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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Poplar Basin

Lead Agency: Lower Tule River Irrigation District

Contact Name: John-Michael Domondon

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Project Location: southwest of Porterville, Tulare
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

See attached Project Description

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

See attached Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

Revised September 2011

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

No known areas of controversy

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Not applicable

PROJECT TITLE

Poplar Basin Project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The new 40-acre recharge basin facility is comprised of two (2) 20-acre basins and would include a new turnout connection from the District's Casa Blanca Ditch on the southern end of the property and approximately 100 feet of pipeline. The basin would generally be rectangular shape surrounded by lands in agricultural production. There are two existing turnouts and a check structure along the Casa Blanca Ditch running along the southern border of the Area of Potential Effect (APE). Overhead electricity lines run along the northern border of the APE with an existing power pole near the northeast corner of the APE.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Construction of the proposed Project is expected to be completed in four to six months with construction access off of Scranton Avenue/Avenue 136. The Project parcel has been cleared of orchards and would be cleared of any other vegetation and debris. The proposed Project includes mobilization, site preparation, and berm construction surrounding the basin; earthwork and structures placement; Project turnout, piping, and inter-basin and basin outfall structures. New berm construction would be less than six feet, measured from the exterior toe to the top of the new levee. After construction completion, performance testing and demobilization would occur. Any soils that cannot be reused in construction or balanced onsite would be exported offsite to a District-owned property or willing taker(s) of the soil.

EQUIPMENT

Construction equipment would likely include, but not be limited to, the following types:

- Excavators;
- Graders;
- Skid steers;
- Loaders;
- Hauling trucks;
- Bulldozers;
- Concrete pump truck;
- Large tractor and large discing unit;
- Water trucks supplying water for dust control and conditioning soil for compaction; and
- Large watercannon and hoses.

Post-construction activities would include system testing, commissioning, and site clean-up. Construction will require temporary staging and storage of materials and equipment. Staging areas would be located onsite within the identified APE.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The District's operation of the basin would be consistent with the District's other similar facilities in that groundwater conditions would be monitored to minimize negative impacts on the surrounding areas (such as nearby wells, crops, and septic systems).

CHAPTER 5 MITIGATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING PROGRAM

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been formulated based upon the findings of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the proposed Project in Tulare County. The MMRP lists mitigation measures recommended in the IS/MND for the proposed Project and identifies monitoring and reporting requirements.

Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program presents the mitigation measures identified for the proposed Project. Each mitigation measure is numbered with a symbol indicating the topical section to which it pertains, a hyphen, and the impact number. For example, AIR-2 would be the second mitigation measure identified in the Air Quality analysis of the IS/MND.

The first column of Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program identifies the mitigation measure. The second column, entitled "When Monitoring is to Occur," identifies the time the mitigation measure should be initiated. The third column, "Frequency of Monitoring," identifies the frequency of the monitoring of the mitigation measure. The fourth column, "Agency Responsible for Monitoring," names the party ultimately responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented. The last columns will be used by the Lead and Responsible Agencies to ensure that individual mitigation measures have been complied with and monitored.

Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program						
Item	Mitigation Measure	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
Biological Resources						
BIO-1	**(BMPs)**: The proposed Project proponent will require that all workers employ the following best management practices (BMPs) in order to avoid and minimize potential impacts to special status species: • Vehicles will observe a 15-mph speed limit while on unpaved access routes. • All open trenches, holes, sumps, and other excavations greater than 6-inches with sidewalls steeper than a 1:1 (45 degree) slope will have an escape ramp of earth or a non-slip material with a less than 1:1 slope or these will be covered with barrier material such that animals are unable to dig or squeeze under the barrier and become entrapped. • Workers will inspect areas beneath parked vehicles, equipment, and materials prior to mobilization. If special status species are detected, the individual will either be allowed to leave of its own volition or will be captured by the qualified biologist (must possess appropriate collecting/handling permits) and relocated out of harm's way to the nearest suitable habitat beyond the influence of the Project work area. "Take" of a state or federal special status (rare, California Species of Special Concern, threatened, or endangered) species is prohibited without the necessary federal or State take permit(s).	Throughout construction activities	Daily	District		
BIO-2	**(Avoidance)**: The proposed Project's construction activities will occur, if feasible, between September 1 and January 31 (outside of the nesting bird season) to avoid impacts to nesting birds.	Prior to construction activities	Prior to construction activities	District		

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program						
Item	Mitigation Measure	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
BIO-3	**(Pre-construction Surveys)**: If activities must occur within the nesting bird season (February 1 to August 31), a qualified biologist (someone able to identify these species) will conduct a pre-construction survey for active nests within seven (7) calendar days prior to the start of construction. It will be completed within the Project site, and up to 50 feet outside of the Project site for nesting migratory birds and up to 450 feet outside of the Project site for nesting raptors. Raptor nests are considered "active" upon the nest-building stage. If no active nests are observed, no further mitigation is required.	Prior to construction activities	Prior to construction activities	District		
BIO-4	**(Avoidance Buffers)**: On discovery of any active nests or breeding colonies near work areas, a qualified biologist will determine appropriate avoidance buffer distances based on applicable CDFW and/or USFWS guidelines, the biology of the species, conditions of the nest(s), and the level of Project disturbance.	Prior to construction activities	Prior to construction activities	District		
Cultural Resources						
CUL-1	**(Archaeological Remains)**: Should archeological remains or artifacts be unearthed during any stage of project activities, work in the area of the discovery shall cease until the area is evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If mitigation is warranted, the project proponent shall abide by recommendations of the archaeologist.	During construction	Daily during construction activities	District		
CUL-2	**(Human Remains)**: In the event that human remains are discovered on the Project site, the Tulare County Coroner must be notified of that discovery (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5) and all activities in the immediate area if the find or in any nearby area reasonably suspected of overlie adjacent human remains must cease until appropriate and lawful measures have been implemented. If the Coroner determines that the remains are not recent, but	During construction	Daily during construction activities	District		

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program						
Item	Mitigation Measure	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
	rather of Native American origin, the Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento within 24 hours to permit the NAHC to determine the most likely descendent of the deceased Native American.					
Tribal Cultural Resources						
See **CUL-1** and **CUL-2** above.						