asbestos fibers has potential human health consequences.**
- **Regulations & Restrictions**
  - **The California Air Resources Board and local air pollution control districts have adopted regulations to protect air resources.**

Natural Resources: Contact

If you have questions or comments, please contact:

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For more information:
http://www.usbr.gov/mp/jfp/index.html

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