

# Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement of Calaveras River Project

SAN JOAQUIN, CALIFORNIA

## **Draft** Initial Study with **Proposed** Mitigated Negative Declaration



Prepared by:  
Stockton East Water District



6767 East Main Street  
Stockton, CA 95215  
April 2021

## NOTICE OF INTENT

### TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PROPOSED GOTELLI BRIDGE 2 REPLACEMENT OF CALAVERAS RIVER PROJECT

***Notice is Hereby Given*** that an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) is available for public review for the Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement of Calaveras River project described below pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (Public Resources Code 21100, et seq.)

#### **Project Description and Location**

Stockton East Water District (District) is proposing to construct a bridge over the Calaveras River for the Gotelli Family. The Project consists of a rail car bridge across Calaveras River to access lands severed by the District's New Hogan Conveyance System. The constructed facilities will provide a safe crossing for vehicle access. The bridge will be up to 10 feet wide and 90 feet long. The full bridge width and length will be accomplished by securing a rail car to the concrete abutments on either side of the river.

The proposed project is located east of the city of Stockton, approximately ¼ mile west of Highway 26 and ½ mile northwest of the town of Bellota.

#### **Document Review and Availability**

The public comment period will extend from April 3, 2021 to May 3, 2021. Copies of the IS/MND are available for public review at the Stockton East Water District, 6767 East Main Street, Stockton, CA 95215, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

This IS/MND can also be reviewed and/or downloaded from the Stockton East Water District website at the following link: [www.sewd.net](http://www.sewd.net).

During the public review period, written comments on the IS/MND may be provided to:

Darrel Evensen, District Engineer  
Stockton East Water District  
6767 East Main Street  
Stockton, CA 95215  
209.948.0537  
devensen@sewd.net

The Draft Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated for public comment from April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 to May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. All comments received during the circulation period have been reviewed and addressed by the District and included within Appendix B of the final document. Any changes made to the final document as a result of public comments are notated in a track changes sidebar.

# **PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

**1. Project Name:** *Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement of Calaveras River*

**2. Description of Project:** Stockton East Water District (District) proposes to construct a crossing over Calaveras River for the Gotelli family. The constructed facilities will provide safe vehicle access, consisting of a rail car with reinforced concrete abutment foundations. The crossing will be up to 10 feet wide and 90 feet long. The crossing will arrive on site as a 90 foot rail car that will attach to the concrete abutments. The full crossing width and length will be accomplished by securing the rail car to the concrete abutments on either side. The proposed project is needed because the existing bridge is structurally unsafe, providing a hazard to anyone who uses it.

**3. Project Location:** The proposed project is located in the east area of San Joaquin County, approximately ¼ mile west of Highway 26 and approximately ½ mile northwest of the town of Bellota.

**4. Date:** April 3, 2021

**5. Lead Agency:** Stockton East Water District

**6. Name and Address of Applicant:** Stockton East Water District  
6767 East Main Street  
Stockton, CA 95215

**7. Contact Person:** Darrel Evensen, District Engineer, 209.948.0537

## **8. Declaration:**

Stockton East Water District has determined that there is no substantial evidence that the above project, as mitigated, may have a significant effect on the environment and proposes that a Mitigated Negative Declaration be adopted. The determination is based on the attached Initial Study and the following findings:

- a) *The project will not degrade environmental quality, substantially reduce habitat, cause a wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, reduce the number or restrict the range of special-status species, or eliminate important examples of California history or prehistory.*
- b) *The project does not have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals.*
- c) *The project will not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.*



- d) *The project will not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.*
- e) *No substantial evidence exists that the project will have a negative or adverse effect on the environment.*
- f) *The project incorporates all applicable mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study.*
- g) *This Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment of the lead agency.*

Written comments on the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration shall be submitted no later than 5 PM on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

**Submit comments to:**

Darrel Evensen  
District Engineer  
Stockton East Water District  
6767 East Main Street  
Stockton, CA 95215

**Posting Period:**

April 3, 2021 to May 3, 2021

**Initial Study approved by:**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scot A. Moody, General Manager  
Stockton East Water District

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# **1. INTRODUCTION**

This Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) evaluates the environmental effects of the proposed Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement of Calaveras River Project. The proposed project is to provide the Gotelli family access to land severed by the Stockton East Water District's (District's) New Hogan Conveyance project. The constructed facility will provide safe vehicle access to all users.

This IS/MND was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code [PRC] 21000 et seq.) and State CEQA Guidelines (14 California Codes of Regulations [CCR] 15000 et seq.). The District is the lead agency for this proposed Project under CEQA.

## **1.1 Purpose of this Document**

CEQA requires that all state and local government agencies consider the environmental consequences of projects over which they have discretionary authority before acting on those projects. An MND, which requires inclusion of an IS, is a public document used by the decision-making lead agency to determine whether a project may have a significant adverse impact on the environment. If the agency finds that the proposed Project may have a significant adverse impact on the environment, but that the impacts will be clearly reduced to a less-than-significant level through implementation of specific mitigation measures, an MND shall be prepared.

This IS/MND is a public information document that describes the proposed Project, existing environmental setting at the Project site, and potential environmental impacts of construction and operation of the proposed Project. It is intended to inform the public and decision-makers of the proposed Project's compliance with CEQA and State CEQA Guidelines.

## **1.2 Tiering**

CEQA allows for the preparation of environmental documents using a multilevel approach whereby a broad level EIR, termed a "program EIR," includes an analysis of general matters (e.g., the impacts of an entire plan, program, or policy), and subsequent project-level EIRs or negative declarations include analyses of the project-specific effects of projects within the program (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168). State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168 describes the process of tiering from a program EIR, in which CEQA documents that follow a program EIR incorporate by reference and rely on the general discussions, program-wide analyses, and program-level mitigation measures from the broader EIR, and focus on the site-specific impacts of the individual projects that implement the plan, program, or policy.

### 1.3 Review Process

This IS/MND is being circulated for public and agency review as required by CEQA. Because state agencies will act as responsible or trustee agencies, the District will circulate the IS/MND to the State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research for distribution and a 30-day review period. A copy of the CEQA IS/MND is also available for review on the District's website: [www.sewd.net](http://www.sewd.net).

During the review period, written comments may be submitted to:

Darrel Evensen  
District Engineer  
Stockton East Water District  
6767 East Main Street  
Stockton, CA 95215  
devensen@sewd.net

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies during the public comment period, the District may (1) adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the proposed Project; (2) undertake additional environmental studies; or (3) disapprove the Project. If the Project is approved, the District may proceed with detailed design and construction.

### 1.4 Document Organization

This IS/MND is organized as follows:

**Chapter 1: Introduction.** This chapter provides an introduction to the environmental review process, and describes the purpose and organization of this document.

**Chapter 2: Project Description.** This chapter provides a detailed description of the Project and required permits and approvals.

**Chapter 3: Environmental Checklist.** This chapter presents an analysis of a range of environmental issues identified in the CEQA Environmental Checklist and determines if Project actions would result in no impact, a less-than-significant impact, a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated, or a potentially significant impact. If any impacts were determined to be potentially significant, an EIR would be required. For this Project, however, none of the impacts were determined to be significant.

### 1.5 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources             | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources          | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality            | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources             | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services               | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service System      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |   |

## 1.6 Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the propose Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed Project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions of mitigation measures that are imposed upon the Project, nothing further is required.

By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Scot A. Moody, General Manager  
 Stockton East Water District

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date



## **2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This chapter provides a detailed location, description of the Project, and required permits and approvals.

### **2.1 Project Location**

The proposed Project is located in the east area of San Joaquin County, approximately ¼ mile west of Highway 26 and approximately ½ mile northwest of the town of Bellota., as shown in Figure 1. Specifically, the Project is located in Township 2 North, Range 9 East of Mount Diablo Base Meridian in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic maps.

### **2.2 Project Description**

The Project will consist of a rail car bridge across the Calaveras River to access lands severed by the District's New Hogan Conveyance System. The constructed facilities will provide safe crossing for vehicle access. The crossing will be 90 feet long by 10 feet wide. The full crossing width and length will be accomplished by securing the rail car to reinforced concrete abutments. The Calaveras River top of bank will be excavated in order to secure the reinforced concrete foundation that the railcar will be adhered to. A three foot tall railing will be installed along both sides of the crossing.

The crossing will not affect the Calaveras River flows. The construction of the bridge will not affect existing water services provided by the District. No extended-time road closures are anticipated to occur, and access for each resident will be maintained. Temporary closures for local traffic may take place. There will not be right-of-way impacts, temporary construction easements or utility easements. Construction is anticipated to last one month.





**FIGURE 2**  
**Project Location**

Gotelli B2 of Calaveras River Project  
San Joaquin County, CA

### 2.3 Required Permits and Project Approvals

As the lead agency pursuant to CEQA, the District is responsible for considering the adequacy of the IS and determining if the project should be approved.

If approved, elements of the project would be subject to permitting and/or approval authority of other agencies included in the following table:

AGENCY	ACTIVITY	ENTITLEMENT
Federal		
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Required for placement of fill into waters of the United States	Section 404 – Nationwide Permit Authorization
State		
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Work in waters of the State	Section 1600 of the California Fish and Game Code – Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Water quality certification required to support the Section 404 Nationwide Permit Authorization	Section 401 – Water Quality Certification

### 3. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

This checklist identifies physical, biological, social and economic factors that might be affected by the proposed Project. In many cases, background studies performed in connection with projects indicate no impacts. A NO IMPACT answer in the last column reflects this determination. Where there is a need for clarifying discussion, the discussion is included either following the applicable section of the checklist or is within the body of the environmental document itself. The questions in this form are intended to encourage the thoughtful assessment of impacts and do not represent thresholds of significance.

I. <b>Aesthetics:</b> Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime view in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **No Impact.** There are no known scenic vistas within the vicinity of the Project.
- b) **Less than significant impact.** The project will remove two trees that currently provide shade over the river. However, the new bridge structure will provide approximately 0.007 acres of shade over the river. Additionally, there are no historic buildings within or adjacent to the Project area.
- c) **Less than significant impact.** The existing visual character would change after the installation of the crossing, but the new crossing would not degrade the existing visual character.
- d) **No Impact.** No additional lighting would be required as a result of the proposed Project. Construction of the crossings would only take place during daylight hours.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<p><b>II. Agriculture and Forest Resources:</b></p> <p>In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:</p>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **No Impact.** The Project will not result in agricultural lands be converted to non-agricultural use.
- b) **No Impact.** The Project does not conflict with existing zoning or Williamson Act contracts.
- c) **No Impact.** The Project does not conflict with zoning for forest land.
- d) **No Impact.** The Project will not result in loss or conversion of forest land.
- e) **No Impact.** No, the Project actually fosters the continued, existing agricultural use of the land.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.



<b>III. Air Quality:</b> Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**a,b) Less than Significant with Mitigation.** The proposed Project is located in the portion of San Joaquin County that is under the jurisdiction of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (APCD). Fugitive dust may potentially be generated from the excavation and movement of construction equipment along the unpaved access road on the Project site. Adherence to best management practices, as recommended by the San Joaquin Valley APCD and described below would be implemented to minimize temporary impacts to air quality.

- All disturbed areas, including storage piles, which are not being actively utilized for construction purposes, shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water.
- All on-site unpaved roads and off-site unpaved access roads shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using.
- All land clearing, grubbing, scraping, excavation, land leveling, grading, cut & fill, and demolition activities shall be effectively controlled of fugitive dust emissions utilizing application of water or by presoaking.

- Following the addition of materials to, or the removal of materials from, the surface of outdoor storage piles, said piles shall be effectively stabilized of fugitive dust emissions utilizing water.
  - Traffic speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 10 miles per hour.
- c) **Less than Significant.** All construction impacts to air quality would be short-term and intermittent; therefore impacts are anticipated to be less than significant. The emission of pollutants during construction would not contribute significantly to a net increase of any criteria pollutant. No long-term, operational impacts are anticipated.
- d) **Less than Significant.** The project site is located within an agricultural area. The closest sensitive receptors are residences located 0.25 miles northeast of the project site; the short-term and intermittent emissions are anticipated to be less than significant at the residences. The project would not result in substantial, long-term quantities of pollutant concentrations that would affect the surrounding rural residents.
- e) **No Impact.** The Project site is located within an agricultural area and would not produce sufficient quantities of objectionable odors during construction that would affect the surrounding rural residents.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>IV. Biological Resources:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The biological technical report prepared in February 2021, by Dokken Engineering found no special-status plant species have the potential to occur within the biological survey area. The biological technical report by Dokken Engineering determined two special status species have the potential to occur in the project area, Central Valley Steelhead and hardhead. The project would not have impacts to the Calaveras River, therefore, direct impacts to special status fish species are not anticipated. Although no impact on special-status species are anticipated the below listed best management practices will further minimize and avoid potential impacts to native plant and animal species and the existing plant and animal communities within the BSA.

- Every individual working on the Project must attend a biological awareness training session delivered by a qualified biologist. This training program shall include information regarding sensitive habitats, special-status species and the importance of avoiding impacts to these species and their habitat.
- Prior to the start of construction activities, the Project limits in proximity to Calaveras River will be marked with high visibility Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) fencing or staking to ensure construction will not further encroach into water resources. If ESA is not feasible, the Project limits will be discussed in the biological awareness training so that all Project personnel are aware of the sensitive natural habitats within the Project area.
- All food –related trash must be disposed into closed containers and must be removed from the Project area daily. Construction personnel must not feed or otherwise attract wildlife to the Project area.
- The contractor must not apply rodenticide or herbicide within the BSA during construction.
- Prior to arrival at the Project site and prior to leaving the Project site, construction equipment that may contain invasive plants and/or seeds will be cleaned to reduce the spreading of noxious weeds.
- Should a special-status plant species be observed within or immediately adjacent to the Project area, Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) fencing

(orange construction barrier fencing) will be installed around special-status plant populations.

### *Migratory Birds*

Native birds are protected by the MBTA and CFG Code Section 3513. To minimize potential impacts to migratory birds, mitigation measure BIO-08 will be incorporated throughout Project construction.

**b) Less than Significant Impact.** The biological field survey conducted in February 2021, by Dokken Engineering found no riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities within the biological survey area. Although no sensitive habitat exists, BMPs will be incorporated into Project design and Project management to minimize impacts on the environment including erosion and the release of pollutants (e.g. oils, fuels):

- Exposed soils and material stockpiles would be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the Project site caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities;
- All construction roadway areas would be properly protected to prevent excess erosion, sedimentation, and water pollution;
- All vehicle and equipment fueling/maintenance would be conducted outside of any surface waters;
- Equipment used in and around jurisdictional waters must be in good working order and free of dripping or leaking contaminants;
- Raw cement, concrete or concrete washings, asphalt, paint or other coating material, oil or other petroleum products, or any other substances that could be hazardous to aquatic life shall be prevented from contaminating the soil or entering jurisdictional waters;
- All erosion control measures and storm water control measures would be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state;
- All disturbed areas would be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated, and,
- All excess construction materials brought to the site will be hauled off-site after completion of construction.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** No federally protected wetland features were delineated in the near vicinity. The Project will obtain appropriate permits for this Project including Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Streambed Alteration Agreement under 1602 from CDFW. The proposed Project will avoid federally protected wetlands entirely.
- d) **Less than Significant.** The Central Valley Steelhead and the hardhead have the potential to occur within the project area. However, the project will not have any anticipated effect on the Calaveras River. Therefore, the Project will have no impacts to native resident or migratory fish or wildlife. Even though the project does not anticipate effecting the River or the fish populations within the river, the appropriate BMP's will be incorporated.
- e) **No Impact.** The Project area is not included within any tree preservation policies or ordinances.
- f) **No Impact.** The Project is not located within a Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan.

### **Mitigation Measures**

BIO-01: Every individual working on the Project must attend a biological awareness training session delivered by a qualified biologist. This training program shall include information regarding sensitive habitats, special-status species and the importance of avoiding impacts to these species and their habitat.

BIO-02: Prior to the start of construction activities, the Project limits in proximity to Calaveras River will be marked with high visibility Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) fencing or staking to ensure construction will not further encroach into water resources. If ESA is not feasible, the Project limits will be discussed in the biological awareness training so that all Project personnel are aware of the sensitive natural habitats within the Project area.

BIO-03: BMPs will be incorporated into Project management to minimize impacts on the environment including erosion and the release of pollutants (e. g. oils, fuels):

- Exposed soils and material stockpiles would be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the Project site caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities;
- All construction roadway areas would be properly protected to prevent excess erosion, sedimentation, and water pollution;

- All vehicle and equipment fueling/maintenance would be conducted outside of any surface waters;
- Equipment used in and around jurisdictional waters must be in good working order and free of dripping or leaking contaminants;
- Raw cement, concrete or concrete washings, asphalt, paint or other coating material, oil or other petroleum products, or any other substances that could be hazardous to aquatic life shall be prevented from contaminating the soil or entering jurisdictional waters;
- All erosion control measures and storm water control measures would be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state;
- All disturbed areas would be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated, either through hydro seeding or other means, with native or approved non-invasive exotic species; and,
- All construction materials would be hauled off-site after completion of construction.
- Upon completion of construction activities, any temporary barriers to surface water flow must be removed in a manner that would allow flow to resume with the least disturbance to the substrate.

BIO-04: Net permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor will be appropriately mitigated for through purchase of credits at an approved mitigation bank, or other approved methods, during the permitting phase for the Project.

BIO-05: Prior to arrival at the Project site and prior to leaving the Project site, construction equipment that may contain invasive plants and/or seeds will be cleaned to reduce the spreading of noxious weeds.

BIO-06: All food-related trash must be disposed into closed containers and must be removed from the Project area daily. Construction personnel must not feed or otherwise attract wildlife to the Project area.

BIO-07: The contractor must not apply rodenticide or herbicide within the BSA during construction.

BIO-08: If project activities are to commence during the nesting season (February 1-August 31), a pre-construction nesting bird survey must be conducted within a 300-foot buffer of project activities within 7 days prior to the start of construction.

A minimum 100-foot no-disturbance buffer will be established around any active nest of migratory birds a minimum of 300-foot no-disturbance buffer will be established around any nesting raptor species. The contractor must immediately stop work in the nesting area



until the appropriate buffer is established and is prohibited from conducting work that could disturb the birds (as determined by the Project biologist and in coordination with wildlife agencies) in the buffer area until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged. A reduced buffer can be established if determined appropriate by the Project biologist and approved by CDFW.

<b>V. Cultural Resources:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a,b) Less than Significant Impact.** In February 2021, a pedestrian surface inventory survey was performed by Dokken Engineering. The surface survey was conducted via controlled transects spaced no greater than 5- meter intervals within the APE. Surface visibility within the APE was 50% due to weed cover along the road surfaces. Visibility was also poor, 20%, along the river banks where dense blackberry and other species obscured the soils. There was some exposures that were visible at the bridge abutments. Particular attention was paid to de-vegetated surface exposures, as well as any rodent burrows, cut banks, and other exposed areas where the presence of artifacts, archeological features, or anthropogenic soils are more likely observed.

The pedestrian survey did not identify any cultural resources with the APE. Inspection of open surfaces, visible cut slopes, and drainage cut banks during the field survey revealed no evidence or indication of subsurface artifacts, features, or other indicators of past human use.

Based on the proximity of the APE to the Calaveras River and presence of Holocene aged soils, the Project vicinity lies within an area determined to be of moderate sensitivity for prehistoric activity. As identified by Dokken, three prehistoric resources have been recorded approximately one quarter mile from the APE. The APE would have been a targeted location of prehistoric activity, but Project activities will occur primarily along the modified banks of the channel and within the previously disturbed agricultural field and dirt road areas. For this reason, the potential for the Project to impact intact buried cultural resource deposits in the APE is *low*.

- c) **No Impact.** The Project site does not contain any unique paleontological resources or geologic features.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** Disturbance to human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries, is not anticipated. In adherence to best management practices related to disturbance of human remains, the District will follow the minimization measures included within the Tribal Cultural Resource section.

### **Mitigation Measures**

CR-1: If previously unidentified historical or cultural materials are unearthed during construction, work shall be halted within 100 feet of the area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find and develop a plan for documentation and removal of resources, if necessary. This buffer can be reduced or increased, based on the type of discovery.

CR-2: If human remains are encountered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 dictates that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendent (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of the notification by the NAHC. The MLD may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

<b>VI. Tribal Cultural Resources:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change to a listed or eligible for listing resource in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Cause a substantial adverse change to a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1.?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a-c) Less than Significant Impact.** The Project area was defined to encompass permanent Project features and areas of potential ground disturbance during construction.

An archaeological pedestrian ground surface inventory survey was conducted by Dokken Engineering Archaeologist Michelle Campbell on February 8, 2021 for the purpose of identifying and recording archaeological resources. The survey resulted in no identification of cultural resources within the APE.

In February 2021 initial consultation letters were mailed to the Native American tribal governments who have previously submitted a written request to the District requesting to be notified of projects within their traditionally and culturally affiliated areas. Letters were mailed to the following contacts:

- Buena Vista Rancheria (letter received: February 18, 2021)
- Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California (letter received: February 18, 2021)
- Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (letter received: February 22, 2021)
- Wilton Rancheria (letter received: February 18, 2021)

The District received no responses from any of the four tribes, as of March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Standard Best Management Practices and/or Minimization Measures**

- Should buried, unforeseen archaeological deposits be encountered during any construction activity, work would cease within a 20-foot radius of the discovery. In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.13, a qualified archaeologist would be notified to document the discovery, assess its significance, and recommend treatment.
- In the event that human remains or any associated funerary artifacts are discovered during construction, all work would cease within the immediate vicinity of the discovery. In accordance with CEQA and the California Health and Safety Code (Section 7050.5), the San Joaquin County coroner must be contacted immediately. If the remains are deemed to be Native American, the coroner will notify the NAHC, which will in turn appoint and notify a most Likely Descendent (MLD) to act as a tribal representative. The MLD will work with a qualified archaeologist to determine the proper treatment of the human remains and associated funerary objects. Construction activities will not resume until either the human remains are exhumed, or the remains are avoided via project construction design change.

**Mitigation Measures**

See Cultural Resources Mitigation Measures.

VII. Geology and Soils: Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**a (i-iii)No Impact.** The site is not located near any known Alquist-Priolo faults.

**a (i-iv)No Impact.** The topography of the Project site is relatively flat and surrounded by flat agricultural parcels. Slopes within the Project area are between zero (0) and two (2) percent according to the Natural Resource Conservation Service. There are no anticipated impacts related to landslides.

- b) **Less than significant Impact.** Any soil disturbed by the Project will be regraded to the existing site conditions and/or be secured against erosion through the use of rock (rip-rap), matting, or other BMP.
- c) **Less than significant Impact.** Soils in the Project area are comprised of Hollenbeck silty clay. All soils unsuitable for use as a structural base or sub-base shall be removed and replaced with suitable structural base material.
- d) **Less than significant Impact.** No expansion soil is located at the Project Site. Refer to answer to question (c) above.
- e) **No Impact.** The Project does not include any waste water disposal systems.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.



<b>VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a & b) Less Than Significant.** Construction impacts to air quality would be short-term in duration and are not anticipated to result in adverse or long-term impacts. The emission of greenhouse gases during construction and operation of the proposed Project would be negligible and therefore less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Less than significant Impact.** The Project would involve the use of heavy equipment for grading, hauling, and materials handling. Use of this equipment may require the use of fuels and other common materials that have hazardous properties (e.g., fuels are flammable). These materials would be used in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and, if used properly, would not pose a hazard to people, animals, or plants. All refueling of construction vehicles and equipment would occur within the designated staging area for the project. The use of hazardous materials would be temporary and the Project would not include a permanent use or source of hazardous materials; therefore impacts would be less than significant.
- b) **No Impact.** The Project is a water crossing project and would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.
- c) **No Impact.** There are no schools located within one-quarter mile of the proposed Project.
- d) **No Impact.** According to a search of available environmental records listed on EDR, the Project site is on no known list of hazardous materials sites (Envirostor, 2020).
- e) **No Impact.** The Project is not located within two (2) miles of a public airport. The nearest airport is the Stockton Municipal Airport located approximately 10 miles west.
- f) **No Impact.** The Project is not within the vicinity of a private airstrip.
- g) **No Impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in interference or restriction of access road. There would be no impact to adopted emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans.
- h) **No Impact.** The proposed Project would not expose people to any risk of wildland fires.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>X. Hydrology and Water Quality:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) **Less than significant Impact.** BMPs will be incorporated into Project design and Project management to minimize impacts on the environment including reduction of sedimentation and release of pollutants (oil, fuel, etc.). The following measures will be implemented to ensure best management practices:

- The area of construction and disturbance would be limited to as small an area as feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation.
- Measures would be implemented during land-disturbing activities to reduce erosion and sedimentation. These measures may include mulches, soil binders and erosion control blankets, silt fencing, fiber rolls, temporary berms, sediment de-silting basins, sediment traps, and check dams.
- Existing vegetation would be protected where feasible to reduce erosion and sedimentation. Vegetation would be preserved by installing temporary fencing, or other protection devices, around areas to be protected.
- Exposed soils would be covered by loose bulk materials or other materials to reduce erosion and runoff during rainfall events.
- Exposed soils would be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the Project site caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities.
- All construction roadway areas would be properly protected to prevent excess erosion, sedimentation, and water pollution.

- All vehicle and equipment maintenance procedures would be conducted outside of the river.
- All concrete curing activities would be conducted to minimize spray drift and prevent curing compounds from entering the waterway directly or indirectly.
- All construction materials, vehicles, stockpiles, and staging areas would be situated outside of the channel. All stockpiles would be covered, as feasible.
- Energy dissipaters and erosion control pads would be provided at the bottom of slope drains. Other flow conveyance control mechanisms may include earth dikes, swales, or ditches. Stream bank stabilization measures would also be implemented.
- All erosion control measures and storm water control measures would be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state.
- All disturbed areas would be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated, either through hydroseeding or other means, with native or approved non-invasive species.
- All construction materials would be hauled off-site after completion of construction.
- No wastewater will be discharged into the River. All wastewater discharges comply with the Antidegradation Policy.

- b) **No Impact.** The project does not require the use of groundwater.
- c) **Less than significant Impact.** The drainage pattern within the Project area will be temporarily disturbed during construction activities, which will occur during the typically dry time of year. The site would be re-graded to return to pre-construction conditions and would not alter existing drainage patterns or cause impacts related to substantial erosion or siltation.
- d) **Less than significant Impact.** The crossing will not restrict flow from its normal pathway or alter its original course.
- e) **No Impact.** The site would be re-graded to return to pre-construction conditions, thereby not increasing historical runoff. The Project does not connect to any existing storm drain system.
- f) **Less than significant Impact with Mitigation.** See answer (a) above.
- g) **No Impact.** No housing is included in this project.
- h) **No Impact.** The project is not constructing any habitable structures and the Project location is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area.

- i) **No Impact.** The construction of a dam or levee is not included in this Project.
- j) **No Impact.** The Project is not located within or adjacent to a large body of water.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.



<b>XI. Land Use and Planning:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the Project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **No Impact.** The Project proposes to construct improvements to mitigate a physical divide between severed areas of private property.
- b) **No Impact.** The Project would not conflict with applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations of an agency with jurisdiction over the Project.
- c) **No Impact.** The Project is not within any known habitat or community conservation plans.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>XII. Mineral Resources:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **No Impact.** There are no known valuable mineral resources available at the Project site.
- b) **No Impact.** There is no delineated mineral resources recovery site at the Project site.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>XIII. Noise:</b> Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the Project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a Project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a Project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Less than Significant.** The construction activities would only occur during weekday work hours in accordance with Chapter 10.46 Noise Control of the San Joaquin County Code and would not generate noise in excess of the nearby roadway.

- b) **Less than Significant.** The temporary ground borne vibration and noise of the construction activities would be in accordance with Chapter 10.46 Noise Control of the San Joaquin County Code and would not be excessive to the nearest occupied structures.
- c) **No Impact.** There is no equipment included in this Project to permanently increase the ambient noise level.
- d) **Less than Significant.** Construction activities would only occur during weekday work hours and would not generate noise in excess of the nearby roadway.
- e) **No Impact.** The Project is not located within an airport land use plan.
- f) **No Impact.** The Project is not in the vicinity of a private airstrip.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>XIV. Population and Housing:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **No Impact.** The Project would not induce substantial population growth in the area. The proposed Project provides access to adjacent farmlands for agricultural purposes.
- b) **No Impact.** No existing housing would be displaced by this Project.
- c) **No Impact.** Displacement of people and housing would not occur as a part of this Project.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>XV. Public Services:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the Project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**a (i, ii) No Impact.** The Project site is located within agricultural fields and would not result in the need for new facilities or affect response times to the adjacent residences.

**a (iii-v) No Impact.** There are no schools, parks, or other public facilities within the Project area. No mitigation measures would be required.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>XVI. Recreation:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the Project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the Project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed Project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.
- b) **No Impact.** Bicycle facilities do not currently exist within the Project area. The proposed Project does not include recreational facilities, nor does it require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>XVII. Transportation/Traffic:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				
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- a) **Less than Significant.** The Project would result in increased traffic along Copperopolis Road due to visits to the project site for construction; however the work would be temporary and therefore would not result in a significant impact.
- b) **No Impact.** The Project would not conflict with a congestion management program or standards established by San Joaquin County.
- c) **No Impact.** The nearest airport is the Stockton Municipal Airport, which is approximately 15 miles south-west of the project. The Project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks; therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation is required.
- d) **No Impact.** The proposed Project would not result in any impacts related to increased hazards from design features or incompatible uses.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed Project would be constructed within farm roads and would not require any road closures along residential roads.
- f) **No Impact.** No interruptions to alternative transportation would result from the proposed Project.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>XVIII. Utilities and Service Systems:</b> Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) **No Impact.** The project will not produce any wastewater.

- b) **No Impact.** No new water treatment facilities are proposed as a part of this Project.
- c) **No Impact.** Existing storm water drainage facilities are adequate to deal with the runoff from the Project site. No impacts to existing storm water drainage facilities would occur.
- d) **No Impact.** The Project does not require any water supplies.
- e) **No Impact.** There is no wastewater treatment required for this Project.
- f) **No Impact.** Construction of the proposed Project would result in minor amounts of solid waste that would be disposed of at the Calaveras County Rock Creek Landfill.
- g) **No Impact.** The Project would comply with all federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste disposal. Construction of the proposed Project would result in minor amounts of solid waste that would be disposed of at the Calaveras County Rock Creek Landfill.

**Mitigation Measures**

None.

<b>XIX. Mandatory Findings of Significance:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the Project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Less than significant.** The Project will utilize measures listed within Section IV and V to minimize and avoid potential impacts to the Central Valley steelhead, hardhead, and cultural resources. The Project will not have impacts to the Calaveras River, so no direct impacts to the special status fish species are anticipated. There are no known historic resources within the project area.
- b) **No Impact.** The Project is a water conveyance project and is not anticipated to have cumulatively significant impacts on environmental resources.

- c) **No Impact.** No substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly, are anticipated.

**Mitigation Measures:**

None.

**Appendix A - BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL REPORT**

**Biological Resources Technical Report**  
**Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project**  
**San Joaquin County, California**



**Prepared for:**

Stockton East Water District  
6767 E. Main Street  
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**Prepared by:**

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**February 2021**

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## List of Abbreviations

°F	Fahrenheit
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BSA	Biological Study Area
Cal-IPC	California Invasive Plant Council
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFG	California Fish and Game
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CHCP	Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
County	County of San Joaquin
CWA	Clean Water Act
District	Stockton East Water District
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation
ITP	Incidental Take Permit
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NETR	Nationwide Environmental Title Research
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
OHWM	Ordinary high-water mark
Project	Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project
ROW	Right-of-way
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SEWD	Stockton East Water District
SSC	Species of Special Concern
TCEs	Temporary construction easements
U.S.	United States
U.S.C.	United States Code
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey

## Summary

The Stockton East Water District (District) proposes to construct a new crossing next to an existing structure over Calaveras River in unincorporated eastern San Joaquin County, California. The Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project (Project) is completely locally funded by the District.

This Biological Resources Technical Report is a review and evaluation of the potential impacts to threatened, endangered, proposed listed, or sensitive species and protected habitat resources as a result of the proposed Project. General biological surveys were conducted within the proposed Project's Biological Study Area (BSA), which is approximately 1.15 acres and encompasses all proposed impact areas with an approximate 20-foot buffer.

Literature research, habitat assessments, and field surveys were conducted to determine the potential for special status species to occur within the BSA. Special status species include any plant or animal species listed by a State or Federal agency or by one or more special interest groups, such as the California Native Plant Society. Based on literature review, biological surveys, and habitat assessments, two special status species have the potential to occur within the Calaveras River within the BSA: Central Valley steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 11*) and hardhead (*Mylopharodon conocephalus*). Additionally, the BSA is within Critical Habitat for the Federally threatened Central Valley steelhead and contains Essential Fish Habitat for chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*). The District currently holds an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) [under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA)] through the Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan for Central Valley steelhead, also benefitting chinook salmon. The Project would comply with the provisions under this ITP and additional consultation under FESA would not be required.

An analysis was conducted to assess the biological resources within the BSA that potentially could be impacted by the Project's activities. The Calaveras River and the associated disturbed riparian corridor are jurisdictional features pursuant to the Clean Water Act (CWA) and through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The Project would not result in any impacts to the Calaveras River. However, temporary and permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor are anticipated, including approximately 0.016 acres of net permanent impacts and 0.022 acres of temporary impacts. Appropriate mitigation for these impacts will be determined during the permitting phase of the Project.

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); the District represents the Project proponent and, therefore, is the CEQA lead agency. The District will obtain appropriate permits for the proposed Project. The Project would require a Streambed Alteration Agreement under Section 1602 from CDFW. Implementation of terms and conditions of environmental permits, along with Best Management Practices and avoidance and minimization measures will occur throughout the Project.

## 1. Introduction

The County of San Joaquin (County), in cooperation with the Stockton East Water District (SEWD; District), proposes to construct a new crossing next to an existing, structurally unsafe crossing over the Calaveras River in unincorporated San Joaquin County, California as the Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project (Project). The Project is located on a dirt road approximately ¼ mile west of Highway 26 and approximately ½ mile northwest of the unincorporated town of Bellota in San Joaquin County, California (**Figure 1. Project Vicinity; Figure 2. Project Location**). The Project is located in Township 2 North, Range 9 East of the Mount Diablo Base Meridian in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic maps.

### 1.1 History

According to historical aerials, the Project vicinity has been developed for agricultural purposes since the 1940s (NETR 2021). Land within the Project area has been highly disturbed for decades through farming practices and all vegetative communities are man-made, excluding the Calaveras River.

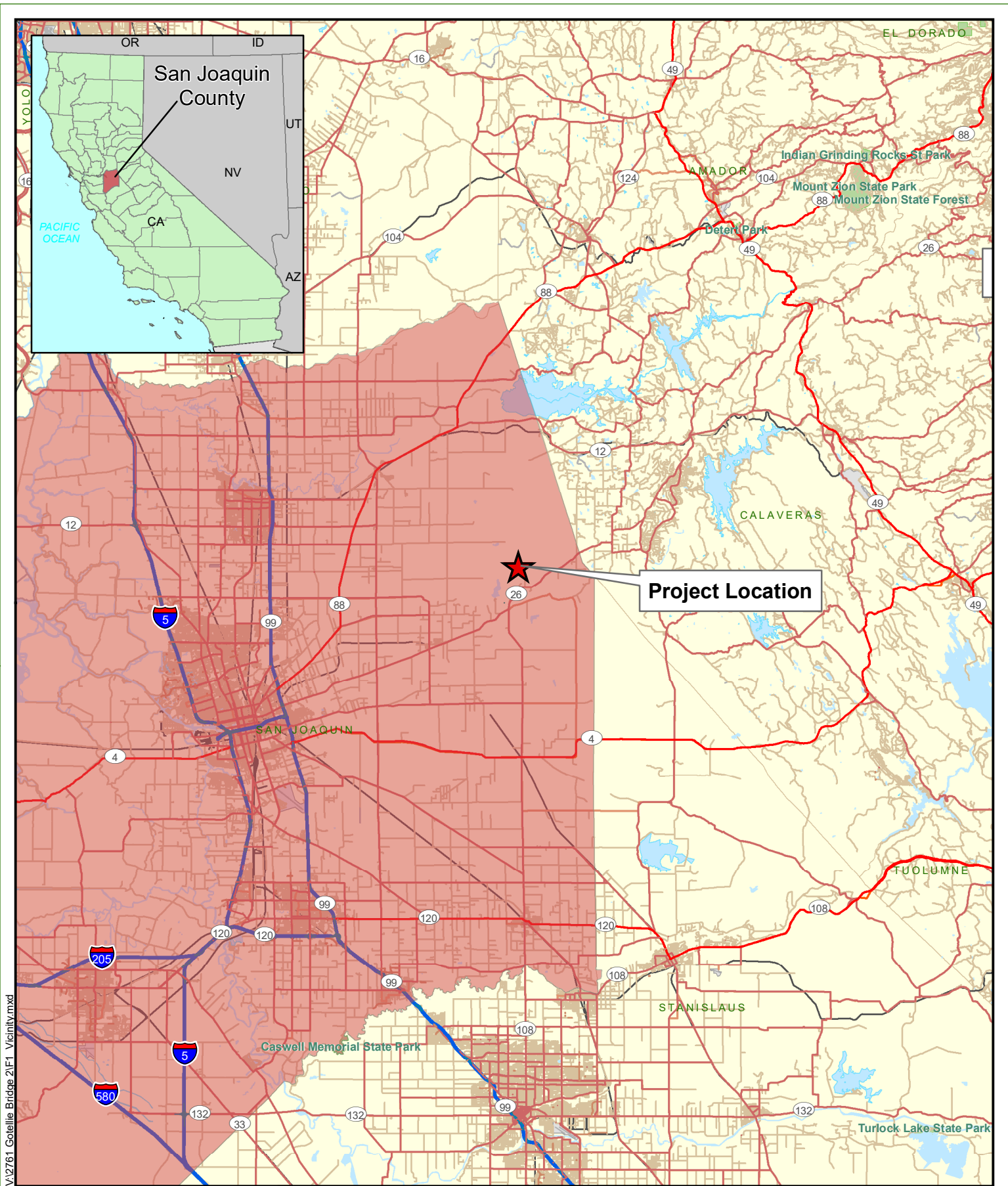
### 1.2 Project Description

The District proposes to construct a new crossing next to an existing, structurally unsafe crossing over the Calaveras River in unincorporated San Joaquin County, California.

The Calaveras River is the major water supply for the City of Stockton and provides water for agricultural and residential use in San Joaquin and Calaveras counties. The District is proposing to construct a new bridge to provide safe vehicle access for private landowners and District maintenance purposes. The proposed project is needed because the existing bridge is structurally unsafe, providing a hazard to anyone who uses it. The purpose of the project is to create a safe crossing over the Calaveras River at this location.

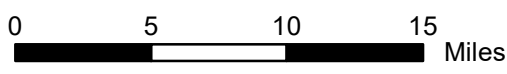
The bridge would require minimum excavation; only as required to develop a suitable base and necessary bank grading to connect to existing access roads on either side of Calaveras River. Existing water services provided by the District will remain active during project construction. All ground disturbing activities will take place within the temporary proposed construction areas depicted in the plans. No extended time road closures are anticipated to occur, and access to each residence will be maintained. Temporary closures for local traffic may take place. There will be no right-of-way (ROW) impacts, temporary construction easements (TCEs) or utility easements. Construction will start in the Summer of 2021 and is anticipated to last one month.

The project is locally funded through the SEWD, as such it requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The lead agency for CEQA compliance is the District.



V:\2761 Gotelli Bridge 2\F1\_Vicinity.mxd

Source: ESRI 2008; Dokken Engineering 2/2/2021; Created By: cfavro

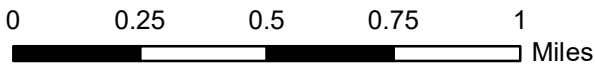


**Figure 1**  
**Project Vicinity**  
 Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project  
 San Joaquin County, California



Document Path: V:\2761 Gotelle Bridge 2\F2\_Location.mxd

Source: ESRI World Street Maps Online; Dokken Engineering 2/2/2021; Created By: cfavro



**Figure 2**  
**Project Location**  
 Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project  
 San Joaquin County, California

## 2. Study Methods

### 2.1 Regulatory Requirements

This section describes the general Federal, State, and local plans, policies, and laws that are relevant to biological resources within the Biological Study Area (BSA). Applicable approvals that could be required before construction of the Project are provided in Chapter 5.

#### 2.1.1 Federal Regulations

##### Federal Endangered Species Act

The Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) of 1973 [16 United States Code (U.S.C.) section 1531 et seq.] provides for the conservation of endangered and threatened species listed pursuant to Section 4 of the Act (16 U.S.C. section 1533) and the ecosystems upon which they depend. These species and resources have been identified by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

##### Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act (CWA) was enacted as an amendment to the Federal Water Pollutant Control Act of 1972, which outlined the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants to Waters of the United States (U.S.). The CWA serves as the primary Federal law protecting the quality of the nation's surface waters, including lakes, rivers, and coastal wetlands. The CWA empowers the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set national water quality standards and effluent limitations, and includes programs addressing both point-source and non-point-source pollution. Point-source pollution originates or enters surface waters at a single, discrete location, such as an outfall structure or an excavation or routine maintenance site. Non-point-source pollution originates over a broader area and includes urban contaminants in storm water runoff and sediment loading from upstream areas. The CWA operates on the principle that all discharges into the nation's waters are unlawful unless they are specifically authorized by a permit; permit review is CWA's primary regulatory tool.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has jurisdiction under Section 401 of CWA and regulates any activity which may result in a discharge to surface waters. Typically, the areas subject to jurisdiction of the RWQCB coincide with those of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) (i.e., waters of the U.S. including any wetlands). The RWQCB also asserts authority over "waters of the State" under waste discharge requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

##### Executive Order 13112: Prevention and Control of Invasive Species

Executive Order (EO) 13112 (signed February 3, 1999) directs all Federal agencies to prevent and control introductions of invasive species in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner. The EO requires consideration of invasive species in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses, including their identification and distribution, their potential impacts, and measures to prevent or eradicate them.

### Executive Order 13186: Migratory Bird Treaty Act

EO 13186 (signed January 10, 2001) directs each Federal agency, taking actions that could adversely affect migratory bird populations, to work with USFWS to develop a Memorandum of Understanding that will promote the conservation of migratory bird populations. Protocols developed under the Memorandum of Understanding will include the following agency responsibilities:

- Avoid and minimize, to the maximum extent practicable, adverse impacts on migratory bird resources when conducting agency actions;
- Restore and enhance habitat of migratory birds, as practicable; and
- Prevent or abate the pollution or detrimental alteration of the environment for the benefit of migratory birds, as practicable.

The EO is designed to assist Federal agencies in their efforts to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 10 and 21] and does not constitute any legal authorization to take migratory birds. Take is defined under the MBTA as “the action of or attempt to pursue, hunt, shoot, capture, collect, or kill” (50 CFR 10.12) and includes intentional take (i.e., take that is the purpose of the activity in question) and unintentional take (i.e., take that results from, but is not the purpose of, the activity in question).

### **2.1.2 State Regulations**

#### California Environmental Quality Act

The CEQA is a State law created to inform governmental decision-makers and the public about the potential, significant environmental effects of proposed activities and to work to reduce these negative environmental impacts. The District is the CEQA lead agency for this Project.

#### California Endangered Species Act

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) [California Fish and Game (CFG) Code Section 2050 et seq.] requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to establish a list of endangered and threatened species (Section 2070) and to prohibit the incidental taking of any such listed species except as allowed by the Act (Sections 2080-2089). In addition, CESA prohibits take of candidate species (under consideration for listing).

CESA also requires CDFW to comply with CEQA (Pub. Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) when evaluating Incidental Take Permit (ITP) applications [CFG Code Section 2081(b) and California Code Regulations, Title 14, section 783.0 et seq.], and the potential impacts the project or activity, for which the application was submitted, may have on the environment. CDFW’s CEQA obligations include consultation with other public agencies which have jurisdiction over the project or activity [California Code Regulations, Title 14, Section 783.5(d)(3)]. CDFW cannot issue an ITP if issuance would jeopardize the continued existence of the species [CFG Code Section 2081(c); California Code Regulations, Title 14, Section 783.4(b)].

### Section 3503 and 3503.5: Bird and Raptors

CFG Code Section 3503 prohibits the destruction of bird nests and Section 3503.5 prohibits the killing of raptor species and destruction of raptor nests.

### Section 3513: Migratory Birds

CFG Code Section 3513 prohibits the take or possession of any migratory non-game bird as designated in the MBTA or any part of such migratory non-game bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the MBTA.

## **2.2 Studies Required**

### **2.2.1 Literature Search**

Prior to field work, literature research was conducted through the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) official species list generator (**Appendix A. USFWS Species List**), the CDFW California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) (**Appendix B. CNDDDB Species List**), the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (**Appendix C. CNPS Species List**), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region Species List (**Appendix D. NMFS Species List**) to identify habitats and special-status species having the potential to occur within the BSA. Section 3.2 of this report provides a comprehensive list of the species generated from the online database searches and presents specific characteristics, habitat requirements, and potential for occurrence for each species.

### **2.2.2 Survey Methods**

Prior to field surveys, the BSA was defined as the Project impact area plus an approximate 20-foot buffer to facilitate construction access and capture potential biological resources adjacent to Project limits (**Figure 3. Biological Study Area**). Habitat assessment and analysis of historic occurrences were conducted to determine the potential for each of these species to occur within the BSA.

Biological surveys and habitat assessment included walking through the BSA, observing vegetation communities, compiling notes on observed flora and fauna, and assessing the potential for existing habitat to support sensitive plants and wildlife. All plant and wildlife observations were recorded and are discussed in Chapter 3 of this document.

### **2.2.3 Personnel and Survey Dates**

A biological field survey was conducted on January 20, 2021 by Dokken Engineering biologists Hanna Sheldon and Clare Favro. Habitat assessments were conducted within the BSA to assess the vegetative communities present, identify biological resources which may be impacted by the Project, and evaluate the potential for special status species to occur on-site.

## **2.3 Agency Coordination and Professional Contacts**

### **2.3.1 United States Fish and Wildlife Service**

On January 13, 2021, an official species list was obtained from USFWS of Federal Endangered and Threatened species that could occur in the vicinity of the Project (**Appendix A**).



### **2.3.2 California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

On January 12, 2021, a nine-quadrangle list of species with potential to occur in the Project vicinity was obtained from CDFW's CNDDDB (**Appendix B**).

### **2.3.3 California Native Plant Society**

On January 12, 2021, a nine-quadrangle list of plant species with potential to occur in the Project vicinity was obtained from the CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (**Appendix C**).

### **2.3.4 National Marine Fisheries Service**

On January 13, 2021, a nine-quadrangle list of Federally listed fish species with the potential to occur in the Project vicinity was obtained from the NMFS West Coast Region Species List (**Appendix D**).

## **2.4 Limitations That May Influence Results**

Sensitive wildlife species with the potential to occur in the BSA may be cryptic (difficult to detect) or transient, migratory species. The population size and locations of sensitive species may fluctuate through time. Because of this, the data collected for this biological resource technical report represents a “snap shot” in time and may not reflect actual future conditions.



The collection of biological field data is normally subject to environmental factors that cannot be controlled or reliably predicted. Consequently, the interpretation of field data must be conservative and consider the uncertainties and limitations imposed by the environment. However, due to the experience and qualifications of the consulting biologists involved in the surveys, this limitation is not expected to severely influence the results or substantially alter the findings.

Biological surveys were conducted in January, which is outside of the typical blooming season for most local plant species and outside of the usual nesting bird season; however, based on the expertise of the surveying biologists, this limitation is not anticipated to substantially influence results.



No additional limitations were present that could influence the results of this document. All surveys were conducted during appropriate weather and temperature conditions.





 Project Area (~0.78 acres)  
 Biological Study Area (~1.15 acres)

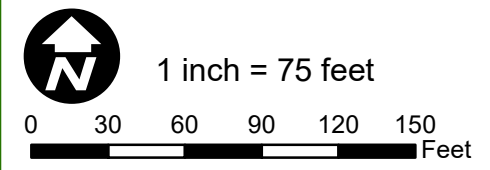
**Project Features**

 Bridge Deck  
 Footing



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Source: ESRI Maps Online, Dokken Engineering 2/2/2021, Created By: claudio



**Figure 3**  
**Biological Study Area**  
 Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project  
 San Joaquin County, California





### 3. Results: Environmental Setting

#### 3.1 Description of the Existing Biological and Physical Conditions Study Area

##### 3.1.1 Study Area

Prior to field surveys, the BSA was defined as the area required for Project activities, plus an approximate 20-foot buffer to account for staging, access, and potential changes in Project design. From north to south, the BSA measures approximately 230 feet and from east to west measures approximately 218 feet. The total area of the BSA is approximately 1.15 acres (**Figure 3**).

##### 3.1.2 Physical Conditions

Regionally, the BSA is located approximately ¼ mile west of Highway 26 and approximately ½ mile northwest of the unincorporated town of Bellota in San Joaquin County, California, within the San Joaquin Valley Floristic Province (Jepson 2021). San Joaquin County experiences Mediterranean conditions including warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters. Average summer highs reach approximately 76 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) and winter lows reach approximately 48°F, with up to 17.7 inches of precipitation annually (U.S. Climate Data 2021). The BSA elevation is approximately 125 feet above mean sea level. The soil type within the BSA is Columbia fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (NRCS 2021) (**Appendix E. NRCS Soil Report**).

##### 3.1.3 Biological Conditions in the Study Area

Vegetation communities within the BSA include barren, disturbed riparian, and orchard land. In addition, the Calaveras River provides stream channel habitat within the BSA (**Figure 4. Waters and Vegetation Communities within the Biological Study Area; Appendix F. Representative Photographs**). Plant and wildlife species observed within the BSA during the January 2021 biological survey efforts were used to defined habitat types based on composition, abundance, and cover (**Table 1. Species Observed**).

##### Barren

The BSA contains dirt roads used for access to adjacent agricultural lands. The roads are barren, compacted, and are regularly disturbed. The BSA contains approximately 0.33 acres (~29%) of barren land.

##### Disturbed Riparian

Along the Calaveras River, there is a thin corridor of riparian vegetation that is present on the banks of the river. The riparian habitat has been fragmented and disturbed by agricultural activities and provides limited habitat. The canopy of the riparian corridor is mainly composed of black walnut (*Juglans hindsii*), with scattered valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) and buckeye (*Aesculus californica*). The shrub understory of the riparian habitat is dominated by invasive, non-native species such as pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*) and Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*). Ground cover is thin and mainly composed of non-native bromes (*Bromus sp.*). The BSA contains approximately 0.27 acres (~23%) of disturbed riparian habitat.

### Orchard

Agricultural orchards surround the BSA. Maintenance surrounding the orchards includes regular watering through irrigation lines, clearing orchard floors and may include the use of pesticides. Orchard lands comprise approximately 0.46 acres (~40%) of the BSA.

### Stream Channel

The BSA contains approximately 0.10 acres (~8%) or 218 linear feet of the Calaveras River. The Calaveras River is a natural stream channel which is tributary to the San Joaquin River. The channel, within the BSA, has defined banks that are bordered by farm roads on either side. The banks contain a thin disturbed riparian corridor that is largely vegetated by non-native species (as discussed previously). The channel flow volume varies throughout the year, as evident by the pattern of vegetation growth along the channel.

**Table 1. Species Observed**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Native (N) / Non-Native (X)
<b>Plant Species</b>		
Brome	<i>Bromus sp.</i>	X
Buckeye	<i>Aesculus californica</i>	N
Pokeweed	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	X [limited] <sup>1</sup>
Himalayan blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	X [high] <sup>1</sup>
Mistletoe	<i>Phoradendron sp.</i>	N
Northern California black walnut	<i>Juglans hindsii</i>	N
Valley oak	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	N
Willowherb	<i>Epilobium sp.</i>	N
<b>Wildlife Species</b>		
California scrub-jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	N
European starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	X
House finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	N
Northern flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	N
White-breasted nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	N
Wrentit	<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>	N
Yellow-rumped warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	N

<sup>1</sup>California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) Invasive Plant Rating (Cal-IPC 2021)

### Wildlife

Wildlife observed within the BSA consisted of common local bird species, such as California scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*). The disturbed riparian corridor and surrounding orchards provide sufficient cover and habitat for a variety of nesting birds.

### Habitat Connectivity

The CDFW Biogeographic Information & Observation System (CDFW 2021a) was reviewed to determine if the BSA is located within an Essential Connectivity Area. The BSA is within an area

of Terrestrial Connectivity Rank 3-Connections with implementation flexibility. This ranking indicates that this area has connectivity importance, but has not been identified as a channelized area, species corridor, or habitat linkage at this time. Due to the area's ranking and the nature of the Project, the Project would most likely not impact any habitat connectivity network or fragment any existing habitat.





Biological Study Area (~1.15 acres)

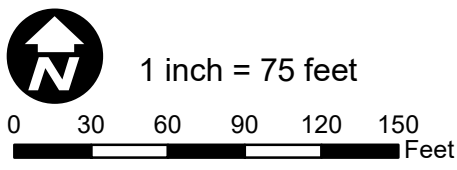
**Waters and Vegetation Communities**

- Barren (~0.33 acres)
- Disturbed Riparian (~0.27 acres)
- Orchard (~0.46 acres)
- Stream Channel (~0.10 acres)



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Source: ESRI Maps Online, Dokken Engineering 2/2/2021, Created By: claudio



**Figure 4**  
**Waters and Vegetation Communities within the Biological Study Area**  
 Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project  
 San Joaquin County, California





### 3.2 Regional Species and Habitats and Natural Communities of Concern

Plant and animal species are considered to be of special status if they have been listed as such by Federal or State agencies or by one or more special interest groups, such as CNPS. Prior to the field survey, literature searches were conducted using USFWS IPaC, CDFW CNDDDB, CNPS, and NMFS databases to identify regionally sensitive species with potential to occur within the BSA. **Table 2** provides the list of regional special status species returned by the database searches, describes the habitat requirements for each species, and states if the species was determined to have potential to occur within the BSA. There were 15 plant species and 19 wildlife species with the potential to occur in the Project vicinity returned by the database searches. Two of the wildlife species, Central Valley steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 11*) and hardhead (*Mylopharodon conocephalus*) were determined to have the potential to occur within the BSA. Additionally, Critical Habitat for the Central Valley steelhead occurs within the Calaveras River within the BSA.

Table 2: Special Status Species with Potential to Occur in the Project Vicinity

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
<b>Amphibian Species</b>					
California tiger Salamander	<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	T T WL	Inhabits annual grasslands, oak savanna, mixed woodland edges, and lower elevation coniferous forest. Requires underground refuges, especially ground squirrel burrows, vernal pools, or other seasonal water sources for breeding. Breeding occurs December through February in fish-free ephemeral ponds.	A  <b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA contains the Calaveras River, which could serve as a seasonal water source for the species; however, the soils within the BSA are compacted and disturbed by agricultural activity, lacking suitable underground refuge opportunities for the species. The BSA also lacks fish-free ephemeral ponds. There is a historical CNDDDB occurrence of the species which is estimated within a mile radius around the BSA; however, this occurrence is from 1923 and the area has since been converted from natural habitat to agricultural land use. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Western spadefoot	<i>Spea hammondi</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	-- -- SSC	Inhabits open areas with sandy or gravelly soils including mixed woodlands, grasslands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, sandy washes, river floodplains, foothills, and mountains. Species spends most of the time underground in burrows and only emerges between October and May during ample rainfall. A permanent or ephemeral body of water is required for breeding.	A  <b>Presumed Absent:</b> The soils within the BSA are compacted and disturbed by agricultural activity and would not provide suitable underground burrows for the species. Additionally, the nearest, most recent occurrences of the species are approximately 8 miles away from the BSA. Due to the lack of habitat and nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
California red-legged frog	<i>Rana draytonii</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	T -- --	Habitat includes nearly any area within 1-2 miles of a breeding site that stays moist and cool through the summer; this includes non-breeding aquatic habitat in pools of slow-moving streams, perennial or ephemeral ponds, and upland sheltering habitat such as rocks, small mammal burrows, logs, densely vegetated areas, and even man-made structures (i.e. culverts, livestock troughs, spring-boxes,	A  <b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks suitable breeding pools for the species. In addition, upland areas are disturbed by agricultural activities and do not contain suitable habitat elements for shelter. There are no occurrences of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent, nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
			abandoned sheds). Breeding sites are generally found in deep, still, or slow-moving water (greater than 2.5 feet) and can have a wide range of edge and emergent cover amounts. Can breed at sites with dense shrubby riparian or emergent vegetation, such as cattails, tules, or overhanging willows or in ponds devoid of emergent vegetation and any apparent vegetative cover (i.e., stock ponds). Breeds from late November to late April. Occurs from elevations near sea level to 5,200 ft.		
<b>Bird Species</b>					
Bank swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Fed: -- State: T CDFW: --	A migratory colonial nester inhabiting lowland and riparian habitats west of the deserts during spring through fall. Majority of current breeding populations occur along the Sacramento and Feather Rivers in the north Central Valley. Forages in grassland, brushland, wetlands, and cropland during migration. Requires vertical banks or cliffs with fine textured/sandy soils for nesting (tunnel and burrow excavations). Nests exclusively near streams, rivers, lakes, or the ocean. Breeds from May through July.	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vertical banks and cliffs with fine textured soils for nesting. In addition, there are no occurrences of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent, nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Burrowing owl	<i>Andrena blennospermatis</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: SSC	The species inhabits arid, open areas with sparse vegetation cover such as deserts, abandoned agricultural areas, grasslands, and disturbed open habitats. Can be associated with open shrub stages of pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine habitats. Nests in old small mammal burrows but may dig own burrow in soft soil. Nests are lined with excrement, pellets, debris, grass, and feathers. The species may use pipes, culverts, and nest	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks open areas with sparse vegetation cover, and soils in the area have been compacted and are void of suitable burrow habitat. Additionally, there are no recent (within the last 20 years) occurrences of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent, nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
			boxes, and even buildings where burrows are scarce. Breeding occurs March through August (below 5,300 feet).		
Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Fed: -- State: T CDFW: --	Inhabits grasslands with scattered trees, juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, savannahs, and agricultural or ranch lands with groves or lines of trees. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, alfalfa or grain fields that support a stable rodent prey base. Breeds March to late August.	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA is surrounded by orchards and lacks suitable open foraging areas for the species. There are some large trees within the BSA; however, due to the surrounding orchards and lack of open visibility for foraging, the species is not likely to nest in these trees. In addition, there is a historical occurrence of the species recorded within a 1-mile radius that includes the BSA; however, this occurrence was recorded in 1923 and the habitat condition has changed drastically since then. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent occurrences of the species, it is presumed absent from the BSA.
Tricolored blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	Fed: -- State: T CDFW: SSC	Inhabits freshwater marsh, swamp, and wetland communities, but may utilize agricultural or upland habitats that can support large colonies, often in the Central Valley area. Requires dense nesting habitat that is protected from predators, is within 3-5 miles from a suitable foraging area containing insect prey and is within 0.3 miles of open water. Suitable foraging includes wetland, pastureland, rangeland, dairy farms, and some irrigated croplands (silage, alfalfa, etc.). Nests in dense cattails, tules, willow, blackberry, wild rose, or tall herbs. Nests mid-March to early August, but may extend until October or November in the Sacramento Valley region.	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks freshwater marsh, swamp, and wetland communities that could support a colony of the species. Additionally, the most recent (2015) nearby occurrence of the species is approximately 9 miles away from the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Yellow warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: SSC	Breeds in several southern California mountain ranges and throughout most of San Diego County. Species prefers to nest in areas with trees and shrubs typical of		<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks coastal riparian woodlands, desert lowlands, and montane shrubbery. In addition, there are no documented CNDDDB occurrences of the

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
			low, open-canopy riparian woodland. Species has been known to breed in riparian woodlands from coastal and desert lowlands and montane shrubbery in open conifer forests. Occurs up to 8,000 feet in the Sierra Nevada. Breeds April-August.		species within 10 miles of the BSA. Due to the lack of habitat and nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Yellow-breasted chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: SSC	An uncommon summer resident of coastal California and in foothills of the Sierra Nevada, arriving in April and departing by late September. Requires riparian thickets of willow and other brushy tangles near watercourses for nesting and foraging. Nests in dense shrubs along streams and rivers. Breeds from May-August.	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks willow thickets and dense riparian shrubs suitable for the species. In addition, there are no documented CNDDDB occurrences of the species within 10 miles of the BSA. Due to the lack of habitat and nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
<b>Fish Species</b>					
Central Valley steelhead DPS	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> pop. 11	Fed: T State: -- CDFW: --	This species is known to occur along most of the California coastline and inhabits freshwater streams and tributaries in northern and central California. The preferred habitat consists of estuaries, freshwater streams and near shore habitat with productive coastal oceans. Spawning occurs in small freshwater streams and tributaries occurs from January through March and could extend into spring. Spawning occurs where cool, well oxygenated water is available year-round. Approximately 550-1,300 eggs are deposited in an area with good intergravel flow. The fry emerge from the gravel about 4-6 six weeks after hatching and remain in shallow protected areas associated with stream margin. Juveniles may remain in freshwater for the rest of their life cycle or return to the ocean. The principal remaining wild populations spawn annually in Deer and Mill Creeks in Tehama County,	CH	<b>Low to Moderate Potential:</b> The BSA contains the freshwater Calaveras River and is within Critical Habitat for the species. In addition, in 2010, the CNDDDB recorded an occurrence of the species within the Lower Calaveras River below New Hogan Dam. However, the Calaveras River within the BSA carries seasonal flow that is regulated by the District for irrigation and is located downstream of the Bellota Weir, which diverts water to either the Calaveras River or Mormon Slough. A majority of steelhead utilize Mormon Slough over the Calaveras River due to the low water flow in the Calaveras River and barriers to anadromous migration. The species is considered to have a low to moderate potential to occur within the BSA, due to recent, nearby occurrences, despite historical fish barriers and the pattern of flow within the Calaveras River.  <i>Section 7 Determination:</i>

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
			in the lower Yuba River, and a small population in the lower Stanislaus River.		Despite the potential for the species to occur within the BSA, the Project would not involve impacts below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of the Calaveras River and no affect to the species is anticipated.  <i>Central Valley Steelhead: No Effect</i> <i>Central Valley Steelhead Critical Habitat: No Effect</i>
Delta smelt	<i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i>	Fed: T State: --- CDFW: ---	Inhabits brackish water below 25 degrees Celsius. Shallow, fresh, or edge waters with good water quality are ideal for spawning. Juveniles require food-rich nursery habitat while adult almost exclusively eat small crustaceans. They are thought to spawn on shallow sandy beaches or some other substrate in the water column. Occurs within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and seasonally within the Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait and San Pablo Bay. Most often occurs in partially saline waters.	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA contains the freshwater Calaveras River and lacks brackish waters. In addition, the BSA is outside of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and there are no documented CNDDDB occurrences of the species within 10 miles of the BSA. Due to the lack of habitat and nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Hardhead	<i>Mylopharodon conocephalus</i>	-- -- SSC	Resident of Sacramento-San Joaquin and Russian River drainages in California. Inhabits low to mid-elevation lakes, reservoirs and streams, with preference to pools and runs with deep (>80 cm) clear water, slow (20-40 cm/sec) velocities and sand-gravel-boulder substrates. The species prefers water temperatures at or above 68°F and adequate flows to maintain dissolved oxygen levels. Spawning occurs in April-June in Central Valley streams and may extend into August in the foothill streams of the Sacramento-San Joaquin drainage in gravel or rocky substrate. Juveniles require	HP	<b>Low to Moderate Potential:</b> The BSA contains the Calaveras River, which may contain sufficient stream flow during the summer months to support the species. In addition, the species was documented in the Calaveras River in 2008 approximately 5 miles upstream of the BSA. Due to the presence of potentially suitable aquatic habitat and occurrences of the species within the Calaveras River, the species was determined to have a low to moderate potential of occurring within the BSA.



Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
			adequate vegetative cover along stream or lake margins.		
<b>Invertebrate Species</b>					
Conservancy fairy shrimp	<i>Branchinecta conservatio</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	E -- --	Inhabits relatively large and turbid clay bottomed playa vernal pools. Species requires pools to continuously hold water for a minimum of 19 days and must remain inundated into the summer months. Occupied playa pools typically are 1 to 88 acres in size, but species may utilize smaller, less turbid pools.	A  <b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal pool habitat suitable for the species. In addition, there are no documented CNDDDB occurrences of the species within 10 miles of the BSA. Due to the lack of habitat and nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle	<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	T --- ---	Exclusively inhabits red or blue elderberry along rivers and streams. Diet consists of elderberry leaves and flowers. The larvae eat the inside of the elderberry stems. Adults are actively feeding and mating from March-June.	A  <b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA contains foothill riparian habitat but lacks elderberry shrubs required by the species. There is a historical CNDDDB occurrence of the species which is estimated within a mile radius around the BSA; however, this occurrence is from 1984 and no sign of the species nor its host plant was observed within the BSA during January 2021 biological surveys. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Vernal pool fairy shrimp	<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	T --- ---	Inhabits vernal pools and seasonal wetlands. Their diet consists of algae and plankton. Requires mud for egg laying.	A  <b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal pool habitat suitable for the species and the most recent (2011) nearby occurrence of the species is over 4 miles away from the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat within the BSA, the species is presumed absent.
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp	<i>Lepidurus packardii</i>	Fed: State: CDFW:	E --- ---	This species can be found in vernal pools. The species burrows into the muddy bottom of vernal pools and consumes fairy shrimp, bacteria, and protozoa. Requires mud for egg laying.	A  <b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal pool habitat suitable for the species. In addition, there is only one occurrence of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA, located approximately 4 miles away (date unknown). Due to the lack of suitable habitat within the BSA, the species is presumed absent.
<b>Mammal Species</b>					

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
Pallid bat	<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: SSC	Inhabits low elevations of deserts, grasslands, shrub lands, woodlands and forests year round. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Forages over open ground within 1-3 miles of day roosts. Prefers caves, crevices, and mines for day roosts, but may utilize hollow trees, bridges, and buildings. Roosts must protect bats from high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites. Maternity colonies form early April and young are born April-July (below 10,000 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks suitable desert, grassland, shrubland, woodland, and forest habitat. In addition, it does not contain suitable roosting sites. There is only one occurrence of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. This occurrence is from 1951 and is located approximately 8 miles away from the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent, nearby occurrences of the species, it is presumed absent from the BSA.
<b>Reptile Species</b>					
Giant garter snake	<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	Fed: T State: T CDFW: --	A highly aquatic species that inhabits marsh, swamp, wetland (including agricultural wetlands), sloughs, ponds, rice fields, low gradient streams, and irrigation/drainage canals adjacent to uplands. Ideal habitat contains both shallow and deep water with variations in topography. Species requires adequate water during the active season (April-November), emergent, herbaceous wetland vegetation, such as cattails and bulrushes, for escape cover and foraging habitat and mammal burrows estivation. Requires grassy banks and openings in waterside vegetation for basking and higher elevation uplands for cover and refuge from flood waters during winter dormant season. Mating occurs in the spring and females bear live young.	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA contains the Calaveras River but lacks other wetland features inhabited by the species. The river also lacks emergent, herbaceous wetland vegetation and appropriate upland basking habitat. Additionally, there is only one occurrence of the species within a 10-mile radius of the BSA. This occurrence is from 1987 and is located approximately 8 miles away from the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent occurrences within the BSA, the species is presumed absent.
Western pond turtle	<i>Emys marmorata</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CDFW: SSC	A fully aquatic turtle of ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, marshes, and irrigation ditches with aquatic vegetation. Suitable habitat includes woodland, forests, and grasslands. Requires logs, rocks, cattail	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> While the Calaveras River provides aquatic habitat, the upland areas within the BSA lack suitable features for the species. The banks of the river are steep and very densely vegetated, and

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
			mats, and exposed banks for basking. Suitable upland habitat (sandy banks or grassy open field) is required for reproduction, which begins in April and ends with egg laying as late as August (sea level to 4,700 feet).		upland areas are composed of compacted orchard soils that are actively disturbed by anthropogenic activities. In addition, the most recent, nearby occurrence of the species is from 2008, located approximately 9 miles away from the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and nearby occurrences of the species, it is presumed absent.
<b>Plant Species</b>					
Ahart's dwarf rush	<i>Juncus leiospermus</i> var. <i>ahartii</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.2	An annual herb inhabiting grassland swales, gopher mounds, and vernal pool margins of mesic valley and foothill grassland communities. Flowers March-May (100-750 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks grassland swales, gopher mounds, and vernal pool communities. In addition, the nearest occurrence of the species is from 1987 and located approximately 7 miles away from the BSA. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent occurrences of the species, it is presumed absent.
Delta button celery	<i>Eryngium racemosum</i>	Fed: -- State: E CNPS: 1B.1	An annual or perennial herb inhabiting seasonally flooded clay depressions in floodplains and riparian scrub within vernal mesic clay depressions. Flowers June-August (10-100 feet)	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal mesic clay depressions and the only occurrence of the species within a 10-mile radius was recorded in 1939. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Greene's tuctoria	<i>Tuctoria greenei</i>	Fed: E State: R CNPS: 1B.1	An annual grass endemic to California, inhabiting vernal pools in open grassland on the eastern side of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. It is only found in these seasonally wet areas. Blooms from May-September (100-3,500 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal pools and open grassland, and the only occurrence of the species within a 10-mile radius was recorded in 1936. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Henderson's bent grass	<i>Agrostis hendersonii</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 3.2	An annual herb inhabiting mesic soils within vernal pools and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Flowers April-June (230-1,000 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal pools, valley and foothill grassland, and recent, nearby occurrences of the species; therefore, it is presumed absent.
Hoover's calycadenia	<i>Calycadenia hooveri</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.3	An annual herb endemic to California, inhabiting rocky, exposed places in oak savanna, valley grassland, and foothill woodland communities. Blooms June-September (100-1,000 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks oak savanna, valley grassland, and foothill woodland. In addition, the only occurrence of the species within 10 miles of the BSA was recorded in 1978. Due to the lack of suitable

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
					habitat and recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
lone manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos myrtifolia</i>	Fed: T State: -- CNPS: 1B.2	A perennial shrub inhabiting acidic clay or sandy lone soils within chaparral and foothill woodlands communities. Flowers January-February (200-2,530 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks chaparral, foothill woodland, and recent, nearby occurrences of the species; therefore, it is presumed absent.
Legenere	<i>Legenere limosa</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.1	An annual herb inhabiting wet areas, vernal pools, and ponds. Flowers April-June (0-2,900 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks ponds and vernal pools, and the nearest CNDDDB occurrence of the species is approximately 7 miles away (2008). Due to the lack of suitable habitat and nearby occurrences, the species is presumed absent from the BSA.
Parry's horkelia	<i>Horkelia parryi</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.2	A perennial herb inhabiting openings within chaparral and cismontane woodland. Species is especially known within lone soil formations but occurs on other soils. Flowers April-September (260-3,400 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks chaparral, cismontane woodland, and recent, nearby occurrences of the species; therefore, it is presumed absent.
Patterson's navarretia	<i>Navarretia paradoxiclara</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.3	An annual herb native to California inhabiting serpentine soils in open, seasonally wet areas and meadows. Flowers May-July (500-1,400 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks open, seasonally wet areas, meadows, and recent, nearby occurrences of the species; therefore, it is presumed absent.
Pincushion navarretia	<i>Navarretia myersii</i> ssp. <i>myersii</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.1	An annual herb native to California inhabiting vernal pool communities, often in acidic soil conditions. Flowers April-May (65-1,080 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal pools and the only occurrence of the species within 10 miles was recorded in 1957. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Recurved larkspur	<i>Delphinium recurvatum</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.2	A perennial herb inhabiting poorly drained, fine, alkaline soils in chenopod scrub, Atriplex scrub, cismontane woodland, and valley and foothill grassland communities. Flowers March-June (10-2,600 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks chenopod scrub, Atriplex scrub, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland, and recent, nearby occurrences of the species; therefore, it is presumed absent.
Sanford's arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.2	A perennial rhizomatous herb inhabiting freshwater marshes, swamps, ponds, and ditches. Flowers May-October (0-2,130 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks freshwater marsh, swamps, and ponds. In addition, the only occurrence of the species within 10 miles of the BSA was recorded in 1940. Due to the lack of suitable habitat and

Common Name	Species Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence and Rationale
					recent occurrences, the species is presumed absent.
Succulent owl's-clover	<i>Castilleja campestris</i> ssp. <i>succulenta</i>	Fed: T State: E CNPS: 1B.2	An annual hemiparasitic herb inhabiting acidic soils in vernal pool communities. Flowers April-May (150-2,640 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal pools and recent, nearby occurrences of the species; therefore, it is presumed absent.
Suisun Marsh aster	<i>Symphotrichum lentum</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.2	A perennial rhizomatous herb inhabiting wetlands, freshwater marsh, and brackish-marsh communities. Flowers May-November (0-10 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks wetlands, freshwater marsh, brackish marsh, and recent, nearby occurrences of the species; therefore, it is presumed absent.
Tuolumne button-celery	<i>Eryngium pinnatisectum</i>	Fed: -- State: -- CNPS: 1B.2	An annual/perennial herb inhabiting vernal pools, swales, intermittent streams, cismontane woodlands, and lower montane coniferous forests. Flowers May-August (230-3,000 feet).	A	<b>Presumed Absent:</b> The BSA lacks vernal pools, swales, cismontane woodlands, lower montane coniferous forests, and recent, nearby occurrences of the species; therefore, it is presumed absent.

<p><b>Federal Designations (Fed):</b> (FESA, USFWS) <b>E:</b> Federally listed, endangered <b>T:</b> Federally listed, threatened <b>DL:</b> Federally listed, delisted</p>	<p><b>State Designations (CA):</b> (CESA, CDFW) <b>E:</b> State-listed, endangered <b>T:</b> State-listed, threatened</p>
<p><b>Other Designations</b> CDFW_SSC: CDFW Species of Special Concern CDFW_FP: CDFW Fully Protected</p> <p><b>California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Designations:</b> <i>*Note: according to CNPS (Skinner and Pavlik 1994), plants on Lists 1B and 2 meet definitions for listing as threatened or endangered under Section 1901, Chapter 10 of the California Fish and Game Code. This interpretation is inconsistent with other definitions.</i> <b>1A:</b> Plants presumed extinct in California. <b>1B:</b> Plants rare and endangered in California and throughout their range. <b>2:</b> Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere in their range. <b>3:</b> Plants about which need more information; a review list.</p> <p><b>Plants 1B, 2, and 4 extension meanings:</b> _1 <b>Seriously</b> endangered in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat) _2 <b>Fairly</b> endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened) _3 Not very endangered in California (&lt;20% of occurrences threatened or no current threats known)</p>	
<p><b>Habitat Potential</b> Absent [A] - No habitat present and no further work needed. Habitat Present [HP] - Habitat is or may be present. The species may be present. Critical Habitat [CH] – Project is within designated Critical Habitat.</p>	
<p><b>Potential for Occurrence Criteria:</b> <b>Present:</b> Species was observed on site during a site visit or focused survey. <b>High:</b> Habitat (including soils and elevation factors) for the species occurs on site and a known occurrence has been recorded within 5 miles of the site. <b>Low-Moderate:</b> Either low quality habitat (including soils and elevation factors) for the species occurs on site and a known occurrence exists within 5 miles of the site; or suitable habitat strongly associated with the species occurs on site, but no records were found within the database search. <b>Presumed Absent:</b> Focused surveys were conducted, and the species was not found, or species was found within the database search but habitat (including soils and elevation factors) do not exist on site, or the known geographic range of the species does not include the survey area.</p>	
<p><b>Source:</b> (CDFW 2021b), (CNPS 2021), (Calflora 2021), (Jepson 2021), (USFWS 2021).</p>	

## 4. Results: Biological Resources, Discussion of Impacts & Mitigation

### 4.1 Habitats and Natural Communities of Special Concern

#### 4.1.1 Calaveras River and Disturbed Riparian Corridor

The BSA contains approximately 0.10 acres (218 linear feet) of the Calaveras River. The Calaveras River is a natural channel that serves as a major water supply for the City of Stockton and agriculture within San Joaquin and Calaveras counties. The river flows for approximately 52 miles through the San Joaquin Valley and is tributary to the San Joaquin River. The BSA is located downstream (west) of the Bellota Weir and New Hogan Dam and upstream (east) of the confluence of the Calaveras and San Joaquin Rivers. The Bellota Weir is a flashboard dam which collects and diverts water for irrigation. The BSA is located only half a mile from the Bellota Weir, which diverts much of its water to Mormon Slough, a flood control facility which has impacted the historical water flow within the Calaveras River channel.

The disturbed riparian corridor within the BSA is considered a natural community of special concern through CDFW. The riparian corridor surrounding the Calaveras River within the BSA can be defined as disturbed due to the adjacent agricultural activities and contains an understory dominated by non-native, invasive plant species. The disturbed riparian corridor provides limited habitat opportunities for wildlife species, mostly animals such as birds that will also utilize the surrounding agricultural habitat.

#### Project Impacts to the Calaveras River and Disturbed Riparian Corridor

The Project is anticipated to have temporary and permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor (**Table 3. Impacts to Jurisdictional Waters; Figure 5. Project Impacts to Disturbed Riparian Corridor**). Temporary impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor include approximately 0.022 acres for clearing and grubbing of vegetation for construction access. This area would be restored upon completion of construction. Permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor include approximately 0.023 acres for placement of footings, rip rap and the new approach roadway. At least two large riparian trees, that currently provide shade over the river, will be removed; however, the new bridge structure will provide approximately 0.007 acres of shade over the river. Therefore, the net permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor are approximately 0.016 acres. The net permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor will be mitigated for, at the appropriate ratio, during the permitting phase for the Project.

The Project is not anticipated to have temporary or permanent impacts to the Calaveras River. All permanent fill will be placed outside of the OHWM of the Calaveras River and the bridge crossing will be constructed in a way that avoids temporary impacts to the Calaveras River.


**Table 3. Impacts to Jurisdictional Waters**

Impact	Jurisdictional Water	
	Calaveras River	Riparian Corridor
Temporary	0	0.022
Permanent	0	0.016 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.038</b>


<sup>1</sup>The new bridge would create 0.007 acres of shade







 Project Area (~0.78 acres)

**Project Features**


 Bridge Deck

 Footing

**Permanent Impact Areas**

 Disturbed Riparian (~0.023, net ~0.016 acres)

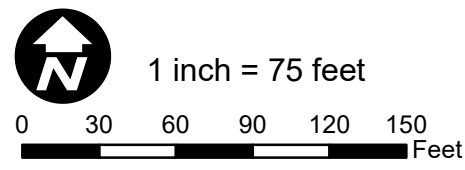
**Temporary Impact Areas**

 Disturbed Riparian (~0.022 acres)



V:\2761\_Gotelli Bridge 2\Biology\F5\_Impacts.mxd

Source: ESRI Maps Online; Dokken Engineering 2/5/2021; Created By: hsheldon



**Figure 5**  
**Project Impacts to Disturbed Riparian Corridor**  
 Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project  
 San Joaquin County, California





Avoidance and Minimization Efforts for the Calaveras River and Riparian Corridor

The following Best Management Practices (BMPs) and avoidance and minimization measures will be incorporated into the Project design and Project management to reduce potential impacts to the Calaveras River within the BSA. Additionally, appropriate mitigation measures will be determined during the permitting phase of the Project.

**BIO-1:** Every individual working on the Project must attend a biological awareness training session delivered by a qualified biologist. This training program shall include information regarding the sensitive habitats and special-status species occurring or potentially occurring within the Project area, and the importance of avoiding impacts to these species and their habitat.

**BIO-2:** Prior to the start of construction activities, the Project limits in proximity to the Calaveras River will be marked with high visibility Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) fencing or staking to ensure construction will not further encroach into water resources. If ESA fencing is not feasible, the Project limits will be discussed in the biological awareness training so that all Project personnel are aware of the sensitive natural habitats within the Project area.

**BIO-3:** BMPs will be incorporated into Project design and Project management to minimize impacts on the environment including erosion and the release of pollutants (e.g. oils, fuels):

- Exposed soils and material stockpiles would be stabilized, through watering or other measures, to prevent the movement of dust at the Project site caused by wind and construction activities such as traffic and grading activities;
- All construction roadway areas would be properly protected to prevent excess erosion, sedimentation, and water pollution;
- All vehicle and equipment fueling/maintenance would be conducted outside of any surface waters;
- Equipment used in and around jurisdictional waters must be in good working order and free of dripping or leaking contaminants;
- Raw cement, concrete or concrete washings, asphalt, paint or other coating material, oil or other petroleum products, or any other substances that could be hazardous to aquatic life shall be prevented from contaminating the soil or entering jurisdictional waters;
- All erosion control measures and storm water control measures would be properly maintained until the site has returned to a pre-construction state;
- All disturbed areas would be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated, either through hydroseeding or other means, with native or approved non-invasive exotic species; and,
- All construction materials would be hauled off-site after completion of construction.

- Upon completion of construction activities, any temporary barriers to surface water flow must be removed in a manner that would allow flow to resume with the least disturbance to the substrate.

**BIO-4:** Net permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor will be appropriately mitigated for through purchase of credits at an approved mitigation bank, or other approved methods, during the permitting phase for the Project.

## 4.2 Special-Status Plant Species

Prior to field surveys, a list of regional special status plant species with potential to occur within the Project vicinity was compiled from database searches. The potential for each species to occur within the BSA was determined by analyzing the habitat requirements of each species and comparing the habitat requirements to available habitat within the BSA. After a careful comparison between habitat requirements and the habitat available within the BSA, no special status plants were determined to have potential to occur and no Project-related impacts to special status plant species are anticipated.

## 4.3 Special-Status Wildlife Species

Prior to field surveys, a list of regional special-status wildlife species with potential to occur within the Project vicinity was compiled from database searches. The potential for each species to occur within the BSA was determined by analyzing the habitat requirements of each species and comparing the habitat requirements to available habitat within the BSA. After a careful comparison between habitat requirements and the habitat available within the BSA, two special status wildlife species were determined to have potential to occur within the BSA; Central Valley steelhead and hardhead, discussed in more detail below.

### 4.2.1 Special Status Fish Species

Two fish species were determined to have a low to moderate potential to occur within the BSA – the Central Valley steelhead and the hardhead. The Central Valley steelhead is a Federally threatened species, and the hardhead is a CDFW Species of Special Concern (SSC). Both species have been documented within the Calaveras River within 10 miles of the BSA within the last 20 years. In addition, the BSA is within Critical Habitat for the Central Valley steelhead. The BSA is also within Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*). The Calaveras River has historically contained barriers to fish movement, particularly in the lower segment of the river, west of New Hogan Dam. The Bellota Weir, only half a mile upstream from the BSA, has been known to impede fish migration downstream. Recently, the weir has been taken down annually to allow for this seasonal fish migration.

#### Project Impacts to Special Status Fish Species

The Calaveras River within the BSA carries seasonal water flow that is influenced by the Bellota Weir diverting water to Mormon Slough, which is the preferred route for anadromous fish migration due to its higher and more consistent flows. In addition, numbers fish barriers have been identified within the Calaveras River which would discourage fish usage of this segment of the channel. Despite these factors, the Central Valley steelhead and the hardhead were determined to have a low to moderate potential to occur within the BSA; however, the Project would not have impacts to the Calaveras River. Therefore, direct impacts to special status fish species are not anticipated.

In addition, SEWD has obtained a 50-year ITP for the Central Valley steelhead under the Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan (CHCP). The Project is anticipated to have *No Effect* to the Central Valley steelhead under Section 7 of the FESA.

The Calaveras River within the BSA does contain Critical Habitat for the Central Valley steelhead and EFH for chinook salmon. The Project would not permanently impact the Calaveras River, as bridge footings would be constructed above the OHWM of the channel and would span the entire channel. The new bridge would be constructed adjacent to the existing bridge, which would not be demolished.

The Project is anticipated to have temporary and permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor present within the BSA. Temporary impacts to the riparian corridor are anticipated to be approximately 0.022 acres and the net permanent impacts are anticipated to be 0.016 acres. Appropriate mitigation for impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor will be determined during the permitting phase of the Project. The Project would not substantially degrade Critical Habitat for Central Valley steelhead or EFH for chinook salmon within the Calaveras River.

#### Avoidance and Minimization Efforts for Special Status Fish Species

The Project is not anticipated to cause take of special status fish species, nor is it anticipated to permanently impact Critical Habitat and EFH. Avoidance and minimization measures **BIO-1** through **BIO-4** would ensure that potential impacts are avoided to the greatest extent feasible.

## 5. Conclusions and Regulatory Determinations

### 5.1 Federal Endangered Species Act Consultation Summary

The Federally threatened Central Valley steelhead was determined to have a low to moderate potential to occur within the BSA; however, the Project does not anticipate permanent impacts to Central Valley steelhead or its habitat. Additionally, the District has obtained an ITP for the Central Valley steelhead within the lower Calaveras River under the CHCP, which functions to allow the District to complete necessary actions within their facilities while in compliance with FESA, supporting the goal of maintaining a viable population of the Central Valley steelhead (SEWD 2019). The measures required in the CHCP ITP for Central Valley steelhead will be applied to this Project; therefore, further Section 7 consultation for Federally protected species is not required for this Project.

### 5.2 Essential Fish Habitat Consultation Summary

The BSA is within EFH for chinook salmon; however, permanent impacts are not anticipated, and all temporary impacts would be returned to pre-construction conditions following the completion of the Project. No impacts to EFH are anticipated; therefore, consultation for EFH is not proposed at this time.

### 5.3 California Endangered Species Act Consultation Summary

No threatened or endangered State listed species have the potential to occur within the BSA; therefore, no further action is required and consultation with CDFW, under CESA, is not required.

### 5.4 Wetlands and Other Waters Coordination Summary

The Project is anticipated to have temporary and permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor present within the BSA. Temporary impacts to the riparian corridor are anticipated to be approximately 0.022 acres and the net permanent impacts are anticipated to be 0.016 acres. Appropriate mitigation for the net permanent impacts to the disturbed riparian corridor will be determined during the permitting phase of the Project. The Project is not anticipated to have temporary or permanent impacts to the Calaveras River. The District will obtain appropriate permits for this Project including a Streambed Alteration Agreement under Section 1602 from CDFW.

### 5.5 Invasive Species

In February 1999, EO 13112 was signed, requiring Federal agencies to work on preventing and controlling the introduction and spread of invasive species. Protective measure **BIO-4** will be incorporated into the Project plans to ensure that invasive species are not introduced or spread.

**BIO-5:** Prior to arrival at the Project site and prior to leaving the Project site, construction equipment that may contain invasive plants and/or seeds will be cleaned to reduce the spreading of noxious weeds.

## 5.6 Other

### 5.6.1 General Wildlife

To minimize and avoid potential effects to local wildlife, the following conservation measures have been incorporated into the Project design:

**BIO-6:** All food-related trash must be disposed into closed containers and must be removed from the Project area daily. Construction personnel must not feed or otherwise attract wildlife to the Project area.

**BIO-7:** The contractor must not apply rodenticide or herbicide within the Project area during construction.

### 5.6.2 Migratory Birds

Native birds are protected by the MBTA and CFG Code Section 3513. To minimize potential impacts to migratory birds, the following avoidance and minimization measure will be incorporated throughout Project construction.

**BIO-8:** If Project activities are to commence during the nesting season (February 1–August 31), a pre-construction nesting bird survey must be conducted within a 300-foot buffer of Project activities within 7 days prior to the start of construction.

A minimum 100-foot no-disturbance buffer will be established around any active nest of migratory birds and a minimum 300-foot no-disturbance buffer will be established around any nesting raptor species. The contractor must immediately stop work in the nesting area until the appropriate buffer is established and is prohibited from conducting work that could disturb the birds (as determined by the Project biologist and in coordination with wildlife agencies) in the buffer area until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged. A reduced buffer can be established if determined appropriate by the Project biologist and approved by CDFW.

## 6. References

- Calflora 2021 Calflora. 2021. Plants of California. Available at: <<http://www.calflora.org/>> (accessed: January 12, 2021).
- Cal-IPC 2021 California Invasive Plant Council. 2021. Inventory of invasive plants. Available at: <<http://www.cal-ipc.org/paf/>> (accessed: January 13, 2021).
- CDFW 2021a California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2021. Biogeographic Information and Observation System. Available at: <<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/BIOS>> (accessed: January 12, 2021).
- CDFW 2021b California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2021. California Natural Diversity Database. Available at: <<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/>> (accessed: January 12, 2021).
- CNPS 2021 California Native Plant Society. 2021. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants. Available at: <<http://cnps.site.aplus.net/cgi-bin/inv/inventory.cgi/BrowseAZ?name=quad>> (accessed: January 12, 2021).
- Jepson 2021 Jepson eFlora. 2021. Geographic Subdivisions of California. Available at: <<http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/eflora/geography.html>> (accessed: January 12, 2021).
- NETR 2021 Nationwide Environmental Title Research. 2021. Historic Aerials. Available at: <<https://www.historicaerials.com/>> (accessed: January 12, 2021).
- NRCS 2021 Natural Resource Conservation Service. 2021. Custom Soil Resources Report for San Joaquin County, California. Available at: <<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>> (accessed January 13, 2021).
- SEWD 2019 Stockton East Water District. 2019. Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan. Available at: <<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/calaveras-river-habitat-conservation-plan-and-environmental-assessment>> (accessed February 1, 2021).
- U.S. Climate Data 2021 U.S. Climate Data. 2021. Stockton Weather Averages. Available at: <<http://www.usclimatedata.com>> (accessed: January 12, 2021).
- USFWS 2021 United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2021. Official Species List: U.S. Department of the Interior – Fish and Wildlife Service: Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office. Consultation Code 08ESMF00-2021-SLI-0710 (requested: January 13, 2021).



## Appendix A: USFWS Species List

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## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office  
Federal Building  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846  
Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713

In Reply Refer To:  
Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2021-SLI-0710  
Event Code: 08ESMF00-2021-E-02074  
Project Name: Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project

January 13, 2021

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

### To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

[http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected\\_species/species\\_list/species\\_lists.html](http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html)

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of 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 impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to

utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. 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>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan ([http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\\_guidance.html](http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at:

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>;

<http://www.towerkill.com>; and

[www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html](http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html).

<http://>

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
-

## Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office**

Federal Building

2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605

Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

(916) 414-6600

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## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2021-SLI-0710

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2021-E-02074

Project Name: Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project

Project Type: BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE

Project Description: The County of San Joaquin, in cooperation with the Stockton East Water District, proposes to construct a new crossing next to an existing, structurally unsafe, crossing over the Calaveras River in unincorporated San Joaquin County, California. Construction will start Summer 2021 and is anticipated to last 1 month

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@38.055103,-121.01879860109563,14z>



Counties: San Joaquin County, California

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## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 9 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Giant Garter Snake <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482</a>	Threatened

## Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891</a>	Threatened
California Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> Population: U.S.A. (Central CA DPS) There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076</a>	Threatened

## Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321</a>	Threatened

## Insects

NAME	STATUS
Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle <i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7850">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7850</a>	Threatened

## Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
Conservancy Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta conservatio</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8246">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8246</a>	Endangered
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498</a>	Threatened
Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp <i>Lepidurus packardii</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2246">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2246</a>	Endangered

## Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Fleshy Owl's-clover <i>Castilleja campestris ssp. succulenta</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8095">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8095</a>	Threatened

## Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.



## Appendix B: CNDDDB Species List

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**Selected Elements by Common Name**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



**Query Criteria:** Quad IS (Linden (3812111) OR Waterloo (3812112) OR Peters (3712181) OR Valley Springs SW (3812018) OR Stockton East (3712182) OR Farmington (3712088) OR Lockeford (3812122) OR Clements (3812121) OR Wallace (3812028))

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b>Ahart's dwarf rush</b> <i>Juncus leiospermus</i> var. <i>ahartii</i>	PMJUN011L1	None	None	G2T1	S1	1B.2
<b>An andrenid bee</b> <i>Andrena subapasta</i>	IIHYM35210	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<b>bank swallow</b> <i>Riparia riparia</i>	ABPAU08010	None	Threatened	G5	S2	
<b>Blennosperma vernal pool andrenid bee</b> <i>Andrena blennospermatis</i>	IIHYM35030	None	None	G2	S2	
<b>burrowing owl</b> <i>Athene cunicularia</i>	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<b>California linderiella</b> <i>Linderiella occidentalis</i>	ICBRA06010	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
<b>California tiger salamander</b> <i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	AAAAA01180	Threatened	Threatened	G2G3	S2S3	WL
<b>Delta button-celery</b> <i>Eryngium racemosum</i>	PDAPI0Z0S0	None	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<b>giant gartersnake</b> <i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	ARADB36150	Threatened	Threatened	G2	S2	
<b>Greene's tuctoria</b> <i>Tuctoria greenei</i>	PMPOA6N010	Endangered	Rare	G1	S1	1B.1
<b>hardhead</b> <i>Mylopharodon conocephalus</i>	AFCJB25010	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<b>Henderson's bent grass</b> <i>Agrostis hendersonii</i>	PMPOA040K0	None	None	G2Q	S2	3.2
<b>Hoover's calycadenia</b> <i>Calycadenia hooveri</i>	PDAST1P040	None	None	G2	S2	1B.3
<b>lone Chaparral</b> <i>lone Chaparral</i>	CTT37D00CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<b>lone manzanita</b> <i>Arctostaphylos myrtifolia</i>	PDERI04240	Threatened	None	G1	S1	1B.2
<b>legenere</b> <i>Legenere limosa</i>	PDCAM0C010	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1
<b>midvalley fairy shrimp</b> <i>Branchinecta mesovallensis</i>	ICBRA03150	None	None	G2	S2S3	
<b>Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool</b> <i>Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool</i>	CTT44110CA	None	None	G3	S3.1	



**Selected Elements by Common Name**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



<b>Species</b>	<b>Element Code</b>	<b>Federal Status</b>	<b>State Status</b>	<b>Global Rank</b>	<b>State Rank</b>	<b>Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP</b>
<b>osprey</b> <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	ABNKC01010	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<b>pallid bat</b> <i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	AMACC10010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<b>Parry's horkelia</b> <i>Horkelia parryi</i>	PDROS0W0C0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b>Patterson's navarretia</b> <i>Navarretia paradoxiolara</i>	PDPLM0C150	None	None	G2	S2	1B.3
<b>pincushion navarretia</b> <i>Navarretia myersii ssp. myersii</i>	PDPLM0C0X1	None	None	G2T2	S2	1B.1
<b>prairie falcon</b> <i>Falco mexicanus</i>	ABNKD06090	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<b>recurved larkspur</b> <i>Delphinium recurvatum</i>	PDRAN0B1J0	None	None	G2?	S2?	1B.2
<b>Sanford's arrowhead</b> <i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i>	PMALI040Q0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<b>steelhead - Central Valley DPS</b> <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 11</i>	AFCHA0209K	Threatened	None	G5T2Q	S2	
<b>succulent owl's-clover</b> <i>Castilleja campestris var. succulenta</i>	PDSCR0D3Z1	Threatened	Endangered	G4?T2T3	S2S3	1B.2
<b>Swainson's hawk</b> <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	ABNKC19070	None	Threatened	G5	S3	
<b>tricolored blackbird</b> <i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	ABPBXB0020	None	Threatened	G2G3	S1S2	SSC
<b>Tuolumne button-celery</b> <i>Eryngium pinnatisectum</i>	PDAP10Z0P0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b>valley elderberry longhorn beetle</b> <i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	IICOL48011	Threatened	None	G3T2	S3	
<b>vernal pool fairy shrimp</b> <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	ICBRA03030	Threatened	None	G3	S3	
<b>vernal pool tadpole shrimp</b> <i>Lepidurus packardii</i>	ICBRA10010	Endangered	None	G4	S3S4	
<b>western pond turtle</b> <i>Emys marmorata</i>	ARAAD02030	None	None	G3G4	S3	SSC
<b>western spadefoot</b> <i>Spea hammondi</i>	AAABF02020	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<b>yellow warbler</b> <i>Setophaga petechia</i>	ABPBX03010	None	None	G5	S3S4	SSC
<b>yellow-breasted chat</b> <i>Icteria virens</i>	ABPBX24010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC

**Record Count: 38**

## Appendix C: CNPS Species List

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\*The database used to provide updates to the Online Inventory is under construction. [View updates and changes made since May 2019 here.](#)

## Plant List

16 matches found. [Click on scientific name for details](#)

### Search Criteria

Found in Quads 3812122, 3812121, 3812028, 3812112, 3812111, 3812018, 3712182 3712181 and 3712088;

[Modify Search Criteria](#) [Export to Excel](#) [Modify Columns](#) [Modify Sort](#) [Display Photos](#)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Blooming Period	CA Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
<a href="#">Agrostis hendersonii</a>	Henderson's bent grass	Poaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	3.2	S2	G2Q
<a href="#">Arctostaphylos myrtifolia</a>	lone manzanita	Ericaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Nov-Mar	1B.2	S1	G1
<a href="#">Brodiaea rosea ssp. vallicola</a>	valley brodiaea	Themidaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-May(Jun)	4.2	S3	G5T3
<a href="#">Calycadenia hooveri</a>	Hoover's calycadenia	Asteraceae	annual herb	Jul-Sep	1B.3	S2	G2
<a href="#">Castilleja campestris var. succulenta</a>	succulent owl's-clover	Orobanchaceae	annual herb (hemiparasitic)	(Mar)Apr-May	1B.2	S2S3	G4? T2T3
<a href="#">Centromadia parryi ssp. rudis</a>	Parry's rough tarplant	Asteraceae	annual herb	May-Oct	4.2	S3	G3T3
<a href="#">Delphinium recurvatum</a>	recurved larkspur	Ranunculaceae	perennial herb	Mar-Jun	1B.2	S2?	G2?
<a href="#">Eryngium racemosum</a>	Delta button-celery	Apiaceae	annual / perennial herb	Jun-Oct	1B.1	S1	G1
<a href="#">Horkelia parryi</a>	Parry's horkelia	Rosaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Sep	1B.2	S2	G2
<a href="#">Juncus leiospermus var. ahartii</a>	Ahart's dwarf rush	Juncaceae	annual herb	Mar-May	1B.2	S1	G2T1
<a href="#">Legenere limosa</a>	legenere	Campanulaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	1B.1	S2	G2
<a href="#">Navarretia myersii ssp. myersii</a>	pincushion navarretia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	Apr-May	1B.1	S2	G2T2
<a href="#">Navarretia paradoxiclara</a>	Patterson's navarretia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	May-Jun(Jul)	1B.3	S2	G2
<a href="#">Sagittaria sanfordii</a>	Sanford's arrowhead	Alismataceae	perennial rhizomatous herb (emergent)	May-Oct(Nov)	1B.2	S3	G3
<a href="#">Symphyotrichum lentum</a>	Suisun Marsh aster	Asteraceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	(Apr)May-Nov	1B.2	S2	G2
<a href="#">Tuctoria greenei</a>	Greene's tuctoria	Poaceae	annual herb	May-Jul(Sep)	1B.1	S1	G1

**Suggested Citation**

California Native Plant Society, Rare Plant Program. 2021. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (online edition, v8-03 0.39). Website <http://www.rareplants.cnps.org> [accessed 12 January 2021].

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## **Appendix D: NMFS Species List**

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**From:** [Aliana Hale](#)  
**To:** [nmfswcrca.specieslist@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfswcrca.specieslist@noaa.gov)  
**Subject:** Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project Species List  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 13, 2021 7:31:55 AM

---

Quad Name **Linden**

Quad Number **38121-A1**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -  
CCC Coho ESU (E) -  
CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -  
CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -  
SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -  
NC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SC Steelhead DPS (E) -  
CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**  
Eulachon (T) -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -  
CCC Coho Critical Habitat -  
CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat - **X**  
Eulachon Critical Habitat -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -  
Range White Abalone (E) -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -  
Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -

Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -  
North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

### **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -  
Fin Whale (E) -  
Humpback Whale (E) -  
Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

### **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -  
Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

### **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -  
Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**  
Groundfish EFH -  
Coastal Pelagics EFH -  
Highly Migratory Species EFH -

### **MMPA Species (See list at left)**

### **ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office  
562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -  
MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Valley Springs SW**

Quad Number **38120-A8**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -  
CCC Coho ESU (E) -  
CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -  
CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -  
SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -  
NC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SC Steelhead DPS (E) -  
CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

Eulachon (T) -

sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat - **X**

Eulachon Critical Habitat -

sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -

Range White Abalone (E) -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -

Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -

Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -

North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

### **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -

Fin Whale (E) -

Humpback Whale (E) -

Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -

North Pacific Right Whale (E) -

Sei Whale (E) -

Sperm Whale (E) -

### **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -

Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

### **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -

Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**

Groundfish EFH -

Coastal Pelagics EFH -

Highly Migratory Species EFH -

**MMPA Species (See list at left)**

**ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office**

**562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Farmington**

Quad Number **37120-H8**

**ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -

CCC Coho ESU (E) -

CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -

NC Steelhead DPS (T) -

CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SC Steelhead DPS (E) -

CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

Eulachon (T) -

sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

**ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat -

Eulachon Critical Habitat -

sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

**ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -

Range White Abalone (E) -

**ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

**ESA Sea Turtles**

- East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -
- Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -
- Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -
- North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

**ESA Whales**

- Blue Whale (E) -
- Fin Whale (E) -
- Humpback Whale (E) -
- Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -
- North Pacific Right Whale (E) -
- Sei Whale (E) -
- Sperm Whale (E) -

**ESA Pinnipeds**

- Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -
- Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

**Essential Fish Habitat**

- Coho EFH -
- Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**
- Groundfish EFH -
- Coastal Pelagics EFH -
- Highly Migratory Species EFH -

**MMPA Species (See list at left)**

**ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office**

**562-980-4000**

- MMPA Cetaceans -
- MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Peters**

Quad Number **37121-H1**

**ESA Anadromous Fish**

- SONCC Coho ESU (T) -
- CCC Coho ESU (E) -
- CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -
- CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -
- SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -

NC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SC Steelhead DPS (E) -  
CCV Steelhead DPS (T) -

X

Eulachon (T) -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -  
CCC Coho Critical Habitat -  
CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
Eulachon Critical Habitat -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

X

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -  
Range White Abalone (E) -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -  
Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -  
Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -  
North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

### **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -  
Fin Whale (E) -  
Humpback Whale (E) -  
Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

### **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -



Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

**Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -

Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**

Groundfish EFH -

Coastal Pelagics EFH -

Highly Migratory Species EFH -

**MMPA Species (See list at left)**

**ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office**

**562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Stockton East**

Quad Number **37121-H2**

**ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -

CCC Coho ESU (E) -

CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -

NC Steelhead DPS (T) -

CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SC Steelhead DPS (E) -

CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

Eulachon (T) -

sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

**ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat - **■**

**X**

Eulachon Critical Habitat -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

**ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -  
Range White Abalone (E) -

**ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

**ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -  
Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -  
Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -  
North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

**ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -  
Fin Whale (E) -  
Humpback Whale (E) -  
Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

**ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -  
Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

**Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -  
Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**  
Groundfish EFH -  
Coastal Pelagics EFH -  
Highly Migratory Species EFH -

**MMPA Species (See list at left)**

**ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office**

**562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -  
MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Waterloo**

Quad Number **38121-A2**

**ESA Anadromous Fish**

- SONCC Coho ESU (T) -
- CCC Coho ESU (E) -
- CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -
- CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -
- SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -
- NC Steelhead DPS (T) -
- CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -
- SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -
- SC Steelhead DPS (E) -
- CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**
- Eulachon (T) -
- sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

**ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

- SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -
- CCC Coho Critical Habitat -
- CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -
- CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -
- SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -
- NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -
- CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -
- SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -
- SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -
- CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat - **X**
- Eulachon Critical Habitat -
- sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

**ESA Marine Invertebrates**

- Range Black Abalone (E) -
- Range White Abalone (E) -

**ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

- Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

**ESA Sea Turtles**

- East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -
- Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -
- Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -
- North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

**ESA Whales**

- Blue Whale (E) -
- Fin Whale (E) -
- Humpback Whale (E) -

Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

### **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -  
Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

### **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -  
Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**  
Groundfish EFH -  
Coastal Pelagics EFH -  
Highly Migratory Species EFH -

### **MMPA Species (See list at left)**

### **ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office  
562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -  
MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Lockeford**

Quad Number **38121-B2**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -  
CCC Coho ESU (E) -  
CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -  
CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -  
SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -  
NC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -  
SC Steelhead DPS (E) -  
CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**  
Eulachon (T) -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -  
CCC Coho Critical Habitat -  
CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -  
NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -  
CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat - X  
Eulachon Critical Habitat -  
sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -  
Range White Abalone (E) -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -  
Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -  
Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -  
North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

### **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -  
Fin Whale (E) -  
Humpback Whale (E) -  
Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -  
North Pacific Right Whale (E) -  
Sei Whale (E) -  
Sperm Whale (E) -

### **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -  
Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

### **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -  
Chinook Salmon EFH - X  
Groundfish EFH -  
Coastal Pelagics EFH -  
Highly Migratory Species EFH -

### **MMPA Species (See list at left)**

### **ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office  
562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Clements**

Quad Number **38121-B1**

### **ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -

CCC Coho ESU (E) -

CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -

NC Steelhead DPS (T) -

CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SC Steelhead DPS (E) -

CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

Eulachon (T) -

sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat - **X**

Eulachon Critical Habitat -

sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -

Range White Abalone (E) -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -

Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -

Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -

North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

**ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -

Fin Whale (E) -

Humpback Whale (E) -

Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -

North Pacific Right Whale (E) -

Sei Whale (E) -

Sperm Whale (E) -

**ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -

Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

**Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -

Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**

Groundfish EFH -

Coastal Pelagics EFH -

Highly Migratory Species EFH -

**MMPA Species (See list at left)**

**ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office**

**562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds -

Quad Name **Wallace**

Quad Number **38120-B8**

**ESA Anadromous Fish**

SONCC Coho ESU (T) -

CCC Coho ESU (E) -

CC Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

CVSR Chinook Salmon ESU (T) -

SRWR Chinook Salmon ESU (E) -

NC Steelhead DPS (T) -

CCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SCCC Steelhead DPS (T) -

SC Steelhead DPS (E) -

CCV Steelhead DPS (T) - **X**

Eulachon (T) -

sDPS Green Sturgeon (T) -

### **ESA Anadromous Fish Critical Habitat**

SONCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CCC Coho Critical Habitat -

CC Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

CVSR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

SRWR Chinook Salmon Critical Habitat -

NC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SCCC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

SC Steelhead Critical Habitat -

CCV Steelhead Critical Habitat -

Eulachon Critical Habitat -

sDPS Green Sturgeon Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates**

Range Black Abalone (E) -

Range White Abalone (E) -

### **ESA Marine Invertebrates Critical Habitat**

Black Abalone Critical Habitat -

### **ESA Sea Turtles**

East Pacific Green Sea Turtle (T) -

Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (T/E) -

Leatherback Sea Turtle (E) -

North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E) -

### **ESA Whales**

Blue Whale (E) -

Fin Whale (E) -

Humpback Whale (E) -

Southern Resident Killer Whale (E) -

North Pacific Right Whale (E) -

Sei Whale (E) -

Sperm Whale (E) -

### **ESA Pinnipeds**

Guadalupe Fur Seal (T) -

Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat -

### **Essential Fish Habitat**

Coho EFH -

Chinook Salmon EFH - **X**

Groundfish EFH -

Coastal Pelagics EFH -



Highly Migratory Species EFH -

**MMPA Species (See list at left)**

**ESA and MMPA Cetaceans/Pinnipeds**

**See list at left and consult the NMFS Long Beach office**

**562-980-4000**

MMPA Cetaceans -

MMPA Pinnipeds -



**Aliana Hale**

Environmental Planner | Dokken Engineering

**Phone:** 916.858.0642

**Email:** [ahale@dokkenengineering.com](mailto:ahale@dokkenengineering.com)

110 Blue Ravine Road, Suite 200 | Folsom, CA 95630

[www.dokkenengineering.com](http://www.dokkenengineering.com)



## **Appendix E: NRCS Soil Report List**

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## Appendix F: Representative Photographs

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**Photo 1.** Representative of barren land used primarily as farm access roads (January 2021).



**Photo 2.** Representative of the adjacent orchards (January 2021).





**Photo 3.** Representative of the disturbed riparian corridor and Calaveras River stream channel. Note the pattern of vegetation destruction which indicates the ordinary high-water mark of the stream channel (January 2021).



**Photo 4.** Representative photograph of the existing crossing. Photograph taken from the southeastern side of the bridge (January 2021). The new crossing will be constructed in the foreground of the existing bridge in this photograph.



## **Appendix B - RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA – CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

### **CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD**

3310 El Camino Ave., Ste. 170  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95821  
(916) 574-0609 FAX: (916) 574-0882



April 16, 2021

Mr. Darrel Evensen  
Stockton East Water District  
6767 East Main St.  
Stockton, CA 95215

Subject: Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement, Mitigated Negative Declaration,  
SCH No. 2021030688

Location: San Joaquin County

Dear Mr. Evensen,

Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board) staff has reviewed the subject document and provides the following comments:

The proposed project may be located within the Calaveras River, under Board jurisdiction and may require a Board permit prior to construction.

The Board's jurisdiction covers the entire Central Valley including all tributaries and distributaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, and the Tulare and Buena Vista basins south of the San Joaquin River.

Under authorities granted by California Water Code and Public Resources Code statutes, the Board enforces standards set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Waters, Division 1 (Title 23) for the construction, maintenance, and protection of adopted plans of flood control, including the federal-State facilities of the State Plan of Flood Control, regulated streams, and designated floodways.

Pursuant to Title 23, Section 6 (a), a Board permit is required prior to working within the Board's jurisdiction for the placement, construction, reconstruction, removal, or abandonment of any landscaping, culvert, bridge, conduit, fence, projection, fill, embankment, building, structure, obstruction, encroachment, excavation, the planting, or removal of vegetation, and any repair or maintenance that involves cutting into the levee.

Board staff have reviewed the subject document and provides the following comments on the potential environmental effects within the Board's jurisdiction:

#### Hydrologic Impacts

According to p. 7, under the heading "2.3 Required Permits and Project Approvals" the Central Valley Flood Protection Board – Encroachment Permit was not shown as a required approved permit.

Mr. Darrel Evensen  
April 16, 2021

An encroachment permit application may be required for the Project if it is located within the Calaveras River. An encroachment permit may also be required to include any existing works that predate permitting into compliance with Title 23, or where it is necessary to establish the conditions normally imposed by permitting. The circumstances include those where responsibility for the works has not been clearly established or ownership and use have been revised.

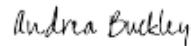
Prior to the Board making a decision on an encroachment permit, the Board requires the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency, Stockton East Water District, to make a project determination on any significant environmental effects pursuant to CEQA Guidelines.

Other federal (including U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 10 and 404 regulatory permits), State and local agency permits may be required and are the applicant's responsibility to obtain.

Board permit applications and Title 23 regulations are available on our website at <http://www.cvfpb.ca.gov/>. Maps of the Board's jurisdiction are also available from the California Department of Water Resources website at <http://gis.bam.water.ca.gov/bam/>.

Please contact James Herota at (916) 574-0651, or via email at [James.Herota@CVFlood.ca.gov](mailto:James.Herota@CVFlood.ca.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Andrea Buckley  
Environmental Services and Land Management Branch Chief

1A





### Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: 377140E1729346AE8A3645AAA26010B8	Status: Completed	
Subject: Please DocuSign: SJ County Calaveras River_04162021_.pdf		
Source Envelope:		
Document Pages: 2	Signatures: 1	Envelope Originator:
Certificate Pages: 1	Initials: 0	James Herota
AutoNav: Enabled		1416 9th Street
Envelope Stamping: Enabled		Sacramento, CA 95814
Time Zone: (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)		James.Herota@CVFlood.ca.gov
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Storage Appliance Status: Connected	Pool: Department of Water Resources	Location: DocuSign

### Signer Events

Andrea Buckley  
andrea.buckley@CVFlood.ca.gov  
Department of Water Resources  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

### Signature

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style  
Using IP Address: 136.200.53.16

### Timestamp

Sent: 4/16/2021 4:29:04 PM  
Viewed: 4/16/2021 4:32:16 PM  
Signed: 4/16/2021 4:32:25 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:  
Not Offered via DocuSign

In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	4/16/2021 4:29:04 PM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	4/16/2021 4:32:16 PM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	4/16/2021 4:32:25 PM
Completed	Security Checked	4/16/2021 4:32:25 PM
Payment Events	Status	Timestamps

Response:

Thank you for your comments. They have been included within the final environmental document.

**Response to Comment 1A:**

The District will comply with all applicable permitting requirements prior to construction.



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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

3 May 2021

Darrel Evensen  
Stockton East Water District  
6767 East Main Street  
Stockton, CA 95215

### **COMMENTS TO REQUEST FOR REVIEW FOR THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, GOTELLI BRIDGE 2 REPLACEMENT PROJECT, SCH#2021030688, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**

Pursuant to the State Clearinghouse's 30 March 2021 request, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed the *Request for Review for the Mitigated Negative Declaration* for the Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project, located in San Joaquin County.

Our agency is delegated with the responsibility of protecting the quality of surface and groundwaters of the state; therefore our comments will address concerns surrounding those issues.

#### **I. Regulatory Setting**

##### **Basin Plan**

The Central Valley Water Board is required to formulate and adopt Basin Plans for all areas within the Central Valley region under Section 13240 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Each Basin Plan must contain water quality objectives to ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses, as well as a program of implementation for achieving water quality objectives with the Basin Plans. Federal regulations require each state to adopt water quality standards to protect the public health or welfare, enhance the quality of water and serve the purposes of the Clean Water Act. In California, the beneficial uses, water quality objectives, and the Antidegradation Policy are the State's water quality standards. Water quality standards are also contained in the National Toxics Rule, 40 CFR Section 131.36, and the California Toxics Rule, 40 CFR Section 131.38.

The Basin Plan is subject to modification as necessary, considering applicable laws, policies, technologies, water quality conditions and priorities. The original Basin Plans were adopted in 1975, and have been updated and revised periodically as required, using Basin Plan amendments. Once the Central Valley Water Board has adopted a Basin Plan amendment in noticed public hearings, it must be approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Office of

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2A

Administrative Law (OAL) and in some cases, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Basin Plan amendments only become effective after they have been approved by the OAL and in some cases, the USEPA. Every three (3) years, a review of the Basin Plan is completed that assesses the appropriateness of existing standards and evaluates and prioritizes Basin Planning issues. For more information on the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins*, please visit our website:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/basin\\_plans/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/)

#### **Antidegradation Considerations**

All wastewater discharges must comply with the Antidegradation Policy (State Water Board Resolution 68-16) and the Antidegradation Implementation Policy contained in the Basin Plan. The Antidegradation Implementation Policy is available on page 74 at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/basin\\_plans/sacsjr\\_2018\\_05.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/sacsjr_2018_05.pdf)

In part it states:

*Any discharge of waste to high quality waters must apply best practicable treatment or control not only to prevent a condition of pollution or nuisance from occurring, but also to maintain the highest water quality possible consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State.*

*This information must be presented as an analysis of the impacts and potential impacts of the discharge on water quality, as measured by background concentrations and applicable water quality objectives.*

The antidegradation analysis is a mandatory element in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and land discharge Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) permitting processes. The environmental review document should evaluate potential impacts to both surface and groundwater quality.

## **II. Permitting Requirements**

### **Construction Storm Water General Permit**

Dischargers whose project disturb one or more acres of soil or where projects disturb less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs one or more acres, are required to obtain coverage under the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Construction General Permit), Construction General Permit Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ. Construction activity subject to this permit includes clearing, grading, grubbing, disturbances to the ground, such as stockpiling, or excavation, but does not include regular maintenance activities performed to restore the original line, grade, or capacity of the facility. The Construction General Permit requires the development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). For more information on the Construction General Permit, visit the State Water Resources Control Board website at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/constpermits.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/constpermits.shtml)



**Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit**

If the project will involve the discharge of dredged or fill material in navigable waters or wetlands, a permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act may be needed from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). If a Section 404 permit is required by the USACE, the Central Valley Water Board will review the permit application to ensure that discharge will not violate water quality standards. If the project requires surface water drainage realignment, the applicant is advised to contact the Department of Fish and Game for information on Streambed Alteration Permit requirements. If you have any questions regarding the Clean Water Act Section 404 permits, please contact the Regulatory Division of the Sacramento District of USACE at (916) 557-5250.

**Clean Water Act Section 401 Permit – Water Quality Certification**

If an USACE permit (e.g., Non-Reporting Nationwide Permit, Nationwide Permit, Letter of Permission, Individual Permit, Regional General Permit, Programmatic General Permit), or any other federal permit (e.g., Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act or Section 9 from the United States Coast Guard), is required for this project due to the disturbance of waters of the United States (such as streams and wetlands), then a Water Quality Certification must be obtained from the Central Valley Water Board prior to initiation of project activities. There are no waivers for 401 Water Quality Certifications. For more information on the Water Quality Certification, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:  
[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/water\\_quality\\_certification/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/water_quality_certification/)

**Waste Discharge Requirements – Discharges to Waters of the State**

If USACE determines that only non-jurisdictional waters of the State (i.e., "non-federal" waters of the State) are present in the proposed project area, the proposed project may require a Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) permit to be issued by Central Valley Water Board. Under the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, discharges to all waters of the State, including all wetlands and other waters of the State including, but not limited to, isolated wetlands, are subject to State regulation. For more information on the Waste Discharges to Surface Water NPDES Program and WDR processes, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:  
[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/waste\\_to\\_surface\\_water/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/waste_to_surface_water/)

Projects involving excavation or fill activities impacting less than 0.2 acre or 400 linear feet of non-jurisdictional waters of the state and projects involving dredging activities impacting less than 50 cubic yards of non-jurisdictional waters of the state may be eligible for coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ (General Order 2004-0004). For more information on the General Order 2004-0004, visit the State Water Resources Control Board website at:  
[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/water\\_quality/2004/wqo/wqo2004-0004.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2004/wqo/wqo2004-0004.pdf)

Gotelli Bridge 2 Replacement Project - 4 -  
San Joaquin County

3 May 2021

If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (916) 464-4856 or [Nicholas.White@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Nicholas.White@waterboards.ca.gov).



Nicholas White  
Water Resource Control Engineer

cc: State Clearinghouse unit, Governor's Office of Planning and Research,  
Sacramento

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**Response:**

Thank you for your comments. They have been reviewed and accounted for.

**Response to Comment 2A:**

The District will comply with all applicable permitting requirements prior to construction.