Final
Mitigated Negative Declaration
for Loveland Reservoir
Fishing Relocation

SCH#96081088

SWA BP 95-01E

October 10, 1996

Table of Contents

Notice of Completion

Distribution List

Mitigated Negative Declaration

Initial Study

Comments Received and Responses to Comments

Notice of Completion *Supplementary Document M*

See NOTE below
SCH # 96081088

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 916/445-0613

Project Title: LOVELAND RESERVOIR FISHING RELOCATION

Lead Agency: SWEETWATER AUTHORITY — Contact Person: TROY MURPHREE

Street Address: 505 GARRETT AVENUE — Phone: (619) 420-1413, X632

City: CHULA VISTA, CA — Zip: 91910 — County: SAN DIEGO

Project Location

County: SAN DIEGO — City/Nearest Community: ALPINE

Cross Streets: JAPATUL ROAD, SKYLINE TRUCK TRAIL — Zip Code: 91901 — Total Acres: 60.7 ACRE EASEMENT

** Assessor's Parcel No. 520-120-02, -04 — Section: 10,11,14,15 Twp. 16 South Range: 2 East Base: Alpine & Viejas Mtn.

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: NO — Waterways: SWEETWATER RIVER

Airports: — Railways: NO — Schools: ONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**also A.P.N. No. 520-130-11 (No) and 521-040-19

Document Type

CEQA: ☐ NOP ☐ Early Cons ☐ Neg Dec ☐ Draft EIR ☐ Supplement/Subsequent ☐ EIR (Prior SCH No.) ☒ Other Draft Negative Declaration and Initial Study

NEPA: ☐ NOI ☐ EA ☐ Draft EIS ☐ FONSI

Other: ☐ Joint Document ☐ Final Document ☐ Other

Local Action Type

☐ General Plan Update ☐ General Plan Amendment ☐ General Plan Element ☐ Community Plan ☐ Specific Plan ☐ Master Plan ☐ Planned Unit Development ☐ Site Plan ☐ Rezone ☐ Prezone ☐ Use Permit ☐ Land Division (Subdivision, Parcel Map, Tract Map, etc.) ☐ Annexation ☐ Redevelopment ☐ Coastal Permit ☒ Other PROJECT APPROVAL

Development Type

☐ Residential: Units ____ Acres ____
☐ Office: Sq.ft. ____ Acres ____ Employees ____
☐ Commercial: Sq.ft. ____ Acres ____ Employees ____
☐ Industrial: Sq.ft. ____ Acres ____ Employees ____
☐ Educational
☒ Recreational RELOCATION OF PUBLIC FISHING

☐ Water Facilities: Type ____ MGD ____
☐ Transportation: Type ____
☐ Mining: Mineral ____
☐ Power: Type ____ Watts ____
☐ Waste Treatment: Type ____
☐ Hazardous Waste: Type ____
☐ Other ____

Project Issues Discussed in Document

☐ Aesthetic/Visual ☐ Agricultural Land ☐ Air Quality ☒ Archeological/Historical ☐ Coastal Zone ☐ Drainage/Absorption ☐ Economic/Jobs ☐ Fiscal
☐ Flood Plain/Flooding ☐ Forest Land/Fire Hazard ☐ Geologic/Seismic ☐ Minerals ☐ Noise ☐ Population/Housing Balance ☒ Public Services/Facilities ☐ Recreation/Parks
☐ Schools/Universities ☐ Septic Systems ☐ Sewer Capacity ☐ Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading ☐ Solid Waste ☐ Toxic/Hazardous ☐ Traffic/Circulation ☒ Vegetation
☐ Water Quality ☐ Water Supply/Groundwater ☐ Wetland/Riparian ☒ Wildlife ☐ Growth Inducing ☐ Landuse ☐ Cumulative Effects ☐ Other

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Use RURAL DEVELOPMENT AREA, 23 (FOREST SERVICE, STATE PARK REGIONAL PARK) - 1 DU/40 AC. ZONING: A-72 (GENERAL AGRICULTURE) S-80 (OPEN SPACE)

Project Description THE RELOCATION OF EXISTING PUBLIC FISHING OPPORTUNITIES ON FOREST SERVICE LAND ADJACENT TO LOVELAND RESERVOIR. FISHING ACCESS WOULD BE RELOCATED TO THE EASTERLY PORTION OF THE RESERVOIR, ON PROPERTY WHICH WILL BE IN THE OWNERSHIP OF SWEETWATER AUTHORITY.

* If SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. from a Notice of Preparation

State Clearinghouse Contact: Mr. Chris Belsky (916) 445-0613

State Review Began: 8-30-96
Dept. Review to Agency 9-13
Agency Rev to SCH 9-27
SCH COMPLIANCE 9-30

Please note SCH Number on all Comments

96081088

Please forward late comments directly to the Lead Agency

AQMD/APCD 27 (Resources: 8131)

Project Sent to the following State Agencies

- X Resources
- X Boating
- ___ Coastal Comm
- ___ Coastal Consv
- ___ Colorado Rvr Bd
- ___ Conservation
- X Fish & Game # 5
- ___ Delta Protection
- ___ Forestry
- X Parks & Rec/OHP
- ___ Reclamation
- ___ BCDC
- X DWR
- ___ OES
- ___ Bus Transp Hous
- ___ Aeronautics
- ___ CHP
- X Caltrans # 11
- ___ Trans Planning
- ___ Housing & Devel
- X Health & Welfare
- ___ Drinking H20
- ___ Medical Waste

State/Consumer Svcs
- ___ General Services
- ___ Cal/EPA
- ___ ARB
- ___ CA Waste Mgmt Bd
- ___ SWRCB: Grants
- ___ SWRCB: Delta
- ___ SWRCB: Wtr Quality
- ___ SWRCB: Wtr Rights
- X Reg. WQCB # 9
- ___ DTSC/CTC

Yth/Adlt Corrections
- ___ Corrections
- ___ Independent Comm
- ___ Energy Comm
- X NAHC
- ___ PUC
- ___ Santa Mn Mtns
- X State Lands Comm
- ___ Tahoe Rgl Plan
- ___ Other

RECEIVED
OCT 07 1996
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY ENGINEERING

State of California

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

1400 TENTH STREET
SACRAMENTO 95814

PETE WILSON
GOVERNOR

LEE GRISSOM
DIRECTOR

September 30, 1996

TROY MURPHREE
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY
505 GARRETT AVENUE
CHULA VISTA, CA 91910

Subject: LOVELAND RESERVOIR FISHING RELOCATION SCH #: 96081088

Dear TROY MURPHREE:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named environmental document to selected state agencies for review. The review period is closed and none of the state agencies have comments. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. When contacting the Clearinghouse in this matter, please use the eight-digit State Clearinghouse number so that we may respond promptly.

Sincerely,

Antero A. Rivasplata

ANTERO A. RIVASPLATA
Chief, State Clearinghouse

RECEIVED
OCT 07 1996
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

TO: X Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

X County Clerk
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 312
San Diego, CA 92101

1. Project Title and Description: Loveland Reservoir Fishing Relocation (B.P. 95-01E, W.O. 2803.0)

The proposed project is the relocation of existing public fishing opportunities on Forest Service land adjacent to Loveland Reservoir. Fishing access would be relocated to the easterly portion of the reservoir, on property which will be in the ownership of Sweetwater Authority. Sweetwater Authority will provide an easement to the Forest Service to ensure continued public access. The easement will cover the area 50 feet above the high water level measured horizontally, and will also include the parking area and trail to the reservoir.

The fishing relocation project includes the following elements: construction of a parking lot to accommodate approximately 50 vehicles; installation of trash receptacles; installation of toilets; and improvements to an existing trail for erosion control and safety purposes.

2. Location: Approximately two miles south of the community of Alpine in San Diego County, south of Japatul Road and approximately 0.75 mile east of Sycuan Truck Trail.

3. Entity undertaking the project: Sweetwater Authority, 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910

The Board of Directors of Sweetwater Authority, having reviewed the Initial Study of this proposed project and having reviewed the written comments received prior to the public meeting of the Board of Directors, including the recommendation of Sweetwater Authority Staff, does hereby find and declare that the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment. A brief statement of the reasons supporting the Board of Directors findings are as follows:

The project is the relocation of an existing activity and provides the basic facilities to support that activity. Any potential impacts are less than significant or would be mitigated to below a level of significance by the mitigation and monitoring program which is a part of the project.

The Board of Directors hereby finds that the Negative Declaration reflects its independent judgement. A copy of the Initial Study may be obtained at the following location:

Sweetwater Authority Administrative Office, 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA
Contact: Ms. Troy Murphree (619) 422-8395 extension 632

The location and custodian of the document and any other material which constitute the record of proceedings upon which the Board of Directors based its decision to adopt this Negative Declaration are as follows:

Sweetwater Authority Administrative Office, 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA
Contact: Ms. Troy Murphree (619) 422-8395 extension 632

Staff: Al R. Sorensen, Operations Manager

Date Adopted by the Governing Board:	Date Filed with the County Clerk:

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIAL STUDY

For the Proposed

Loveland Reservoir Fishing Relocation

County of San Diego, California

Prepared by

Sweetwater Authority
505 Garrett Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910

(#BP 95-01E, A2803.0)

August 20, 1996

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I. INTRODUCTION/ENVIRONMENTAL PROCEDURES

Introduction and Background

The Loveland Reservoir Fishing Relocation project was a result of the Sweetwater Authority (SWA) and the United States Forest Service (The Forest Service) land exchange negotiations. The land exchange will result in the addition of 883 acres of land into government holdings for the purpose of public access and recreation; the improved protection of water quality in Loveland Reservoir; and the improvement of fishing opportunities at Loveland Reservoir. The exchange consists of the following elements:

a) Sweetwater Authority purchase of a portion of Rancho Samagatuma (883 acres), a private holding within the Cleveland National Forest boundaries, abutting Cuyamaca State Park.

b) Sweetwater Authority exchange of the Rancho Samagatuma land to the Forest Service for Federal land of equal value (1,550 acres) adjacent to Loveland Reservoir.

c) The existing fishing opportunities on Government land at Loveland Reservoir will be maintained as a condition of the land exchange, although they will be relocated to the easterly portion of the reservoir. Sweetwater Authority will provide an easement to the Forest Service which will ensure continued public access.

d) Sweetwater Authority will provide the basic improvements to accommodate the public fishing access.

The Forest Service has completed NEPA compliance as required for the land exchange (items a & b above). A Categorical Exclusion was determined to be the appropriate document for the exchange. It is available for review at the Forest Service Descanso District office.

Sweetwater Authority is providing CEQA compliance for the fishing access and installation of related facilities (items c and d above). As described below, this document provides that compliance .

Environmental Procedures

This Initial Study has been prepared in accordance with Section 15063 of the Guidelines (California Administrative Code, Section 15000 et seq.) for the Implementation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as Amended (California Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq.), and pursuant to Sweetwater Authority Governing Board Resolution 95-04 adopting the Sweetwater Authority Local Guidelines for Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (1995) to determine whether the proposed project would cause significant impacts on the environment. If a project could result in significant adverse impacts to the environment, then the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. The applicant may modify the project to mitigate adverse impacts to below a level of significance, in which case a Mitigated Negative Declaration is prepared. If no significant adverse impacts are anticipated, a Negative Declaration is prepared.

The lead agency for this project is the Sweetwater Authority. CEQA defines the lead agency as "the public agency which has the primary responsibility for approving or carrying out a project." The approval process involves the preparation of an Initial Study to determine whether the preparation of an EIR or a Negative Declaration would be required. If the lead agency determines through the Initial Study that a Negative

Declaration is the required document, a notice that the lead agency proposes to adopt a Negative Declaration shall be provided to the public (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15072). The lead agency shall provide a public review period long enough to provide members of the public with sufficient time to respond to the proposed finding before the Negative Declaration is approved. Generally, this will be 15 to 30 days for a Negative Declaration. Because this project involves a State agency as a Trustee Agency, the document will be submitted to the State Clearinghouse. Prior to approving the project, the decision making body (in this case the Sweetwater Authority Board of Directors) shall consider the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process. The Board of Directors shall approve the Mitigated Negative Declaration if, on the basis of the Initial Study and any comments received, it finds that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment (CEQA Guidelines, Section 150674).

Concerned agencies, interested organizations, and the general public have a 30-day review period in which to consider this document and submit written comments. Comments must be sent to Sweetwater Authority, P.O. Box 2328, Chula Vista, CA 91912-2328, Attention: Ms. Troy Murphree, and received by September 30, 1996.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. Project Information

1) **Title of Proposal:** Loveland Reservoir Fishing Relocation (BP 95-01E, W.O. A2803.0)

2) **Lead Agency:** Sweetwater Authority, 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910

3) Agency Contact: Ms. Troy Murphree, (619) 422-8395 ext. 632

4) **Project Location:** Japatul Road, approximately 0.75 of a mile east of Sycuan Truck Trail, south of the community of Alpine in San Diego County (Figures 1 and 2)

5) **Project Sponsor:** Sweetwater Authority

6) **Date Checklist Submitted:** August 20, 1996.

7) **General Plan Designation:** Regional Land Use Map: Rural Development Area; Alpine Community Plan: 23 (Forest Service/State Park Regional Park- 1 du per 40 acres).

8) **Zoning:** A-72 (General Agriculture) and S-80 (Open Space)

9) **Description of Project:** The proposed project is the relocation of existing public fishing opportunities on Forest Service land adjacent to Loveland Reservoir presently known as Government Cove, to the easterly portion of the reservoir, on property which is or will be owned by Sweetwater Authority (Figures 3 and 4). Sweetwater Authority will provide an easement to the Forest Service to ensure continued public access. The easement will cover the area 50 feet above the high water level measured horizontally, and will also include the parking area and trail to the reservoir. The area between the high water mark and the existing water level will provide usable access along the shoreline.

Sweetwater Authority records over the last 12 months indicate that an average of 253 persons per month utilize Loveland Reservoir for fishing (Appendix A). Using this information in consultation with the US Forest Service, the following improvements are proposed to accommodate fishing access (Figure 5):

a) Improvements of existing access to the site in the form of turning lanes off Japatul Road.

b) Construction of a less than one acre (0.7822 acres) parking lot to accommodate approximately 50 vehicles. This will include the grading of the area adjacent to Japatul Road and north of the existing dirt access road.

c) Installation of trash receptacles in the parking area, along the trail, and as necessary along the shoreline easement above the highwater level.

d) Installation of toilet facilities within the parking area easement and within the 50 foot shoreline easement where the facilities are accessible for maintenance.

e) Installation of informational signs at the trail head and as necessary within the easement.

f) Improvement to an existing trail for erosion control and safety purposes. This would include placement of railroad ties or similar material along the existing trail. It could also include the placement of some hand rails.

g) Repositioning of a small portion of the California Riding and Hiking Trail to eliminate conflict with the project driveway.

h) Future facilities may include expansion of toilet facilities and a floating pedestrian bridge on Loveland Reservoir.

10) Environmental Setting and Surrounding Land Uses: The proposed project is located within the boundaries of the Cleveland National Forest adjacent to Loveland Reservoir, which is owned and operated by Sweetwater Authority. Loveland is a drinking water reservoir with a maximum capacity of 25,400 acre-feet. It is located approximately two miles south of the town of Alpine, and approximately 20 miles east of downtown San Diego, in an unincorporated portion of San Diego County. The project site is accessed via an existing unpaved road off Japatul Road. The parking lot site is located adjacent to Japatul Road, within a portion of the proposed easement on a relatively flat knoll with a general elevation of 1,500 feet above mean sea level (msl). The knoll is covered with previously disturbed coastal sage scrub and mixed chaparral. It is bisected by a drainage, the majority of which contains a southern oak woodland containing dense stands of poison oak. An existing eroded trail parallels the drainage and provides access to the shoreline. The distance from the roadway to the shore is approximately one-quarter mile with an approximately 125 foot drop in elevation.

The Loveland Reservoir lands lie within the Peninsular Range Province with onsite elevations ranging from 1355 feet msl at the spillway of the dam to 2186 feet msl. The land is relatively steep with slopes ranging from 30 to 65%. The erosional process has exposed the granite which underlies the area. The hillsides and slopes generally are overlain by a thin mantle of sandy loam which is formed in place on the slopes and accumulates in the drainages.

Along some of the drainages into the reservoir are pockets of Southern Oak Woodland, with individual oaks scattered along the shoreline. The shoreline also contains various expanses of freshwater marsh. However, Loveland Reservoir is predominantly surrounded by southern mixed chaparral, and to a lesser extent, chamise chaparral and coastal sage scrub. These are interspersed with a few small pockets of native grassland. Southern willow woodland/scrub is found along the Sweetwater River below the dam and along the convergence of the rivers flowing into the east end of the reservoir.

The project vicinity is generally rural with grazing, agricultural and residential uses. Previously, minimum lot sizes ranged from two to eight acres. With the voters' approval of the Forest Initiative in 1993, any future lot sizes are now limited to 40 acres or larger within the Cleveland National Forest boundaries. Much of the surrounding land is owned by the Forest Service. Public recreation is allowed on the Forest Service land which is legally accessible. Portions of the Forest Service land to be exchanged are isolated by blocks of land in private or Sweetwater Authority ownership.

11) Other Public Agencies whose approval is required:

U.S. Forest Service: Compliance with the Land Exchange Agreement

San Diego County Department of Public Works: Encroachment/Construction Permit for Japatul Road improvements.

California Department of Fish and Game: Review of loss of sensitive habitat.

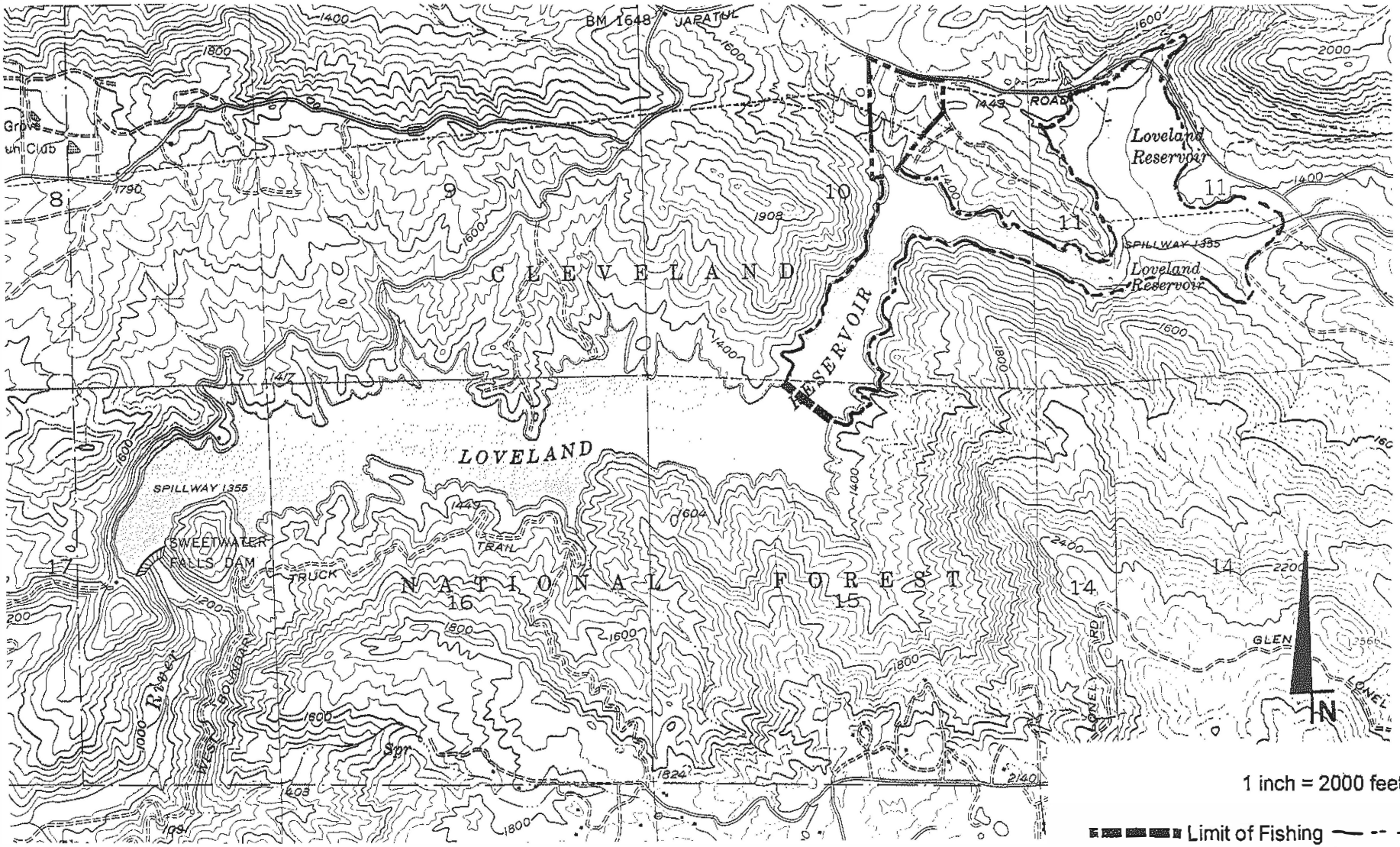
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Review of loss of sensitive habitat.



Source: Affinis, 1996.

Regional Location in San Diego County

Figure 1



Project Location on U.S.G.S. Alpine and Viejas Quadrangles

Figure 2

Sweetwater Authority

N

0.93 0 0.93 1.86 2.79 Miles

ALPINE

DESCANSO

8

PINE VALLEY

Japatul Rd.

Legend

- Existing roads
- Loveland Reservoir
- Property currently owned by Sweetwater Authority
- Samatagumo Ranch property currently in private ownership
- Property currently owned by U.S. Forest Service proposed for exchange.
- Loveland Reservoir Runoff Basin
- Sweetwater Reservoir Runoff Basin

● Proposed for aquisition by Sweetwater Authority to be exchanged for the U.S.F.S. parcels of equal value at Loveland Reservoir.

C:\TRANSFER.PRN, C:\TRANSFER.APR

PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE

FIGURE 3

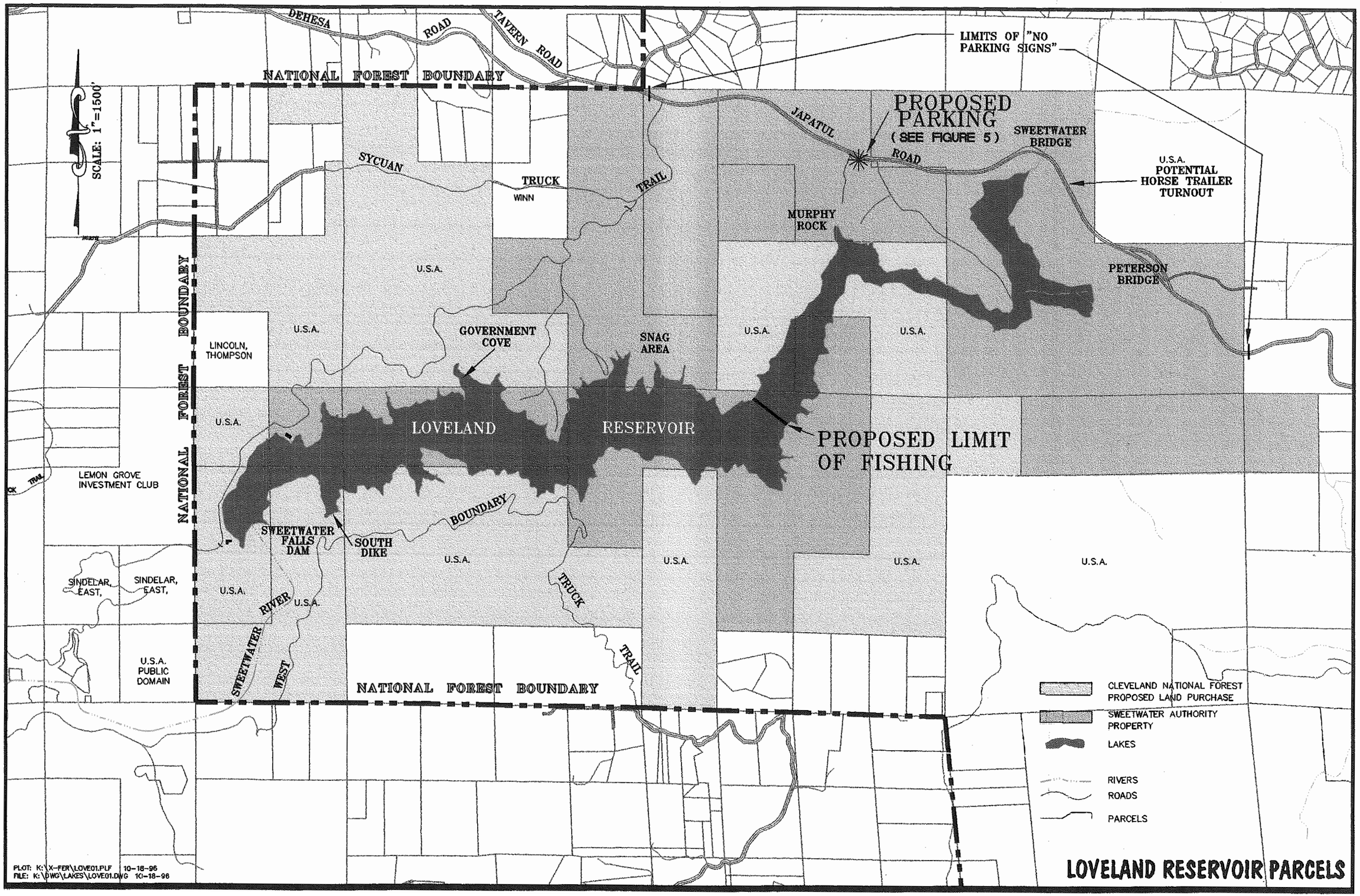
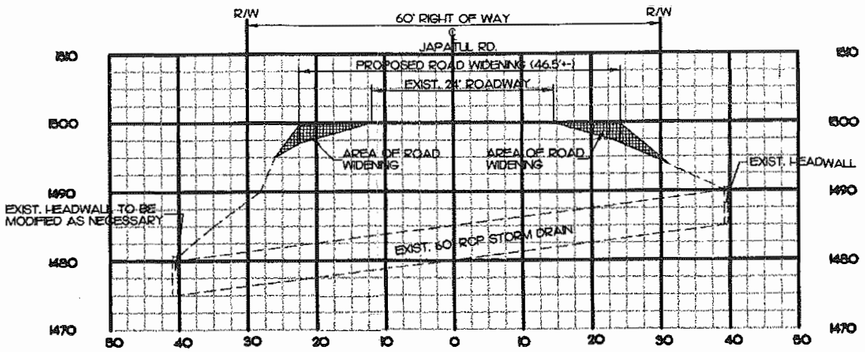

DEHESA ROAD
TAVERN ROAD
NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY
LIMITS OF "NO PARKING SIGNS"
PROPOSED PARKING
(SEE FIGURE 5)
JAPATUL ROAD
SWEETWATER BRIDGE
U.S.A. POTENTIAL HORSE TRAILER TURNOUT
SCALE: 1"=1500'
SYCUAN TRUCK TRAIL
WINN
MURPHY ROCK
PETERSON BRIDGE
U.S.A.
LINCOLN, THOMPSON
GOVERNMENT COVE
SNAG AREA
LOVELAND RESERVOIR
PROPOSED LIMIT OF FISHING
NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY
LEMON GROVE INVESTMENT CLUB
SWEETWATER FALLS DAM
SOUTH DIKE
BOUNDARY
SINDELAR, EAST,
SWEETWATER RIVER WEST
TRUCK TRAIL
U.S.A. PUBLIC DOMAIN
NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY
CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSED LAND PURCHASE
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY PROPERTY
LAKES
RIVERS
ROADS
PARCELS
PLOT: K:\X-FER\LOVE01.PLF 10-18-96
FILE: K:\DWG\LAKES\LOVE01.DWG 10-18-96
LOVELAND RESERVOIR PARCELS

FIGURE 4



SECTION A-A
1"=10' HORIZONTAL
1"=10' VERTICAL

END TAPER
1550
1525
540' TRANSITION
EXIST. 24' WIDE JAPUTUL RD.
EXIST. TELEPHONE POLE #101522 TO REMAIN
EXIST. TELEPHONE POLE #101523H TO BE RELOCATED
BEGIN TAPER
PROPOSED NEW PAVEMENT AREA
200' ACCELERATION
HORSE X-ING
EXIST. DRIVEWAY TO BE MODIFIED TO PROVIDE FOR PARKING AREA
PROPOSED NEW PAVEMENT AREA
EXIST. TELEPHONE POLE TO BE RELOCATED
END TAPER
180' TRANSITION
EXIST. 60" RCP DRAIN TO BE MODIFIED.
EXIST. FENCE TO BE RELOCATED
BEGIN TAPER
140' DECELERATION LANE
100' STORAGE POCKET
BEGIN TAPER
PROPOSED HORSE GATE
RELOCATE PORTION OF RIDING & HIKING TRAIL
EXIST. TELEPHONE POLE #101524H TO BE RELOCATED BY OTHERS.
EXIST. GATE
1525
EXIST. TELEPHONE POLE #101525H TO BE RELOCATED BY OTHERS.
270' ACCELERATION LANE
50' POCKET TAPER
540' TRANSITION
RIGHT OF WAY
END TAPER
EXISTING RIDING AND HIKING TRAIL
EXIST. FENCE
PROPOSED TOILET FACILITIES
EXISTING TRAIL, PROPOSED FOR FISHING ACCESS
PROPOSED PARKING
0.7822 ACRES
15680 sq.ft.
BEGIN TAPER
180' TRANSITION
EXIST. 18" CMP
RIGHT OF WAY
EXIST. FENCE
EXIST. TELEPHONE POLE #101526H TO REMAIN
END TAPER
1475
.75(98'x 88') 6468 sq.ft.
Kiosk 20'x20' ~(98'x168')
~.5(98'x249') 12201 sq.ft.
Proposed toilet facility/Kiosk 400 sq.ft.
Total ≈ 34,749 ≈ .7977 acre of lost CSS

LEGEND
- EXISTING RIDING AND HIKING TRAIL
- PROPOSED RIDING AND HIKING TRAIL
- PROPOSED PARKING AREA
- EXISTING PAVEMENT AREA
- PROPOSED NEW PAVEMENT AREA

GRAPHIC SCALE
40 0 20 40 80 120 160
(IN FEET)
1 inch = 40 ft.

SWEETWATER AUTHORITY

CONCEPTUAL JAPATUL RD. WIDENING and PARKING for LOVELAND RESERVOIR FISHING RELOCATION
FIGURE 5

B. Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

The following checklist provides a brief analysis of the potential project impacts.

"No Impact" applies if the impact simply does not apply to the project.

"Less Than Significant" applies if there is less than substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project.

"Potentially Significant Impact" applies if there is substantial evidence that an effect is significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

"Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "less than Significant Impact." The Lead Agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.

Each issue is followed by sections labeled "Source", "Impact Discussion", "Mitigation and Residual Impacts", and "Recommended Monitoring". These discussion sections are left blank where they are not applicable. For example, when the impact discussion finds that no significant impacts would be caused by project implementation, the "Mitigation and Residual Impacts" and "Recommended Monitoring" sections are left blank.

Issues and Supporting Information Source:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1. *LAND USE AND PLANNING.* Would the proposal:				
a) Conflict with general plan designation or zoning?	____	____	____	X
b) Conflict with applicable environmental plans or policies adopted with jurisdiction over the project?	____	____	____	X
c) Be incompatible with existing land use in the vicinity?	____	____	____	X
d) Affect agricultural resources or operations (e.g. impacts to soils or farmlands, or impacts from incompatible land uses)?	____	____	____	X
e) Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community (including a low-income or minority community)?	____	____	____	X

Source: San Diego County General Plan; Regional Land Use Element; Alpine Community Plan.

Impact Discussion: The relocation of fishing activities at Loveland Reservoir is consistent with applicable planning documents for the site.

Mitigation and Residual Impacts:

Recommended Monitoring:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
2. *POPULATION AND HOUSING.* Would the proposal:				
a) Cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?	____	____	____	X
b) Induce substantial growth in an area either directly or indirectly (e.g. through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?	____	____	____	X
c) Displace existing housing, especially affordable housing?	____	____	____	X

Source:

Impact Discussion: The relocation of fishing at Loveland Reservoir would not affect population or housing.

Mitigation and Residual Impacts:

Recommended Monitoring:

3. *GEOLOGIC PROBLEMS.* Would the proposal result in or expose people to potential impacts involving:				
a) Fault rupture?	____	____	____	X
b) Seismic ground shaking:	____	____	____	X
c) Seismic ground failure, including liquefaction?	____	____	____	X
d) Seiche, tsunami, or volcanic hazard?	____	____	____	X
e) Landslides or mudflows?	____	____	____	X
f) Erosion, changes in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading or fill?	____	____	X	____
g) Subsidence of the land?	____	____	____	X
h) Expansive soils?	____	____	____	X
i) Unique geologic or physical features?	____	____	____	X

Source: San Diego County Faults and Epicenters, 1994. USDA Soil Survey, 1973.

Impact Discussion: Loveland Reservoir is located approximately 22 miles from Elsinore Fault, which is the nearest active fault. An unnamed inferred fault is located three and one half miles to the southwest of Loveland and the inferred Chariot Canyon Fault is located 18 miles to the northeast. The project vicinity has had no recorded history of seismic activity. The land surrounding Sweetwater Reservoir is generally steep with slopes ranging from 30 to 65%. The hillsides and slopes generally are overlain by a thin mantle of sandy loam which is formed in place on the slopes and accumulates in the drainages. The erosional process has exposed the granite which underlies the area. These unique features would not be disturbed by project implementation, which is basically the provision fishing access. Implementation of the proposal would require the grading of a less than one acre (0.7822 acres) parking area in the relatively flat portion of property currently owned by Sweetwater Authority. Although this would cause minor displacement of the soil, it would not be a significant adverse impact, and erosion control measures would be incorporated into the construction and maintenance of the lot. The existing trail down to the shoreline is currently eroding. Trail improvements would be made and maintained to reduce the problem. This would include stabilization of the trail in place with railroad ties or a similar material. Other potential erosion problems will be evaluated with trail improvements.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None required.

Recommended Monitoring:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
4. *WATER.* Would the proposal result in:				
a) Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff?				X
b) Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?				X
c) Discharge into surface water or other alteration of surface water quality (e.g. temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity)?				X
d) Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body?				X
e) Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements?				X
f) Change in the quality of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts of excavations or through substantial loss of groundwater recharge capability?				X

Source: San Diego County Faults and Epicenters, 1994. USDA Soil Survey, 1973.

Impact Discussion: Loveland Reservoir is located approximately 22 miles from Elsinore Fault, which is the nearest active fault. An unnamed inferred fault is located three and one half miles to the southwest of Loveland and the inferred Chariot Canyon Fault is located 18 miles to the northeast. The project vicinity has had no recorded history of seismic activity. The land surrounding Sweetwater Reservoir is generally steep with slopes ranging from 30 to 65%. The hillsides and slopes generally are overlain by a thin mantle of sandy loam which is formed in place on the slopes and accumulates in the drainages. The erosional process has exposed the granite which underlies the area. These unique features would not be disturbed by project implementation, which is basically the provision fishing access. Implementation of the proposal would require the grading of a less than one acre (0.7822 acres) parking area in the relatively flat portion of property currently owned by Sweetwater Authority. Although this would cause minor displacement of the soil, it would not be a significant adverse impact, and erosion control measures would be incorporated into the construction and maintenance of the lot. The existing trail down to the shoreline is currently eroding. Trail improvements would be made and maintained to reduce the problem. This would include stabilization of the trail in place with railroad ties or a similar material. Other potential erosion problems will be evaluated with trail improvements.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: None required.

Recommended Monitoring:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
4. *WATER.* Would the proposal result in:				
a) Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff?	____	____	____	X
b) Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?	____	____	____	X
c) Discharge into surface water or other alteration of surface water quality (e.g. temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity)?	____	____	____	X
d) Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body?	____	____	____	X
e) Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements?	____	____	____	X
f) Change in the quality of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts of excavations or through substantial loss of groundwater recharge capability?	____	____	____	X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Altered direction or rate of flow of groundwater?	_____	_____	_____	X
h) Impacts to groundwater quality?	_____	_____	_____	X
i) Substantial reduction in the amount of groundwater otherwise available for public water supplies?	_____	_____	_____	X

Impact Discussion: The proposed project is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on water resources. The project would provide trash receptacles, toilets and maintenance facilities to eliminate the existing water quality impacts generated by illegal use of Sweetwater Authority property and unimproved legal fishing from Forest lands.

Mitigation and Residual Impact:

Recommended Monitoring:

5. *AIR QUALITY.* Would the proposal:

a) Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?	_____	_____	X	_____
b) Expose sensitive receptors to pollutants?	_____	_____	_____	X
c) Alter air movement, moisture, or temperature, or cause any change in climate?	_____	_____	_____	X
d) Create objectionable odors?	_____	_____	_____	X

Source: Air Pollution Control District, 1996.

Impact Discussion: During the construction of the project, small amounts of dust and exhaust would be emitted. In addition, it is anticipated that the project may generate increased traffic to the fishing area as described below. The proposed project site is located within the San Diego County Air Basin, which has been designated as a nonattainment area (areas not meeting State and/or Federal standards for certain pollutants). The Alpine monitoring station experiences the greatest number of days and hours over the federal clean air standards in the County. Although the project would cause no appreciable change in air quality, any incremental additional air quality impacts are cumulatively significant in a nonattainment basin.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: The County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) monitors air quality and has programs in place to address cumulative impacts and improve air quality. These include the recently implemented older car buy back program and the introduction of reformulated gas this year. The APCD monitoring program indicates that the air quality in the basin has greatly improved this year.

Recommended Monitoring:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
6. *TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION.* Would the proposal result in:				
a) Increased vehicle trips or traffic congestion?			X	
b) Hazards to safety from design features (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?			X	
c) Inadequate emergency access or access to nearby uses?			X	
d) Insufficient parking capacity on-site or off-site?			X	
e) Hazards or barriers for pedestrians or bicyclists?			X	
f) Conflicts with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g. bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X
g) Rail, waterborne or air traffic impacts?				X

Source: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works, 1996. Alpine Community Plan, 1989.

Impact Discussion: Japatul Road is designated as a two lane rural mountain road on the County Circulation Element. A rural mountain road has steeper grades and smaller turning radii than generally permitted. The latest traffic counts on Japatul Road (1992) indicate that the road carries approximately 1,043 average daily trips (ADT).

A monthly average of 254 people were observed fishing at Loveland Reservoir. This is based on the attached Loveland Reservoir Usage (Appendix A) using data from the previous 12 months. Two persons per car are assumed, yielding an average of 127 automobile trips per month to the site. If it is also assumed that all of those trips are on the weekend days, that would be 23.5 existing ADT on weekends. Based on recommendations by the Forest Service park planner, parking to accommodate 50 automobiles is proposed. Therefore, a maximum of 50 daily trips could be generated by the proposal, generally on the weekends. If a project is projected to generate under 200 ADT, the County does not consider it to have a potentially significant impact and no traffic study is warranted (Goralka, 1996).

An adopted bicycle route traverses Japatul Road adjacent to the site. This designation requires the reservation of a five foot easement for future bicycle lanes. The additional traffic turns from Japatual could be a potential hazard to bicyclists and motorists. Item 12 under Policies and Recommendations in the Alpine Community Plan states: ***The Department of Public Works shall incorporate the Alpine bicycle pedestrian routes into the County Schedule of improvements of planned bicycle routes utilizing the priorities outlined in the Community Plan, and include consideration of using transnet or alternative funding to implement existing routes.***

Mitigation and Residual Impacts: Although no significant traffic impacts are anticipated, a number of road improvements have been suggested by the County Department of Public Works and agreed to by Sweetwater Authority, to include the following:

1) The north and south sides of Japatul Road would be widened east and west of the entrance to the fishing facility, providing improved traffic access to the site. Figure 5 provides a conceptual plan for the improvements.

2) An encroachment and/or construction permit will be obtained from the County Department of Public Works to allow construction within the right-of-way of a County maintained road.

3) "No Parking" signs will be placed along Japatul Road, between Sycuan Truck Trail and the eastern terminus of Sweetwater Authority property (1800 feet east of Peterson Bridge) to deter unsafe parking outside of the designated parking area (Figure 4). The County Sheriff will issue tickets to violators.

4) Sweetwater Authority will work with the County to maintain designated bike routes.

With the implementation of the above mitigation measures, impacts to local transportation/circulation would be below a level of significance.

Recommended Monitoring: The County will review and approve the design and location of the turn lanes.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
7. *BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.* Would the proposal result in impacts to:				
a) Endangered, threatened or rare species or their habitats (including but not limited to plants, fish, insects, animals and birds)?		X		
b) Locally designated species (e.g. heritage tree)?				X
c) Locally designated natural communities (e.g. oak forest, coastal habitat, etc.)?				X
d) Wetland habitat (e.g. marsh, riparian and vernal pool)?		X		
e) Wildlife dispersal or mitigation corridors?			X	

Source: Biological Resources Report, Affinis, June 1996; Endangered/Threatened Species Survey Report and Impact Assessment, Famolaro, July 1996. See Appendix "B".

Impact Discussion: Construction of the parking lot and road improvements would entail the removal (i.e. permanent loss) of a maximum of one acre (0.7822 acres) of the sensitive habitat, coastal sage scrub, and is considered a significant impact. Although the proposed parking lot site is currently unoccupied by the California gnatcatcher, loss of coastal sage scrub habitat warrants consideration under the Natural

Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP). There would be no other direct impacts from the project. Significant indirect project impacts are generally associated with the human presence and access which may result in litter, trailblazing, and/or illegal campfires which ignite adjacent brush. In addition, unleashed domestic animals could cause harm to existing wildlife. These impacts currently exist due to trespassers fishing in the area. With fishing access program improvements, impacts created by current illegal access may reduce existing biological impacts.

Mitigation and Residual Impact: Sweetwater Authority is acquiring a large amount of coastal sage scrub from the Forest Service under the land exchange to mitigate impacts to coastal sage scrub. The Authority is currently preparing a Joint Water Agency Subregional /Subarea NCCP which will map all of the Authority's property and set aside preserves as well as mitigation banks. The Authority has purchased sufficient coastal sage scrub habitat to mitigate the impacts of the proposed parking area, as well as other future projects.

In order to avoid potential impacts to nesting California gnatcatchers and other birds, clearing of vegetation within the construction area should be performed between August 15 and February 15. Indirect impacts will be mitigated to below a level of significance by the following measures:

* Placement of informational signs indicating restrictions on litter (particularly monofilament fishing line), campfires, trail use, unleased pets, etc.
* Fence barriers to direct and/or preclude off-trail access into sensitive habitats, particularly those occupied by the California gnatcatcher and least Bell's vireo.
* Route patrol by the reservoir operation personnel to maintain trails, repair signs or fencing, litter control, etc.

Recommended Monitoring: Periodic monitoring should be provided by the Sweetwater Authority staff biologist, including species surveys, to ensure natural resource protection. Any identified detrimental issues effecting natural habitats/wildlife, should be rectified through appropriate adjustment of operations. In the event that any unanticipated impacts to endangered or threatened species are encountered, consultation with the resource agencies would be warranted. Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative was initiated by the Forest Service for that agency's concurrence on the analysis of biological impacts and mitigation.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
8. *ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES.* Would the proposal:				
a) Conflict with adopted energy conservation plans?	____	____	____	X
b) Use non-renewable resources in a wasteful and inefficient manner?	____	____	____	X
c) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future value to the region and the residents of the State?	____	____	X	____

Source:

Impact Discussion: The proposed project would result in the use of negligible amount of natural resources for the construction and operation of the public fishing facilities. This would be considered a less than significant impact.

Mitigation and Residual Impacts:

Recommended Monitoring:

9. *HAZARDS.* Would the proposal involve:				
a) A risk of accidental explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to: oil, pesticides, chemicals or radiation)?	____	____	____	X
b) Possible interference with an emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	____	____	____	X
c) The creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard?	____	____	____	X
d) Exposure of people to existing sources of potential health hazards?	____	____	____	X
e) Increased fire hazard in areas with flammable brush, grass, or trees?	____	____	____	X

Source:

Impact Discussion: The proposed project may attract additional fishermen to Loveland Reservoir. Currently, there is a problem with illegal trespassing onto Sweetwater Authority property. A number of fires are thought to have been caused by trespassers. Because the area will be patrolled by Sweetwater Authority personnel and an information board will explain the regulations for the use of the area, potential for fire hazards may be decreased.

Mitigation and Residual Impacts:

Recommended Monitoring:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
10. *NOISE.* Would the proposal result in:				
a) Increases in existing noise levels?	_____	_____	X	_____
b) Exposure of people to severe noise levels?	_____	_____	_____	X

Source:

Impact Discussion: A temporary increase in noise would occur during construction of the project. The Authority regularly requires contractors to use equipment with approved mufflers and would make this a formal requirement of all operators on the project. Currently, public fishing is allowed on the Forest Service property. However, due to the lack of any facilities, the area is not heavily used. Because there would be only minor increases in ambient noise levels with the increased use of Loveland Reservoir, noise impacts would be considered less than significant.

Mitigation and Residual Impact:

Recommended Monitoring:

11. *PUBLIC SERVICES.* Would the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered government services in any of the following areas:				
a) Fire protection?	_____	_____	_____	X
b) Police protection?	_____	_____	_____	X
c) Schools?	_____	_____	_____	X
d) Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?	_____	_____	_____	X
e) Other governmental services?	_____	_____	_____	X

Impact Discussion: Sweetwater Authority staff would regularly patrol the fishing easement to ensure that the rules and regulations, such as no fires, alcohol use, illegal parking, domestic animals, etc, are being adhered to. Signs will be posted that illegally parked vehicles will be ticket and/or towed. Persons violating rules will be warned or expelled from the facility. The Sheriff may be asked to assist with enforcement, as he is now. However, the improved fishing program is expected to reduce illegal activities. Sweetwater

Authority will provide the initial road improvements and the upkeep of the onsite roads and parking. The County will continue to provide maintenance of Japatul Road.

Mitigation and Residual Impacts: Sweetwater Authority will coordinate with the Sheriff's Department prior to the opening of Loveland Reservoir and will work cooperatively with the organization. No residual impacts are anticipated.

Recommended Monitoring:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
12. *UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.* Would the proposal result in a need for new systems or supplies, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:				
a) Power or natural gas?				X
b) Communications systems?				X
c) Local or regional water treatment or distribution facilities?				X
d) Sewer or septic tanks?				X
e) Storm water drainage?				X
f) Solid waste disposal?				X
g) Local or regional water supplies?				X

Source:

Impact Discussion: The proposed project would not affect public services. The Authority would be responsible for toilet maintenance and trash removal. Impacts to fuel and energy supplies would be insignificant. The project would not affect utilities because no electricity, water or sewage provision will be required.

Mitigation and Residual Impacts:

Recommended Monitoring:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
13. *AESTHETICS.* Would the proposal:				
a) Affect a scenic vista or scenic highway?				X
b) Have a demonstrable negative aesthetic effect?			X	
c) Create light or glare?				X

Source: Alpine Community Plan

Impact Discussion: Potentially, as many as 50 additional vehicles would be parked against a backdrop of oak woodlands adjacent to Japatul Road. Although Japatul Road is not designated as a priority scenic highway, it provides a scenic vista for roadway travelers. The additional parking would comprise a small portion of the view and therefore would not affect this view significantly. The proposed project would not result in the use of any additional lighting on the site.

Mitigation and Residual Impacts:

Recommended Monitoring:

14. *CULTURAL RESOURCES.* Would the proposal:				
a) Disturb paleontological resources?				X
b) Disturb archaeological resources?		X		
c) Affect historical resources?			X	
d) Have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values?			X	
e) Restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?				X

Source: Archaeological Survey and Testing Program for Loveland Reservoir Fishing Access, 1996.

Impact Discussion: A copy of the cultural resources assessment is included as Appendix "C" of this report. Archaeological site record searches were obtained from the South Coastal Information Center at San Diego State University and the San Diego Museum of Man. These records are on file at the Sweetwater Authority Administrative Offices, as Confidential Attachment A. The Sweetwater River provided long periods of running water with vegetation and wildlife that would have attracted indigenous people. The cultural resource assessment determined that two sites in the area were important cultural resources under CEQA and appear to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. These sites are currently

being "pot hunted" by illegal users of Sweetwater Authority lands. Implementation of the fishing program should reduce the existing impacts to these sites.

Mitigation and Residual Impacts: Potential impacts to important cultural resources have been mitigated to below a level of significance by avoidance measures to protect the resources. Clarence Brown, Elder of the Viejas Band of Mission Indians was contacted for his concurrence on mitigation of potential impacts.

Recommended Monitoring: Sweetwater Authority staff will patrol the area to ensure that important cultural resources are not disturbed.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
15. *RECREATION.* Would the proposal:				
a) Increase the demand for neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities?	_____	_____	_____	X
b) Affect existing recreational opportunities?	_____	_____	X	_____

Impact Discussion: The purpose of this project is to enhance a small portion of existing recreational opportunities at Loveland Reservoir. Existing fishing access is comprised of a half mile of shoreline at Government Cove, owned by the Forest Service. This will be replaced with a five mile fishing easement along the east end of the reservoir. The easement will generally cover an area up to 50 feet above high water, as well as an area to include parking, toilet facilities and trash receptacles. The existing California Riding and Hiking Trail will be repositioned to eliminate conflict with the project driveway. In addition, the area will be patrolled by Sweetwater Authority personnel. These services are not provided by the Forest Service at Government Cove due to lack of available funding. Therefore, the project would enhance existing recreational opportunities, and impacts to recreational facilities and opportunities are less than significant.

Source:

Mitigation and Residual Impacts:

Recommended Monitoring:

16. *EARLIER ANALYSES.*

Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, one or more effects have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration. (Section 15063(c)(3)(D).) In this case, a discussion should identify the following:

a) Earlier analyses used. Identify earlier analyses and state where they are available for review. The Forest Service completed a categorical exclusion under NEPA for the Land Exchange. Biological and Cultural Resources Assessments were completed to determine the type of NEPA document required. These assessments are available for review at the U.S. F. S. Descanso District, 3348 Alpine Blvd., and Sweetwater Authority Administration Office.

b) Impacts adequately addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on earlier analysis.

c) Mitigation measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated," describe, on attached sheets, the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
17. *MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.*				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major proceeds of California history or prehistory?	_____	_____	X	_____
b) Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?	_____	_____	_____	X
c) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	_____	_____	_____	X
d) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	_____	_____	_____	X

III. MITIGATION/MONITORING PROGRAM

The following mitigation and monitoring program has been incorporated into the project so that project impacts will be less than significant.

Issue Area	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring	Date
Traffic	The north and south side of Japatul Road shall be widened east and west of the entrance to the fishing facility, providing improved traffic access to the site.	Chief Engineer	DPW[1]	
	An encroachment permit will be obtained from the County Department of Public Works to allow construction within the right-of-way of a County maintained road.	Chief Engineer	DPW	
	"No Parking" signs shall be placed along Japatul Road, to deter unsafe parking outside of the designated parking area.	Chief Engineer	DPW	
Biological Resources	Clearing within the construction area shall be performed between August 15 and February 15.	Chief Engineer	SWA[2] Field Biologist	
	A portion of coastal sage scrub habitat on Loveland Reservoir lands shall be preserved in a mitigation bank under the Joint Water Agency NCCP to mitigate coastal sage scrub impacts of the project.	Chief Engineer	SWA Field Biologist	
	Informational signs shall be placed within the public fishing access easement indicating restrictions on litter, campfires, trail use, domestic animals, etc.	Director of Water Quality	SWA Field Biologist	
	Fence barriers and signs shall direct and/or preclude off trail access into sensitive habitats, particularly those occupied by the California gnatcatcher and the least Bell's vireo.	Director of Water Quality	Reservoir Operations Specialist	
	Authority personnel shall patrol the fishing easement to maintain trails, repair signs and fencing, provide litter control, and halt any restricted activities.	Director of Water Quality	Reservoir Operations Specialist	
Cultural Resources	Important prehistoric sites will be avoided by the easement and fencing	Chief Engineer	Consulting Archaeologist	

[1] County of San Diego Department of Public Works
[2] Sweetwater Authority

IV. REFERENCES, PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED, AND INITIAL STUDY PREPARATION

References

United States Department of Agriculture, 1973.
San Diego County Soil Survey.

County of San Diego, 1994.
San Diego County Faults and Epicenters Map.

County of San Diego, 1989.
Alpine Community Plan, amended 1989.

County of San Diego, 1993.
Regional Land Use Element, San Diego General Plan, amended 1993.

Persons and Organizations Consulted

County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
Land Development
Bob Goralka, Transportation Specialist
Sharon Roderick, Right of Way Permits
Traffic
Marty Eslambolchi, Civil Engineer

County of San Diego, Department of Planning and Land Use
Kevin Mallory, Planner

County of San Diego Air Pollution Control District
Ralph Disiena, Acting Senior Air Pollution Meteorologist

Initial Study Preparation

This Initial Study was prepared by Sweetwater Authority, located at 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA. The following professional staff assisted in the preparation of this document.

Troy Murphree, Environmental Coordinator
Peter Famolaro, Biologist
Blanca Quintero, Engineering Clerk II
George Silva, Principal Engineering Technician, GIS Supervisor
Jim Michaelsen, Senior Engineering Technician
Kevin Kasner, Associate Engineer
James L. Smyth, Chief Engineer
Jane D. Olson, Principal Engineering Technician/Urban Planning Technician

Biological and Cultural Resources Assessments were provided by Affinis.

V. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this evaluation:

[ ] I find that the project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

[X] I find that although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described in Section III have been added to the project by the applicant. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION WILL BE PREPARED.

[ ] I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

[ ] I find that the proposed project may have significant effect on the environment, but that this project is consistent with a previously prepared TIERED EIR on the overall program, plan, policy or ordinance, and that such TIERED EIR adequacy examines the possible environmental effects of this project.

James L. Smyth, Chief Engineer

James L. Smyth
Signature

8/20/96
Date

APPENDIX A
Loveland Reservoir Usage

Loveland Reservoir Usage
(July 1995 through June 1996)

Date	Total	Forestry Total	SWA Total	SWA Arrested	SWA Warned	SWA Observed	Government Cove	Forestry Other
July 1995	190	147			16	16	128	19
August	130	100	43	11	21	6	84	16
September	61	50	11	0	8	3	35	15
October	171	149	22	0	10	12	119	30
November	193	174	19	0	12	7	136	38
December	89	79	10	0	8	2	66	13
January 1996	100	94	0	0	3	3	71	23
February	244	228	16	1	0	15	152	76
March	687	632	55	6	45	4	319	313
April	407	326	81	8	51	22	179	147
May	394	326	68	1	46	22	185	141
June	376	279	97	3	45	49	196	83
Total for Year	*3042*	*2584*	*452*	*33*	*265*	*161*	*1670*	*914*
Average per month	253	215	37.7					

Source: Sweetwater Authority, July 1996.

Appendix B
Biological Resources

The Biological Resources Report, Affinis, June 6, 1996
Endangered/Threatened Species Survey Report and Impacts Assessment,
Peter Famolaro, July 30, 1996

are available for review at

Sweetwater Authority
505 Garrett Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910

APPENDIX C
Cultural Resources

The Cultural Resources Report, Affinis, May 31, 1996

is available for review at

Sweetwater Authority
505 Garrett Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910

Comment Letters Received

and Responses

San Diego County Archaeological Society

Environmental Review Committee

September 16, 1996

To: Ms. Troy Murphree, Environmental Coordinator
Sweetwater Authority
P.O. Box 2328
Chula Vista, California 91912-2328

Subject: Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Loveland Reservoir Fishing Relocation Project
SWA File B.P. 95-26E

Dear Ms. Murphree:

I have reviewed the subject Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration on behalf of this committee of the San Diego County Archaeological Society.

Based on the information contained in the archaeological report prepared by Affinis for the project, we concur in the impact analysis and mitigation measures presented. We also commend the Sweetwater Authority and the U.S. Forest Service for selecting the avoidance alternative to minimize the potential impact of the project on these two sensitive sites to a low level.

Thank you for including SDCAS in the Sweetwater Authority's environmental review process for this project.

Sincerely,

James W. Royle, Jr., Chairperson
Environmental Review Committee

cc: Affinis
SDCAS President
file

RECEIVED
SEP 18 1996
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY
ENGINEERING

P.O. Box 81106 . San Diego, CA 92138-1106 . (619) 538-0935

Sweetwater Authority
Attn: Joy Murphree
Dear Ms. Murphree:

Enclosed is my check for $\$62$ for the 2 reports you so kindly sent me. If you have any more thoughts on the concerns I raised in my letter to U.S.F.S, please do not hesitate to call me.

Thanks,

Kirby Johnson
P.O. Box 455
Alpine, Cal
91903
445-5455
443-1081 x394

RECEIVED
SEP 30 1996
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY
ENGINEERING

A total of two written comment letters were received during public review: One from San Diego County Archaeology Society and one from Kirby Johnson. Staff provided responses to the substantive comments.

San Diego County Archaeological Society

Environmental Review Committee

September 16, 1996

To: Ms. Troy Murphree, Environmental Coordinator
Sweetwater Authority
P.O. Box 2328
Chula Vista, California 91912-2328

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Loveland Reservoir Fishing Relocation Project
SWA File B.P. 95-26E

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Sincerely,

James W. Royle, Jr., Chairperson
Environmental Review Committee

cc: Affinis
SDCAS President
file

RECEIVED
SEP 18 1996
SWEETWATER AUTHORITY
ENGINEERING

P.O. Box 81106 . San Diego, CA 92138-1106 . (619) 538-0935

A Comment noted. We appreciate your attention to the project.

Sweetwater Authority
Attn: Joy Murphree

Dear Ms. Murphree:

Enclosed is my check for $11.62 for the 2 reports you so kindly sent me. If you have any more thoughts on the concerns I raised in my letter to U.S.F.S, please do not hesitate to call me.

Thanks,

Kirby Johnson
P.O. Box 455
Alpine, Cal
91903

445-5455
443-1081 x394

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B The concerns listed in your letter to the US Forest Service dated December 15, 1995 were addressed in the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration, and technical reports. These are reiterated in the following responses.

Kirby Johnson
P.O. Box 455
Alpine, CA 91903

December 13, 1995

DEC 15 1995

DESCANSO R.D.

District Ranger
USFS Alpine Ranger District
3348 Alpine, CA 91901

Dear Sir:

I am writing in reference to the proposed landswap between Sweetwater Authority and the USFS in the Loveland area. I have no direct knowledge regarding the Samataguma property in Descanso and therefore I have no comments regarding that portion of this land swap. I also will not comment on any of the positive benefits of the action - whether in Descanso or Loveland Reservoir - as I am sure others will adequately cover these.

1 First, let me state that I am most concerned about the notice aspect of this proposed land swap. I first heard about it in a newspaper article in mid-November, 1995. I subsequently had a personal discussion with Mr. Woychak, who indicated that he had sent direct notices only to those adjoining landowners to the southwest, west, and northwest of the most westerly portions of Loveland Reservoir. In discussing this proposal with my neighbors in Japatul Valley (and Lawson valley), I find that they had no knowledge of this proposal. I have repeatedly asked Mr. Woychak to notify directly adjoining landowners and other interested parties to the south, southeast, east, northeast and north of Loveland Reservoir. Until such notice is provided I am concerned that those individuals that may have comments to make will go unheard.

Secondly, the stated purpose to "protect an important wildlife corridor in the Sweetwater River Corridor" would seem to be at odds with the intent of "allowing fishing at the east end of the reservoir." The maps and proposals made available to me indicate that up to 50 or more individuals (per day? per hour?) will be allowed access to the eastern five miles of shoreline. this is a dramatic change from the current use of these lands and should be so addressed.

I feel that the potentially large number of fishermen allowed access to such a large, sensitive and remote section of Loveland Reservoir should require a full Environmental Impact Report and a Major Use Permit hearing in which the public and appropriate government agencies would have input. I understand that Sweetwater Authority will be producing a SEQUA (sp?) report and although I have repeatedly asked for biology and
2 cultural reports already produced by the USFS I have not been provided access to them. Until all reports are made available to interested or effected parties, meaningful public comment on "preliminary issues" would seem premature.

The following is a brief list of concerns that should be appropriately addressed, both by written reports produced by SWA and the USFS, and by public hearings. I do not feel competent to hold that these are the only such concerns and I am confident that SWA and USFS will put forth a concerted effort to elicit additional comments from the public.

1 Comment Noted. The US Forest Service and Sweetwater Authority provided newspaper legal advertisements and mailed notices to interested individuals and parties, as prescribed by law. The Notice of Preparation of a Mitigated Negative Declaration was submitted to the San Diego County Clerk/Recorder as well as the State Clearinghouse prior to the commencement of the Public Review period.

2 The requested reports are available as prescribed by law at the Alpine ranger Station and Sweetwater Authority Administration Offices.

3 Trail Access: A fifty car parking lot is proposed where the Riding and Hiking Trail crosses Japatul Road. A full traffic study is needed for such a large number of cars entering and exiting Japatul Road, given its high speed traffic and limited line of sight.

4 Fishing Access: I can see no benefit to the general public from the change of public access from Government cove to the eastern five miles of Loveland Reservoir shoreline. SWA would benefit by nothaving the public allowed access to the dam and other areas close to the "developed" western end of the reservoir. the USFS would benefit in that lands difficult to monitor and manage by them would be transferred to another agency and there would still be "public easement for fishing access... a condition of the proposed land exchange." All of the other concerns surrounding this exchange are conditioned on this premise and all such concerns are proposed to be mitigated to a lessor or greater extent to facilitate it. I have grave doubts that such a benefit (fishing access) is worth the price.

5 Cultural Resources: I am aware that Herbert Howe Bancroft, while gathering primary sources over a hundred years ago, made reference to "Japati", the largest Indian village in the area. This site, locatedat historically significant Sacatera Crossing, would be inundated with fisherman traversing the shoreline. Due to its physical location, no adequate mitigation is available other than relocating the fishing access.

6 Open Space/Wildlife Corridor: I can hardly imagine how SWA can maintain an "open space" by allowing 50 fisherman (per hour? per day?) to have access to an area closed to the public for the last fifty plus years.

7 Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species: The only assurance that the public has been given thus far is that "SWA has more restrictive land management practices..." The proposed fishing access would be directly across the Sweetwater River delta now inhabited by egrets, herons, frogs and other wildlife that would be adversely compromised by fishing access. I cannot believe that any impartial observer would conclude that such activity would not "negatively effect threatened, endangered or sensitive species or their habitl"

8 Fire: Despite the efforts of SWA to prevent illegal, sporadic access to the east end of Loveland Reservoir, on two occasions (7-18-92 and 7-18-93) fires were started by fishermen during daylight hours. These fires went due east and caused over $1,000,000 in damage, with multiple homes destroyed and sensitive public and private land destroyed. Without clearcutting wide firebreaks, I am at a loss as to how many more such fires would not cause similar damage in light of the manifold increase in use-access. I am no lawyer, yet the difference in liability for damage resulting from trying to keep somebody out of "an attractive nuisance" versus inviting large numbers of people into the area would seem to be immense.

9 Water Quality: Allowing such a large number of people access to an area that SWA has always claimed came under the jurisdiction of the California Penal Code regarding water drinking reservoirs would appear to have an adverse effect on water quality. I am aware that SWA was made aware of a dramatic source of pollution in June, 1994 and that there is a report pending before the state WQCB regarding this. Yet, when I have requested follow-up on several occasions from SWA employees regarding this issue, they have claimed no knowledge of any such report and/or pollution. This raises my concerns regarding SWA's "more restrictive" practices.

It would seem to me that if the general public were invited to help formulate a plan to allow fishing access to Loveland Reservoir in such a manner that these issues could be properly

3 ~~Trail Access:~~ This issue is addressed on pages 21, 22 and 28 of the Initial Study. The Authority coordinated with the County Department of Public Works and a Traffic Study is not required unless the project will generate over 200 trips per day. This project will have spaces for 50 cars with "no parking" signs posted along Japatul Road. The Authority will modify the access to Japatul Road in accordance with County of San Diego Department of Public Works requirements. The California Riding and Hiking Trail will be relocated to avoid conflicts with the project driveway.

4 Fishing Access: Comment Noted.

5 ~~Cultural~~ Resources: This issue is addressed on pages 27 and 28 of the Initial Study. Extensive surveys and testing were performed at the Reservoir. Potentially impacted cultural resources will be preserved by avoidance. Clarence Brown, Elder of the Viejas Band of Indians was contacted and concurs with this mitigation. Currently, important cultural resources are being illegally removed by "pot hunters". With the relocation of public fishing to an area patrolled by the Authority, these resources will be better protected than they are presently.

6 ~~Open Space/~~Wildlife Corridors: Biological issues are addressed on pages 22 and 23 of the Initial Study and in the Biological Resources Report (Appendix B). As stated in the project description, a total of 50 parking spaces will be provided at Loveland Reservoir. A maximum of 50 automobiles will be allowed at one time. This project is the replacement of existing public fishing opportunities, currently available on U.S. Forest Service land. At the present time, there is an ongoing problem with trespassers on Authority land. This project will consolidate and control the fishing activities at the east end of the reservoir. The Authority will install trash receptacles and portable toilets and will service the facilities. These improvements will reduce current hazards to wildlife.

7 Threatened and Endangered Species: Sweetwater Authority will be acquiring and transferring biologically important lands at Rancho Samagatuma which will place additional sensitive habitat in government control. This will provide an overall substantial benefit to sensitive species and habitat. Careful biological review was performed to sensitively place parking facilities and trail access. The proposal was reviewed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with respect to their concerns. The Service is in concurrence with the proposal, which will include mitigation of the loss of unoccupied coastal sage scrub via parking impacts. In addition, existing eroded trails and parking areas within lands currently owned by the Cleveland National Forest will be repaired and/or revegetated. Sweetwater Authority will maintain its lands at Loveland Reservoir as a managed conservation area for purposes of watershed protection and water production.

8 Fire: The reservoir lands are patrolled by our Reservoir Operations Specialist who resides on the property. In addition, other Authority employees enter the area on

addressed and mitigated, then all parties would be in a "win-win" situation. The current plan, developed unilaterally, seems to put SWA and the USFS in a position of defending "their" plan instead of truly working towards the best approach. Moving the public fishing access more westerly and keeping it on the north side, re-examining where and how the egress would be on to Japatul Road, and examining other issues with an open mind would surely result in a process in which a greater benefit would be had by all.

I look forward to having the opportunity to provide continued input into this proposed land swap and I am hopeful that all parties will see that increased public involvement is to everyone's advantage.

Sincerely

Kirby G. Johnson

various assignments. This patrol effort will be expanded at the east end of the reservoir after the fishing relocation.

No fires or camping is permitted on Authority property. The shoreline easement will be dedicated to the Forest Service in order to provide reasonable public fishing access to replace existing fishing at Government Cove. The Authority perceives that the proposal provides a fair compromise between environmental, public, water quality, and water production issues.

9 Water Quality: This concern is addressed on pages 19 and 20 of the Initial Study. A report was prepared by Montgomery Watson Engineering in December 1995, entitled the Watershed Sanitary Survey. This was submitted to the State of California Department of Health Services in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. In the Watershed Sanitary Survey, contaminants were identified within the watershed. Lower priority concerns affecting Loveland Reservoir include potential contamination by wild animals, fires, landfills, and sewage spills. Sweetwater Authority is addressing those concerns. The Authority views this land exchange as a means of consolidating existing fragmented, and sometimes illegal fishing activities to the east end of the lake, so that proper trash and portable toilet service can be provided for an improvement to water quality.