

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and California Environmental Quality Act, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Sacramento District and San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFC) have prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment/Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (Draft SEA/SEIR) to the 2018 San Joaquin River Basin, Lower San Joaquin River (LSJR), CA, Final Integrated Interim Feasibility Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (2018 LSJR IIFR/EIS/EIR) to analyze the potential impacts of the LSJR Compensatory Mitigation Plan (CMP).

The mitigation strategy presented in the 2018 LSJR IIFR/EIS/EIR relied mainly on the purchase of mitigation bank credits. However, mitigation banks within the LSJR Project's service area currently do not have sufficient quantities of credits available to compensate for the current estimated unavoidable impacts to biological resources resulting from the LSJR Project. To address this, USACE and SJAFC have updated the LSJR Project's mitigation strategy with the development of the LSJR CMP to evaluate additional compensatory mitigation opportunities in San Joaquin and Sacramento counties. Other actions taken to avoid, minimize, rectify, or reduce impacts are identified in the 2018 LSJR IIFR/EIS/EIR. Additional measures may be identified during the development of designs for each LSJR Project phase.

As required by CEQA (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2), the Draft SEA/SEIR objectively assesses and discloses potential environmental effects of the LSJR CMP. Analysis in the 2018 LSJR IIFR/EIS/EIR and in the 2023 Tenmile Slough Reach 30 Left Bank (TS30L) Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (tiered from the 2018 LSJR IIFR/EIS/EIR) determined that significant and unavoidable impacts may occur in the following resource areas that remain relevant as significant and unavoidable impacts under the LSJR CMP: aesthetics, noise, recreation, transportation, and cultural resources. The LSJR CMP Draft SEA/SEIR also identifies potentially significant impacts that can be mitigated to a less than significant level for: air quality; paleontological resources; hazards, hazardous materials, and public safety; utilities, service systems, and public services; wildfire; water quality; wetlands and other Waters of the United States; vegetation and wildlife; and special status species.

An in-person community meeting will be held from 6-7pm on Monday, June 2, 2025 at the Stribley Community Center located at 1760 E. Sonora Street, Stockton, CA 95205.

USACE and SJAFC welcome your comments on the Draft SEA/SEIR during the public review and comment period from May 20 through July 7, 2025. Comments can be submitted at the community meeting, and/or by email or mail by 5 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) on July 7, 2025, as follows:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District, ATTN: Public Affairs Office, 1325 J St., Sacramento, CA 95814, spk-pao@usace.army.mil and/or

San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency, ATTN: Omar Al-Hindi, Executive Project Manager, 2800 West March Lane, Suite 200, Stockton, CA 95219, omar.alhindi@sjafca.org.

The Draft SEA/SEIR is available for public review at the Cesar Chavez Central Library, located at 605 North El Dorado Street, Stockton, CA 95202-1907. An electronic copy of the document is available on SJAFCA's website via the following link:

<https://www.sjafca.org/maps/lower-san-joaquin-river-project>.