

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

May 14, 2012

**National Environmental Policy Act  
Finding of No Significant Impact**

No. 12-SCAO-002-FONSI

Hi-Desert Water District  
Water Reclamation Facility, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Sewer Collection System Project  
San Bernardino County, California

The Bureau of Reclamation is authorized to provide Federal funds for the Hi-Desert Water District to construct a wastewater collection and reuse facility in the Town of Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, California. The proposed project includes a Water Reclamation Facility, groundwater recharge basins, collection pipelines and pumping stations.

Based on our review of the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment: *Hi-Desert Water District Water Reclamation Facility, Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Collection System Project*, (California State Clearinghouse No. 2009061035), we have determined that the proposed action does not constitute a major Federal action which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Accordingly, preparation of an environmental impact statement on the proposed action is not required.

Recommended: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 5/11/2012  
Doug McPherson, Environmental Protection Specialist

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 5/14/2012  
Dennis Wolfe, Area Engineer

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 5/14/2012  
William J. Steele, Area Manager



**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Lower Colorado Region  
Southern California Area Office  
Temecula, California**

## **BACKGROUND**

The Hi-Desert Water District (District) plans to construct a wastewater reclamation facility and sewer collection pipelines in the Town of Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, California. Treated effluent will be percolated into the local groundwater basin for indirect potable reuse. The community is currently unsewered. The project would replace existing onsite septic tanks with a modern centralized facility.

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Environmental Protection Agency provided funding for pre-construction activities. The District is seeking construction funds from Reclamation and the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Reclamation has approved the project feasibility study.

An Initial Study/Environmental Assessment was prepared in June 2009 by Tom Dodson & Associates, San Bernardino, California, to evaluate the proposed project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The District filed a Notice of Determination on October 13, 2009, finding that environmental effects are either not significant or can be mitigated and that no Environmental Impact Report is required under CEQA.

## **PURPOSE AND NEED**

The intent of the project is to eliminate existing septic systems, to reduce nitrate contamination affecting the Warren Valley Groundwater Basin. Installation of the wastewater system infrastructure is considered essential to continue meeting public health and safety requirements for water supply within the District's service area and to meet water quality objectives in the Colorado River Basin Plan.

## **AUTHORITY**

The Reclamation Recycling and Water Conservation Act of 1996 (Public Law [PL] 104-266) amended the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act of 1992 (Title XVI of PL 102-575), by adding section 1626 *Hi-Desert Water District in Yucca Valley, California Wastewater Collection and Reuse Facility*. The Secretary of Interior, in cooperation with the appropriate State and local authorities, is authorized to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Hi-Desert Water District wastewater collection and reuse facility in Yucca Valley, California.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project is the construction of a wastewater reclamation facility (Hi Desert WRF) and associated recharge basins and collection system pipeline infrastructure. The project will be installed in phases, with an initial capacity of 2 million gallons per day (MGD). Treatment capacity can be expanded to an ultimate build-out treatment capacity of 6 MGD.

The Hi-Desert WRF is planned on two parcels in the Town of Yucca Valley (APN 0601-201-06/07) in Section 32, Township 1 North, Range 6 East, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. The WRF will be located on 20 acres in the southern portion of the 77-acre property, east of Home Depot and south of state highway 62, with access from La Contenta Road and Sunnyslope Drive. Fifteen acres of recharge basins will be located adjacent to the WRF. Treated wastewater will meet California Title 22 recycled water standards and will be percolated into the Warren Valley Groundwater Basin.

The project includes approximately 77 miles (405,800 linear feet) of wastewater collection system pipelines and three pump stations. Nearly all of the new sewer collection system will be installed within road rights-of-way, most of which are already graded and/or graded and paved. Phase 1 will install sewers in the central portion of the Town of Yucca Valley along State Highway 62, to convey 2 MGD of wastewater to the WRF. Collection pipelines and treatment capacity will be expanded in Phases 2 and 3 for a total system capacity of 4 MGD. Ultimate capacity could reach 6 MGD.

A more detailed project description is available in the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment that includes a Water Reclamation Facility Preliminary Design Report and a Sewer Master Plan, both dated January 2009, by engineering consulting firm MWH, Arcadia, California.

## ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

NEPA requires review of a proposed Federal action to determine its impact on the human environment. Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations direct Federal agencies to cooperate with State and local agencies to the fullest extent possible to reduce duplication between NEPA and State and local requirements (40 CFR 1506.2). Department of Interior regulations for implementing NEPA encourage tiering of environmental documents and provide for adoption of existing environmental documents if, upon evaluation by a responsible official, it is found to comply with relevant provisions of the CEQ regulations.

Reclamation staff reviewed the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment and concluded that the document adequately identifies and discloses the reasonably foreseeable environmental effects of the proposed action. We adopt this document in accordance with regulations for implementing NEPA promulgated by the CEQ at 40 CFR 1506.3 and by the Department of the Interior at 43 CFR 46.320(a).

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) concluded that the proposed project could cause significant environmental effects in the following issue areas: air quality, hydrology/water quality, energy consumption, traffic/circulation; biological resources, geology and soils, cultural resources, hazards/hazardous materials, and noise. Measures were identified to avoid or mitigate the environmental effects to a less-than-significant level.

The site selected for the WRF is a moderately disturbed vacant lot containing natural creosote bush scrub habitat. The roadway alignments selected for the sewer collection system are totally disturbed. The WRF site and the pipeline alignments were surveyed for biological, historical, and archaeological resources. No sensitive biological resources or eligible cultural resources were found within the area of potential effect. Construction monitoring will ensure that no substantial biological or cultural resources will be affected.

## OTHER FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

### Clean Air Act

The Mojave Desert Air Basin is a designated non-attainment area for ozone, PM10 and PM2.5. Project construction must comply with regional fugitive dust reduction practices required by Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District Rule 403. Estimated air emissions during both construction and operation are below the Clean Air Act conformity applicability *de minimis* thresholds [40 CFR 93.153 (b)]. No Clean Air Act conformity determination is required.

### Endangered Species Act

No critical habitat areas are designated within the project action area. No listed plant or animal species were identified within the action area. Threatened desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) is known to occur east of the proposed WRF site. A protocol survey for desert tortoise did not identify any burrows or tortoise sign at the WRF site or along any proposed pipeline alignment.

### National Historic Preservation Act

Cultural resource survey reports were prepared for the WRF site and for the Yucca Valley wastewater collection system. No properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places were identified within the Area of Potential Effect.

### Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Executive Order 13186 provides that each agency shall, to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations and within Administration budgetary limits, and in harmony with agency missions ensure that environmental analyses of Federal actions required by the NEPA or other established environmental review processes evaluate the effects of actions and agency plans on migratory birds, with emphasis on species of concern. The Initial Study/Environmental Assessment adequately meets this standard of review.

Grubbing or brush clearing will be conducted outside of the bird breeding season. If the work cannot be done according to this schedule, prior to the initiation of any ground disturbance, a qualified biologist will determine what birds are nesting in the shrubs or trees to be removed or are within 500 feet of the area that will be under construction. If no native bird nests are discovered, development may proceed.

A report of findings will be provided to the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) if construction in the vicinity of bird nests must be conducted during nesting season. If approved by CDFG, construction can proceed by following any nesting bird protection measures.

#### Water Resources

The project may result in a total of about 3,000 AFY of good quality recycled wastewater recharged to the local aquifer. This is considered a beneficial effect compared to the existing septic systems.

#### Wetlands and Floodplain

The southwest corner of the WRF site is within a 100-year flood hazard area. Exposure to flood hazards will be mitigated by incorporating flood protection design measures to withstand the 100-year standing water elevation. WRF design plans avoid the mapped floodplain and include a berm/levee to protect the WRF from flood hazard.

The WRF access road and influent sewer will be within the mapped floodplain. The sewer may not be buried as deeply as standard engineering, due to hydraulic design considerations. The pipeline would not exacerbate flood hazards but may require reinforcement to reduce risk of scour damage. Other ephemeral stream channels mapped as flood hazards will be also crossed by sewer lines installed at standard depths. We conclude that the proposed action complies with Executive Order on floodplains.

There are no wetlands within the project action area. The wash at the WRF site is a blue-line intermittent stream tributary to Yucca Valley Wash which drains to Coyote Dry Lake, a terminal desert lake. The Initial Study/Environmental Assessment contains a preliminary determination that the project is not within any jurisdictional waters of the United States.

#### Clean Water Act

Clean Water Act permits do not appear to be required. The best information available to Reclamation staff indicates that Yucca Valley Creek is not a jurisdictional water of the United States. The watershed drains to a desert terminal lake and is entirely within the boundaries of the State of California.

#### Socioeconomic Resources

Adverse socioeconomic impacts are not expected. The project will provide drought year reliability, improve local water supplies, sustain municipal water demands, and support economic vitality in the area. The project will not induce population growth. No housing or people will be displaced. No communities will be divided. No effects to public health and safety were identified. Economic or social effects are not intended by themselves to require preparation of an EIS (40 CFR 1508.14).

#### Environmental Justice

The project is located within a community that is generally below the economic level of other communities in the County, due to having a high percentage of retirees and seasonal residents. No industries or contaminated sites are in or around the project area. This project would not comprise a new hazard or additional hazard to a particular population. The proposed project will temporarily impact those residents along the pipeline routes and in the vicinity of the treatment plant, but has no potential to adversely impact any low income or ethnic communities in the long term. The project itself will be an improvement to area services that will benefit the population.

#### Prime and Unique Agriculture

No prime or unique agricultural land exists within Yucca Valley.

#### Indian Trust Assets

No Indian Trust Assets are involved.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

No wild or scenic rivers occur within the project region.

Coastal Zone

The Hi-Desert WRF and sewer collection system is 80 miles from the California Coastal Zone boundary.

Sole Source Aquifers

The Warren Valley Groundwater Basin is not a designated sole source aquifer. Only four sole-source aquifers are designated in California. None are near the proposed project.

Invasive species

The project is not likely to cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States or elsewhere. To prevent introduction of exotic, non-native plant species that could damage the local plant community, a qualified biologist will compile a list of species prohibited from use in landscaping within the project area (mitigation measure 4.6-7).

Climate Change

The project will utilize electricity and indirectly generate greenhouse gases (GHG). The project will offset indirect GHG emissions through onsite photovoltaic electricity generation; generation of electricity through combustion of methane emissions from treatment operations; and growth of native desert plants to consume carbon dioxide and buffer the plant from surrounding land uses.

**AGENCY CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

Fish and Wildlife Service

We requested and received a species list from the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, consulted informally, and concluded that the action will not affect any listed species or critical habitat. Pursuant to interagency cooperation regulations for the Endangered Species Act (50 CFR part 402), formal consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service is not required.

California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)

In accordance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and regulations promulgated by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36 CFR part 800), the cultural resource survey reports for the WRF site and the Yucca Valley wastewater collection system were submitted to the California SHPO by registered mail in November 2011 and December 2011 with our "No Historic Properties Affected" determinations. No response has been received.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (RWQCB)

Resolution No. R7-2007-0074 was adopted by the RWQCB on September 19, 2007, supporting this project. The RWQCB Executive Officer signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the District and the Town of Yucca Valley on June 25, 2008, outlining roles and responsibilities to implement the project. Waste discharge requirements were proposed in draft order R7-2009-0059. Resolution No R7-2011-0004 was approved on May 19, 2011, finding that the action would not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and requesting that the SWRCB approve the basin plan amendment to prohibit septic tank discharges in the Town of Yucca Valley. By letter dated February 22, 2012, the RWQCB advised the Town of Yucca Valley that Yucca Valley Creek is not a jurisdictional water of the United States. We contacted RWQCB staff to discuss the basis for the non-jurisdictional determination.

California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

SWRCB staff has been involved in the review of the District's environmental documents. The District is applying for State Revolving Funds from the SWRCB. On November 1, 2011, the SWRCB approved Resolution No. 2011-0054 amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region to prohibit septic tank discharges in the Town of Yucca Valley.

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

The Air District concurred with the analysis and findings in the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment.

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The EPA provided funds to the District for surveys, mapping, and preliminary design. EPA agreed to allow Reclamation to take the NEPA lead agency role and has worked with Reclamation to facilitate coordination and to reduce delay and duplication.

US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

Reclamation staff contacted staff at the Los Angeles District in February 2012 to discuss the preliminary determination that no Clean Water Act section 404 fill permit would be required as washes in the Yucca Valley are isolated waters. ACOE staff did not disagree with the preliminary determination and provided an *Approved Jurisdictional Determination Form*. We contacted ACOE staff again in May 2012 regarding the RWQCB determination that Yucca Valley Creek is not a jurisdictional water of the United States.

San Bernardino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)

The LAFCO adopted the CEQA document and approved resolution no. 3089 *Hi-Desert Water District Expansion of Authorized Services to Include Collection, Treatment, Reclamation, and Disposal under its Authorized Sewer Function* on February 17, 2010.

Town of Yucca Valley

The Town of Yucca Valley filed a letter of support for the project with the LAFCO, dated June 27, 2007, and signed the MOA with the District and the Regional Board on October 23, 2008. The Town of Yucca Valley has provided a loan to the District for the project. Most collection systems pipelines will require encroachment permits from the Town of Yucca Valley.

California Department of Fish and Game

The project will require approval of a streambed alteration agreement under section 1600 of the California Fish and Game Code.

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Installation of some collection system pipelines will require encroachment permits from Caltrans.

California Coastal Commission

The project is outside the California coastal zone. No Coastal Zone Management Act consistency certification is required.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

No prime or unique farmlands will be converted. Consultation under the Farmland Protection Policy Act is not required.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS**

Cultural Resources: Should cultural resources be discovered during project construction, all ground disturbing activities in the area of the archeological resource will stop and the Regional Archeologist, Patricia Hicks, will be contacted at 702-293-8075. Construction will not resume in the area of the discovery until all mitigate measures developed in consultation with the SHPO have been completed.

Endangered Species: Additional pre-construction surveys will be conducted prior to any clearing or grading activities at the wastewater reclamation site. If desert tortoise is found, no ground disturbances will be allowed until authorized by the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office.

General: Measures listed in the attached Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan will be implemented.

## REFERENCES

Initial Study/Environmental Assessment: *Hi-Desert Water District Water Reclamation Facility, Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Collection System Project* (SCH# 2009061035); Tom Dodson & Associates, June 2009.

The Initial Study/Environmental Assessment, appendices, comments, responses, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program can be downloaded from the Hi-Desert Water District website at: [www.hdwd.com/Projects/WastewaterTreatmentWaterReclamationProject/EnvironmentalReport.aspx](http://www.hdwd.com/Projects/WastewaterTreatmentWaterReclamationProject/EnvironmentalReport.aspx)

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter to California SHPO regarding WRF site
2. Letter to California SHPO regarding Yucca Valley collection system
3. Memorandum to Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
4. Fish and Wildlife Service Species List
5. Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District comment letter
6. Regional Water Board letter to Town of Yucca Valley
7. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Southern California Area Office  
27708 Jefferson Ave., Suite 202  
Temecula, CA 92590-2628

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SCAO-1500  
ENV-3.00

NOV 15 2011

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Milford Wayne Donaldson  
California State Historic Preservation Officer  
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95816

Subject: Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the High Desert Water District Wastewater Treatment Plant, San Bernardino County, California

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

The Bureau of Reclamation is providing funds for the Hi-Desert Water District (HDWD) to construct a waste water treatment plant in the Town of Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, California. The enclosed cultural resources investigation report was prepared by CRM Tech of Colton, California. CRM Tech was contracted by Tom Dodson and Associates on behalf of the HDWD. Reclamation is the lead federal agency and has conducted a review of the undertaking in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR Part 800). We are consulting on our determination of No Historic Properties Affected for the undertaking.

**I. Description and Location of the Undertaking** – The enclosed report describes the result of a cultural resources investigation conducted by CRM Tech between April 2007 and April 2008. The investigation was conducted within a 120-acre Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the wastewater treatment plant and other infrastructure. The description of the undertaking has been revised and now includes only the treatment plant and four recharge basins located on 35-acres within the original APE as shown on the enclosed map and site plan. The depth of ground disturbance will not exceed 25 feet below ground surface. The APE is in Section 32, T1N, R6E (Joshua Tree North, Joshua Tree South, Yucca Valley North, and Yucca Valley South Quads).

## **II. Methodology Employed for the Identification of Historic Properties**

### *Pre-Field Research*

The Phase I cultural resources investigation involved a historical/archaeological record and map review, geomorphological analysis, tribal consultations, and a field survey. The methodology and result of the investigations are summarized below.

The historical/archaeological records search and archival search began with a review of archaeological records archived at the Archaeological Information Center (AIC) at the San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands, California. This was conducted to identify previously recorded archeological sites within a one mile radius of the APE (Table 1 in the enclosed report). CRM Tech also requested information on previously recorded sites within a five mile radius of the APE to assist with development of the geomorphological analysis (listed in Table 2).

The purpose of the geomorphological analysis was to identify the potential for the deposition and preservation of sub-surface cultural remains from the prehistoric period. This involved a review of geologic maps published by the U.S. Geological Survey, the California Division of Mines and Geology, and a literature review on regional geology. The findings from this were used to develop a geomorphologic profile of the APE.

Based on the result of the geomorphological assessment CRM Tech reports that the coarse textured alluvium, made up of sediments derived from granite and quartz, is poor for the preservation of sub-surface archaeological deposits. The area has a lack of reliable water sources which makes it unlikely that project area supported any prehistoric village sites. CRM Tech reports that village sites are most likely to be located within 50 to 250 meters from reliable water sources. They predicted that the project area was more likely to have sites representing resource procurement activities, or had been a travel corridor.

Previous cultural resource studies that have been conducted in the vicinity of the APE are shown in Figure 4 in the enclosed report. CRM Tech reports that an 80 acre portion of the plant APE had been previously surveyed by Dillon (2004). At the time of CRM Tech's survey Dillon had not completed the survey report.

The historical research consisted of a review of published literature on local and regional history, land records archived by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and historic maps of the Yucca Valley, including General Land Office maps dated 1856-1903, and a 1959 USGS map. The result of this review is discussed in Section III below.

The Native American consultations were initiated by CRM Tech with a request to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to identify properties listed in the Sacred Lands file which may be in or near the APE. The NAHC also provided CRM Tech with names and addresses of 13 additional Native American informants who were contacted by letter.

#### *Field Survey*

CRM Tech conducted a pedestrian survey of the entire APE on May 3, 2007 and March 17, 2008. The methodology employed for the survey of the rectangular area where the plant and appurtenances would be located involved 15 meter spaced parallel transects on an east/west axis. The survey of the pipeline construction corridor involved walking transects parallel to the centerline of the pipeline route spaced 30 meters apart. CRM Tech reports that ground surface visibility in the survey area was fair (70%) to good (80%). They also noted that off road vehicle tracks criss-cross the APE, and have disturbed surface soils.

**III. Identification of Historic Properties and Evaluation of Historical Significance** – The review of historic maps and land records indicates that the APE is within three homestead claims filed by Tatum E. Cain, Albert E. Colon, and Cecil James Widdifield between 1926 and 1930. These were located in the northwest, northeast, and southeast quarters of Section 32, which encompass the APE. No substantial settlement or development activities occurred in the APE. A GLO map (1856-1903) shows the route of a road called the "Road to Palm Springs" which once crossed through the middle of the APE. CRM Tech notes that it may have been part of the Powell Weaver's trail, a forerunner of State Route 62. CRM Tech did not report finding any evidence of the former road in the APE.

Consultation with the NAHC did not result in the identification of any sacred sites in the APE. Three of the 13 Native American informants contacted by CRM Tech responded to the request for information regarding the potential cultural sensitivity of the APE. They had no specific comments about the APE, but asked to be notified in the event of an unanticipated discovery.

CRM Tech revisited two previously archaeological sites during the survey. One site is a prehistoric bedrock-milling feature (36-013387), which based on the pre-field research, appeared to be in the pipeline APE. The site was identified by Bradman and Associates (2007) while they were doing archaeological monitoring during the construction of a Home Depot store. CRM Tech verified that the site is not in the APE.

CRM Tech revisited a historic archaeological site (36-011658) in the APE previously recorded by Dillon. They corrected wrong UTM coordinates and prepared a site update form. The site consists of a collapsed 6 by 3 foot rectangular enclosure built of Joshua tree trunks and limbs, and a few wooden planks, and an artifact scatter of chinaware sherds, glass fragments, wire cut nails, and rusty cans. Dillon considered the enclosure to be the remains of a dove shooting blind. The majority of the artifacts appear to date from the 1920s–1930s. CRM Tech reports that some of the nails may date to the 1890s. The site has not been evaluated for eligibility to National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

*National Register Determinations of Eligibility*

The following section describes NRHP eligibility determination for (36-011658), the historic archaeological site identified in the APE. Reclamation has applied the National Register Criteria as established by the Secretary of the Interior for use in evaluating the eligibility of cultural resource sites (36 CFR Part 60). NRHP eligibility is based on:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and,

- (a) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- (b) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- (c) that embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- (d) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Reclamation reviewed the NRHP eligibility recommendations prepared by CRM Tech in consideration to applicable NRHP eligibility criteria. Reclamation finds that the site lacks the characteristics needed to meet Criterion “A”. The site is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past with the lives of persons significant in our past and does not meet Criterion “B”. Criterion “C” does not apply because the site lacks architectural and other elements needed to exhibit the characteristics defined in the criterion. The site has little potential to yield information important in history and lacks the qualities for Criterion “D” to apply. Reclamation concurs with the recommendations of CRM Tech and has determined that site 36-011658 is not NRHP eligible.

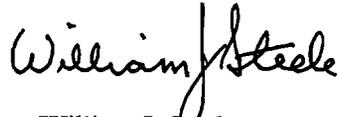
**IV. Effects Determination** - According to 36 CFR Part 800.5, we request your consultation on our determination of effect for the proposed undertaking. Reclamation has reviewed the proposed undertaking and its potential for affecting historic properties in the undertaking APE. No historic properties and sacred lands are located in the APE. Therefore, Reclamation is consulting under a No Historic Properties Affected determination for the undertaking.

**V. Amendment Clause** - This consultation is only for those undertaking areas of effect identified in the enclosed document. If the impact/effects area of the undertaking change during the course of the project, Reclamation will reinitiate consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 and will not allow any land-disturbing activities to proceed before Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is satisfied.

**VI. Discovery Clause** - If during the course of any activities associated with this undertaking, any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects not included in this consultation are discovered, activities will cease in the vicinity of the resource. Reclamation shall ensure that the stipulations of 36 CFR Part 800.11 are satisfied before activities in the vicinity of the previously unidentified property resume.

Reclamation is requesting your response within 30 days of receiving this consultation request. Please contact James Kangas, Archaeologist at 702-293-8392 or [jkangas@usbr.gov](mailto:jkangas@usbr.gov) if you have any questions or concerns about the undertaking.

Sincerely,



William J. Steele  
Area Manager

Enclosures - 3

cc: Elizabeth Janes  
EPA Region IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Diana Conkle  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Scaramento, CA 95814

Frank Luckino  
Hi-Desert Water District  
55439 29 Palms Highway  
Yucca Valley, CA 92284-2503

Darrell Mike  
Twenty Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians  
46-200 Harrison Place  
Coachella, CA 92236

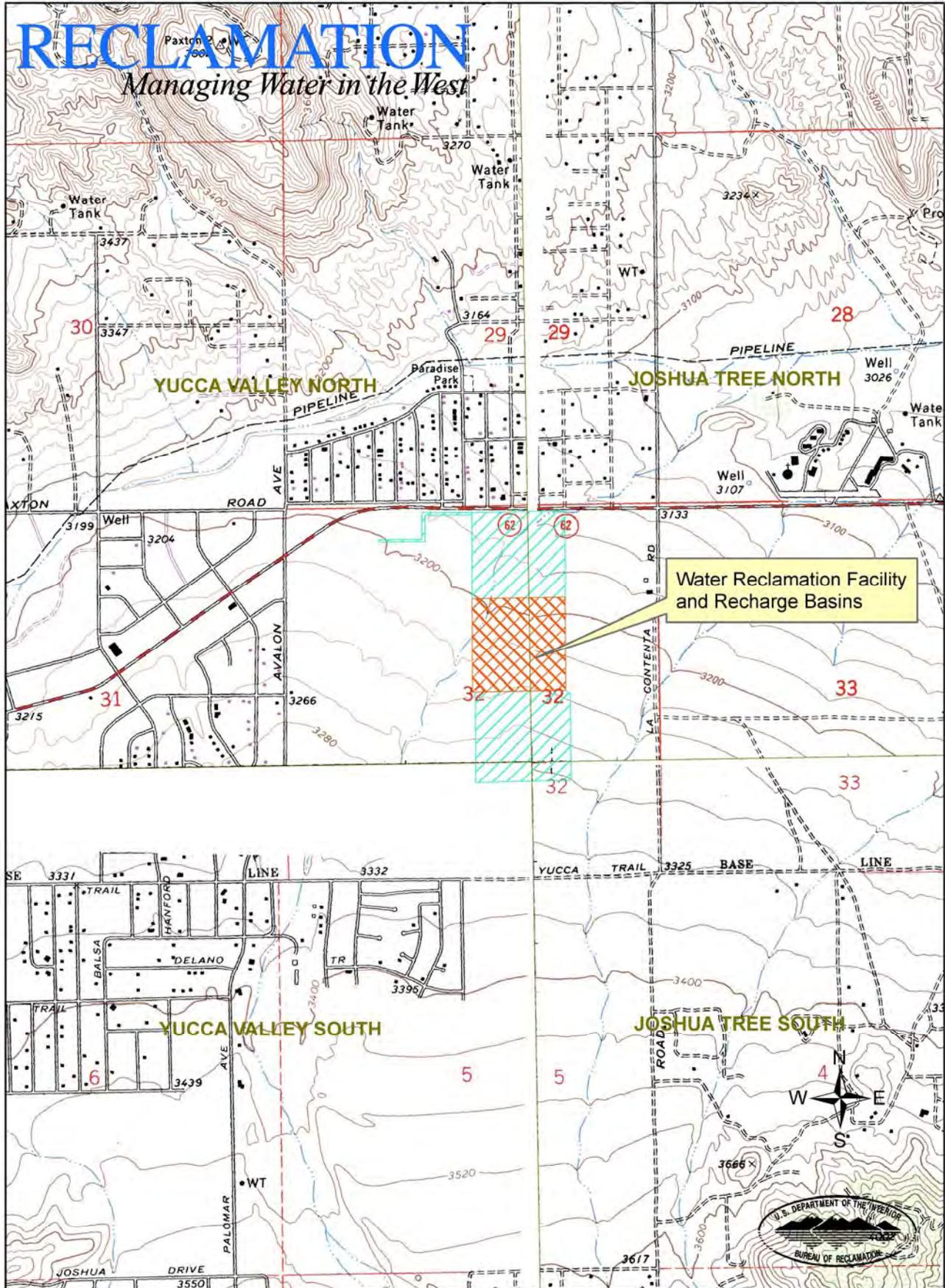
Charles Wood  
Chemehuevi Reservation  
P.O. Box 1976  
Chemehuevi Valley, CA 92363

Michael Tsosie  
Colorado River Indian Tribes  
Route 1, Box 23-B  
Parker, AZ 85344

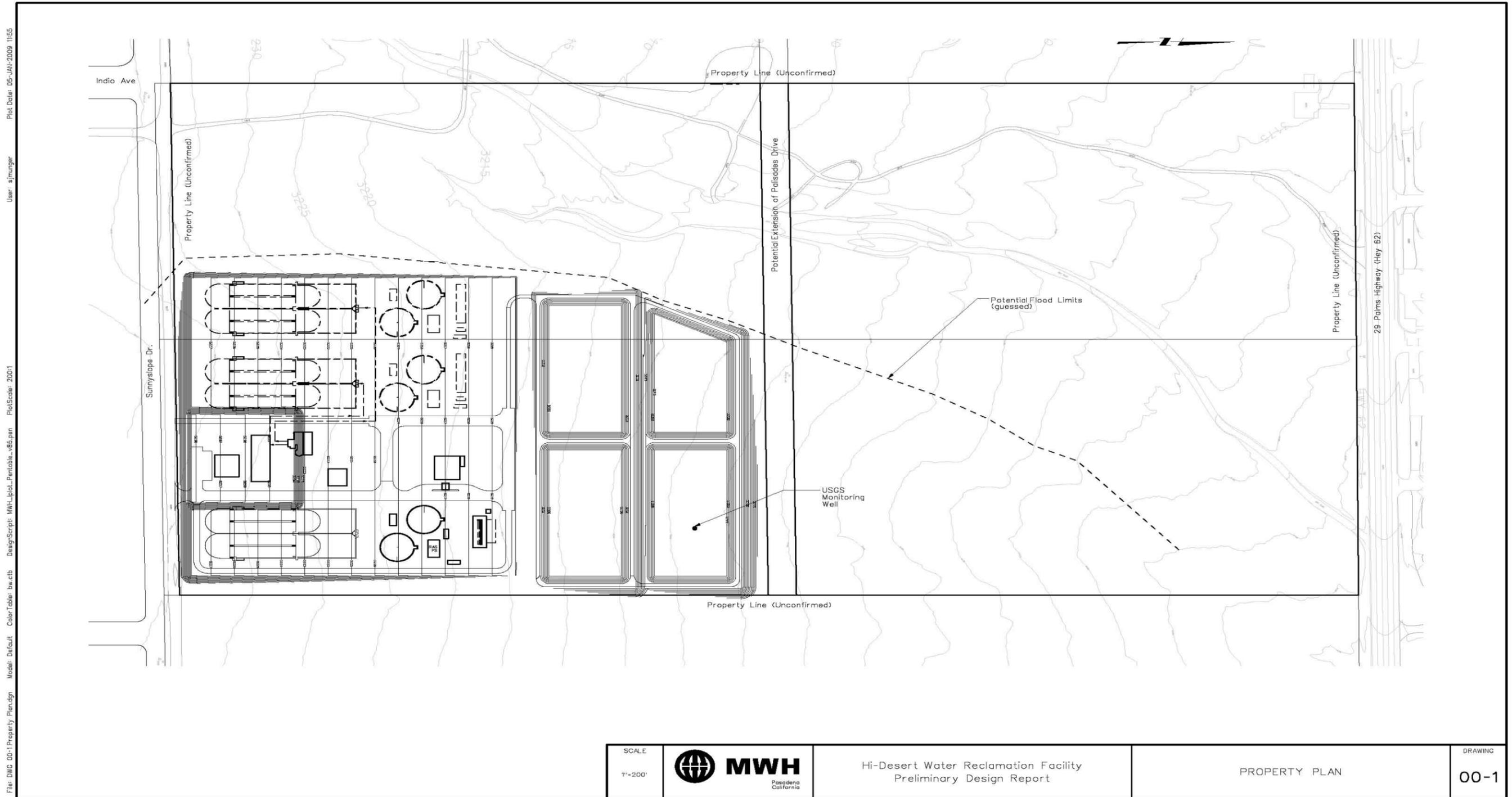
Goldie Walker  
Serrano Band of Indians  
6588 Valeria Drive  
Highland CA 92346

Morongo Basin Historical Society  
P.O. Box 2046  
Yucca Valley, CA 92286

# Hi Desert Water District APE



**FIGURE 2-4  
Property Plan**



Source: MWH "Hi-Desert Water District Water Reclamation Facility PDR" dated 9/15/08



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Southern California Area Office  
27708 Jefferson Ave., Suite 202  
Temecula, CA 92590-2628

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LC-2631  
ENV-3.00

DEC 05 2011

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Milford Wayne Donaldson  
California State Historic Preservation Officer  
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95816

Subject: Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for Yucca Valley Wastewater System Infrastructure Improvements, San Bernardino County, California

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

Please find the enclosed report prepared by CRM Tech of Colton, California that describes the methodology and results of a cultural resources survey for the Yucca Valley Wastewater System Infrastructure Improvement Project. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is providing up to 25 percent of the funding for the project to a maximum of \$20 million. The action is an undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.16(y). Reclamation is the lead federal agency responsible for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

**I. Description and Location of the Undertaking** – Construction of the wastewater collection system involves the installation of 77 miles (405,800 linear feet) of buried pipeline from 8-inches to 36-inches in diameter. The pipelines will be installed a minimum 6-foot depth to a maximum 25-foot depth excavated almost entirely within the heavily disturbed rights-of-way of existing roadways. The construction corridor is approximately 30 feet wide. The legal locations are T1N R5E, Sections 32-35; T1S R5E, Sections 2-5 and 8-12; T1S R6E Sections 5-8 within the USGS Yucca Valley North Quad, Joshua Tree North Quad, Yucca Valley South Quad, and Joshua Tree South Quad. The project area of potential effect (APE) is 280 acres.

**II. Methodology Employed for the Identification of Historic Properties** – CRM Tech conducted a file and records search for the project at the Archaeological Information Center (AIC), San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands. This involved an examination of maps and records on file at the AIC for previously identified cultural resources and historic properties along or near the project route, and existing cultural resources reports from previous surveys in the vicinity of the APE.

CRM Tech also contacted the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a records search of the sacred lands file. Following the NAHC's recommendations, CRM Tech contacted 12 local Native American representatives in writing and by telephone, to solicit their input regarding any possible cultural resources concerns.

CRM Tech employed two methods for the field survey of the APE. First they conducted a reconnaissance level survey, which involved driving along project route and visually inspecting the surrounding ground surface for any indications of potential cultural resources. CRM Tech also conducted a pedestrian survey where the pipeline route runs along unpaved roads and across undeveloped land. This was accomplished by walking two transects parallel to the centerline of the proposed pipeline route. The survey transects were spaced five meters (16 feet) apart. CRM Tech reports that the survey adequately examined the entire APE. The visibility of the native ground surface ranged from poor (0%) along paved roads to good (85%) along unpaved roads.

**III. Identification of Historic Properties and Evaluation of Historical Significance** – The file and record search indicates that three historical/archaeological sites were previously recorded in/adjacent to the APE. These include a segment of highway SR 62 (36-010525/CA-SBR-10525H), a historic-period trash scatter (36-009988/CA-SBR-9988H), and a religious sculpture park (36-013394). CRM Tech reports that field survey verified that the historic-period trash scatter and religious sculpture park are not in the APE.

CRM Tech reports that highway State Route 62 follows the former route of a historic trail called "Weavers Trail." The highway was constructed in the 1930s-1940s and is a major thoroughfare serving the regional transportation system. It has been regularly maintained and repeatedly upgraded since construction and retains little of its historical and physical character. In 2000 it was determined not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

CRM Tech reviewed the prior determination in the 2000 site record, confirmed the lack of historic integrity by field observation, and concluded that the road is not a historic property as defined by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800.16(l). Reclamation staff agrees that State Route 62 is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

**IV. Effects Determination** – Reclamation has reviewed the proposed undertaking and its potential for affecting historic properties. The survey did not result in the identification of historic properties in the APE. Reclamation is consulting on our finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the undertaking.

**V. Discovery Clause** - If during the course of any activities associated with this undertaking, any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects not included in this consultation are discovered, activities will cease in the vicinity of the resource. Reclamation will ensure that the stipulations of 36 CFR Part 800.11 are satisfied before activities in the vicinity of the previously unidentified property resume.

**VI. Amendment Clause** - This consultation is only for the undertaking described above. If the impact/effects area of the undertaking change during the course of the project, Reclamation will reinitiate consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 and will not allow any land-disturbing activities to proceed before Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is satisfied.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact James Kangas, Archaeologist at [jkangas@usbr.gov](mailto:jkangas@usbr.gov) or 702-293-8392.

Sincerely,



William J. Steele  
Area Manager

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Elizabeth Janes  
EPA Region IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Ms. Diana Conkle  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Scaramento, CA 95814

Mr. Frank Luckino  
Hi-Desert Water District  
55439 29 Palms Highway  
Yucca Valley, CA 92284-2503

Mr. Darrell Mike  
Twenty Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians  
46-200 Harrison Place  
Coachella, CA 92236

Mr. Charles Wood  
Chemehuevi Reservation  
P.O. Box 1976  
Chemehuevi Valley, CA 92363

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Ms. Lisa Swick  
Colorado River Indian Tribes  
26600 Mojave Road  
Parker, AZ 85344

Mr. Michael Contreras  
Cultural Heritage Program  
Morongo Band of Mission Indians  
12700 Pumarra Road  
Banning, CA 92220

Ms. Ann Briety  
Cultural Resources Field Manager  
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians  
26569 Community Center Drive  
Highland, CA 92346

Mr. Joseph Benitez  
Tribal Elder, Cabazon Band  
P.O. Box 1829  
Indio, CA 92201

Mr. Ernest H. Silva  
Tribal Elder, Morongo Band of Mission Indians  
9570 Mias Canyon Road  
Banning, CA 92220

Ms. Linda Otero  
AhaMaKav Cultural Society  
Fort Mojave Indian Reservation  
P.O. Box 5990  
Mohave Valley, AZ 86440

Mr. John Gomez, Jr.  
Cultural Resources Coordinator  
Ramona Band of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 391670  
Anza, CA 92539

Ms. Goldie Walker  
Serrano Band of Indians  
6588 Valeria Drive  
Highland, CA 92346

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Morongo Basin Historical Society  
P.O. Box 2046  
Yucca Valley, CA 92286



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Southern California Area Office  
27708 Jefferson Ave., Suite 202  
Temecula, CA 92590-2628

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SCAO-1500  
ENV-7.00

**APR 16 2012**

## MEMORANDUM

To: Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, Fish and Wildlife Service  
Attention: Kirstina Barry

From: William J. Steele  
Area Manager

Subject: Hi-Desert Water District Water Reclamation Facility, Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Collection System Project, San Bernardino County, California  
(Ref: 08EVEN00-2012-SLI-0193)

The Bureau of Reclamation is authorized to provide financial assistance to the Hi Desert Water District for a wastewater reclamation project serving the Town of Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, California. The proposed project would construct a wastewater reclamation facility and groundwater recharge basins on a 40-acre site, with approximately 77 miles (405,800 linear feet) of wastewater collection system pipelines.

The proposed wastewater reclamation facility site is on disturbed vacant land in Class 3 habitat for threatened desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*). Nearly all collection system pipelines will be installed within paved roadway surfaces. Attached is a General Biological Survey and Focused Desert Tortoise Survey (May 2009, Tom Dodson & Associates, San Bernardino, California). No signs of desert tortoise were observed at the wastewater reclamation facility site, within the surrounding zone of influence, or along any collection system pipeline alignment.

We have concluded that the proposed action will not affect desert tortoise. Formal consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is not required. Pre-construction surveys will be conducted prior to any clearing or grading activities at the wastewater reclamation site. If desert tortoise is found, no ground disturbances will be allowed until authorized by your office.

We are currently preparing a Finding of No Significant Impact, based on an Initial Study and Environmental Assessment (June 2009, Tom Dodson & Associates) that was prepared to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. If we determine that the project is a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, then a biological assessment will be prepared pursuant to the interagency cooperation regulations at 50 CFR 402.12(b)(1).

Thank you for the species list and guidance provided in your memorandum of March 15, 2012. If you need more information, please contact Doug McPherson of my staff at 951-695-5310 or by e-mail at [dmcpherson@usbr.gov](mailto:dmcpherson@usbr.gov).

Attachment

cc: Ms. Elizabeth Janes  
EPA Region IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Ms. Diana Conkle  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Frank Luckino  
Hi-Desert Water District  
55439 29 Palms Highway  
Yucca Valley, CA 92284-2503



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office  
2493 Portola Road, Suite B  
Ventura, California 93003

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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
08EVEN00-2012-SLI-0193

## Memorandum

To: Area Manager, Southern California Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation, Temecula, California

From: Assistant Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, Ventura, California

Subject: Species List Request for Wastewater Treatment Plant and a Collection Pipeline System in Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, California

This memorandum is in response to your request received through the Fish and Wildlife Service's internet-based Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support system on February 24, 2012. You requested information on federally proposed or listed threatened and endangered species, candidate species, and designated critical habitat that may be affected by your proposed project. In a conversation between yourself and Kirstina Barry of our office on March 6, 2012, you described the project as a wastewater reuse plan that includes the construction of a wastewater treatment plant and installation of a collection pipeline system in Yucca Valley. The wastewater treatment plant would be constructed on a parcel of land near the edge of the city and include 15 acres of recharge basins.

The only federally listed species that is likely to be present within the boundaries of the planning area is the threatened desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*). Also, there is no designated critical habitat in the proposed project area.

This information fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Act. The Bureau of Reclamation, as the lead Federal agency for the project, has the responsibility to review its proposed activities and determine whether any listed species may be affected. Because the project is a construction project<sup>1</sup> which may require an environmental impact statement, the Bureau of Reclamation has the responsibility to prepare a biological assessment to make a determination of the effects of the action on the listed species or critical habitat. If the Bureau of Reclamation determines that a listed species or critical habitat is likely to be adversely affected, it should request, in writing through our office, formal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Act. Informal consultation may be used to exchange information and resolve conflicts with respect to threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat prior to a written request for formal consultation. During this review process, the Bureau of

<sup>1</sup> "Construction project" means any major Federal action which significantly affects the quality of the human environment designed primarily to result in the building of structures such as dams, buildings, roads, pipelines, and channels. This includes Federal actions such as permits, grants, licenses, or other forms of Federal authorizations or approval which may result in construction.

Reclamation may engage in planning efforts, but may not make any irreversible commitment of resources. Such a commitment could constitute a violation of section 7(d) of the Act.

Newer information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of listed species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential presence of federally proposed, listed, or candidate species and federally designated critical habitat. Please note that under the Act, a species list is valid for 90 days. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Only federally listed species receive protection under the Act; however, species listed by the State of California or otherwise considered to be sensitive should be identified in the planning process in the event that they become listed or proposed for listing prior to project completion. We recommend that you also review information in the California Department of Fish and Game's Natural Diversity Database. You can contact the California Department of Fish and Game at (916) 324-3812 for information on other sensitive species that may occur in this area.

If you have any questions, please call Kirstina Barry at (805) 644-1766, extension 357.



**Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District**

14306 Park Avenue, Victorville, CA 92392-2310

760.245.1661 • fax 760.245.2699

Visit our web site: <http://www.mdaqmd.ca.gov>

Eldon Heaston, Executive Director

June 11, 2009

Mr. Joe Glowitz, District Engineer  
Hi-Desert Water District  
55439 Twentynine Palms Highway  
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

**Project Title: Hi-Desert Water District Water Reclamation Facility, Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Collection System Project**

Dear Mr. Glowitz:

The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (District) has received the Notice of Availability and Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Hi-Desert Water District Water Reclamation Facility, Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Collection System Project.

12--1

The District has reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project and concurs with the analysis and findings. Based on this information, the District has no comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this planning document. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (760) 245-1661, extension 6726, or Tracy Walters at extension 6122.

Sincerely,

**Alan J. De Salvio**  
Supervising Air Quality Engineer

TW/AJD

Hi-Desert H2O WRF WTP SCS



**California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region**



**Matthew Rodriguez**  
*Secretary for  
Environmental Protection*

73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100, Palm Desert, California 92260  
(760) 346-7491 • FAX (760) 341-6820  
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver>

**Edmund G. Brown Jr.**  
*Governor*

February 22, 2012

Shane R. Stueckle, Deputy Town Manager  
Town of Yucca Valley  
57090 Twentynine Palms Highway  
Town of Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Dear Mr. Stueckle:

**SUBJECT: SWPPP – GENERAL NPDES PERMIT FOR CONSUTRUCTION  
ACTIVITIES**

This letter is to inform you that for the Town of Yucca Valley, the most prominent surface water way is Yucca Valley Creek – an intermittent desert stream. Because the Army Core of Engineers has already made a determination that Yucca Valley Creek is not a jurisdictional water of the United States, we will not be requiring project proponents to obtain coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit No. CAS000002, for storm water discharges associated with construction and land disturbance activities. This applies to such activities in the Town of Yucca Valley.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me or John Carmona of our staff at (760) 346-7491. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jose L. Angel, P.E.  
Assistant Executive Officer  
Colorado River Basin  
Regional Water Quality Control Board

JA/tab

cc: Hi-Desert Water District, Town of Yucca Valley  
Yucca Valley Public Works/Engineering Department, Town of Yucca Valley  
Tom Vandenberg, Office of the Chief Counsel, SWRCB

**California Environmental Protection Agency**

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials	
<b>Air Quality</b>						
4.1-1	The construction site disturbed areas will be watered twice daily for short-term surface stabilization, and more times if winds are sufficient to loft dust from the construction site.	Initial Study / Environmental Assessment (IS/EA)	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract and the watering shall be implemented while bare ground is exposed during project construction.	Hi-Desert Water District (HDWD)	A copy of the contract shall be retained by HDWD and construction field inspectors shall verify that watering is occurring during construction activities and under active wind conditions. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.	
4.1-2	Chemical, vegetative or mechanical (compaction or paving) will be used for surface stabilization upon completion of grading activities, if subsequent site uses are not proposed.	IS/EA	Following completion of grading activities within project areas, the ground cover or paving shall be installed as soon as possible, but no later than one week from completion of grading.	HDWD	A copy of the construction erosion control plan shall be provided prior to initiating ground disturbance and retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify the installation and effectiveness of ground cover in accordance with the plan throughout the duration of project construction. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.	

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials	
<b>Air Quality (continued)</b>						
4.1-3	Trackout onto paved roads will be minimized, and removed (swept or washed from paved surfaces) if substantial soil material accumulates on paved surfaces. Cleanup of project-related trackout or spills on paved roads will be removed daily.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This measure shall be implemented each day when construction activities are underway and construction traffic utilizes paved roadways in the project area.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained by HDWD, and construction field inspectors shall verify that sweeping is occurring daily during construction activities when roadways are being used in support of project construction. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.	
4.1-4	Haul trucks will be covered.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This measure shall be implemented each day when construction activities are underway and construction traffic utilizes paved roadways in the project area.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained by HDWD, and construction field inspectors shall verify that haul trucks are covered daily during construction activities. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.	
4.1-5	Grading and soil movement activities will be minimized when winds exceed 30 miles per hour at the local airport or at an onsite wind monitoring system.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This measure shall be implemented each day when construction activities are underway and local winds exceed 30 miles per hour.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained by HDWD, and construction field inspectors shall verify that construction activities are minimized when wind speeds exceed 30 mph . Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.	

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials
<b>Air Quality (continued)</b>					
4.1-6	Efficient scheduling of equipment use, with a phased construction schedule to reduce the number of units operating simultaneously.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This measure shall be implemented when construction activities are underway and air pollutant emitting equipment is scheduled to support construction activities.	HDWD	A copy of a construction equipment scheduling plan shall be provided prior to initiating ground disturbance and retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify the use of equipment in accordance with this plan. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.
4.1-7	Performing regular engine maintenance on all equipment.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This measure shall be implemented prior to and when construction activities are underway.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained by HDWD, and engine maintenance records documenting compliance for all onsite equipment shall be provided to the District quarterly. The maintenance records shall be retained in the project file.
4.1-8	Provision of local equipment storage areas so that equipment trips to the sites can be reduced.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This measure shall be implemented prior to and when construction activities are underway.	HDWD	A construction equipment location plan shall be provided prior to initiating ground disturbance and retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify the use of storage location in accordance with this plan. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials	
<b>Air Quality (continued)</b>						
4.1-9	Construction personnel shall be encouraged to ride share to reduce vehicle trips to construction sites, including incentives for carpooling among construction employees.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This measure shall be implemented prior to and when construction activities are underway.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained by HDWD, and a rideshare program shall be provided to the District prior to initiating construction. A quarterly rideshare participant report shall be submitted to the District monthly. The reports shall be retained in the project file.	
4.1-10	Shut down equipment when not in use for more than 10 minutes.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This measure shall be implemented when construction activities are underway.	HDWD	A copy of a construction contract shall be retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify compliance with this measure during field inspections. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.	
4.1-11	To the extent feasible, the District shall select landscaping that is fast-growing to create a windbreak buffer along the periphery of the WRF site. A minimum of two rows shall be installed at different times and plants shall be installed and grown in stages; periodically harvested; and replanted to maintain carbon sequestration. Alternatively or concurrently, the District may install solar power systems to partially or fully offset operational electricity demand	IS/EA	Prior to initiating operations, the HDWD shall indicate which option will be implemented and what the reduction in GHG emissions will be through implementing the proposed option. The District shall begin installing any landscaping or solar systems prior to initiating wastewater collection and	HDWD	Documentation of GHG emission reductions (photos of onsite landscaping or solar systems) shall be acquired and retained in the project file. An annual report of GHG emission reductions shall be compiled and retained in the project file. If credits are purchased, evidence of the purchase shall be retained in the project file.	

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials	
<b>Air Quality (continued)</b>						
4.1-11 (cont.)	of the WRF. As a final alternative, the District may choose to purchase annual or permanent carbon credits from the available carbon banks at the time the facility begins operation.		treatment. Purchase of any credits shall be completed prior to initiating wastewater collection and treatment.			
4.1-12	The District shall require the installation of odor control facilities as part of the facility design. These facilities shall be state of the art and shall control odors to ensure that adjacent properties are not exposed to significant odor concentrations, except during an emergency/upset condition at the WRF.	IS/EA	The specific odor control equipment shall be defined prior to initiating construction; shall be installed during construction; and shall be operated and maintained during wastewater collection and treatment operations	HDWD	Verification that the odor control system is state of the art when the plant is installed shall be retained in the project file. As built engineering drawings of the odor control system shall be retained in the project file, and system operation and maintenance data shall also be retained in the project file.	
4.1-13	The District shall establish an odor complaint response phone number that shall be clearly posted on the exterior fence of the treatment plant facility. If odor complaints are received, the District shall respond within 24 hours to correct the problem, and provide a response to the complainant within 12 hours of notification identifying what actions were taken and how long was or will be required to control the odor problem. Sources of odors shall be corrected in as timely a manner as possible.	IS/EA	The odor complaint response program shall be in place prior to receipt of wastewater and initiating of treatment operations. A log of odor complaints and responses shall be retained by the HDWD. A log of time required to control any odor excursions shall be retained.	HDWD	A copy of the program shall be retained in the project file and a summary of excursions shall be presented to the District Board on an annual basis. Logs of complaints, responses and time required to control odor excursions shall be retained in the project file.	

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials	
<b>Hydrology and Water Quality</b>						
4.2-1	The District shall prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and a Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) that will achieve no net loss of topsoil from the project sites and prevent runoff from causing erosion on adjacent property during construction. The SWPPP and WQMP shall be provided to the construction contractor and the contractor shall implement the SWPPP during all construction activities at the site.	IS/EA	The SWPPP shall be approved and ready for implementation prior initiating ground disturbance activities. The SWPPP shall be implemented through completion of the construction period.	HDWD	A copy of the SWPPP shall be retained in the project file and HDWD field inspectors shall verify that the BMPs are being implemented during construction of all treatment facilities, the pipelines and related support facilities.	
4.2-2	The SWPPP prepared for the project site shall include a spill response program for accidental release of water pollutants during construction that shall, at a minimum, meet the following performance standards: adequate resources shall be maintained on the site by the contractor to control any release of pollutants; if a spill occurs, the pollutant shall first be contained, second the spill shall be reported to appropriate authorities, third the pollutant contaminated material (soil, water, etc.) shall be collected in proper containers, fourth the pollutant contaminated material shall be delivered to a facility with the capability to treat or dispose of the contaminated material in accordance with existing laws and regulations in place at the time of the accidental spill; fifth the area contaminated by the spill shall be cleaned (remediated) to background conditions, or alternatively to a level	IS/EA	The SWPPP containing the required spill response program shall be approved and ready for implementation prior initiating ground disturbance activities. The SWPPP shall be implemented through completion of the construction period.	HDWD	A copy of the SWPPP shall be retained in the project file and HDWD field inspectors shall verify that the all actions required by the spill response program are being implemented during construction of all treatment facilities, the pipelines and related support facilities.	

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials	
<b>Hydrology and Water Quality (continued)</b>						
4.2-2 (cont.)	that meets the requirements of existing laws and regulations at the time of the clean-up and that does not leave any residual threat to humans or the environment in which the spill occurs.					
4.2-3	The District shall prepare the WQMP and include a Spill Prevention Control Countermeasures Plan that will minimize the potential for release of any hazardous or toxic chemicals to the environment. This Plan shall include a requirement to retain material safety data sheets (MSDS) for all hazardous materials or substances at the site and measures that outline the responses that will be implemented should an accidental spill of hazardous materials onsite occur. Based on the list of hazardous materials/substances that will be utilized at the plant, the District Plan shall identify handling procedures and management options for any accidental releases to the environment until such accidentally released material is properly disposed of or treated so that no residual harm remains from the accidental release.	IS/EA	The WQMP and/or Business Plan containing the required spill prevention control countermeasures program shall be approved and ready for implementation prior receipt and treatment of wastewater. The WQMP shall be implemented over the life of the facility and updated with any major changes in operations.	HDWD	A copy of the WQMP shall be retained in the project file and HDWD managers shall verify that the all actions required by the WQMP are being implemented during operations. An annual report of Plan implementation shall be submitted to the District Board.	

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials	
<b>Hydrology and Water Quality (continued)</b>						
4.2-4 (cont.)	The District shall restore any channel crossing locations with a comparable quantity or quality of habitat to that disturbed or removed during construction of the proposed project. Because no sensitive riparian or wetland habitat will be affected, the project will not be required to create such habitat or acquire mitigation bank credits. Channel restoration in the area of the pipeline crossing is considered adequate by the District to fully mitigate effects on altering the stream bed on the project site. The District must acquire a 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement and may have to acquire a WDR from the Regional Board, and shall implement the requirements of the WDR and Agreement as long as it is not less than that identified above.	IS/EA	Prior to installing pipeline across any jurisdictional channel, a restoration plan shall be approved by HDWD and CDFG and the plan shall be implemented immediately following closure of any channel crossing. Any regulatory permits shall be obtained prior to crossing any jurisdictional channel.  Annual monitoring shall be conducted at each crossing to verify plan implementation until specific design goals are achieved.	HDWD	A copy of each regulatory permit and channel crossing restoration plan shall be retained in the project file. Field personnel shall verify the restoration is installed in a timely manner. Annual monitoring reports shall be retained in the project file until the plan's success is verified by a qualified biologist and the CDFG.	
4.2-5	The District shall install one or more monitoring wells downstream of the WRF. The well(s) shall be monitored for elevation of the groundwater table below the ground surface (bgs). If the groundwater table downstream of the WRF recharge site approaches 100 feet bgs, the District shall initiate pumping to control the groundwater level. The groundwater extracted may be discharged to the surface if the water quality is acceptable to the regulatory agencies, or it may be further treated and made available to the District's domestic water supply system. The performance	IS/EA	The location of monitoring well and the well to be installed shall be completed prior to discharge of treated effluent from the WRF. If the elevation of the groundwater table rises above 100 feet bgs, the specific actions required to maintain this level shall be documented during operations. The manner of handling any water pumped to the surface shall be documented.	HDWD	As built drawings of the monitoring well and well location shall be retained in the project file. Copies of documentation for controlling groundwater level at 100 feet or greater bgs shall be retained in the project file. An annual report of groundwater elevation in the monitoring well shall be provided to the District Board and the report shall be retained in the project file.	

**HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
AND SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT  
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Mitigation Measure	Source	Implementation Schedule	Responsible Party	Verification	Status / Date / Initials	
<b>Hydrology and Water Quality (continued)</b>						
4.2-5 (cont.)	standard to be achieved is that the groundwater table downstream of the WRF recharge facilities shall not rise above the 100 foot bgs threshold.					
4.2-6	The District shall install one or more monitoring wells downstream of the WRF. The well(s) shall be monitored at least annually for all drinking water standards and compared to maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for public drinking water standards. If concentrations approach any MCL, the District shall install additional treatment at the WRF to modify the treated effluent by lowering or removing the pollutant of concern to a level that will prevent the MCL from being exceeded. The performance standard to be achieved is that the groundwater quality shall not be allowed to exceed any MCL for a domestic or public drinking water supply.	IS/EA	The location of monitoring well and the well to be installed shall be completed prior to discharge of treated effluent from the WRF. A water quality sampling plan shall be also be approved prior to discharge of treated effluent from the WRF. If the groundwater quality in the well exceeds any MCL to which the WRF contributes, the specific actions required to modify the treated effluent shall be documented during operations. The manner of controlling any MCL exceeding contaminant shall be documented.	HDWD	As built drawings of the monitoring well and well location shall be retained in the project file. A copy of the monitoring well sampling plan shall be retained in the project file. A copy of the annual sampling analysis shall be retained in the project. An annual report of groundwater quality in the monitoring well shall be provided to the District Board and the report shall be retained in the project file.	

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<b>Hydrology and Water Quality (continued)</b>						
4.2-7	The District shall provide a drainage report that defines the 100-year flood elevation on the site and shall either elevate the treatment plant facilities above this level with two feet of freeboard or shall provide protection of the site with a boundary levee that protects the facilities from exposure to flooding from the 100-year flow across the property. The final treatment plant facility design shall provide a means of re-routing any storm flows, including the 100 year flow, around the facility and back into the existing natural channel on the north side of the site without causing significant erosion in the channel.	IS/EA	The drainage study shall be completed prior to approving final design of the WRF. The design required to ensure the WRF is not located within the 100-year flood hazard area shall be retained in the project file. The drainage study shall verify that the WRF design will not increase downstream flows or flow velocity. If flows or flow velocity will be altered, the HDWD shall install downstream drainage improvements approved by County Flood Control to prevent downstream damage from altered flows.	HDWD	A copy of the drainage study and WRF site design for drainage shall be retained in the project file. The as built drawings verifying that the site can pass the 100-year flood and not cause damage downstream shall be retained in the project file.	
<b>Transportation / Traffic</b>						
4.5-1	The construction contractor will provide adequate traffic management resources, such as protective devices, flag persons, and police assistance for traffic control, to maintain safe traffic flow on local streets affected by facility and pipeline construction at all times.	IS/EA	The contractor shall prepare a traffic management plan for implementation at all construction sites on the local or area circulation system. This plan shall be completed and approved prior to initiating construction and its implementation shall be verified during construction.	HDWD	A copy of the traffic management plan shall be retained in the project file and field inspections during construction shall verify that the plan measures are being implemented.	

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<b>Transportation / Traffic (continued)</b>						
4.5-2	The construction contractor will identify traffic hazards created by construction, such as rough road or potholes, freshly paved locations, and minimize total traffic and vehicle speed through such hazards.	IS/EA	The contractor shall prepare a traffic management plan for implementation at all traffic hazard locations related to construction sites on the local or area circulation system. This plan shall be completed and approved prior to initiating construction and its implementation shall be verified during construction.	HDWD	A copy of the traffic hazards management plan shall be retained in the project file and field inspections during construction shall verify that the plan measures are being implemented.	
4.5-3	The construction contractor will ensure that traffic safety hazards, such as uncovered or unfilled open trenches, will not be left in roadways during period of time when construction personnel are not present, such as nighttime and weekends.	IS/EA	This requirement will be included in the traffic management plans for construction and traffic hazard areas. This plan shall be completed and approved prior to initiating construction and its implementation shall be verified during construction.	HDWD	A copy of the traffic hazards management plan shall be retained in the project file and field inspections during construction shall verify that the plan measures are being implemented.	

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<b>Transportation / Traffic (continued)</b>						
4.5-4	The construction contractor will repair all roads adequately after construction to ensure that traffic can move in the same manner as before construction.	IS/EA	Within project-related construction areas, the contractor shall prepare a roadway restoration plan for implementation when construction within an area is completed. This plan shall be completed and approved prior to initiating construction and its implementation shall be verified during construction.	HDWD	A copy of the roadway restoration plan shall be retained in the project file and field inspections during construction shall verify that the plan measures are being implemented, both in terms of design and timeliness of restoration.	
4.5-5	At all times during construction, the contractor will ensure that emergency fire, police or medical vehicles are able to access all adjacent areas. Additionally, construction equipment or activities must not obstruct or hinder traffic that might be generated during an evacuation.	IS/EA	The traffic management plan shall contain a section on emergency access during construction or during an evacuation. The contractor shall prepare a traffic management plan for implementation at all construction sites on the local or area circulation system. This plan shall be completed and approved by the Town or emergency service providers prior to initiating construction and its implementation shall be verified during construction.	HDWD	A copy of the traffic management plan, including emergency and evacuation access shall be retained in the project file and field inspections during construction shall verify that the plan measures are being implemented.	

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<b>Natural Resources – Biological Resources</b>						
4.6-1	Once the final pipeline alignments are engineered and surveyed, and the wastewater reclamation facility site boundaries finally established, a qualified biologist will inventory the numbers and types of cacti, creosote bushes, and Joshua Trees that are to be impacted and removed. Salvaging of individual Joshua tree and cacti plants within these final alignments will be done in compliance with Town and County ordinances.	IS/EA	The qualified biologist's inventory shall be completed before ground disturbance within any pipeline alignment. The District shall retain a qualified Joshua tree and cacti salvage firm and this firm shall compile a plant relocation plan and complete any relocations prior to initiating construction in the area of these resources.	HDWD	A copy of the inventory shall be retained in the project file. A copy of the plant relocation plan shall be retained in the project file. Field inspections during relocation and after relocation shall verify that the plan measures are implemented and that any maintenance measures for the plants are being implemented.	
4.6-2	Any grubbing or brushing to occur as part of the project will be conducted outside of the State-identified bird breeding season of February 15 <sup>th</sup> through September 1. Alternatively, a qualified biologist may survey the project impact area and if no native bird nests are discovered, the development may proceed. A report of findings will be provided to the California Department of Fish and Game if construction in the vicinity of bird nests must be conducted during nesting season.	IS/EA	If grubbing and site clearance are proposed during nesting season, the qualified biologist's survey data and findings shall be completed prior to implementing site clearance. If approved by CDFG, construction can proceed by following any nesting bird protection measures.	HDWD	The District shall document the time when construction will occur for all project components (WRF, pipelines, or pump stations). Any biologist nesting surveys and recommendations shall be retained in the project file after approved by CDFG. Field inspections during site clearance shall verify that the bird protection measures are being implemented.	

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<b>Natural Resources – Biological Resources (continued)</b>						
4.6-3	If the above work cannot be done according to this schedule, prior to the initiation of any ground disturbance, a qualified biologist will determine what birds are nesting in the shrubs or trees to be removed or are within 500 feet of the area that will be under construction.	IS/EA	If ground disturbance is proposed during nesting season, the qualified biologist's survey data and findings shall be completed prior to implementing site clearance. If approved by CDFG, construction can proceed by following any nesting bird protection measures.	HDWD	Any biologist nesting surveys and recommendations shall be retained in the project file after approved by CDFG. Field inspections during site clearance shall verify that the bird protection measures are being implemented.	
4.6-4	Mitigation for impacts to jurisdictional water of the State shall be offset by revegetating the pipeline alignment across the wash with equivalent habitat. This requirement shall be memorialized in the 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement obtained for this project prior to disturbing the alignment.	IS/EA	Prior to ground disturbance within any State jurisdictional water, the existing habitat and plant community shall be documented and a revegetation plan developed and approved by CDFG.	HDWD	A copy of the existing habitat characteristics shall be retained in the project file and a copy of the approved revegetation plan shall also be retained in the project file. HDWD shall monitor compliance with all revegetation plan requirements and provide annual monitoring reports to the file and any other agency requesting a copy.	

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<b>Natural Resources – Biological Resources (continued)</b>						
4.6-5	Prior to initiating site clearing and grading activities on the WRF project site, a pre-construction desert tortoise and burrowing owl survey shall be conducted within 30 days of initiating ground disturbance at the administrative building. Assuming no tortoise are found, the District may install a tortoise exclusion fence around the WRF site or retain a qualified biologist to monitor the project area one time per week during the duration of active construction activities on the WRF site. If either species (tortoise or burrowing owl) is discovered on the administrative building site, a qualified professional biologist shall implement measures, including possible acquisition of an incidental take permit, to remove any individuals of either species from this site.	IS/EA	The preconstruction occupancy survey shall be conducted within 30 days prior to initiating ground disturbance at the WRF project site. Based on findings, either a tortoise fence shall be installed, or measures shall be implemented to obtain an incidental take permit for tortoise or properly relocate any burrowing owl prior to initiating ground disturbance in accordance with CDFG procedures	HDWD	The findings of the WRF preconstruction survey shall be retained in the project file. If tortoise or owl are found occupying the site, the ground shall not be disturbed until authorization is obtained from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and CDFG for tortoise, and CDFG for burrowing owl. All authorizations shall be retained in the project file.	
4.6-6	To minimize potential support for local raven populations, the District shall publish or make available a brochure to all employees (including contractor employees) that describes measures which can be implemented by residents to minimize habitat support for local raven populations.	IS/EA	The brochure shall be published and provided to all project and construction personnel prior to initiation of construction activities.	HDWD	A copy of the brochure shall be retained in the project file. Notes of meetings to educate the construction staff about raven populations shall be documented and retained in the project file.	

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<b>Natural Resources – Biological Resources (continued)</b>						
4.6-7	To prevent introduction of exotic, non-native plant species that could damage the local plant community, a qualified biologist shall compile a list of species that shall be prohibited from use in landscaping within the project area.	IS/EA	The list shall be compiled and made available to the landscape designer and contractor prior to initiation of construction.	HDWD	A copy of the list shall be retained in the project file. The HDWD shall have a qualified biologist review the landscape plants proposed for installation at the project site and shall have the installed landscaping reviewed for introduction of exotics. The field survey findings shall be documented and retained in the project file.	
4.6-8	Worker education programs, defined construction areas, habitat mitigation, and well-defined operational procedures shall be implemented regarding desert tortoise and local wildlife.	IS/EA	Each of these program elements shall be presented to all District and contractor employees working on the WRF or support facilities prior to being allowed to work on the project.	HDWD	A copy of worker education programs, maps of defined construction areas, habitat mitigation areas and operational procedures shall be retained in the project file. A log of training classes and attendees shall be retained in the project file.	
4.6-9	Unauthorized, public off-road use of any project areas shall be discouraged by posting of signs and by District inspectors monitoring the construction crew.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. Signs prohibiting District or contractor employees from engaging in off-road activity shall be posted in project construction areas prior to initiating construction.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained in the project file. Field personnel shall document that signs have been posted and continue to be in place until construction is completed. Any violations of this requirement shall be noted by field inspectors and measures implemented by the District or contractor to stop such activity.	

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<b>Natural Resources – Biological Resources (continued)</b>					
4.6-10	Construction personnel or other persons related to the project shall not be permitted to bring pets or firearms into construction areas.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. These requirements shall be included in the worker education program.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained in the project file. Field personnel shall document that workers do not bring dogs or fire arms to the work sites. Any violations of this requirement shall be noted by field inspectors and measures implemented by the District or contractor to stop such activity.
4.6-11	Trash from construction crews and facility employees, especially food items or packaging, shall be disposed of in scavenger-proof containers and removed daily to avoid attracting desert tortoise predators to the area.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. The contractor shall identify the specific trash containers that will be used to prevent scavenging prior to initiation of ground disturbance.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained in the project file. Field personnel shall document that the correct or a comparable trash container has been installed at all work sites where trash is generated.
<b>Natural Resources – Geology and Soils</b>					
4.6-12	Comprehensive geotechnical investigations shall be required prior to engineering and design development or structural and/or substantial rehabilitation of structures identified under Risk Class I & II, e.g., public facilities, as identified below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Class I &amp; II, Structures Critically Needed after Disaster: Structures that are critically needed after a disaster include important utility centers, fire</li> </ul>	IS/EA	A geotechnical report detailing project-specific onsite geologic constraints, including risk tolerance classes, acceptable damage levels, multipliers, and appropriate design mitigation, will be completed prior to initiation of any groundbreaking activities for facilities that will be occupied or that must be	HDWD	A copy of the geotechnical report shall be retained in the project file, and HDWD project managers and field inspectors shall verify that the recommendations outlined in the report are being implemented during construction of facilities.

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<b>Natural Resources – Geology and Soils (continued)</b>						
4.6-12 (cont.)	<p>stations, police stations, emergency communication facilities, hospitals, and critical transportation elements such as bridges and overpasses and smaller dams.</p> <p><u>Acceptable Damage:</u> Minor non-structural; facility should remain operational and safe, or be suitable for quick restoration of service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Class III: High occupancy structures; uses are required after disasters (i.e., places of assembly such as schools and churches).</li> </ul> <p><u>Acceptable Damage:</u> Some impairment of function acceptable; structure needs to remain operational.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Class IV, Ordinary Risk Tolerance: The vast majority of structures in urban areas; most commercial and industrial buildings, small hotels and apartment buildings, and single family residences.</li> </ul>		functional following a seismic event.			
4.6-13	Any pipelines crossing the Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zones for the Pinot Mountain, Eureka Peak and Burt Mountain Faults could be subject to damage due to ground rupture associated with these faults. Any construction of facilities in or pipelines crossing this zone is required to have detailed structural engineering studies to ensure designs that can safely accommodate the anticipated ground movement(s), or to be immediately repairable following a seismic event along any of the three fault.	IS/EA	A structural engineering report detailing design measures to protect pipelines crossing through the Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone shall be completed prior to installing pipelines in or across the Zone. The design measure(s) shall be installed when the pipeline is installed.	HDWD	A copy of the structural engineering report shall be retained in the project file, and HDWD project managers and field inspectors shall verify that the recommendations outlined in the report are being implemented during installation of pipelines within the Zone.	

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<b>Natural Resources – Geology and Soils (continued)</b>						
4.6-14	Construction specifications will include appropriate measures for stabilizing excavations based on recommendation of project geotechnical studies.	IS/EA	Construction specifications for stabilizing excavations shall be completed prior to conducting excavations.	HDWD	A copy of the construction specifications shall be retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify that the specifications are being implemented during excavations, where necessary.	
4.6-15	Trenches will remain open for as short a time as possible.	IS/EA	This requirement shall be included as a condition or stipulation of the construction contract. This requirement shall be implemented during installation of any trenches associated with the project.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify that the trenches are being closed as soon as work has been completed within the trench.	
4.6-16	Soils, where exposed, will be stabilized with hay bales or aggregate cover.	IS/EA	This measure shall be implemented as part of the SWPPP and this specific measure shall be implemented during construction or until the soil has stabilized without the cover.	HDWD	A copy of the SWPPP, including this requirement, shall be retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify that the exposed soils are stabilized as required during construction and until the soil has stabilized without the cover.	
4.6-17	Construction specifications will identify proper compaction for backfilled soils.	IS/EA	The construction specification shall be completed prior to any requirement to compact soils within construction areas.	HDWD	A copy of the required construction specification shall be retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify that the soils are compacted in accordance with the construction specification requirements.	

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<b>Natural Resources – Visual Resources / Aesthetics</b>						
4.6-18	A facility lighting plan shall be prepared and shall demonstrate that glare from operating and safety night lights that may create light and glare affecting adjacent occupied property are sufficiently shielded to prevent light and glare from spilling into occupied structures. This plan shall be implemented in conformance with the Town of Yucca Valley Night Skies Ordinance and it shall be reviewed and approved by the District staff prior to installation of the night lights.	IS/EA	The lighting plan shall be completed and reviewed and approved prior to installing the lighting system.	HDWD	A copy of the facility lighting plan shall be retained in the project file. Field inspectors shall verify that the lighting system has been installed in accordance with the approved lighting plan.	
<b>Cultural Resources</b>						
4.11-1	In the event that subsurface historical, cultural or paleontological resources are accidentally exposed during onsite construction activities, construction will be stopped until a qualified professional evaluates the resources. If resources are encountered, adequate funding will be provided by the District to collect, curate and report on these resources.	IS/EA	This measure will be incorporated into the construction contract. Any accidentally discovered resources shall be immediately evaluated and any management actions for such resources shall be implemented within one year of the discovery.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained in the project file. Any accidental exposure shall be noted in the project file within 24 hours of the discovery. A copy of all reports regarding such a discovery shall be retained in the project file, including documentation that required management actions have been properly implemented.	

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<b>Cultural Resources (continued)</b>						
4.11-2	If any human remains are encountered during initial grading activities, all ground disturbing activities in the vicinity of the discovery will be terminated immediately and the County Coroner's office <u>MUST</u> be contacted within 24 hours at (909) 387-2543 to arrange for management of such remains.	IS/EA	This measure will be incorporated into the construction contract. Notification of the Coroner's office shall occur within 24 hours of any discovery.	HDWD	A copy of the contract shall be retained in the project file. Any accidental exposure shall be noted in the project file within 24 hours of the discovery. A copy of all reports regarding the disposition of human remains shall be retained in the project file.	
<b>Other Impact Issues – Noise</b>						
4.17-1	Where noise sensitive receptors are present, construction will be limited to the daylight hours, typically 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, and between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday, and will not occur on Sundays or federal holidays, except in emergencies.	IS/EA	This requirement will be included in the construction contract and will be implemented from the time that noise generating construction activities are initiated.	HDWD	A copy of contract will be retained in the HDWD project file, and field inspections shall verify compliance with the scheduled hours of construction and document such verification in the project file.	
4.17-2	All construction vehicles and fixed or mobile equipment will be equipped with properly operating and maintained mufflers.	IS/EA	This requirement will be included in the construction contract and will be implemented from the time that noise generating construction activities are initiated.	HDWD	A copy of contract will be retained in the HDWD project file, and field inspections shall verify compliance with the requirement to have and maintain equipment mufflers.	

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<b>Other Impact Issues – Noise (continued)</b>						
4.17-3	All employees that will be exposed to noise levels greater than 75 dB over an eight hour period will be provided with adequate hearing protection devices to ensure no hearing damage will result from construction activities.	IS/EA	This requirement will be included in the construction contract and will be implemented from the time that noise generating construction activities are initiated.	HDWD	A copy of contract will be retained in the HDWD project file, and field inspections shall verify compliance with the requirement to have noise protection devices in areas with sound levels greater than 75 dB over an 8-hour period.	
4.17-4	If equipment is being used that can cause hearing damage at adjacent noise receptor locations (distance attenuation will be taken into account), portable noise barriers will be installed that are demonstrated to be adequate to reduce noise levels at receptor locations below hearing damage thresholds.	IS/EA	Where required, sound attenuation equipment shall be available during construction, prior to carrying out the activity which could cause hearing damage.	HDWD	Field inspections shall be performed during periods when activities generate noise levels that can damage hearing to verify the attenuation devices are in place.	
4.17-5	Restrict the use of impulsive equipment such as jackhammers, pavement breakers, etc. between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.	IS/EA	This requirement will be included in the construction contract and will be implemented from the time that impulse noise generating construction activities are initiated.	HDWD	A copy of contract will be retained in the HDWD project file, and field inspections shall verify compliance with the requirement to prohibit impulse equipment use to between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.	
4.17-6	Erection of temporary berms or plywood barriers to create a break in the line-of-sight, or erection of a heavy fabric tent around the noise source.	IS/EA	Where required, sound attenuation equipment shall be available during construction, prior to carrying out the activity which could cause disruption of routine activity patterns.	HDWD	When justified, field inspections shall verify compliance with the requirements to break the line-of-sight between the noise source and the sensitive receptor.	

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<b>Other Impact Issues – Noise (continued)</b>						
4.17-7	Selection of as small a piece of equipment as possible that would still accomplish the task.	IS/EA	This requirement to utilize small or lower noise generating equipment to reduce noise levels will be included in the construction contract and will be implemented from the time that noise generating construction activities are initiated.	HDWD	Copy of contract will be retained in the HDWD project file, and field inspections shall verify compliance with the use of such equipment. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.	
4.17-8	As the District completes design of the WRF and pump stations systems, a noise study shall be completed that identifies noise levels for such systems, and identifies the specific design measures (attenuation walls, enclosures, berms, or other features) that must be incorporated into the facility design to prevent noise from exceeding the local significance threshold of 65 dBA CNEL at the sensitive receptor location. Appropriate nighttime noise reductions (walls, enclosures, mufflers, etc.) must be incorporated for any loud noise equipment that may cause this value to be exceeded. If the study indicates no attenuation is required, the District shall conduct a noise study after the facility(ies) are in operation to verify the study conclusions and implement noise attenuation features if necessary based on the measurements.	IS/EA	The noise study and design requirements for these specific facilities shall be completed prior to initiating construction of these facilities. Any noise attenuation design requirements shall be installed during construction. The after installation noise study shall be completed prior to placing the piece of equipment in routine operation.	HDWD	A copy of the noise study and design requirements shall be retained in the project file. A copy of the noise study after installation of the equipment shall also be retained in the project file. Field inspections shall verify compliance with the noise attenuation design requirements. Field notes verifying compliance shall be retained in the project file.	